

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Executive Decision Record**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member - Environment
Date:	1 March 2011
Title:	Whitehill Bordon Eco-town Rail Study – Interim Report
Reference:	2663
Report From:	Director of Environment

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1. The decision:

- a) That approval be given for the Whitehill Bordon Eco-town Rail Study Option Selection Report to be published.
- b) That authority be given to continue to the next stage of the study.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. The Whitehill Bordon Rail Study has considered a number of heavy rail options that could potentially serve the Whitehill Bordon Eco-town in the future. The report rules out 5 of the 6 options for a heavy rail connection that were considered. The remaining option, the heavy rail link between Bordon and Bentley providing through services to London Waterloo has demonstrated a sufficiently positive business case to make it worthy of further study as part of the Emerging Transport Strategy for the Eco-town. The study also examined the case for alternatives to a heavy rail route (tram and Bus Rapid Transit) but these have been discounted due to their low Benefit to Cost Ratios. The next stage of study would therefore only consider the heavy rail link to Bentley.
- 2.2. This rail study work is fully funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) with no impact on County Council budgets.
- 2.3. The results of the study will be reported to the Whitehill Bordon Delivery Board meeting on 15 March 2011.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. If the rail study had concluded that none of the options had demonstrated a sufficiently positive business case, the study would not have continued to the next stage, GRIP 3. The study indicates that there is one option worthy of further study.
- 3.2. Study work could have ceased at this point in any event. However, a sufficiently positive business case has been identified for one option and the next stage of the study is funded by DCLG and is worthy of further consideration as part of the Emerging Transport Strategy for the proposed Eco-town.
- 3.3. Study Work could have ceased awaiting the formal decision of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for significant land release at Bordon. However, the study is fully funded by DCLG for the specific purpose of progressing the rail study and so would have been lost. There would have been less opportunity to re-start this assessment work if it had been delayed until the MoD have confirmed the extent and timing of land to be released at Bordon for redevelopment.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: none.
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: none.

5. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by: ----- Executive Member for Environment Councillor M J Kendal	Date: 1 March 2011
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