



Minutes of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Overview and Scrutiny Committee

*Minutes of a meeting held on 9 September 2014
in the Vannes/Pulheim Room, Civic Offices, Fareham*

Members:

Councillors

David Goodall (Chairman)
Arthur Mandry (Vice-Chairman)

Robert Forder
Graham Burgess
Alan Glass
John Ferrett
Linda Gemmell

Also in

Attendance

Gloria Ighodaro
Steve Lees
Adele Maher

Authority represented:

Eastleigh BC
Fareham BC

Gosport BC
Hampshire CC
New Forest DC
Portsmouth CC
Winchester CC

PUSH
Test Valley BC
Havant BC

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor David Goodall from Eastleigh Borough Council be elected Chairman for the 2014/15 municipal year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor Arthur Mandry from Fareham Borough Council be appointed Vice-Chairman for the 2014/15 municipal year.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Phil Bundy (Test Valley Borough Council), Councillor Gerald Shimbart (Havant Borough Council), Councillor Ian Ward (Isle of Wight Council).

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the PUSH Overview and

Scrutiny Committee held on 13 May 2014, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that in accordance with recently set legislation, members of the public and press were able to audio and video record all meetings held in public by Fareham Borough Council. He confirmed that there had been no requests to film any part of the meeting.

The Chairman advised that there is currently no representative on the Committee from Southampton City Council.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared at the meeting.

7. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at the meeting.

8. PUSH INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report from the PUSH Interim Executive Director on matters that merit reporting to this Committee, but do not justify a full report in their own right.

The Committee agreed to NOTE:

1. the PUSH Business Plan for 2014/16, approved by the Joint Committee at its June meeting, attached to the report as Appendix A;
2. the decision made by the Joint Committee at its June meeting to appoint Adele Maher, Planning Policy & Urban Design Team Leader, at Havant Borough Council, on a part-time secondment basis to manage and steer the delivery of the new PUSH spatial strategy at an operational level; and
3. the matters for Information outlined in Part B of this report.

The Committee enquired as to whether there was a scrutiny function of the Solent LEP, given the significant funding allocation and budget responsibilities the Solent LEP now have via the Solent Growth Deal. The PUSH Interim Executive Director advised that to support growth, the Solent area is expected to strengthen its local governance arrangements, by creating a Forum, which will provide an important advisory and scrutiny role for the Solent LEP's investment programmes and the delivery of the Strategic Economic Plan. The Group will include amongst its membership all 12 local authorities of the LEP area, along with representation from higher education and colleges, business, trade unions, and government agencies (Highways Agency, Environment

Agency and Network Rail). The Group is expected to be formalised with a joint agreement and will advise the Solent LEP Board directly.

The Committee identified the role of PUSH as an important facilitator in this respect, and are keen to see a review of PUSH Governance within the context of the Solent LEP Governance arrangements to avoid duplication.

In this regard, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee questioned the role of the current PUSH O & S Committee, recognising the more finite budget that PUSH manages currently, in comparison to previous years.

9. PUSH BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report on the Capital & Revenue budget for 2013/14 and to considered Capital and Revenue forward budgets for 2014/15.

The Committee agreed to NOTE:

1. the outturn for the financial year 2013/14;
2. the revised capital and revenue budgets for 2014/15 as set out in the report, including the proposed level of contributions from partner authorities;
3. the Statement of Accounts for the 2013/14 financial year and the Annual Governance Statement (Appendix A);
4. Section 1 (Summary Accounting Statements) and Section 2 (Summary Annual Governance Statement) of the Annual Return to the Audit Commission (Appendix B);
5. that Section 3 of the Annual Return will be completed by the external auditor no later than 30 September 2014;
6. that Section 4 of the Annual Return has been completed and matters raised actioned appropriately, and that the Annual Return will be reviewed again by the internal auditor no later than 30 June 2014;
7. that authority was delegated to the PUSH Chief Executives Group by the PUSH Joint Committee at its June meeting to allocate the capital funding of £50K to a new project that meets the business priorities of PUSH for delivery in 2014/15; and
8. that the PUSH Joint Committee approved an absolute project start date of 31 August 2014 for the Portsmouth Arches Project to ensure that the money remained earmarked for the scheme.

10. SPATIAL STRATEGY REVIEW

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report on the Spatial Strategy Review.

The Committee agreed to NOTE the content of the report.

11. PUSH GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (GI) IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK: PROGRESS REPORT MAY 2014

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received an update on the Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan.

The Committee agreed to NOTE the content of the report.

(The meeting started at 6:00pm and ended at 7:18pm).