

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Universal Services
Date:	15 May 2023
Title:	Commuted Sums Policy Guidance
Report From:	Director of Universal Services

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1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services notes the previous recommendations and approvals in the Commuted Sums Policy Guidance Executive Member Decision Day Report and Record on 16 July 2019.
- 1.2. That the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services notes the work undertaken to engage with developers and the local planning authorities in Hampshire, and the subsequent amendments made to the Commuted Sums Policy Guidance and Calculator to address the issues raised in the engagement process.
- 1.3. That the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services approves the proposed Commuted Sums Policy Guidance and Calculator.
- 1.4. That the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services approves the proposed timescales and transitional arrangements for the implementation of the Commuted Sums Policy Guidance and Calculator.
- 1.5. That authority is delegated to the Director of Universal Services to make future minor amendments and additions to the Commuted Sums Policy Guidance and Calculator in consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services as appropriate.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. In recent years there has been a significant shift towards quality of place and the use of enhanced materials in new housing developments, often in locations that are more constrained and challenging. These combined factors often result in increased maintenance requirements at a time when there is a significant pressure on highway maintenance budgets.
- 2.2. The adoption of new highway infrastructure from new developments result in the County Council, as the Highway Authority, incurring increased maintenance costs for those assets in perpetuity. It is therefore essential that appropriate levels of funding are received so that the new infrastructure can be maintained to the required levels of service.

- 2.3. Hampshire County Council's existing Commuted Sum Policy precedes current national guidance. It was deemed necessary to update the County Council's approach to ensure it reflects national best practice and to mitigate the challenges faced by increasingly constrained and complex developments.
- 2.4. The proposed Commuted Sums Policy Guidance and Calculator were developed to provide developers (and other stakeholders responsible for delivering new highway infrastructure) with a transparent and consistent approach for the application and calculation of commuted sums and to ensure that Hampshire County Council receives the necessary funding to maintain the new highway infrastructure to the required standards.
- 2.5. The Commuted Sums Policy Guidance and Calculator also aim to encourage the adoption of new sustainable developments by promoting the use of durable and sustainable materials, but also enabling the appropriate use of enhanced materials, assets, and specifications that are often necessary to meet local planning requirements.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Hampshire County Council's existing Commuted Sum Policy precedes current national guidance. It was deemed necessary to update the County Council's approach to ensure it reflects national best practice. The option to retain the existing Commuted Sum Policy was therefore rejected.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:	Date:
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Executive Lead Member for Universal Services Councillor Nick Adams-King	