



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

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

Members:

Councillor Seán Woodward (Chairman)
Councillor Mel Kendal
Councillor Keith House
Councillor Ferris Cowper
Councillor David Smith
Councillor Tony Briggs
Councillor Edward Heron (Deputising for Barry Rickman)
Councillor Hugh Mason (deputising for Gerald Vernon-Jackson)
Councillor Martin Hatley
Councillor George Beckett

Authority represented:

Fareham BC
Hampshire CC
Eastleigh
East Hampshire DC
Gosport BC
Havant BC
New Forest DC
Portsmouth CC
Test Valley BC
Winchester CC

Chief Executives:

Alan Davies
Ian Lycett
Alison Quant (Deputising for Andrew Smith)
Sandy Hopkins
David Yates
Mike Allgrove (Deputising for David Williams)
Madelene Winter (Deputising for Roger Tetstall)
Brad Roynon
Simon Eden
Stuart Jarvis

Authority represented:

Fareham BC
Gosport BC
Hampshire CC
Havant BC
New Forrest DC
Portsmouth CC
Test Valley BC
Southampton CC
Winchester CC
PUSH Managing Director

Co-opted, Non-Voting Members

Cathy Evans
Kathy Slack

Body Represented:

Jorn Peters (deputising for Martin Tugwell).

Government Office for the South East
South East England Development Agency
South East England Regional Assembly

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gerald Vernon-Jackson, Portsmouth City Council, Barry Rickman, New Forest District Council and Alec Samuels, Southampton City Council,

Apologies for absence were also received from Bernie Topham, Eastleigh Borough Council, Andrew Smith, Hampshire County Council, David Williams, Portsmouth City Council, Martin Tugwell, SEERA and Roger Tetstall, Test Valley Borough Council.

The relevant changes to the membership for this meeting were noted as above.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the PUSH Joint Committee held on 16 September 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record (attached - [pjc-080916-m](#)).

In respect of minute 14(e) the PUSH Managing Director advised the Joint Committee that a meeting had been held with the Environment Agency (EA) and GOSE on 14 November 2008 at Havant Borough Council Civic Offices, to discuss the South East Plan MODS consultation response submitted by the EA. The EA representation had raised concerns about the flood risk implications of the proposed spatial development distribution for South Hampshire. This followed the exchange of draft statements on these issues between PUSH and the EA in October, prior to the SE Plan MODS consultation deadline. A draft note setting out the points of agreement was tabled.

The Joint Committee noted the information.

(N.B.: - the meeting note will be published on the PUSH web-site www.push.gov.uk)

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:-

(a) SEEDA Dinner and Annual Public Meeting:

A number of colleagues were present for either the SEEDA Board dinner or the annual SEEDA public open meeting in Southampton at the end of October. The dinner was arranged specifically to give the Board an opportunity to focus on South Hampshire issues and on the work of PUSH, and a number of key business leaders from the area were also invited.

The event was a great success from PUSH's point of view, with the opportunities taken to present the work PUSH was now doing, the key issues, and the chance to network with colleagues from both Business and

3. contd.

SEEDA.

(b) Advance Network Prototypes (ANP) Bid Success:

The Chairman was pleased to report on another successful PUSH bid for funding; this time in the context of skills and employment. The Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills had agreed to fund a £400,000 project to create employment hubs and other upskilling initiatives in the area.

This two-year pilot project will help to remove employment barriers. The main focus of the PUSH model was a more person-centred approach to skills and employment. It would include specialised training for those working in non-employment roles (such as housing officers) to help identify and break down the barriers to employment being experienced by clients.

In addition, by 2009, four of the PUSH local authority areas, Portsmouth, Southampton, Havant and Gosport would have central employment and skills hubs, where residents would receive a total skills and employment service from skills analysis, to help with a CV or selecting and registering for training options.

This was particularly welcome in the current economic climate, and the Chairman asked members to join him in thanking Kathy Wadsworth from Portsmouth who had led this work for PUSH.

(c) Innovation and Growth Teams (IGT) Bid:

The Chairman suggested that some members would already be aware of SEEDA's initiative to establish 8 Innovation and Growth Team across the region (previously known as Place Based Innovation Teams). The process for establishing these teams required submission of a business case to SEEDA by the "delivery vehicle" in each area. The chairman was pleased to advise that the PUSH area was in the first tranche of bids to be invited, and that the bid co-ordinated by a group, which is being convened by Solent Synergy and the Enterprise Hubs (covering the South Hampshire and Isle of Wight Area), had made it through the initial stages of this process. More work was now required on the detailed proposals, and this would be subject to a detailed report to the next meeting. In the meantime, The Chairman asked members to formally agree to support the bid in principle, (it was worth up to £1M pa over the life of the initiative), and to delegate the detailed work on preparing the PUSH input to the submission to the Chief Executive Theme Lead for Economic Development.

RESOLVED, that the bid be agreed, in principle, and the detailed work on preparing the PUSH input to the submission be delegated to the Chief Executive Theme Lead for Economic Development.

4. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Joint Committee considered a report by the Managing Director, which provided an opportunity for issues which were significant but did not justify a full report in their own right, to be brought to the attention of the Joint Committee for a decision or for information (copy of report [pjc-081118-r02-sja](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

Part A: MATTERS FOR A DECISION

Local Development Frameworks - Draft Core Strategies

RESOLVED, that the Managing Director, in consultation with the Chairman, be authorised to prepare and submit supporting representations to the New Forest and Test Valley Core Strategies;

PUSH Media Protocols

The Chairman pointed out that Mel McKeown, Head of Communications at Fareham Borough Council, would be working for PUSH for one day per week as an interim measure, to produce a more consistent approach to media protocols.

RESOLVED, that:-

- (a) the draft Media Protocols set out in Appendix A to the report be adopted; and
- (b) the Managing Director, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairmen of the Joint Committee, be authorised to amend and update the draft Protocols as appropriate to meet operational requirements.

Part B: MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Strategic Employment Zone (SHSEZ) Re-Brand, PUSH Business Group and Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF)

RESOLVED, that the information set out in Part B of the report be noted.

5. ECONOMIC BRIEFING - PRESENTATION

The Committee received a presentation from Kathy Slack, SEEDA, on the current state of the Regional and South Hampshire economy.

RESOLVED, that the information contained in the presentation be noted.

Matters for Decision

6. PUSH GOVERNANCE

The Joint Committee considered a report by the Managing Director, which recommended revised working arrangements to develop the PUSH focus on delivery (copy of report [pjc-181108-r01-sja](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

6. contd.

The Chairman explained that Appendix 3 had been updated with the addition of the names of the Gosport Member nomination for the Economy Delivery Panel, Cllr David Smith, and the New Forest Member nomination as Chair of the Planning and Housing Delivery Panel, Cllr Edward Heron.

RESOLVED, that:-

- a) the Governance Arrangements set out in the report, and illustrated in the diagram set out in Appendix Two, be approved;
- b) a representative of the Business Group be co-opted onto the Joint Committee on the same basis as the SEEDA, SEERA and GOSE representatives;
- c) the Delivery Panel Terms of Reference set out in Appendix One be approved;
- d) the recommended Member and Officer nominations set out in Appendix Three (as amended) be approved; and
- e) the Financial Protocols set out in Appendix Four, which replace the interim arrangements previously agreed, be approved.

7. HALF YEAR PERFORMANCE

The Joint Committee considered a report by the PUSH Economic Development Director, which outlined progress against the targets set in the Business Plan and South Hampshire Multi-Area Agreement (MMA) for the first half of 2008/09, and recommended an approach to performance Monitoring for adoption by the Joint Committee (copy of report [pjc-0812118-r04-dba](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

Members generally supported the proposition put forward that the performance indicators should be reduced and more strategic as thirty eight was rather a large number.

RESOLVED, that

1. the half year performance results for each of the themes be noted;
2. the identified key strategic outcomes and the exception based approach adopted in the report as the basis for top level performance management and reporting to the Joint Committee, be approved; and
3. subsequent performance reports to be submitted to the Joint Committee on a 6 monthly basis.

8. MULTI-AREA AGREEMENT (MMA) REFRESH

The Joint Committee considered a report by the push Managing Director, which sought authority for PUSH to participate in a further round of submissions in the early part of 2009, and set out a broad approach to developing the submission for the Joint Committee's consideration (copy of report [pjc-081118-r03-sja](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

The Joint Committee was advised that more detailed proposals would be presented to the meeting in January 2009.

RESOLVED, that

- a) the participation of PUSH in the next round of Multi Area Agreement submissions, in principle, be approved; and
- b) the proposed approach set out in the report, as a basis for developing further proposals on potential MAA outcomes to be considered by this Committee in due course, be approved.

9. EMPLOYMENT FLOORSPACE POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Joint committee considered a report by the planning Theme Lead, which invited the Committee to approve the Policy Framework for publication, so that it could guide and support the preparation of Local Development Documents by city, borough and district councils (copy of report [pjc-081118-r07-sro](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

RESOLVED, that the Employment Floorspace Policy Framework set out in Annex A to the report to the Joint Committee, be endorsed.

10. PUSH ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

The Joint Committee considered a report by the Corporate Director, Havant Borough Council, which advised of the outcomes for future work relating to climate change, renewable and low-carbon energy and the potential for a sub-regional energy services company (copy of report [pjc-081118-r05-fca](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

A member explained that before the strategy could be endorsed, members should hold a workshop to work through the strategy so that they were all up to speed with its proposals.

An amendment was proposed and duly seconded that the recommendations be amended as follows:-

- Recommendation A - the word "endorsed" be deleted and replaced with the word "noted" and the words "and its key recommendations" be deleted;
- Recommendations B and D be combined; and

10. contd.

- Recommendation C be deleted completely.

With the Joint Committee's agreement, it was RESOLVED, that:-

- (a) the Energy and Climate Change Strategy report be noted as a basis for ongoing sustainability work;
- (b) a workshop be arranged for the Joint Committee to consider the detailed findings of the report and officers be asked to prepare a sub regional climate change strategy for PUSH, integrating, as appropriate, the advice contained within the report.

Matter for Information

11. SIX MONTHLY BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2008/09

The Joint Committee considered a report by the push Managing Director and the Treasurer, Hampshire County Council, which summarised the current position on actual and committed expenditure against the agreed budgets, as well as a forecast of activity for the remainder of the financial year (copy of report [pjc-081118-r06-sja-tni](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

RESOLVED, that progress achieved to date against the approved budgets for 2008/09 be noted.

(The meeting started at 6:00pm and ended at 7:20pm).

(NB: The next meeting of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PUSH) Joint Committee will be held on Thursday, 15 January 2009 at 6:00pm).