

# Media Release

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



17 January 2011

## **PUSH funds projects that will create local jobs**

PUSH has announced that it will be funding a total of over £2.3 million to fund and deliver a wide range of projects that will benefit local residents and the business community in the sub region. This is welcome news for the particularly at a time where the sub region continues to experience job losses. The success of these projects will lead to the creation of local job opportunities and skills development; training and apprenticeship opportunities for young people in the area and transport studies that will help unlock strategic development sites and potentially lever in private sector investment. Some of the initiatives will also aim to build on the success of existing schemes for example; the estate renewal project in North Rowner in Gosport and developing new activities in areas such as the London Road Waterlooville which will help to enhance the streetscape in an area prioritised for regeneration as well as the creation of apprenticeships.

PUSH is keen to ensure that the successful projects support the ambitions and the priorities within the Economic Development Strategy, adopted in November 2010.

PUSH Chairman, Councillor Seán Woodward, said:

“PUSH is passionate about putting local people first to ensure that what we deliver meets your needs and that of our future generations. The programme that we have agreed as a partnership will help to deliver and address some of the fundamental ambitions and vision within the PUSH economic Development strategy, with particular focus on employment and skills, estate renewal, sustainable infrastructure and quality of place. This is a great way to start 2011.”

PUSH Vice Chairman, Councillor Gerald-Vernon Jackson, said:

“A key requirement for projects that are being supported by PUSH is to secure additional employer-led apprenticeships. The improvements that are going to be made to the New Theatre Royal for example, will generate support for apprenticeships and new business start ups in the creative sector. This will build on the recent campaign in Portsmouth of the “100 Apprenticeship places for 100 young people to fill in 100 days” led by The News and National Apprenticeship in partnership with Portsmouth City Council. Launched in September last year the campaign successfully reached the milestone of 100 Apprenticeships by the end of the year”

Chairman of the PUSH Economic Delivery Panel, Councillor Tony Briggs, said:

“ working with employers to increase employer based apprenticeships is a key focus for PUSH’s Employment and Skills Board which is Chaired by Debra Humphries, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Education at the University of Southampton. I am pleased therefore that one of the successful projects, ‘Swan Studios Project’, will help to create 20 workspace units to support local graduates to incubate creative new businesses which will support and promote graduate retention in the area and build on the culture for supporting new business start-ups”.

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**Ends**

For further information on PUSH, please contact the Executive Director, Anne-Marie Mountifield via email to [Anne-Marie.Mountifield@push.gov.uk](mailto:Anne-Marie.Mountifield@push.gov.uk)

## Notes to the Editor

### PUSH

1. PUSH is a partnership of eleven local authorities including unitary authorities of Portsmouth and Southampton; Hampshire County Council and the district authorities of Eastleigh, East Hampshire, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, New Forest, Test Valley and Winchester.
2. PUSH in collaboration with local partners and government agencies continue 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. For further information on the successful projects agreed at the Joint Committee, please visit the link to the report on the PUSH website: <http://www.push.gov.uk/pjc-110111-r03-cwi-amm.pdf>