

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	26 September 2011
<b>Title:</b>	National Planning Policy Framework Consultation
<b>Reference:</b>	3288
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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#### 1. The decision:

- a) That the Cabinet endorses an overall response based on the key elements identified in Section 5 of the report.
- b) That Hampshire County Council calls upon the Secretary of State to amend Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) regulations and allow County Councils in addition to District Councils, to be CIL charging authorities, as the London Mayor and London Borough have had granted to them.
- c) That Hampshire County Council prepare guidance on sustainability criteria for the County of Hampshire including strategic gaps/open spaces.
- d) That Hampshire County Council convene a standing committee on sustainable development of the County, with our District Councils/Borough Councils and Hampshire Association of Local Council's.
- b) That authority be delegated to the Leader of the County Council to approve the final response along the lines discussed at this debate for submission to the Government to meet the consultation deadline.

#### 2. Reason for the decision:

- 2.1. The draft National Planning Policy Framework proposes the introduction of a number of significant changes to the planning process both in terms of the preparation of planning policy and the determination of planning applications. It changes the priority of the planning system emphasising the importance of economic, growth and viability considerations over other material planning considerations. It introduces a presumption in favour of sustainable development yet aims to make "yes" the default answer in the consideration of planning applications. It is considered important that the County Council

responds to, and engages in, the consultation on the draft Framework in order to ensure the County Council's interests are protected.

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

- 3.1. There has been a great deal of media coverage of the draft NPPF and organisations such as the National Trust, the CPRE and the Daily Telegraph are heading orchestrated campaigns on the Framework. Government, equally, has produced further information such as the 'busting-myths' media statement.
- 3.2. In view of the widespread publicity the Framework is receiving, an alternative option was to rely on the County Council's views being adequately reflected in these national campaigns. However, in view of the importance of the issues at stake and the broader context of changes to the planning system set by the Localism Bill (and related legislation and policy such as the Community Infrastructure Levy and the New Homes Bonus) this option was regarded as insufficient to fully articulate the significant concerns the authority is likely to have with the NPPF as drafted.

**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 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>Chairman of the Cabinet Councillor T K Thornber CBE</b>	<b>Date:</b>  <b>26 September 2011</b>
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