

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	24 May 2010
<b>Title:</b>	Medium Term Financial Strategy Update
<b>Reference:</b>	1600
<b>Report From:</b>	County Treasurer

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#### 1. The decision:

- a) That £12.5m be allocated to the Environment 2010/11 revenue budget on a one-off basis to restore the highway network to its condition before the severe winter, met by use of government grant, LPSA reward grant, LATS reserve and re-phasing and reprioritisation of existing highways maintenance resources as set out in table 2 (paragraph 3.7).
- b) That £70m be added to the Environment capital programme for structural maintenance and restructuring of the highway network over the seven year period from 2011/12, at £10m per annum, subject to annual budget review of improved outcomes and funding available to sustain the programme.
- c) That prudential borrowing of up to £10m per annum be authorised to finance the £70m capital investment, with the capital financing costs of up to £1m per annum (rising to £7m per annum) being met from savings in procurement costs, revenue contributions to capital and from capital receipts as set out in paragraph 4.6.
- d) That in view of the Government's withdrawal of free personal care at home, that reablement capacity continues with £750,000 allocation from the LPSA2 reward grant and a further £750,000 be met from Adult Services 2010/11 budget. That the contingency of £4.5m for free personal care at home be allocated to the equal pay reserve in light of the Birmingham City Council judgement on back pay and its possible impact on Hampshire.
- e) That £872,000 be removed from the insurance reserve given fewer claims in 2009/10 and be added to finance the necessary repairs to the Basingstoke Canal in the Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs capital programme over a three year period from 2010/11.
- f) That subject to a suitable business plan, £900,000 be allocated from the invest to save reserve to the Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs budget in 2010/11 to meet the costs of remodelling the library service, to be repaid

over a three year period from 2010/11, as net savings are realised, in order to provide an improved and sustainable service for the future, subject to bi-monthly update of results.

- g) That the service proposals, as set out in paragraph 8.2, for spending this 50% share of the LPSA2 reward grant be agreed.
- h) That the following allocations of the LPSA 2 reward grant be made to meet the 'hard-to-move' targets in the corporate improvement plan:
  - £1.3m to Environment
  - £750,000 to Adult Services
  - £883,000 to Children's Services
- i) That the increased risks of worsening national spending plans and its impact upon the Council's grant on non-schools services be noted.
- j) That contingency plans for reductions in ring fenced services funded by specific grants and area based grant budgets, be prepared for the 2011/12 budget.
- k) To assume a pay freeze in 2010/11 and no more than 1% pay awards in 2011/12 and 2012/13, adding the resources released of £5.2m on a recurring basis to reserves pending the determination of the 2011/12 budget.
- l) To note a potential saving of up to £5.6m in the 2009/10 outturn and again to add this to reserves to cover the worst case scenarios for 2011/12.
- m) To agree the allocation of £1.45m from the Building Schools for the Future reserve in 2010/11 towards the feasibility study costs incurred on the first phase of the project, subject to what the new Government may decide.

## **2. Reason(s) for the decision:**

- 2.1. To consider the impact of different assumptions, after the 2010/11 budget was set and the new Government's proposal for spending became clearer.
- 2.2. To agree the revisions required to the medium term financial strategy for 2011/12 – 2012/13.
- 2.3. To deal with any issues that have arisen since the budget was prepared in February, including the impact of the significant adverse weather upon the highways network, an update on the major risks identified when the budget was set and the proposed allocation of the Local Public Services Agreement reward grant.

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

- 3.1. Not to revise the medium term strategy, but this option would not have allowed consideration of the emerging public spending forecasts or dealt with urgent issues and pressures which require action and approval.

**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:**

None.

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**24 May 2010**

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