

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Universal Services
Date:	3 March 2025
Title:	Basingstoke Canal Annual Update
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 update report on the Basingstoke Canal Authority's performance.
- 1.2. That, subject to a parallel decision by the Surrey County Council Cabinet Member for Environment (to be taken on 24 March), the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services approves the Basingstoke Canal Authority partnership's final outturn for 2023/24, the revised budget for 2024/25, and the forward budget and scheme of charges for 2025/26.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. The Basingstoke Canal Authority (BCA) partnership is a cost-effective way of collectively managing the risks and benefits of owning the Basingstoke Canal by both Hampshire and Surrey County Councils.
- 2.2. The Basingstoke Canal is vulnerable to certain aspects of climate change particularly heavy rainfall events and drought, and from deterioration of aging assets. These risks can be effectively mitigated against through active inspection and management.
- 2.3. The proposed budget and scheme of charges allows the BCA to operate at expected levels for a further 12 months.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Not setting a budget and scheme of charges. This would result in the BCA partnership expending its reserve earlier than expected.

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:

3 March 2025

**Executive Lead Member for Universal Services
Councillor Kirsty North**