

## **REPORT OF CABINET**

**(Meeting held on 4 April 2018)**

### **1 PROJECT INTEGRA ACTION PLAN (MINUTE NO 81)**

The Cabinet is recommending that the action plan for the Hampshire Waste Partnership, Project Integra, to cover the period 2018-2021, should be approved.

While the Hampshire County Partnership is one of the best examples for the high level of diversion of waste from landfill, their performance on recycling rates is falling behind other county partnerships. The new action plan will focus on improving performance, identifying a wider range of materials to recycle and reducing the cost of managing waste in Hampshire. The proposed 10 key actions for the following 3 years are set out in Section 4.1 of the Action Plan. Project Integra are intending to make significant investment in the infrastructure for recycling, particularly by constructing a new Materials Recycling Facility that will be more flexible and allow the Partnership to collect a wider range of materials, thereby improving recycling performance. When the original Materials Recycling Facilities had been constructed in Hampshire, some 20 years ago, they had been at the leading edge of the technology available, but they are not suitable to take forward the progressive improvements on this front that have taken place over recent years. Members also consider that it is important to continue to focus on materials that are genuinely recycled and not collected for recycling but then diverted into the main waste stream.

The Council's contribution towards the cost of running the Partnership, calculated on the basis of the number of households, is set out in Table 2 of the Action Plan, and in 2018/19 will total £15,225. Subject to minor variation as a result of fluctuations in commodity prices, the budgeted income in 2018/19 from dry mixed recyclable materials is £418,000 and £66,000 for glass. The Partnership will continue to seek out sustainable and profitable markets for recyclable materials.

#### ***RECOMMENDED:***

***That the Project Integra Action Plan 2018-2021, as attached at Appendix 1 to Report Item 4 to the Cabinet, be approved.***

### **2 SAFER NEW FOREST PARTNERSHIP PLAN (MINUTE NO. 82)**

The Cabinet is recommending that the Safer New Forest Partnership Plan for 2018/19 is approved. The Plan is attached as Appendix 1 to Report Item 5 to the Cabinet. The high level priorities for the coming year are:

1. Children at risk
2. Modern slavery and human trafficking
3. Drug related harm
4. Develop consistent recognition and access to support for victims of domestic abuse

The Plan sets out a detailed action plan to support the identified priorities, as well as demonstrating how the Partnership will meet its obligations to engage with the community. This Council, as part of the domestic abuse forum, is one of the lead partners for the actions related to reducing domestic abuse. This issue is of particular concern locally as, although reported rates of domestic abuse in the District

are low, it is possible that the geographical characteristics of the area make it less likely that domestic abuse will be noticed and reported. Increasing awareness of the issue and of the routes through which suspected abuse can be reported is therefore important.

The Partnership Plan recognises that the New Forest is one of the safest places in the UK in which to live, work and visit and the Cabinet welcomed the continuing commitment to make it even safer. All governmental organisations are facing financial constraints but the partners in the New Forest are finding new ways of delivering services and of working together to make the most productive use of the resources available.

**RECOMMENDED:**

***That the Safer New Forest Partnership Plan 2018/19, as attached as Appendix 1 to Report Item 5 to the Cabinet, be approved.***

**3 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT (MINUTE NO. 83)**

The Cabinet has been updated on the provisional outturn figures against the 2017/18 budget. This follows the variations that have been reported to the Cabinet, on a regular basis, through financial monitoring reports.

The General Fund outturn is now estimated at £15.346 million, compared to the original budget of £16.587 million. The key variations are set out in Table 1 and paragraphs 3.5 to 3.7 of Report Item 6 to the Cabinet. Once the final year end position has been established these variations will be reviewed to determine which will continue into the future but have not yet been reflected in the 2018/19 budget and Medium Term Financial Plan. In total, since the last financial report to the Cabinet in November 2017, further savings and income generation of £1.303 million have been identified (of which £337,000 has been returned to reserves); new requirements totalling £301,000 have been identified; and the Milford on Sea beach recharge, to the value of £140,000, has been rescheduled.

Additional savings of £127,000 have been identified against the General Fund asset maintenance and replacement budget; and rephasings of £235,000, as a result of incomplete projects, have also been identified. In addition, community grants to the value of £63,000 will be rephased into 2018/19.

The outturn position shows an increase in capital expenditure, bringing the General Fund capital expenditure to £24.418 million, compared to the original budget figure of £21.266 million. The report includes new net requirements of £2.549 million and rephasings of £1.133 million. Further details of the new variations are set out in Tables 3 and 4 of Report Item 6 to the Cabinet.

Further variations amounting to £1.156 million have been identified against the Housing Revenue Account, as set out in Section 5 of the report. A significant proportion of this relates to the transfer of the Disabled Facilities Adaptations budget into the Capital Programme, with a lesser forecast spend on adaptations of £150,000. In accordance with current policy, the Housing Revenue Account will be maintained with a balance of £1 million, with any surplus transferred to the acquisitions and development fund.

The Cabinet supports the proposal to establish a Business Rates Equalisation Reserve to smooth out the significant fluctuations that can arise from this revenue stream, to give greater certainty to the budgeting process.

**COUNCILLOR B RICKMAN**  
**CHAIRMAN**