

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	15 December 2014
<b>Title:</b>	Update on Managing Flood Risk in Hampshire
<b>Reference:</b>	6243
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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### 1. The decision:

- 1.1. That Cabinet notes the progress the County Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, is making following the 2013/14 floods.
- 1.2. That Cabinet approves the proposed approach to managing overall flood risk in Hampshire which is set out in the report.
- 1.3. That Cabinet notes how evidence from those floods is informing the Hampshire Flood Risk Management Strategy and its associated plans in order to improve future flood resilience and authorises the updating of the strategic documents on a catchment-based approach.
- 1.4. That Cabinet endorses the development of the Hampshire Groundwater Pathfinder, including engagement with partners and local communities, and efforts to secure Government support, acknowledging the limitations of the current national funding mechanism for flood defences.
- 1.5. That responsibility for finalising and submitting any required application, and negotiating with Government on the Groundwater Pathfinder, and for updating Hampshire's Flood Risk Management Strategy in line with the catchment-based approach, be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

### 2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. Cabinet requested an update on progress following its meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> April 2014
- 2.2. The County Council has been developing its approach to flood risk management over time. It is now appropriate to consider the lessons from the 2013/14 floods, knowledge of local flood risk issues, how the County

Council works with partners, and to consolidate its approach by providing an update to the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

- 2.3. The County Council needs to build on the evidence from the 2013/14 floods, and consider how it should best take forward alleviation schemes, particularly in those areas where the current system of funding gives a less than favourable outcome.

**3. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 3.1. Consideration was given to continuing provide strategic documents based on a district approach for individual sources of flooding. However the evidence and experience of the County Council, other agencies, and local communities is that flooding is contributed to by a number of sources and mechanisms and that a catchment-based approach which considers both the upstream and downstream efforts would provide a better understanding of the problems and options to more effectively manage flood risk.
- 3.2. Consideration was given to continuing to approach the funding by submitting bids under the current scheme without questioning this approach or providing an alternative to this method. This was rejected as the existing system does not support the nature of the flooding experienced within Hampshire.

**4. Conflicts of interest:**

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

**5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**

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

**7. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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<b>Chairman of the Cabinet Councillor Roy Perry</b>	