

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	19 June 2017
<b>Title:</b>	'Working Better Together'- Next Steps In Developing Hampshire County Council's Relationships with Parish and Town Councils
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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#### 1. The decision:

That Cabinet:

- 1.1. Endorse the approach to 'Working Better Together' and support the proposed direction of travel to develop a closer working relationship with parish and town councils.
- 1.2. Support Parish and Town Councils to strengthen locality working and to take on greater roles and responsibility, where they choose to do so, through the use of existing grant programmes and the partnership approach with HALC.
- 1.3. Approve the development of a joint initiative with HALC to develop a locality focused approach and receive more detailed proposals for implementation through a further report to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources later in 2017.
- 1.4. Support a 3 year grant negotiation with HALC to enable them to provide full and ongoing support for the devolution and locality working agenda in partnership with Hampshire County Council.

#### 2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. The county of Hampshire is served by 263 parish and town councils (PTCs) which operate across much of Hampshire and fulfil an important function in addition to those of the county and district/borough councils. This was recognised in the last Cabinet report on Local Government Review (14 November 2016) when Cabinet Members expressed their clear support for the three-tier system. Members wished to see better locality working regardless of any outcome arising from the devolution debate. This is seen as having potential benefits in terms of value for money and service delivery for Council Tax payers.

**3. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 3.1. The option to make no change to existing relationships was considered but discounted in terms of losing the clear opportunity to improve locality working to the potential benefit of residents.

**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:**

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**19 June 2017**

**Chairman of the Cabinet  
Councillor R. Perry**