



Report to the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: **11 July 2017**

Report of: **Garry King, PUSH Green Infrastructure Lead**

Subject: **South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2017**

SUMMARY

The Joint Committee at its meeting of 7 June 2016 re-affirmed its commitment to review and update the adopted PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy 2010 and the adopted PUSH Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2012 to reflect current policies related to National Planning Policy Framework and economic growth ambitions of the area. The provision of an integrated Green Infrastructure (GI) network across the sub-region is crucial to enable planned sustainable economic growth and development set out in the PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016. This report provides a summary of the review and refresh of the PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy 2010 and presents the final draft of the replacement 'South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2017' for adoption. The review and update of the supporting Implementation Plan will begin when this Strategy is adopted.

RECOMMENDATION

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to NOTE the South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2017, subject to any final changes recommended by the Joint Committee and non-substantive improvements including updates to mapping and formatting for publication.

INTRODUCTION

1. GI planning in the PUSH sub-region is supported by 'Position Statement G1: Green Infrastructure' and supporting text included in the PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016, and planned through the delivery of the adopted PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy 2010 and the adopted PUSH Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2012.
2. In order to reflect current policies related to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and consider changes in GI planning and delivery in and around the PUSH sub-region since 2010, Joint Committee agreed to review and refresh the 2010 PUSH GI Strategy. The draft South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2017 (appended to this report) is intended to replace the PUSH GI Strategy 2010.
3. There is also a need to review and update the PUSH Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan 2012 to ensure that PUSH is able to deliver strategic GI projects that enable growth and development by exploiting current funding streams including from the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The GI Implementation Plan will be reviewed and refreshed over the next few months and will be submitted to a future Joint Committee.

BACKGROUND

4. Prior to May 2015 some work had been undertaken on the review and update of the 2010 PUSH GI Strategy and 2012 PUSH GI Implementation Plan, facilitated by the previous PUSH GI lead. The PUSH Planning Officers Group and the then PUSH GI Steering Group had been consulted on drafts of this work. Work re-commenced on the review of the Strategy and Implementation Plan following the appointment of the current PUSH GI lead in April 2016.
5. The PUSH Planning Officers Group, at their 14 April 2016 meeting, agreed that the adopted 2010 PUSH GI Strategy and the 2012 PUSH GI Implementation Plan should be reviewed and refreshed, and continue to be presented as two separate documents, allowing the Implementation Plan to be readily updated to reflect changing circumstances. This approach was agreed by the PUSH Planning and Infrastructure Delivery Panel at their meeting of 13 May 2016.
6. A GI steering group was subsequently re-established by the PUSH GI Lead, comprising appropriate representatives of all PUSH local planning authorities and including representation from Natural England, the Environment Agency, the Forestry Commission, New Forest National Park and South Downs National Park, to steer the review and refresh of the PUSH GI Strategy.
7. Since May 2016, the GI Lead and GI Steering Group together have reviewed and updated the GI Strategy. Both the GI Steering Group and the PUSH Planning Officers Group were consulted on the draft of the refreshed document in January 2017. A table of responses is provided in Appendix 1. An amended draft strategy incorporating comments from these consultations is presented here for adoption by the Joint Committee.

8. Due to the natural separation of the Isle of Wight from the mainland, it was agreed prior to May 2015 and again ratified at the PUSH Planning and Infrastructure Delivery Group meeting of 13 May 2016, that the reviewed GI Strategy and the future reviewed GI Implementation Plan would cover the South Hampshire sub-region and integrate with strategic GI planning work undertaken specifically for the Isle of Wight.

South Hampshire GI Strategy 2017

9. The purpose of this strategy (provided in Appendix 2) is to set the vision and framework for an integrated network of strategic GI across the South Hampshire part of the PUSH sub-region. The scope of the strategy ensures that it:
 - is focused on enabling sustainable economic growth and development
 - is informed by the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF);
 - is focused on strategic scale GI;
 - maintains close links with the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP) and is aligned with the delivery of its strategy;
 - integrates with GI planning in neighbouring areas and acts as a framework for the delivery of smaller scale GI at a local level;
 - will enhance quality of life for residents of the sub-region and improve the quality of its natural environment.
10. GI opportunities mapping and detailed 'shovel ready' strategic GI projects will be provided in the associated South Hampshire GI Implementation Plan 2017, which will also be developed in conjunction with the GI Steering Group and PUSH Planning Officers Group over the next few months.

RECOMMENDATION

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to NOTE the South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2017, subject to any final changes recommended by the Joint Committee and non-substantive improvements including updates to mapping and formatting for publication.

Reference Papers:

[PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016](#)

[PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy Adopted June 2010](#)

[PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy Appendices Adopted June 2010](#)

[PUSH Green Infrastructure Implementation Framework adopted October 2012](#)

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Table of responses to January 2017 consultation.

Appendix 2 - South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2017 (Confidential Draft)

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact:

Garry King, PUSH Green Infrastructure Lead

Tel: 01962 667946

Email: garry.king@hants.gov.uk