

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
Date:	4 October 2016
Title:	Country Parks Transformation Project Approvals
Reference:	7727
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. The decision:

1.1 That the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside:

- a) Recognises the progress made with the Country Park Transformation programme and endorses the programme to continue with the development of each park project.
- b) Recommends to the Executive Member Policy and Resources that approval is given to procure, spend and enter into the necessary contractual arrangement to implement the two schemes set out in this report:
 - i) Queen Elizabeth Country Park at a value of £3m; and
 - ii) Staunton Country Park Parkland project at a value of £4.1m for the delivery phase

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. The Country Parks Transformation (CPT) programme is a once in a generation opportunity to create a suite of modern 21st Century parks that are operationally self financing. The parks will attract more people from Hampshire, and beyond, to visit more often, stay longer, spend more and return. By achieving this, the parks aim to become operationally and financially sustainable in the long term.
- 2.2. In order to continue the trend of increasing income, and meet more of the operational costs of the parks, an improved offer to the public is required. Since their inception around 30 years ago visitor expectations have changed, competition has increased and the parks capital investment has fallen below the preferred level. This transformation programme provides an opportunity to invest in the facilities and activities which meet people's needs

and which compare favourably with alternative ways for them to spend their leisure time.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. None.

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 Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

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

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

4 October 2016

**Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
Councillor Andrew Gibson**