

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Executive Decision Record**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member – Policy and Resources
<b>Date:</b>	14 April 2010
<b>Title:</b>	Extension of Home to School Transport Pilot to July 2011
<b>Reference:</b>	1521
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Environment and Director of Children's Services

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**1. The decision: (PROPOSED)**

- a) That approval be given to utilise the projected unspent balance of £377,000 from the Home to School Transport Initiative budget to enable the project to continue until July 2011.

**2. Reasons for the decision:**

- 2.1. The Home to School Transport initiative has operated on a pilot basis from February 2007 using a variety of techniques to reduce dependence on the private car for the journey to school. The measures have included American-style yellow school buses, a BusIT travel card for students and walking and cycling initiatives. A budget of £1.5 million was provided for the project and careful use of resources and competitive prices from suppliers has resulted in a predicted balance of £377,000 at July 2010, the end of the current academic year.
- 2.2. Usage has built up in stages over the three years, so a further year of operation would allow exploration with the schools and service suppliers as to which of the initiatives may have value beyond the pilot period, without County Council funding and for arrangements to be made in respect of those services which would no longer run.

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

- 3.1. Extension of the pilot to other areas has been evaluated but travel to school distances and car usage levels have made finding additional locations difficult.

3.2. Cessation of the pilot in July 2010 would miss the opportunities to further explore the scheme now that it is operating at full strength, and reduce the opportunity for a planned exit strategy.

**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:**

<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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<b>Executive Member Policy and Resources Councillor K Thornber CBE</b>	