



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

*Minutes of a meeting held on 24 March 2015
in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fareham*

Members:

Councillor Seán Woodward
Councillor Donna Jones

Councillor Guy Shepherd
Councillor David Airey
Councillor Keith Mans
Councillor Michael Cheshire
Councillor Martin Hatley
Councillor Frank Pearson

Authority Represented:

Fareham BC
Portsmouth CC

East Hampshire DC
Eastleigh BC
Hampshire CC
Havant BC
Test Valley BC
Winchester CC

Chief Executives:

Peter Grimwood
Ian Lycett
Stuart Jarvis (on behalf of Andrew Smith)
Gill Kneller
David Williams
Dawn Baxendale
Roger Tetstall
Simon Eden
Louise Evans

Authority Represented:

Fareham BC
Gosport BC
Hampshire CC
Havant BC & East Hampshire DC
Portsmouth CC
Southampton CC
Test Valley BC
Winchester CC
New Forest DC

Co-opted Members

Gloria Ighodaro

James Humphrys
Anne Marie Mountifield

Organisation Represented:

Partnership for Urban South
Hampshire
Environment Agency
Solent Local Enterprise Partnership

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Fareham Borough Council Tel: 01329 824594
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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Simon Letts, Southampton City Council, Councillor Keith House, Eastleigh Borough Council (Councillor David Airey deputising), Councillor Mark Hook, Gosport Borough Council, Councillor Jonathan Bacon, Isle of Wight Council and Councillor Paul Vickers, New Forest District Council.

Apologies were also received from Nick Tustian, Eastleigh Borough Council, Sandy Hopkins, Havant Borough Council and East Hants District Council (Gill Kneller deputising), John Metcalfe, Isle of Wight Council, Dave Yates, New Forest District Council (Louise Evans deputising), Kevin Bourner, Housing and Communities Agency, Gary Jeffries, Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (Anne Marie Mountifield deputising).

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the PUSH Joint Committee meeting held on 27 January 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Devolution agenda

The Chairman reminded Members that a PUSH seminar took place on 27th February 2015 bringing together local authority Leaders, Chief Executives and the Solent LEP representatives in the Solent area to discuss the devolution agenda and the opportunity this brings in exploring a Combined Authority for the area. The Chairman advised that these options are now being explored and will be discussed further with key partners as we continue to work through the process. At the seminar, the following statement was agreed:

"The Leaders of the local Councils attended a summit on devolution and combined authorities. The Leaders agreed that a combined authority may be a way of achieving greater devolution to local communities and the local authorities will work together to develop options. A combined authority could deliver devolved power and funding from Whitehall on issues such as skills, transport and economic development".

Solent Marine and Maritime Steering Group

The Chairman advised Members that the Solent LEP is seeking a PUSH nominee to perform a PUSH deputy role on the Solent Marine and Maritime Steering Group for those times that Councillor Donna Jones cannot attend. The deputy role was previously fulfilled by the former Leader of the Isle of Wight. Members are advised that Ian Lycett, Chief Executive at Gosport BC has volunteered to take up this role.

RESOLVED that Ian Lycett, Chief Executive at Gosport Borough Council is appointed as the PUSH deputy to the Solent Marine and Maritime Steering Group.

Items of correspondence

The Chairman reported the following items of correspondence:

The first had already been circulated to PUSH Members and was in response to the Chairman's letter to Greg Clarke MP in December 2014 on behalf of PUSH, seeking clarification about combined authorities and whether it was likely to be possible to have parts of district councils within a combined authority. The reply from Eric Pickles MP did not provide an answer but did give contact details for Paul Rowsell at the Democracy and Local Governance unit who would be able to help.

The Chairman drew Members' attention to the paragraph which stated that "the Government will not establish a combined authority without the full support of all councils in the area".

The second item was a response to the Chairman's letter of June 2014 to Eric Pickles MP relating to the Governments proposal for developments of 10 houses and below would no longer trigger the need for affordable housing. The response was from Brandon Lewis MP which stated that the threshold was going to be lowered to 5 units but only in rural areas such as National Parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty and not to rural exception sites.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. UPDATES FROM DELIVERY PANEL CHAIRMEN

There were no updates from Delivery Panel Chairmen.

7. PUSH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Joint Committee received a report by the PUSH Executive Director on matters that merit reporting to the Joint Committee but do not justify a full report in their own right.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:

1. **NOTES** the matters for decision in Part A and matters for Information outlined in Part B of this report;

2. **ENDORSES** the payment of an additional £25,000 to the LEP for reasons outlined in paragraph 2 & 3 of the report. On the understanding that the additional PUSH contribution to LEP of £25,000 will enable the Solent LEP to secure the full match funding from Government of £250,000; the Joint Committee approved this payment subject to a similar sum being paid to PUSH to help support the area's Spatial Strategy review work. The Solent LEP to confirm that they are happy with the Joint Committee's proposal before PUSH funding is released.
3. **APPROVES** re-joining SELP for a further year to end of 2015/16 at a cost of £6,600, to ensure that PUSH continues to benefit from SELP membership.

8. SOLENT GROWTH FORUM

The Joint Committee received a report on the Solent Growth Forum in the context of the PUSH Joint Agreement.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee **APPROVES** the revised PUSH Joint Agreement between PUSH and the Solent Growth Forum, attached as Annex A to the report.

9. PUSH BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Joint Committee received an update report on the Capital and Revenue budget for 2014/15 and were asked to consider Capital and Revenue forward budgets for 2015/16.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:

1. **NOTES** the spend for the year to date against the revised capital and revenue budgets and the forecast outturn for 2014/15, as set out in the report;
2. **APPROVES** the proposed interim capital and revenue budgets for 2015/16, as set out in the report;
3. **APPROVES** a carry forward of £196,000 to 2015/16 for the following forecast revenue budget underspends in 2014/15:
 - Planning & Infrastructure: £117,000
 - Energy & Green Economy: £56,000
 - Culture, Creative Industries & the Built Environment: £23,000;
4. **APPROVES** a carry forward of £214,000 to 2015/16 for the following forecast capital budget under spends in 2014/15:
 - Alver Valley Project: £50,000
 - Portsmouth Creative Industries: £75,000

- Portsmouth ARTches: £40,000
 - Cell Block Enterprise: £49,000; and
5. **NOTES** that the forecast under spend to be carried forward from the 2014/15 budgets into 2015/16 are provisional, and may be subject to change when the final outturn position for 2014/15 is known.

10. SOLENT ENERGY STRATEGY

The Joint Committee received a report on the Solent Energy Strategy for consideration and approval.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:

1. **ADOPTS** the Solent Energy Strategy; and
2. **APPROVES** the allocation to the following resources for 15/16 to support the delivery of the Solent Energy Strategy:
 - a) Carry forward to 2015/16 from this financial year the £20,000 budget allocated to the Energy and Green Economy Panel for an intern;
 - b) Carry forward to 2015/16 from this financial year any remaining budget allocated to the Energy and Green Economy Panel for the development of the Energy Strategy; and
 - c) **APPROVES** an additional £5,000 to support the development of work programmes and initiatives necessary to achieve the four Energy Strategy objectives.

11. SPATIAL STRATEGY REVIEW UPDATE

The Joint Committee received a report on the Spatial Strategy Review Update.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:

1. **NOTES** the progress being made on the South Hampshire Strategy 2016-2036 and the scope of the Summer 2015 consultation; and
2. Continues to **ENDORSE** the existing South Hampshire Strategy 2011-2026, until it is replaced by the Spatial Strategy review.

(The meeting started at 6:00pm and ended at 7:30pm).

(NB: The next meeting of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Joint Committee will be held on Tuesday 9 June 2015).