

# Media Release

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



**3 October 2012**

## **New planning strategy for South Hampshire approved**

A new strategy to steer private sector growth, increased employment, housebuilding and other development across South Hampshire for the next fourteen years has been adopted by the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH). The 'South Hampshire Strategy' was approved yesterday (2 October 2012) by the PUSH Joint Committee which comprises the Leaders of the ten local authorities within the Partnership. The document sets targets for employment floorspace and new homes in each PUSH local authority looking ahead to 2026. Other topics covered include transport and other infrastructure, arts, culture and tourism, and environmental sustainability.

The strategy will guide the preparation of local plans by individual PUSH authorities and is seen as fulfilling their legal duty to cooperate with each other on planning issues. PUSH also intends the document to influence decision-making by other bodies and agencies such as the utility companies, public agencies, and developers.

Portsmouth and Southampton remain a key focus for investment and development, the strategy says, with the surrounding towns playing a complementary role serving their more local areas. It prioritises regeneration and redevelopment in the two cities and other urban areas, but recognises that some greenfield sites will be needed for the new businesses on which future economic prosperity depends and to accommodate the projected growth in household numbers. The strategy envisages greenfield development being concentrated in a new community on the northern edge of Fareham and in a number of smaller extensions to other towns.

Across South Hampshire a whole, the document proposes over 1 million square metres of new office, manufacturing and warehousing space by 2026, and around 55,000 new homes. About one-third of this new development is planned to be in Portsmouth and Southampton, with most of the remainder in the boroughs of Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport and Havant. The strategy seeks to minimise the environmental impact of this major development by requiring high quality design and construction standards, and by protecting gaps of undeveloped land between settlements.

**Together shaping the future of South Hampshire**

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The Chairman of PUSH, Councillor Seán Woodward, commented:

*'This strategy sets out our vision and ambition for South Hampshire's future and working with the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership, we will help to enable and unlock economic growth, focusing on the cities of Portsmouth and Southampton and other urban areas. Our two cities and the surrounding urban areas make a vital contribution to the economy and have genuine potential for growth. The publication of the South Hampshire Strategy today continues to demonstrate how PUSH in collaboration with local partners are working together to secure a prosperous future for the local economy'*

**- END -**

## Notes for editors

### PUSH

1. PUSH is a partnership of ten local authorities including unitary authorities of Portsmouth, Southampton; Hampshire County Council and the district authorities of Eastleigh, East Hampshire, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Test Valley and Winchester. For more information about PUSH, please visit the PUSH website at [www.push.gov.uk](http://www.push.gov.uk)
2. PUSH in collaboration with local partners and government agencies continues 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.
3. To download the South Hampshire Strategy and the supplementary documents please visit [http://www.push.gov.uk/work/housing-and-planning/south\\_hampshire\\_strategy.htm](http://www.push.gov.uk/work/housing-and-planning/south_hampshire_strategy.htm)

## For general queries

Please contact Gloria Ighodaro on: 02392 688 920 or by email to: [Gloria.Ighodaro@push.gov.uk](mailto:Gloria.Ighodaro@push.gov.uk)