



Minutes of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Joint Committee

*Minutes of a meeting held on 18 March 2008
in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fareham*

Members:

Councillor Patrick Burridge
Councillor Keith House
Councillor Seán Woodward
Councillor Ken Thornber
Councillor David Gillett
Councillor Maureen Holding (Deputising for Mel Kendal)
Councillor Apology received
Councillor Adrian Vinson
Councillor Apology received
Councillor George Beckett

Authority represented:

East Hampshire DC
Eastleigh BC
Fareham BC
Hampshire CC
Havant BC
New Forest District Council
Portsmouth CC
Southampton CC
Test Valley BC
Winchester CC

Chief Executives (or their Representatives):

Will Godfrey
Bernie Topham
Alan Davies
Ian Lycett
Andrew Smith
Sandy Hopkins
Dave Yates
David Williams
Brad Roynon
Roger Tetstall
Simon Eden

Authority represented:

East Hampshire DC
Eastleigh BC
Fareham BC
Gosport Borough Council
Hampshire CC
Havant BC
New Forest DC
Portsmouth CC
Southampton CC
Test Valley BC
Winchester City Council

Also in Attendance:

Cathy Evans
Stuart Jarvis
Richard Longman
Kathy Slack
Martin Tugwell

Body represented:

Government Office for the South East
Hampshire County Council
PUSH Project Director
South-East England Development Agency
South East England Regional Assembly

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Shaun Cully, Martin Hatley, Mel Kendal and Gerald Vernon-Jackson.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the PUSH Joint Committee held on 28 January 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to minute 10 being amended to reflect the definition of “significant” in Amendment 1 – Criteria for identifying strategic gaps (e.g. taking into account the size, character and historical importance of the strategic gaps) (attached - [pjc-080128-m](#)).

3. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) The Chairman announced that he was meeting Baroness Andrews, Parliamentary Undersecretary of State, DCLG, on Thursday, 20 March 2008. The meeting was being held in Eastleigh and would be looking at the PUSH area, and in particular, at cultural matters. The Chairman also advised that he would be giving a short presentation about the work and aspirations of PUSH at the meeting.

(b) The Chairman also made the following announcements regarding the PUSH Business Plan and Economic Strategy Workshops he had attended recently at the Solent Hotel, Fareham:

Business Engagement:

(i) Around 60 businesses and organisations representing business had been invited to attend, with around 25 taking part. These included business leaders, including Local Skills for Productivity Alliance, Industrial Lambert Smith Hampton, BAA Southampton, Solent Synergy, Southampton and Fareham Chamber of Commerce and Solent University, Business Southampton, HEP and City Growth Portsmouth.

The discussions focused on the emerging Economic Development Strategy and identified priorities and issues and how to engage the business community with PUSH and its work in the future.

Feedback highlighted:

- transport and connectivity – being able to get around the sub-region – was vitally important;
- the right skills for the key sectors – with all of the communities benefiting;
- supply of land and premises; and

- branding and image of South Hampshire – as benefiting from the energy of London, quality of life with business ambition, global gateway, strength of public/private partnerships, learning sub-region – 3 universities with 30 to 40K students

Following the meeting, the key business agencies agreed to work together to present a proposal to PUSH about how they could collectively support the business plan and PUSH's overall goals.

Interested Parties Meeting

- (ii) Those attending included the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), Government Officer for the South East (GOSE), South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), Business Link, JobCentre Plus, Transport for South Hampshire and the PUSH theme group leaders.

The debate centred on the emerging PUSH Business Plan. There was a lot of agreement and sign up to the overall proposals, and the key feedback focused on the need for the Plan to strengthen branding, image, promotion and communications as important area of work.

Matters for Decision

4. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT THE ROSE BOWL, EASTLEIGH

The Joint Committee considered a report by the Chairman of the Culture Theme Group, which summarised proposals brought forward by Hampshire Cricket Club for development of the Rose Bowl ground at Hedge End. It also outlined the implications of the proposals for sport and recreation and economic development across the sub-region (report [pjc-080318-r04-sed](#) refers).

Mr Eden circulated additional information at the meeting, which outlined the detail of the planning application which had been submitted to Eastleigh Borough Council recently.

Councillors Keith House and Ken Thornber declared personal interests in this item as Councillor House would be to considering the planning application when it came before Eastleigh Borough Council's planning committee on 31 March 2008. Councillor Thornber had received hospitality, not exceeding £25.00, through attending two functions at the Cricket Club. Both members remained in the meeting during the discussion thereon.

RESOLVED that the development proposals be noted and, should Eastleigh Borough Council resolve to grant planning permission, it be agreed that PUSH officers work with the Cricket Club to maximise sporting and economic benefits to the sub-region from the development.

5. PUSH BUSINESS PLAN

The Joint Committee considered a report by the PUSH Project Director, which set out the proposed actions to be taken forward in the period 2008-11, indicating priorities and a summary of available financial information. The Plan contained more detailed action plans for use by PUSH and its partners in implementing the Plan. It also indicated the proposed priorities for project funding in 2008/09 and indicatively for future years (report [pjc-080318-r08-rlo](#) refers).

An amendment to the content of the Business Plan was moved and duly seconded as follows:-

SLM3 engage and up-skill the resident working age population

Investigate the potential for a *greater* multi-agency *collaboration* covering *health, employment, skills etc.*

SLM5 Improve skills infrastructure and provision

- Support the college rebuilding programme 2; and
- Support the Education Authorities and their partners in the development of school infrastructure through *the* Building School for the Future *initiative*;

Future *initiative*:

- Address provision in key areas of deficit identified in the Adult Learning and Skills Strategy.

SLM6 Tackle low achievement in our schools

- Recognise the importance of tackling low achievement in schools and support the Education Authorities in the development of initiatives with schools and other partners to address this problem.

Amend Paragraphs 2.9 and 2.10 of the business plan to take account of these changes.

RESOLVED that subject to the amendments listed above and:-

- (1) subject to recommendation 2 below, the Business Plan be approved and recommended to individual councils for their adoption;
- (2) that authority be delegated to the Chairman of the PUSH Working Group (following consultation with the members of the PUSH Working Group and the Chairman and Vice Chairmen of this Committee) to fine tune, complete and finalise the Business Plan; and

- (3) authority be delegated to the Chairman of the PUSH Working Group, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairmen of this Committee, to conduct negotiations on a Multi Area Agreement on the basis of the proposals in the Plan.

6. PUSH SUSTAINABILITY POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Joint committee considered a report by the Chairman of the Sustainability Theme Group, which provided a justification for a policy framework for the sub-region to ensure that the significant new development that will take place over the next 20 years within the PUSH area is built sustainably (report [pjc-080318-r03-abi](#) refers).

RESOLVED that:-

1. the approach set out in the report to the Joint Committee be endorsed and supported; and
2. each PUSH partner local authority integrate the Policy Framework, set out in the report to the Joint Committee, into their Local Development Framework, at the earliest opportunity. (For authorities which are only partly within the PUSH Sub Region this applies only to those parts of the authorities that lie within the Sub-Region).

7. PUSH MULTI-AREA AGREEMENT

The Joint Committee considered a report by the PUSH Project Director, which presented an outline of the Draft Multi Area Agreement (MAA) and sought delegated authority for officers, in consultation with key interested parties, to negotiate with DCLG/GOSE the final agreement by May 2008 (report [pjc-080318-r07-rlo](#) refers).

RESOLVED that:-

1. the outline content of the Draft Multi-Area Agreement be approved; and
2. authority be delegated to the Chairman of the PUSH Working Group, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairmen of the Joint Committee, to conduct negotiations on a Multi-Area Agreement on the basis of the proposals in the Plan.

8. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2008/09 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Joint Committee considered a report by Fareham Borough Council, which invited members to determine a schedule of meeting dates for the Joint committee for the next municipal year (report [pjc-080318-r01-sco](#) refers).

RESOLVED that the following schedule of meetings be approved for the municipal year 2008/09:-

12 June 2008 (Annual Meeting to re-appoint members);

8 September 2008;
18 November 2008;
15 January 2009; and
19 March 2009.

Matters for Information

9. SOUTH HAMPSHIRE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

The Joint Committee considered a report by Hampshire County Council, which described what Green Infrastructure is, what subjects are covered in the project reports, why the work is important to PUSH, and some of the key findings (report [pjc-080318-r05-vfl](#) refers).

RESOLVED that the report on progress to date, including the proposal for additional work to prepare a Green Infrastructure Strategy be noted.

10. TRANSPORT FOR SOUTH HAMPSHIRE: SUMMARY OF TRANSPORT STRATEGY, MAIN OUTCOMES OF STUDIES AND WAY FORWARD

The Joint Committee received a report by the Transport Lead Officer, which provided a brief summary of the Transport for South Hampshire strategy, the main outcomes of studies and set out the way forward for delivery and PUSH/TfSH liaison (report - [pjc-080318-r02-kwi](#) refers).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

11. PUSH PROJECTS: PROGRESS SUMMARY

The Joint Committee received a report by the PUSH Project Director, which provided a brief summary of progress on each of the projects currently being carried out by or on behalf of PUSH. It also offered a forecast of outturn expenditure (report [pjc-080318-r06-rlo](#) refers).

RESOLVED that the progress report to the Joint Committee, and its Appendix, be noted.

(The meeting started at 6:00pm and ended at 7:22pm)