

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

Decision Maker:	County Council
Date:	15 July 2010
Title:	South Downs National Park Scheme of Planning Delegation
Reference:	1863

Contact name: Nick Eaton

Tel: 01962 847334

Email: nick.eaton@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this summary paper and attached reports is to outline a proposed agreement between the shadow South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) and the County Council under s101 of the Local Government Act 1972 under which the County Council would discharge planning services, on behalf of the SDNPA, through a planning delegation framework.

2. Contextual information

2.1. The Executive Member for Environment (at his 29 June 2010 decision day) and the Regulatory Committee (at their meeting on 30 June 2010) have considered reports describing the changes in planning responsibilities that will occur when the SDNPA becomes a corporate body and fully operational on 1 April 2011. These are appended to this report as Appendices 1 and 2 together with the outline Draft Agreement as Appendix 3 and draft funding proposals as Appendix 4 to provide background information.

2.2. Both have concluded that an agreement for a planning delegation framework would be beneficial to Hampshire and that it should be recommended to the County Council accordingly.

3. Finance

3.1. The financial and resource implications (if any) of entering into an agency agreement with the SDNPA will be finalised later in the year when Defra and the Department for Communities and Local Government budgets and Revenue Resource Grant implications are settled.

3.2. In the absence of final details, however, a statement regarding the overarching funding principles that should apply between the SDNPA and the constituent authorities has been agreed which commits the partners to a fair

and transparent system, aimed at ensuring that there are no 'winners or losers'.

4. Performance

- 4.1. The overall impact on processes within the County Council is likely to be marginal. Entering into an agreement with the SDNPA will however ensure that the County Council is seen to be contributing to the enhancement of public services with the SDNPA and will support the County Council's long held position of the importance of democratic accountability in the planning system.

5. Future direction

- 5.1. The SDNPA has already resolved that an agency agreement should be entered into with the current local planning authorities for the delivery of planning services, initially operate for a three year period from April 2011 to March 2014, with a one year notice period.

6. Recommendations

Recommended that the County Council:-

- 6.1. Enter any required statement of intent and agency agreement with the South Downs National Park Authority under S101 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the delivery of those planning services currently carried out by the County Council within that part of Hampshire that is within the South Downs National Park;
- 6.2. Authorise the Director of Environment and the Chief Executive to negotiate the details associated with the agreement and conclude such agreements accordingly.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
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	
<p>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.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1. No impact.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. No impact.

3. Climate Change:

a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

N/A – decision concerns administration

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

N/A – decision concerns administration