



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

*Minutes of a meeting held on 23 September 2013
in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fareham*

Members:

Councillor Seán Woodward
Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

Councillor Simon Letts
Councillor Keith House
Councillor Mark Hook
Councillor Keith Mans
Councillor Tony Briggs
Councillor Ian Stephens
Councillor Barry Rickman
Councillor Martin Hatley

Authority Represented:

Fareham BC
Portsmouth CC
Southampton CC
Eastleigh BC
Gosport BC
Hampshire CC
Havant BC
Isle of Wight Council
New Forest DC
Test Valley BC

Chief Executives:

Bernie Topham
Richard Jolley
Ian Lycett
James Strachan
Tom Horwood
Dave Yates
David Williams
Andrew Ferrier
Simon Eden

Authority Represented:

Eastleigh BC
Fareham BC
Gosport BC
Hampshire CC
East Hampshire DC
New Forest DC
Portsmouth CC
Test Valley BC
Winchester CC

Co-opted Members

Gloria Ighodaro
James Humphrys
Russell Kew

Organisation Represented:

Partnership for Urban South Hampshire
Environment Agency
Solent Local Enterprise Partnership

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ferris Cowper, East Hants DC, Councillor Keith Wood, Winchester City CC, Peter Grimwood, Fareham BC (Richard Jolley deputising), Sandy Hopkins, Havant BC & East Hants DC (Tom Horwood deputising for East Hants DC), Stuart Jarvis, Hampshire City Council (James Strachan deputising), Stuart Love, Isle of Wight Council, Roger Testall, Test Valley BC (Andrew Ferrier deputising) and Kevin Bourner, Homes and Communities Agency.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the PUSH Joint Committee meeting held on 6 June 2013 (pjc-130606) be confirmed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman was delighted to announce that the Isle of Wight Council and New Forest District Council are now formal members of PUSH. He then welcomed Councillor Ian Stephens; and the Leader of New Forest District Council, Councillor Barry Rickman and his Chief Executive, Dave Yates to the Partnership.

The Chairman then gave an update on the Emerging LEP Growth Deal and EU Investment Strategy: the Government recently committed to providing LEPs with greater roles and responsibilities and to devolve funding to drive forward economic growth in their local areas through the creation of a Single Local Growth Fund and Growth Deals. These strategic multi-year plans for local growth plans will thereby form the basis by which Government will negotiate deals with each LEP for levers, resources and the flexibilities. PUSH is currently consulting with the Solent LEP to establish the necessary support required from PUSH to inform the Solent Growth Deal. Government is also streamlining the management of the EU Structural and Investment Funds in England and aligning priorities on the basis of the plans led by LEPs. The Solent LEP has written out to all key partners seeking engagement and held two consultation events to date, one in July and recently in September seeking partner views on strategic priorities that will inform both the emerging EU Structural Investment Strategy and Growth Plan. A first draft of the EU Structural Investment Fund is due to be submitted to Government by the Solent LEP by 7 October and mid-November for the multiyear growth plan. PUSH will continue to work with the Solent LEP to influence and inform the economic priorities identified for the area.

The Chairman updated the committee on City Deal; both cities have been advised to focus the flagship policy on the release of MOD land in the Solent area and the development of a funding model that will facilitate development. Discussions continue with Central Government around the financial details for the sites element and as such both Cities are reviewing their financial model in preparation for their Benefits / Cost Document submission to both DCLG and

Treasury. Overall, progress continues to be made and no doubt the two Cities will continue to keep PUSH informed of progress.

It was then announced by the Chairman that the PUSH website will soon be updated and revamped to reflect the work, business focus and revised direction of PUSH, notwithstanding the fact that PUSH is now made up of twelve local authorities (previously ten) as a result of New Forest and the Isle of Wight Joining PUSH.

The Chairman had hoped to update the Committee on Strategic Housing Market Assessment SHMA, however, after feedback from the PUSH Planning Officers Group it is now expected that this work will be complete for publication by mid-November and the Joint Committee will be asked to consider the implications of the report at the December Joint Committee meeting, as part of the roll forward of the PUSH Spatial strategy.

The Chairman then announced that due to the significant changes to the funding landscape and Government's announcement to devolve all transport funding to LEPs, there is an ambition to establish a single strategic transport interface, which would merge the strategic functions and activities of Transport for South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (TfSHIOW) with the Solent Local Transport Body. Constituted by a Joint Agreement, *Solent Transport*, being the name of the new partnership, would be responsible for co-ordinating the delivery of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) and Better Bus Area Fund (BBAF) programmes that are currently being delivered. The DfT would be notified of the new partnership arrangement. An update on this process will be brought to the Joint Committee as and when the merger is formally ratified.

An update was given on PUSH capital investment on projects to date: PUSH received a total capital allocation of c£20million over a three year period from 2008/09 to 2010/11 aimed at facilitating activities that contributed to sustainable economic growth. Since then a number of schemes that have completed include

- Somerstown estate Renewal in Portsmouth
- Hinkler Parade estate Renewal in Southampton
- Junction Improvement to M27 Junction 5
- Sub Regional evidence base modelling
- London Road Waterlooville scheme in Havant
- Sea City Museum in Southampton.
- The Sorting Office Project, in Eastleigh
- North Rowner project in Gosport (the adoption of four unadopted roads)
- National Cycle Network scheme – strategic improvement to national cycle network between Western Shore to Hamble-Le Rice.
- HCA Stewardship Agreement work which identified a portfolio of sites for Development.

The remaining capital balance of just over £1 million has now been fully allocated to support capital projects identified this financial year

On completion of the projects identified this financial year for delivery, the Joint Committee is asked to note that all of the PUSH capital allocation will be fully spent on completion of the 2013/14 capital programme.

During the same time period, PUSH also received a total revenue allocation of approximately £2 million from the Governments New Growth Point Fund which has helped to support revenue activities delivered through the PUSH Delivery Panels. Revenue activities completed to date include:

- HRA/SA Study
- PUSH Economic Development Strategy
- South Hampshire spatial Strategy
- Annual Housing Market Assessment
- Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan
- Creative Network South
- Design in the Built Environment
- Youth Voice Project

The refreshed PUSH website will aim to provide an update on these schemes.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Keith Mans declared an interest in Item 6 as he is currently on the Solent LEP Board.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. APPOINT A MEMBER TO THE SOLENT LOCAL GROWTH PANEL

RESOLVED that Councillor Woodward from Fareham BC and Councillor Mans from Hampshire CC be appointed as the PUSH representatives on the Solent Local Growth Panel.

RESOLVED that PUSH Chief Executives nominate a Chief Executive Officer to represent PUSH on the Panel and advise the Chairman accordingly.

Established by the Solent LEP, the remit of the Solent Local Growth Panel will be to help shape the multi year growth plan for the Solent area. In the initial phase of its work the Solent Local Growth Panel will have the following objectives:

- Act as a steering group for the main Solent LEP Board in relation to the emerging multi-year strategic economic plan to access and provide expert advice to the Board in relation to the development of the plan.
- Act as a steering group for the main Solent LEP Board in relation to the emerging European Structural Investment plan to access and provide expert advice to the Board in relation to the development of the plan.
- Take on the work of the Solent Growing Places Evaluation Panel overseeing the Growing Places Fund, including; assessing applications to the fund, making recommendations to the main Board of the Solent LEP regarding projects to support with the funding available, monitoring

of projects supported with the funding and ongoing monitoring of the fund itself (administering further bidding rounds as required).

7. **PUSH MEMBERSHIP OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND LOCAL PARTNERS (SELP) AND EUROPEAN FUNDING UPDATE**

The Joint Committee received a report on PUSH Membership of Southern England Local Partners (SELP) and European funding update (copy of [report](#) - circulated with the agenda).

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:

NOTE the progress made to date in accessing European funding to develop and support economic development activities of PUSH partners.

APPROVE PUSH joining SELP collaboratively with the Solent LEP recognising the benefits of aligning the efforts, expertise and resources of both Partnerships.

8. **UPDATES FROM DELIVERY PANEL CHAIRMEN**

Cllr Martin Hatley – Sustainability and Community Infrastructure

Cllr Hatley began by giving a brief update on behalf of Alex Parmley:

Alex has been extremely busy over the summer with the Regional Growth fund bid; Southampton City Leader has kindly agreed to signing off the initial letter as accountable body for the PUSH bid and the team are conversing with BIS on this.

Alex is also working on Green Deal – the main concern being that promotion of the scheme is still an outstanding issue and needs much stronger investment of time from partners and PUSH. Alex has asked if there are any offers for staff in Communications Teams to assist.

Cllr Hatley then gave his own update:

Waste Resource Management Plan –Meyrick Gough and Jamie Jones gave presentations on Southern and Portsmouth Water companies' water resources plans, at the last Sustainability and Community Infrastructure Delivery Panel SCIDPAN meeting held on 5 August 2013.

The Panel discussed Havant Thicket usage as a future reservoir resource and their concerns that this continued to be a project that was 'put off' in resource plan timetables. The project was also highlighted as an important 'Blue Infrastructure' project for the area.

The panel agreed that Government decisions impact on organisations, agencies, private and public sectors making it difficult to develop long-term

strategic plans. It was agreed that SCIDPAN would write to the Minister outlining these concerns.

Horsea Island Project – Seamus Meyer gave a presentation outlining plans for the regeneration of Horsea Island following the departure of Veolia. The development would be an asset to the Council and enhance the gateway to the City of Portsmouth. Veolia would maintain the trees for the first 5 years of their life after which Portsmouth City Council would assume responsibility.

It is hoped that plans for a footbridge/cycle path from Tipner to Horsea Island County Park would reach fruition supporting PUSH's strategic Green Infrastructure Plans.

Solent LEP /Growth Fund Bid - Solent LEP has appointed the University of Exeter to assist in development of its EU Structural and Investment Fund Strategy

Steve Lees to revisit the 12 projects and identify which could be taken forward for the £37m funding available. Suggestions included the Havant Thicket, Green Energy, flood risk and infrastructure

9. PUSH INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Joint Committee received a report from the PUSH Programme & Information Manager (acting up as Interim Executive Director) on matters that merit reporting to this Committee, but do not justify a full report in their own right (copy of [report](#) circulated with agenda).

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:

1. APPROVE in principle to identifying a shared staffing resource between PUSH and the Solent LEP to help formulate the Solent Growth Strategy and on this basis DELEGATE responsibility to the PUSH Chief Executive Lead following consultation with the PUSH Chairman and Vice Chairman to prepare a proposal agreeable to both parties for action accordingly.
2. APPROVE PUSH's Solent LTB contribution for financial year 2013/14 as part of the PUSH Budget Monitoring report due to be considered at the meeting.
3. NOTE the Solent LTB Assurance Framework appended as Annex A to the report.
4. NOTE the supplementary guidance to LEPs on the development and delivery of EU Structural & Investment Fund Strategies; appended as Annex B to the report.
5. NOTE the PUSH response to the Solent LEP's online survey related to the European structural Investment Fund for 2014-2020, attached as Annex C to the report.
6. NOTE the matters for information, contained in Part B of the report.

10. PUSH BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Joint Committee received a report on the Capital and Revenue Budget for 2013/14 (copy of [report](#) -circulated with the agenda).

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:

1. APPROVE the revised capital and revenue budgets for 2013/14 as set out in the report, and NOTE the spend for the year to date.
2. APPROVE a £10K contribution for financial year 2013/14 from PUSH to the Solent Local Transport Body (LTB).
3. NOTE the project status of the ARTches project and DELEGATE authority to the PUSH Chief Executives in consultation with the PUSH Chairman with a view to re allocating the total sum of £40,000 to an alternative project should this opportunity arise.

11. 2011 CENSUS FOR THE PUSH AREA

The Joint Committee received a presentation BY Hampshire County Council Officers on the 2011 Census for the PUSH area and a summary report showcasing the headline findings.

(The meeting started at 6:00pm and ended at 7.05pm).

(NB: The next meeting of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Joint Committee will be held on Tuesday 3 December 2013).