

# Media Release

From the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire  
[www.push.gov.uk](http://www.push.gov.uk)



**Date 30 June 2010**

## **PUSH Local Enterprise Partnership**

Following the publication of the Chancellors budget report and an invitation from Government to work with them to help strengthen local economies, the Chairman of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) has written to both the Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP and the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP to advise that the Partnership welcomes the announcement by Government that they will support the creation of local enterprise partnerships.

Based around the twin cities of Portsmouth and Southampton, with a population of one million, the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire has a well established strategic framework within which businesses, local authorities and other partners are already working together on issues of economic concern. The boundaries of PUSH are based on the natural economic area rather than administrative boundaries. As such, they accurately reflect a cohesive economic area that is supported by strong local authority partnerships and existing collaborative agreements. They therefore welcome the commitment from Government that it will "enable locally-elected leaders, working with business, to lead local economic development."

PUSH is committed to ensuring that over the next 20 years South Hampshire will gain renown as a location of choice for growing businesses, as a major centre of excellence in innovation and technology enabling smarter and more sustainable growth; and as a place where the benefits of growth are shared by all sectors and communities providing an area offering sustainable prosperity and a high quality of life for residents. This brighter future will be based on raising the performance of our economy. PUSH has commissioned a refresh of the economic evidence base and strategy to inform a more comprehensive approach to economic development going forward. This is being developed in partnership with business, the universities and public sector organisations to ensure that we have a strong and coherent strategy which all partners endorse. The strategy will be focused on putting business at the heart of economic growth in South Hampshire, enabling this globally competitive area to realise its potential. This is expected to form the basis of a framework for our Local Enterprise Partnership.

# Media Release

From the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire  
[www.push.gov.uk](http://www.push.gov.uk)



PUSH Chairman, Councillor Seán Woodward, said:

*“Taking on the role of a Local Enterprise Partnership offers a natural development of our partnership arrangements. This will enable significant efficiency gains by supporting improved coordination of public and private investment in economic development and skills, regeneration transport and housing. This invitation from Government will allow the partnership to take control of the economic destiny of their local area. This can be achieved by putting business at the heart of the economic recovery and rebalancing the local economy, by developing a larger vibrant and successful private sector and supporting this with an ambitious and co-ordinated support from the universities, voluntary and public sector organisations.”*

## Ends

For further information on PUSH, please contact the Executive Director, Anne-Marie Mountifield via email to [Anne-Marie.Mountifield@push.gov.uk](mailto:Anne-Marie.Mountifield@push.gov.uk)

## Notes to the Editor

### PUSH

PUSH is a partnership of eleven local authorities including unitary authorities of Portsmouth and Southampton; Hampshire County Council and the district authorities of Eastleigh, East Hampshire, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, New Forest, Test Valley and Winchester.

PUSH in collaboration with local partners and government agencies continue to work to deliver sustainable, economic-led growth and regeneration to create a more prosperous, attractive and sustainable South Hampshire, which offers a better quality of life for all who live, work and spend their leisure time in the sub-region.