



# Report to the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: 18 November 2008

Report of: Frank Campbell, Corporate Director, Havant Borough Council

Subject: PUSH Energy and Climate Change Strategy

## SUMMARY

In September 2007 PUSH commissioned an energy study from consultants (Arup) to advise on the [feasibility an energy strategy](#) for South Hampshire. The objective of the study was to examine the baseline use of energy in the sub region and make recommendations on how we could move towards a more sustainable low carbon economy with increased use of renewable energy sources. The brief also required advice on appropriate organisational structures and a strategic policy framework for managing energy within the sub region.

That work has now been completed and the resulting advice forms a platform upon which PUSH can develop a programme of initiatives to secure reductions in carbon emissions, stimulate the move towards renewable and low carbon energy sources and build an effective sub regional climate change strategy.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- (a) That the Joint Committee endorse the Energy and Climate Change Strategy Report and its key recommendations as a basis for ongoing sustainability work.
- (b) That a workshop be arranged for the Joint Committee to consider the detailed findings of the report
- (c) That the detailed work of implementing the recommendations of the report be undertaken through the Sustainability and Community Infrastructure Delivery Panel
- (d) That officers be asked to prepare a sub regional climate change strategy for PUSH, integrating as appropriate the advice contained within the report

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. In developing the sub regional strategy for South Hampshire PUSH has been clear that the proposed level of economic and housing growth could only be acceptable in terms of its environmental impact if the highest reasonably achievable standard of sustainable development is delivered.
2. On this basis PUSH has already agreed an environmental sustainability policy framework that will be integrated into individual local development frameworks by each PUSH authority.
3. As the environmental sustainability policy framework will require developers to secure renewable and low carbon energy solutions it became clear that PUSH needed to develop a more structured approach to energy policy within South Hampshire to facilitate these objectives.
4. It was agreed therefore to commission an energy study on a competitive basis and Arup were appointed to carry out this work in September 2007. The study is now complete following an interactive dialogue with a wide range of public and private sector stakeholders in South Hampshire. The advice in the study provides a comprehensive strategic approach to energy with a vision based upon a "local stewardship approach". That is an approach which would make the sub region less dependent upon national sources of energy and provide a greater degree of long term energy resilience.
5. The recommended approach will reduce dependency on fossil fuel supply, facilitate local energy networks, tackle carbon reduction requirements for South Hampshire in line with national and international targets, facilitate the introduction of renewable and low carbon energy supply, and provide the basis for developing a PUSH Climate Change Strategy.
6. The Executive Summary including the key recommendations is attached to this report.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

7. The advice contained in this study provides PUSH with a clear platform upon which to develop a proactive approach to managing energy and reducing carbon emissions in the lifetime of the Sub Regional Spatial Strategy. It also provides the basis of a sub regional Climate Change Strategy which officers can develop over the coming months. There are many detailed aspects to the report and a complex series of proposed actions which can now be further developed with a view to implementation.
8. In order to ensure that members have a better understanding of the study it is recommended that this work be included in the next policy workshop for the Joint Committee. In due course the report will be considered in greater detail by the proposed PUSH Sustainability and Social Infrastructure Delivery Panel when that is established. The implementation of the recommendations in the report will also be managed by that Panel.
9. It is therefore recommended that:-

- (a) That the Joint Committee endorse the Energy and Climate Change Strategy Report and its key recommendations as a basis for ongoing sustainability work;
- (b) That a workshop be arranged for the Joint Committee to consider the detailed findings of the report;
- (c) That the detailed work of implementing the recommendations of the report be undertaken through the Sustainability and Community Infrastructure Delivery Panel; and
- (d) That officers be asked to prepare a sub regional climate change strategy for PUSH, integrating as appropriate the advice contained within the report.

**Background Papers: -**

PUSH Energy and Climate Change Strategy – Arup report for PUSH  
*(A full copy of the report can be provided on request)*

**Reference Papers:**

South East Plan: Proposed Changes published by Government Office for the South East. Can be seen at: <http://gose.limehouse.co.uk/portal/rss/pcc/consult>

**Enquiries:**

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