



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

*Minutes of a meeting held on 26 June 2009
in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fareham*

Members:

Councillor Seán Woodward (Chairman)
Councillor Roy Perry (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Mark Hook
Councillor Tony Briggs
Councillor Edward Heron
Councillor Alec Samuels
Councillor George Beckett

Authority represented:

Fareham BC
Hampshire CC
Gosport BC
Havant BC
New Forest DC
Southampton CC
Winchester CC

Chief Executives:

Daryl Phillips (Deputising for Will Godfrey)
Bernie Topham
Peter Grimwood
Tom Niedrum (deputising for Andrew Smith)
Sandy Hopkins
David Williams
Brad Roynon
Simon Eden
David Yates

Authority represented:

East Hampshire DC
Eastleigh BC
Fareham BC
Hampshire CC
Havant BC
Portsmouth CC
Southampton CC
Winchester CC
New Forest DC

Stuart Jarvis

PUSH Managing Director

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ferris Cowper, East Hampshire District Council, Gerald Vernon-Jackson, Portsmouth City Council and Martin Hatley, Test Valley Borough Council.

Apologies for absence were also received from Will Godfrey, East Hampshire District Council, Andrew Smith, Hampshire County Council, Roger Tetstall, Test Valley Borough Council, Kathy Slack from SEEDA, Cathy Evans from GOSE, Caroline Williams from the PUSH Business Group and David Edwards from HCA.

RESOLVED, that the relevant changes to the membership for this meeting be NOTED, as above.

2. PRESENTATION BY THE AUDIT COMMISSION

The Committee received a presentation from Mr Alastair Rankin from the Audit Commission on the audit process for PUSH and the Programme for the final sign off of the PUSH accounts. The presentation outlined the audit framework, the scope of the audit, the auditor's relationship with those charged with governance, and the steps taken in the conclusion of the audit.

RESOLVED, that the information set out in the presentation be NOTED.

Matters for Decision

3. PUSH STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2008/09

The Joint Committee considered a report by the PUSH Treasurer, which set out the final PUSH accounts for 2008/09, and recommended their formal approval by the Joint Committee (copy of report [pjc-090626-r01-tni](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

An amended statement of accounts was tabled at the meeting, setting out the statement of accounts policies, the statement of recognised gains and losses, the notes of the accounts and an explanatory foreword - table 1 of PUSH Resources. The Treasurer explained that the amendments would be included in the final Statement of Accounts, which would be signed by the Chairman.

The Treasurer also advised that work was underway on revising and updating the financial protocols and that amended protocols would be presented to a future meeting of the Joint Committee for approval.

A member asked what lessons, if any, had been learned from last year, if there were any spending pressures or were the accounts acceptable? The PUSH Managing Director advised that as a result of issues which arose from late

Minute 3 contd.

approval of the Capital Programme in 2008/09, the process for identifying and evaluating projects had been revised, and that the capital programme for this year had been approved in March. Officers had also recognised the complexities for PUSH around contracts, bidding for funding and procurement of projects. This was why the financial protocols were being amended.

RESOLVED, that:-

1. the Annual Governance Statement on pages 6 to 13 of the Statement of Accounts 2008/09 be APPROVED;
2. the Statement of Accounts for the 2008/09 financial year be APPROVED;
3. the carry forward of the total under spend of £2,779,000 from 2008/09 into 2009/10 be APPROVED; and
4. the impact of the under spending in 2008/09 be incorporated into the revised 2009/10 budgets to be presented to the Joint Committee on 29 July 2009 be NOTED.

4. TAX INCREMENTAL FINANCE (TIF) AND ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT ZONE (ADZ) PILOT INITIATIVE: PUSH RESPONSE

The Joint Committee considered a report by the PUSH Managing Director, which recommended the submission of an expression of interest by PUSH in taking part in a pilot for this new Government initiative (copy of report [pjc-090626-r02-sja](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

A question was asked about the how the business rate receipts would be collected and used and the Managing Director explained the principle of TIF and stressed that at this stage, the details were not known as the proposal before members was just an initial expression of interest.

A member asked what consultation had been carried out over the proposals. The Managing Director explained that whilst the proposals had been discussed at the External Funding and Resources Panel officer meeting, the timescales for preparing these bids had effectively precluded widespread consultation. The sites considered were the identified strategic employment priority sites.

RESOLVED, that:-

1. the proposed submission of an expression of interest by PUSH in becoming a pilot area for the Government's proposed initiative to explore the potential application of Tax Incremental Funding in the UK be AGREED;

Minute 4 contd.

2. the PUSH submission should be based on proposed Accelerated Development Zones at Dunsbury Hill Farm, Havant and Eastleigh Riverside (Northern Business Park) be AGREED; and
3. authority be DELEGATED to the Managing Director to finalise the submission documents and to conduct any follow up discussions or correspondence with relevant parties required to advance the proposal on behalf of PUSH.

Urgent Matter for Decision

The following item related to an initiative that had recently been announced by the Government with bids invited for submission by 30 June. In order for PUSH to submit a bid, a decision was required by 30 June, but this item was not included in the current Forward Plan. It had therefore been agreed by the Chairman of the PUSH Joint Committee and the Chairman/ Vice-Chairman of the PUSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in accordance with the urgent matters procedure, that the proposed bid could be considered and determined at this meeting.

5. FUTURE JOBS FUND

The Joint Committee considered a report by the PUSH Economic Development Theme Lead, which recommended the submission of a bid by PUSH, as part of a wider Hampshire Consortium bid, to this new Government funding initiative (copy of report [pjc-090626-r03-bto](#) circulated prior to the meeting and appended to the signed minutes).

RESOLVED, that:-

1. the submission of a bid for the Future Jobs Fund in a consortia arrangement with the Isle of Wight and Hampshire County Councils be APPROVED for the 30 June deadline, as outlined in the report, subject to mutually satisfactory resolution of the contractual arrangements between the parties;
2. subject to contract, the County Council and/or Portsmouth City Council be AUTHORISED to enter into contracts on behalf of PUSH, in respect of the project, on the basis that any liabilities incurred under the terms of these agreements, will be borne by the PUSH Partner Authorities, as appropriate, and the County and/or Portsmouth City Council indemnified accordingly and sufficiently;

Minute 5 contd.

- 3 authorisation to finalise the bid proposals and complete the necessary bid paperwork be DELEGATED to the Theme Lead Chief Executive for Economic Development, in consultation with the Theme Lead Chief Executive for External Funding; and
- 4 authority be DELEGATED to the Theme Lead Chief Executive for Economic Development, to finalise the contractual arrangements for the bid with the DWP and between partners, subject to the agreement of all parties.

(The meeting started at 2:15pm and ended at 3:30pm).

*(NB: The next meeting of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PUSH) Joint Committee will be held on **Wednesday, 29 July 2009 at 6:00pm**).*