

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Decision Report**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
<b>Date:</b>	21 April 2015
<b>Title:</b>	Project Integra Action Plan 2015-18
<b>Reference:</b>	6589
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1. This report summarises the key actions of the new action plan and seeks approval for the draft Project Integra Action Plan 2015-18, which is attached to this report as Appendix 2 and the revised PI constitution which is attached 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 2015-18 action plan will change from a rolling three year plan i.e. where the plan is approved each year to a full three year plan. Progress reports will be delivered annually and amendments made accordingly to the plan during the three year period. The next full action plan to follow this one will cover the period 2019-2022.
- 1.4. The Project Integra constitution has been revised to reflect this change. The new 2015-18 action plan has 3 short and 6 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 as the Waste Disposal Authority 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 14<sup>th</sup> action plan for Project Integra, and it has been prepared in accordance with the constitution 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. The constitution has been amended to accommodate a change from a rolling plan (i.e. approved each year) to a full three year plan (i.e. approved every three years subject to annual amendments to maximise business planning opportunities).
- 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](http://www.integra.org.uk)
- 2.5. At the Project Integra Strategic Board meeting in February 2015 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:

- assessing the impact of communications and behavioural change;
- waste prevention including re-use;
- activity to increase quality and quantity of recycled material, for instance through reducing contamination;
- joint procurement to include vehicles and training; and
- joint working arrangements and activities.

### **3. Commentary on the Action Plan**

- 3.1. This action plan builds on last year's plan with a continued focus on delivery, including the Waste Prevention Plan, implementation of the Resource Capture and Treatment Review, 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, commit to waste prevention and reuse and drive down the level of contaminated materials delivered to the Material Recovery Facilities in Hampshire.
- 3.3. Joint working with networks outside of PI and carrying out joint procurement exercises for vehicles and training are actions that will lead to reduced costs and better value for money.

- 3.4. This action plan continues to focus on Health and Safety through the PI Common Approach to Safety and Health (CASH) by ensuring best practice is shared and projects delivered, including noise impact of glass collections.
- 3.5. Hampshire County Council's priority focus in the action plan will be to work collectively with the Project Integra partners to reduce contamination and support the implementation of the Waste Prevention action plan and the Resource Capture and Treatment Review.
- 3.6. Although Waste Prevention encompasses strict avoidance and waste reduction it also encompasses re-use, remanufacturing and repair activities. A review of waste generation and diversion performance since 2008 against national comparators suggests Hampshire has not kept pace with national trends for preventing waste arising.
- 3.7. In the Project Integra area, residual waste tonnages increased significantly (4.67%) in 2013-14. It could be expected that increasing residual waste tonnages will be a key pressure on collection and disposal infrastructure if the economic recovery continues. This means the Project Integra Waste Prevention plan acquires an even higher level of significance in reducing whole system costs.
- 3.8. 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.
- 3.9. The existing Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) needs to be reviewed in 2017. Although the legal status of JMWMSs in the future is not clear, Project Integra will benefit from an overarching strategy to guide the partnership.

#### **4. Recycle for Hampshire Programme**

- 4.1. Communications are a key part of achieving Project Integra's aims as set out in the JMWMS (refreshed 2012).
- 4.2. Following the reduction in Recycle for Hampshire partners over the last two years, the viability of an ongoing campaign in its current format has been called into question. Recycle for Hampshire was conceived as a County-wide campaign, but with only seven fully funding partners, this makes it increasingly difficult to plan and implement a consistent campaign and to achieve economies of scale.
- 4.3. A small officer working group set up to review a potential way forward has recommended that future communications be incorporated into specific actions in future Project Integra action plans and that the ongoing drip feeding campaign should cease.
- 4.4. The Recycle for Hampshire brand, website, and social media (Facebook and twitter) are retained and will be maintained and kept up to date by Hampshire County Council's corporate communications team funded

through the Service Level Agreement between Project Integra and the County Council.

- 4.5. The Schools Education Programme will continue based on the financial support of a smaller number of authorities but will reduce to one education officer. Opportunities for sponsorship will continue to be explored.

## **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 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, in line with normal business planning, approval be given to the Project Integra Action Plan 2015-18, as appended to this report.
- 6.2. That approval be given to changes to the Project Integra Constitution to reflect the move to a three year plan, as appended to this report.

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

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	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. Equality Duty**

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

**Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:**

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

1.3. An equalities impact assessment has been carried out and has determined that the proposal will have no impact on groups with protected characteristics. This decision focuses upon the agreement of a high level plan and procedural changes. Impact assessments will be carried out as appropriate for the implementation of specific elements of the action plan.

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1. The Project Integra Action Plan 2015-18 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 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.