

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Decision Maker: | Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment |
| Date: | 11 June 2013 |
| Title: | Project Integra Action Plan 2013/16 and Constitution |
| Reference: | 4650 |
| Report From: | Director of Economy, Transport and Environment |

Contact name: Martyn Cole

Tel: 01962 832269

Email: martyn.cole@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report summarises the key actions and seeks approval for the draft Project Integra (PI) Action Plan 2013-16, and the revised project Integra Constitution, both of which are attached to this report as Appendices 1 and 2.
- 1.2. Project Integra's headline objective is to provide a long term solution for dealing with Hampshire's municipal waste in an environmentally sound, cost effective and reliable way.
- 1.3. The current annual action plan is a three year plan reviewed annually. It has 11 short and long term actions.
- 1.4. The constitution has been amended to reflect the outcomes of the recent review of PI, and therefore needs to be signed off by the Partner authorities.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. Project Integra is the partnership of all the local authorities in Hampshire with responsibility for managing household waste (both collection and disposal). It was formed in the mid 1990s and the County Council is a key partner. The County Council provides both financial contributions and a significant officer contribution to the workings of the partnership.
- 2.2. This is the twelfth action plan for Project Integra, and it has been prepared in accordance with the constitution, which requires a draft annual plan to be prepared and approved by all partner authorities. Each partner will seek approval from their authority for the action plan and revised constitution. However, due to differing committee cycles approval dates will vary. Havant, Fareham and New Forest councils have all confirmed approval of the action

plan and revised constitution. In response to the Project Integra review the period of the action plan has been extended to three years.

- 2.3. The action plan sets out the strategic outcomes which the partnership aims to deliver over the next three years in order to contribute to meeting its long term objectives.
- 2.4. The draft plan will be available in the Members room and for public inspection at the Information centre in Winchester. It can also be viewed on the Project Integra website. www.integra.org.uk
- 2.5. At the Project Integra Strategic Board (PISB) meeting in January 2012 the following decision was made:

That the operational focus for Project Integra activities was one of working to reduce costs across the whole system through:

- waste prevention;
- recycling and performance improvements, for instance through reducing contamination, increasing capture of materials, improving income for materials and changing management arrangements;
- reducing landfill;
- training; and
- joint working between authorities.

3. Commentary on the Action Plan

- 3.1. Unlike previous years, and in response to the Project Integra review, this is a three year action plan which has a greater focus on delivery, and a reduced number of key actions, including: developing and agreeing a contamination 'compact', producing a Waste Prevention Action Plan, establishing 'whole system costs' for waste and resource management in Hampshire, and joint working with the South East 7 partnership. Each action in this plan has a time scale and a lead officer identified as responsible for the delivery of each action.
- 3.2. Hampshire County Council welcomes the appointment of a new Head of PI whose role will focus on leading and delivering actions set out in the plan on behalf of the partnership. The County Council will continue to monitor activities and update on progress during the first year.
- 3.3. In signing up to this action plan, project Integra partners pledge their commitment and resources to increase the capture of materials, and drive down the level of contaminated materials delivered to the Material Recovery Facilities in Hampshire. The cost of dealing with contaminated materials is borne by the waste disposal Authorities, of which Hampshire pays the greatest share. Last year the total cost to Hampshire County Council, including an estimate of lost potential income from the Energy Recovery Income share agreement, was £595,200.

- 3.4. Hampshire County Council's priority focus in the action plan will be to work collectively with the Project Integra partners on the contamination 'compact' to reduce contamination. In addition, officers will focus on producing a Waste Prevention Strategy and action plan which as a new statutory requirement will need to be in place by December 2013. With continued fiscal pressures and forecast population increases, any reduction in household waste will result in substantial disposal cost savings.
- 3.5. This is a time of significant change for Project Integra. Although this action plan represents a step forward in the development of a positive response to the financial pressures and customer demands which local authorities face, a number of partners, for financial reasons, are reducing their support for Project Integra.
- 3.6. It was agreed at the PISB meeting in March that Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils will withdraw funding for the Recycle for Hampshire campaign and will use their unspent project funds to pay for their contribution to the PI Executive for 2013-14. The City Councils accept the risk and costs (borne by them as Disposal Authorities) of any increases in contamination or residual waste and/or reductions in recycling that results from withdrawing from Recycle for Hampshire.
- 3.7. In addition, a number of other partners indicated that they may also withdraw their funding for Recycle for Hampshire subject to a report from the new Head of PI to July's PISB meeting. However, the Head of PI will be undertaking a review to look at the Recycle for Hampshire Programme and ensure it is meeting the needs of the partnership and targeting its resources in the most cost effective way. The budget figures in the action plan have been updated to reflect this change.

4. Constitution

- 4.1. At the PISB meeting in January 2012 it was decided that the scrutiny of Project Integra activities would be undertaken by authorities individually. The Policy Review and Scrutiny Committee has been disbanded and the PI Constitution will be amended accordingly.
- 4.2. The revised Constitution, with references to scrutiny removed, is attached for approval as Appendix 2.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1. With the continued financial challenges and pressure on all partners, this is a critical time for the Project Integra authorities to work together in order to respond to the need to deliver high quality services and ensure value for money.
- 5.2. Hampshire County Council will continue to focus on key priorities such as diversion from landfill and waste prevention. The role of the Project Integra

partners will be vital for the partnership to deliver better value for money through greater efficiencies and partnership working.

- 5.3. The County Council welcomes the acknowledgement by Project Integra that its operational focus needs to be based around working to reduce cost through the whole waste management system. This is vital to enable it to take advantage of collective working opportunities with other local authorities, contractors, the upstream supply chain, and voluntary and community groups.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1. That, following the outcome of the Project Integra review and in line with normal business planning, approval be given to the Project Integra Action Plan 2013-16.
- 6.2. That approval be given to the revised Project Integra Constitution.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

| | |
|--|-----|
| Hampshire safer and more secure for all: | no |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| Maximising well-being: | no |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| Enhancing our quality of place: | yes |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1 The proposals in this report have been developed with due regard to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Council's equality objectives. The website contains a summary [assessment of the impacts](#) on *Maximising uses of Waste and Reduction of Landfill in Hampshire*.
- 1.2 It is considered that the issues covered by this report will not have impacts requiring further specific actions by the Council above those already established in its existing policies and working procedures.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. The Project Integra Action Plan 2013-16 will not compromise the County Council's policy on the prevention of crime.

3. Climate Change:

- 3.1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

The County Council is committed to ensure that all its current and proposed future activities within the Project Integra partnership are managed to ensure that their energy consumptions/carbon impact is minimised.

- 3.2. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

Policies and plans are in place to ensure that all current activities are resilient to the impacts of climate change, both in the short and long term.