

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
Date:	2 December 2020
Title:	Outer Winchester – Strategic Flood and Water Management Pilot Programme
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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1. The decision:

- 1.1 That the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment notes that some initial highway maintenance and other works along Springvale Road in Kings Worthy and Headbourne Worthy have been included in the current works programme, and a project appraisal will be brought forward for further work in due course.
- 1.2 That approval is given to undertake a strategic study of the sub-catchment area of the River Itchen north of Winchester in order to identify options for long term improvements to flood and water management in support of forthcoming mitigation measures, as outlined in the supporting report.
- 1.3 That the proposed study should be developed in two phases with a further report to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment on completion of Phase 1.

2. Reasons for the Decision:

- 2.1. Following incidents in previous years, notably 2000/01, in 2014 rising groundwater levels and surface water caused flooding to properties, including private cesspits, in Littleton, Headbourne Worthy and Kings Worthy. Also significantly affected were the Southern Water Waste Treatment Site, and the Sir John Moore Barracks, which lost critical parts of its training facilities. Local business and use of the highway network were disrupted, particularly at Andover Road (B3420) and Springvale Road in Kings Worthy, for an extended period of time.
- 2.2. Since that event, the County Council, working with the local parish, city and county councillors, the Environment Agency, Winchester City Council, Defence Infrastructure Organisation, Southern Water, residents and landowners, has investigated measures to manage the flood risk in the area.
- 2.3. As the drainage systems of Littleton, Headbourne Worthy and Kings Worthy are interlinked, an integrated approach has been adopted to ensure that the causes and dynamics of the flooding are understood, that the contribution of the sub-

catchment as a whole are taken into consideration, and that measures developed for one area do not lead to flooding elsewhere.

- 2.4. A joint programme of works has now been developed with Hampshire Highways for the Headbourne Worthy and Kings Worthy area. Approval has already been given for a first tranche of work, and implementation will commence before the end of the year. A Project Appraisal for a second tranche of drainage improvements will be submitted to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and the Environment in early 2021 with the intention of completing the works before the end of the year. A Project Appraisal detailing work to be undertaken in the Littleton area will also be presented next year with completion also planned for late 2021.
- 2.5. While the implementation of the flood mitigation measures will significantly benefit the above areas, there will be a residual risk of flooding. The extensive investigations, feasibility and development work that has been undertaken to develop the measures now being proposed have demonstrated that 'traditional' engineering led options will only be part of the response, and that a strategic approach is required to explore how the complex flood and water management issues in this location might potentially be alleviated.
- 2.6. The strategic study now being proposed will support the delivery of the programme of works for Littleton, Headbourne Worthy and Kings Worthy, will inform future improvements at this and other locations that share similar characteristics, and contribute towards the County Council's four strategic aims (Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic, growth and prosperity; People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives; People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment; and People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities) and Hampshire's Local Flood and Water Management Strategy.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. A 'do nothing' approach would not align with the County Council's Local Flood and Water Management Strategy.

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:

I thank Councillor Jackie Porter for attending my Decision Day and speaking in support of the proposals.

Approved by:

Date:

2 December 2020

**Executive Member for Economy, Transport and
Environment
Councillor Rob Humby**