

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
Date:	6 May 2014
Title:	Project Integra Action Plan 2014/17
Reference:	5753
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report summarises the key actions and seeks approval for the draft Project Integra (PI) Action Plan 2014-17 which is attached to this report as Appendix 1.
- 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 4 short and 4 long term actions.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. Project Integra is the partnership of all 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 13th 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.
- 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 February 2014 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:

- communication and behaviour change;
- waste prevention including reuse;
- recycling and performance improvements, for instance through reducing contamination, increasing capture of materials, improving income for materials and changing management arrangements;
- reducing landfill;
- joint working arrangements and activities;
- improving efficiency and effectiveness of service through collaboration with neighbouring authorities including SE7.

3. Commentary on the Action Plan

3.1 This action plan builds on last year's action plan with a continued focus on delivery and a reduced number of key actions, including: Recycle for Hampshire (R4H); Waste Prevention Plan (WPP); Resource Capture and Treatment Review (RCTR); and Glass Recycling Contract Review. Each action in this plan has a time scale and a lead officer identified as responsible for the delivery of each action.

3.2 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.

3.3 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 and support the implementation of the Waste Prevention action plan and the Resource Capture and Treatment Review.

3.4 Although Waste Prevention encompasses strict avoidance and waste reduction it also encompasses reuse, remanufacturing and repair activities. A review of waste generation and diversion performance since 2008 against national comparators suggests that Hampshire has not kept pace with national trends for preventing waste arising.

- 3.5 The reduction of waste arising is a key contributing factor to the County Council's ability to manage its waste disposal costs now and in the future.
- 3.6 The RCTR is a response to the PI members' wish to look again at the opportunities for the capture of additional materials to those currently collected following changes in markets and infrastructure over the last three years, particularly for plastics, cartons and food waste.
- 3.7 Since July 2013 it has become clear that there are significant implications resulting from the requirement for separate collections of paper, metal, plastics and glass set out in the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011, as amended in 2012.
- 3.8 The absence of glass in the Dry Mixed Recyclables (DMR) collection and the good quality of the output material from Hampshire's existing materials recycling facilities put the PI partner authorities in a strong position to meet their separate collection obligations from 2015. As part of the review, the RCTR will address whether current DMR collections satisfy the amended regulations.
- 3.9 Hampshire County Council welcomes the all round improvement in the administration and timely delivery of actions in the 2013-16 action plan following the appointment of a new Head of Project Integra in 2013.

4 Recycle for Hampshire Programme

- 4.1 Although this action plan builds on last year's plan and is 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.
- 4.2 In addition to Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, Test Valley and Basingstoke & Deane Borough Councils withdrew from Recycle for Hampshire during 2013. 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 result from withdrawing from Recycle for Hampshire.
- 4.3 Both Cities have invested heavily in Government funded incentive schemes whilst Test Valley Borough Council has launched a local communications campaign called Recycling Stars. The budget figures in the action plan have been updated to reflect this change.

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 welcomes the renewed commitment within the partnership and the renewed effectiveness with which it is approaching and delivering on its ambitions following the changes implemented after the recent review.
- 5.3 Hampshire County Council will continue to focus on key priorities such as waste prevention and diversion from landfill. 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.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That the reinvigoration of the partnership following the recent review is both noted and welcomed.
- 6.2 That, in line with normal business planning, approval be given to the Project Integra Action Plan 2014-17.

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 2014-17 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 consumption/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.