

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Decision Maker: | Cabinet |
| Date: | 26 July 2010 |
| Title: | Economic Assessment |
| Reference: | 1845 |
| Report From: | Director of Economic Development |

Contact name: Karen Narkiewicz

Tel: 01962 845719

Email: Karen.narkiewicz@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

- a) That the draft Hampshire Local Economic Assessment be approved for consultation prior to a final draft being presented for approval in December 2010.
- b) That the Director of Economic Development, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economic Development and Rural Affairs, be delegated authority to approve the technical annexes of the Assessment, including a worklessness assessment and to make any minor wording changes needed to the attached document prior to publication.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. A significant evidence base on the Hampshire economy has been assembled and this should inform strategies and plans of those whose activities impact on the future prosperity of Hampshire. The statutory guidance required consultation with stakeholders but in any event it is sensible to check whether there is significant local data that has been missed or strategic issues that have not emerged that should sensibly be added to the evidence base.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. To forgo a consultation phase. The statutory guidance is being abolished and so the Council could just publish the document. While this would modestly reduce workload, it is not expected that there will be a massive consultation response, some useful 'hidden' local information may emerge and the process will encourage stakeholders to engage with the evidence base. Any Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) will have a substantial body of evidence to

inform its vision and priorities. The evidence base can also inform stakeholder's decisions about LEPs.

3.2. For Cabinet to approve the whole Assessment including the Appendices. The Appendices are 161 pages and this level of detail is likely to mainly be of interest to practitioners. The full document set will be made available on the website and consultees will be referred to the detailed Appendices rather than documents being produced and delivered to all those who receive Cabinet reports and organisations being consulted.

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:

Date:

26 July 2010

**Chairman of the Cabinet
Councillor T K Thornber CBE**