



Partnership for Urban South Hampshire

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Mr Ian McAulay CEO
Southern Water
Southern House
Yeoman Road,
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West Sussex
BN13 3NX

By email and post

30th July 2018

Dear Mr McAulay,

Southern Water Business Plan Endorsement

The Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) welcomes Southern Water's engagement on the company's emerging Business Plan for 2020-2025.

PUSH was formed in 2003 and comprises twelve South Hampshire and Isle of Wight local authorities. The members include the unitary authorities of Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight; Hampshire County Council and the district authorities of Eastleigh, East Hampshire, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Test Valley, New Forest and Winchester. PUSH also works collaboratively with partner agencies in the sub region, including the Solent LEP and key Government departments, to ensure joined up strategies and to support local people through sustainable economic growth in the sub region. This means that due to our joint working across multiple local authorities in South Hampshire, our response to this is a broad one and does not negate the already communicated views of the individual local authorities in PUSH.

Firstly, PUSH supports longer-term proposals to both reduce water use to 100 litres per person per day (to reduce rates of water demand) and also the Catchment First initiative in order to make important progress in improving water quality. Improvements to pipe infrastructure too should be a priority in order to minimise water loss and reduce the demand on more sensitive sources.

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PUSH also strongly supports Southern Water's plans to minimise the use of plastics and would welcome your plans to be as ambitious as possible, supported through innovative and effective awareness raising with customers. This would help ensure detrimental impacts to the natural environment are reduced.

PUSH wants to continue to work in partnership with infrastructure providers, such as Southern Water, in order to achieve our targets to improve the PUSH area and allow sustainable growth to take place. As such, we support the ambitious approach that Southern Water are advocating, both towards supplying the basics, such as customer service, as well as more ambitious projects to reduce impact on the environment.

We would welcome Southern Water's engagement in the PUSH Integrated Water Management Study working group. This, for example, could be an appropriate place to start strengthening our partnership working and could start looking at initiatives such as Catchment First. PUSH would welcome ongoing engagement with Southern Water to ensure the needs of the region can be achieved while providing support to Southern Water to deliver its aims within the proposed Business Plan.

We hope this response is helpful in the submission of the Southern Water Business Plan and we are happy to discuss to help progression moving forward.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Seán Woodward
Chairman of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire