



## **6. INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Committee received a report from the PUSH Programme & Information Manager (acting up as Interim Executive Director), on matters that are not covered on the main agenda (copy of report - [pos item 6](#) circulated with the agenda). The PUSH Programme & Information Manager verbally updated the meeting on the following items:

### **Isle of Wight**

In June 2013, the Isle of Wight became a Member of PUSH following a formal invitation from PUSH. In tandem, an invitation was also extended to the New Forest District Council (NFDC), to which, PUSH has to date received a letter of strong intent to join subject to ratification at NFDC's September Cabinet meeting. Should NFDC accept the invitation, the geographical coverage of PUSH and the Solent LEP will for the first time be identical. A formal confirmation is anticipated at the September Joint Committee.

### **Southern England Local Partners' (SELP)**

At the last Overview and Scrutiny meeting, Members were advised of PUSH's termination of its membership of 'Southern England Local Partners' (SELP). The 12 month notice period is due to conclude in February 2014 and was to allow time for PUSH to review and consider its value for money options and if necessary, rescind its withdrawal should the SELP membership be deemed of benefit to PUSH's future work focus. A report on SELP is due to be considered at the September Joint Committee to determine a decision on the way forward.

### **Growth Strategies**

In July 2013, Government published its initial guidance to local enterprise partnerships to assist them in the preparation of their respective Growth Strategies. All LEPs are tasked with developing this plan with the involvement of key local partners in identifying economic priorities and associated schemes that deliver local economic ambitions. The first draft is expected to be submitted to Government on 7 October with formal endorsement of Growth Plans anticipated by March 2014.

### **City Deal for Southampton and Portsmouth**

The two Cities of Southampton and Portsmouth continue to work collaboratively with the relevant Government Department in securing a City Deal for Southampton and Portsmouth. A key milestone was Monday 17 July 2013 when a Presentation Team from the Solent area made its pitch to an Adhoc Ministerial Group (AMG) predicated on the economic ambitions outlined in the Expressions of Interest submitted by the cities of Portsmouth and Southampton in January this year. The next step in securing the City Deal is to continue with negotiations which will conclude by the end of the year.

### **Solent Local Transport Board (LTB)**

The Committee is asked to NOTE that PUSH became a full voting member of the Solent Local Transport Board (LTB) in June 2013. The Solent LTB was set up following published Government guidance of its commitment to devolve major transport responsibilities through this mechanism.

The Committee is asked to further NOTE:

That a recommendation will be made to the Joint Committee at its September meeting to endorse PUSH's contribution of £10,000 made payable to the Solent LTB for financial year 2013/14.

The Solent LTB Assurance Framework appended to the report as Annex A.

That in response to the query raised at the last Overview and Scrutiny meeting, the Solent LTB meetings are held in public and all papers are published in advance on the Solent LTB website:

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/transportplanning/solent-local-transport-body>

### **Research into Infrastructure Funding and Freight Industry Issues**

At the last meeting, an update was provided on the Transport for South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (TfSHIOW) proposal to commission research into potential sources of funding for the schemes in the recently adopted Transport Delivery Plan. In this regard, Members are advised that further to their request for further information on rail improvements in the Solent area and how they might be influenced, that a scheme related to new or improved rail infrastructure would be the decision of Network Rail.

Members are also advised that, in response to the query raised at the last meeting on freight movements, the A3 forms part of the Strategic Road Network and is managed by the Highways Agency. The greatest volume of freight movements from the Solent area are to/from the Port of Southampton and it is unlikely that the introduction of the Hind Head Tunnel will have had any impact on access to the Port, as the majority of medium to longer term movements will be by rail or the M3.

### **Proposed Hampshire Community Bank**

At the last Meeting, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were advised of a presentation that was presented to the PUSH Joint Committee for information at its meeting in June on a proposed Hampshire Community Bank. (A briefing note of the proposal is attached for information as Annex B to the report.) It is prudent to note that no decisions were made at the Joint Committee for or against this proposal but a budget provision of £20,000 has been made within the PUSH' Business plan for 2013/14 to develop a business case as to how this proposal would support and stimulate enterprise in the Solent area.

### **Looking Ahead**

The Forward Plan sets out matters which are likely to be subject to a Key Decision by the PUSH Joint Committee at its meetings during the next 4 months. For the September meeting, there are a number of substantive items including: PUSH Budget Monitoring Report for 2013/14 and a report on SELP and European Funding activities.

Hampshire County Council were approached in June to undertake an assessment of the 2011 census data to create an analysis 'pack', which provides data for each PUSH authority (or part thereof) and the PUSH area as a

whole, in easy-to-assimilate graphs and tables. The County Council responded positively to this request and as a consequence, the Joint Committee will receive both a presentation at this meeting and summary report encompassing key census information of significance to PUSH partners..

It was AGREED that the Committee should NOTE the information set out in the report;

- (a) that PUSH became a full voting member of the Solent Local Transport Board (LTB) in June 2013;
- (b) that a recommendation will be made to the Joint Committee at its September meeting to endorse PUSH's contribution of £10,000 made payable to the Solent LTB for financial year 2013/14; and
- (c) thanks given to the Programme and Information Manager for the report.

## **7. GREEN DEAL AGENDA**

The Committee received a presentation from Bruce Lomax and Gill Flaherty on the progress to date (copy of presentation [attached](#)).

## **8. PUSH BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

The Committee received a report on the Capital & Revenue Financial Outturn for 2012/13 and the Capital & Revenue Budget for 2013/14 (copy of report - [pos item 8](#) circulated with the agenda)

It was AGREED that the Committee:-

- (a) NOTE the outturn for the financial year 2012/13.
- (b) NOTE the capital and revenue budgets for 2013/14 as set out in the report, including the proposed level of contributions from partner authorities.

## **9. PUSH GOVERNANCE REVIEW & 2013/14 BUSINESS PLAN**

The Committee received a report on the PUSH Business Plan for 2013/14 (Copy of report – [pos item 9](#) circulated with the agenda)

It was AGREED that the Committee NOTE the 2013/14 PUSH Business Plan.

## **10. PRESENTATION ON THE STRATEGIC HOUSING MARKET ASSESSMENT (SHMA)**

The Committee received a presentation from Paul Nichols on the emerging headline findings of the SHMA work.

*(The meeting started at 6:00pm and ended at 8.15pm).*