

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Countryside and Regulatory Services
Date:	15 January 2024
Title:	Project Appraisal: Hayling Billy Trail – Northern Section
Report From:	Director of Universal Services

Contact name: Laura Boyns

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1. The decision:

- 1.1 That the Executive Member for Countryside and Regulatory Services approves the Project Appraisal for the Hayling Billy Trail – Northern Section, Hayling Island in the borough of Havant as outlined in the report.
- 1.2 That approval be given to procure, spend and enter into necessary contractual arrangements (including any funding agreements), in consultation with the Head of Legal Services, to implement the proposed improvements to the northern section of the existing Hayling Billy Trail, as set out in the supporting report, at an estimated cost of £600,000 to be funded from the Active Travel Fund.
- 1.3 That authority to make the arrangements to implement the scheme, including minor variations to the design or contract, be delegated to the Director of Universal Services.
- 1.4 That authority is delegated to the Director of Universal Services, in consultation with the Head of Legal Services, to progress any orders, notices, or statutory procedures and secure any consents, licences, permissions, rights or easements necessary to enable implementation of this scheme.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1 This paper considers improvements to 1.3 km (1,300 metres), of the northern section of the trail that forms part of the larger 4.5km off-road route on Hayling Island.

- 2.2 There are currently no rights of way specifically for cycling or horse-riding on Hayling Island and so the Hayling Billy Trail, along with a permissive East-West route along the south seafront, provides valuable off-road access for users. The Hayling Billy Trail is a very pleasant route to use, offering wide views across the water and extensive wildlife sightings particularly in the winter. As such, the route is a very popular year-round leisure route for residents and the many visitors who holiday on Hayling Island.
- 2.4 Utility use is also important: the route links the population of Hayling Island to the shops, services and employment in Havant. From the south of the island to Havant is either a 5 mile walk and return by bus or a 10-mile cycle ride.
- 2.5 The path is vulnerable to erosion and storm damage being less than 1 metre above sea level and for long stretches within a few metres of the sea. Breaches have resulted in parts of the path becoming scoured and waterlogged.
- 2.6 The priority is to protect the route where possible and provide a bound surface suitable for year-round use on as much of the trail as the funding will allow.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1 None as this is an Active Travel Fund bid.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None
- 4.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

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:

15 January 2024

**Executive Member for Countryside and Regulatory
Services
Councillor Russell Oppenheimer**