

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Committee:	Universal Services Select Committee
Date:	10 September 2024
Title:	Pre-Scrutiny of SP25 Savings Proposals
Report From:	Director of Universal Services

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Purpose of this Report

1. The County Council undertook an open public consultation called the 'Future Services Consultation' over the 12-week period 8 January to 31 March 2024. The consultation sought to understand the views on, and potential impacts of, 13 proposals which would deliver savings contributing toward the Savings Programme 2025. Following analysis of the consultation responses, final recommendations have been prepared by the Universal Services Directorate in relation to these proposals.
2. The Cabinet is due to consider these recommendations at their meeting on 14 October 2024, alongside the savings proposed by other Directorates. The Universal Services Select Committee has the opportunity to make recommendations to the Cabinet regarding the proposals prepared by the Universal Services Directorate, to be taken into account alongside the advice presented by officers and the evidence provided.
3. The Draft Report to Cabinet and proposals prepared by Officers, which will be scrutinised by the Universal Services Select Committee during this meeting (Cabinet report Appendix 1 – Highways Maintenance and Appendix 5 – Rural Countryside Parking), are attached. This report should be read alongside the report prepared by the Select Committee Working Group which will be considered separately by the full Committee at this meeting.

Recommendations

That the Select Committee:

1. Supports the recommendations made by officers to the Cabinet set out in Appendix 1 – Highways Maintenance of the Draft Report to Cabinet, as detailed below:

- To note the outcome of the 2024 Future Services Consultation in relation to the proposal to reduce the annual highway maintenance for planned maintenance activities by £7.5 million from April 2025.
 - That Cabinet approves the reduction in the annual highway maintenance budget for planned maintenance activity by £7.5 million from April 2025.
2. Supports the recommendations made by officers to the Cabinet set out in Appendix 5 – Rural Countryside Parking of the Draft Report to Cabinet, as detailed below:
- To note the outcome of the 2024 Future Services Consultation in relation to the proposals on Rural Countryside Parking.
 - Implementation of charging at rural countryside car parking sites wholly owned by the Council with 20 or more spaces where commercially viable from April 2025, with a phased introduction to allow supporting infrastructure to be put in place.
 - Implementation of charging at rural countryside car parking sites in joint ownership with the Council and/or under 20 spaces where commercially viable. This may include consolidation of sites within a local area, or expansion of existing sites.
 - Where implemented, charges at rural countryside car parking sites would be reviewed annually in accordance with the current pricing policy as amended from time to time.
 - Income from car parking charging would contribute to the costs to Hampshire County Council of managing Hampshire Countryside Sites.
 - That authority is delegated to the Director of Universal Services, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services, to progress and make any necessary arrangements to implement these decisions.

And/Or:

3. Agrees any alternative or additional recommendations with regards to the proposals set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 5 of the Draft Report to Cabinet.