

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – PROJECT INTEGRA ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN








Summary of Purpose and Recommendations:

The purpose of the report is to obtain the Councils endorsement of the Project Integra Annual Business Plan for 2005 – 2010. It is recommended that the Council endorse the Annual Business Plan subject to the Portfolio Holder being satisfied that certain conditions are met.

Cost to Council: £Nil

Within existing budget? Yes

Contribution to Corporate Plan (Minor/Moderate/Major/Neutral):

	+		-		+		-
	Moderate			Priorities			
	Major			Clean Streets and Public Space	Major		
		Neutral		Crime and Disorder		Neutral	
		Neutral		Housing		Neutral	
	Major			Managing our Finances		Neutral	

Comments on Impacts on Corporate Objectives and Priorities:

The Project Integra Business Plan provides a framework for partnership working with Hampshire Districts, Unitary and County Councils, to enable us to work together to achieve individual District targets.



Organisation of excellence



Working with public and partners



Economic well being



Social well being



Environmental well being

PROJECT INTEGRA BUSINESS PLAN 2005 - 2010

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to obtain the Council's endorsement of the Project Integra Annual Business Plan (ABP) for 2005-2010. New Forest District Council, along with all other local authorities in Hampshire, are members of Project Integra. Project Integra is a partnership which seeks to achieve an integrated approach to waste management in Hampshire. Project Integra was reorganised in 2001 as a formal Management Board with Member representatives from each of the 13 partner Authorities and Hampshire Waste Services (Onyx).
- 1.2 The purpose of the Management Board was to allow more rapid and effective decision making for Project Integra. In order that Councils retain control over Project Integra's activities, the nominated Members were only given authority to act on behalf of the Council within the terms of the Project Integra Annual Business Plan (ABP). This plan must be agreed by each of the member Councils. A copy of the ABP is available on request.
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- 1.3 The ABP is a key document as it details the core activities and initiatives agreed by the partnership for the next five financial years. Previously the ABP was an annual document, setting out aims and objectives for the next financial year. Project Integra has now moved towards a more long term business plan, covering the period from April 2005 to March 2010. This Council will be required to prepare a sub-strategy as part of the overall ABP.

2. PROJECT INTEGRA

- 2.1 Project Integra was established in 1995 as a partnership between Hampshire County Council, Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council, District Councils in Hampshire and contractor Hampshire Waste Services. Project Integra seeks to achieve a fully integrated waste management scheme for Hampshire. Since the start of Project Integra in 1995 much has been achieved. Project Integra is recognised as being one of the leading waste management partnerships in the UK.
- 2.2 In April 2001 a formal management structure was set up for Project Integra. This comprises a Management Board, a Policy Review and Scrutiny Committee and Officer Strategy Group:
- 2.3 The main areas of activities for Project Integra are as follows:
- 2.4.1 Communication between the Project Integra partners.
 - 2.4.2 Projects and research to promote Waste Minimisation and improved waste management.
 - 2.4.3 Promotion of recycling and waste minimisation.
 - 2.4.4 Marketing of recycled materials.
 - 2.4.5 Waste Policy issues.

3. PROJECT INTEGRA ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN – 2005-2010

- 3.1 The ABP sets out the way forward for Project Integra for the next five financial years. The ABP was prepared by the Executive Officer of Project Integra, but this Council will be required to prepare a sub-strategy to feed into the main document. The ABP is broadly compatible with this Council's aims and objectives, but there are a number of areas where New Forest District Council may wish to comment.

SECTION	COMMENTS
General	The ABP is a long document and contains some unnecessary detail. We would prefer the ABP to be a brief document with a clear list of short term and long term action points.
General	The ABP sets targets for recycling and waste management, but does not give sufficient direction on the actions that will be needed to achieve these objectives. In particular, there needs to be a strategy for dealing with new legislation on Waste Electrical and Electronic Goods, End of Life Vehicles and Biowaste.
2.6.3 Best Value Review	The ABP does not include the outcomes from the Best Value Review of Project Integra and how this will effect the management of the partnership.
2.8.1 Best Value Performance Indicators	This section does not acknowledge that New Forest District Council has a very high rate of collected dry recyclables.
3.4 Materials and Marketing	This section could include a forward-looking strategy for marketing materials.
4.1 Key Objectives	This section requires each Partner to reach 40% recycling (or otherwise maximise recycling). This may not be achievable or desirable by all members of the partnership especially in light of the reduction in recycling performance targets for high performing authorities by Central Government.
4.2 Key Projects	There is no acknowledgement in the ABP of the need to provide new infrastructure to deal with predicted growth in waste and recyclables. Within the time frame of the ABP progress needs to be made to provide additional infrastructure for green waste, specialised waste streams and residual waste.
4.2 Key Projects	The ABP needs to include a strategy to reduce the unacceptably high levels of rejected material at the Materials Recycling Facilities (MRFs) in Hampshire.
6.3 Financial Review	This Council supports the need for a financial review although we need to maintain control over those aspects of waste management expenditure to which we are responsible.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 For 2005/06 the New Forest District Council membership fee for Project Integra is expected to be £13,320. In addition to this New Forest District Council will be required to contribute £15,452 to the Project Integra Projects Fund. This expenditure will be taken directly from our estimated income of £57,410 which is received in respect of the sale of the dry mixed recycled materials collected in our clear sacks and processed through the MRF.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council's Corporate Plan for 2003-2007 "The Heart of the Forest" identifies environmental well-being as one of the Council's aims. This Project Integra Business Plan identifies how New Forest District Council will work with the other Councils in Hampshire and Hampshire Waste Services to develop an integrated approach to Waste/Resource management.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no crime and disorder implications.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The ABP sets out the core activity and initiatives agreed for Project Integra for a five-year period from April 2005 to March 2010. Although Project Integra does not manage refuse collection, recycling or waste disposal in Hampshire, the partnership has an important role in communication, research, marketing and waste minimisation.
- 7.2 As part of the ABP, this Council will be required to produce a sub-strategy relating to the New Forest. This sub-strategy requires each Partner to identify how they are going to reach 40% recycling or otherwise maximise recycling.
- 7.3 Although this Council broadly supports the ABP, there are three important areas of difficulty:
- 7.3.1 The ABP does not appear to give sufficient information on the new infrastructure that will be required within Hampshire to deal with the predicted growth in waste and recyclables.
- 7.3.2 The ABP does not acknowledge the problem of the high levels of rejected material at the MRF and does not provide a strategy to deal with this.
- 7.3.3 The ABP does not take account of the need to deal with new legislation such as the Waste Electronic and Electrical and Bio Waste directives.

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Council endorse the ABP, subject to the Portfolio Holder being satisfied that the following conditions will be met:
- 8.1.1 The ABP needs to take a more proactive and long term view of the provision of waste infrastructure in Hampshire.
 - 8.1.2 The ABP needs to include a strategy for dealing with the levels of rejected material at the MRF. It is the view of this Council that the level of rejection at the MRF is unacceptable and request Project Integra and the County Council to address this with Onyx as a matter of priority.
 - 8.1.3 New directives such as WEEE and the Bio Waste directive need to be clearly identified in this document together with the implication of how these are going to be managed.

Further information:

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Background Papers:

None

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**A FULL COPY OF THE BUSINESS PLAN
IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM
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