



Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: 31 July 2019

Report of: Paddy May, Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) Coordinator

Subject: PFSH CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

SUMMARY

The Co-ordinator's report provides an opportunity for issues which are significant, but do not justify a full report in their own right, to be brought to the attention of the Joint Committee for decision or for information. The report is divided into Parts A and B accordingly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee: -

- a) APPROVE the Statements of Common Ground between Eastleigh Borough Council and PFSH (Appendix A) and between Havant Borough Council and PFSH (Appendix B).
- b) APPROVE the Strategic Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP) Annual Report (Appendix C)
- c) NOTES the matters for Information outlined in Part B of this report

PART A: MATTERS FOR DECISION

1) Statements of Common Ground

Both Eastleigh Borough Council and Havant Borough Council have prepared Statements of Common Ground between themselves and PfSH as a collective. The Statements of Common Ground aim to be a jointly agreed statement between the specific local authority (Eastleigh or Havant) and the rest of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PFSH) authorities.

It sets out how the local authorities in South Hampshire have successfully worked together on strategic planning matters, how they continue to do so and the common areas of strategic agreement. The statements represent the position of PFSH as a collective, and without prejudice to the separate completion of Statements of Common Ground that the individual PfSH authorities will have with Eastleigh or Havant. The Eastleigh Statement of Common Ground is attached as **Appendix A** and the Havant Statement of Common Ground is attached as Appendix B. The Statements have been prepared in consultation with the PfSH Planning Officers' Group (PFSH POG) and also been considered by the PfSH Chief Executives. Members of Joint Committee are asked to approve both Statements of Common Ground.

2) Strategic Recreation and Mitigation Partnership (Bird Aware) Annual Report

The SRMP (Bird Aware) is submitting their 2018/19 Annual Report for approval. If approved this will be added to their website.

This Report covers the first year of the Partnership operating under the long term Strategy, which came into place on 1st April 2018. The Partnership core team of staff has been expanded during this time and this has continued to enhance the level of outreach achieved by the Partnership throughout the year. Developers have continued to opt into the scheme, with contributions taken for 2,864 dwellings in 2018/19. Monitoring work has continued to be undertaken in line with the original guidance from the baseline research.

PART B: MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

3) Update from Planning and Infrastructure:

Bird Aware KPI's

The focus of the Rangers activities is different during the summer months to the winter season owing to the birds not being present on the coastline during the summer.

During the period of 1 April until 30 June their outreach activities can be shown as:

- Events attended - 16
- Events Engagement Hours - 158
- People Engaged with - 2,191

During the same period, the Brand and Communications Lead has also created several media opportunities and continued to grow our social media presence as follows:

- % growth of social media followers on each platform since last update
 - Twitter – 42 – 4%
 - Facebook – 93 – 12%
 - Instagram – 57 – 16%
- Impressions (number of times seen on feeds) for each social media platform
 - Twitter – 197.2k
 - Facebook – 36,908
 - Instagram – 9,890
- Press releases
 - 1 per month
- The number of web stories uploaded
 - 6 added to the section 'Blog'
- Number of posts on social media
 - Twitter - 228
 - Facebook - 99
 - Instagram posts and stories - 45

Water Management

A paper on nitrates is included on the main agenda for this Joint Committee.

Green Infrastructure

A meeting is in the process of being set up with the Chairman of the Bishop's Waltham to Botley, Bridleway Project Working Group to discuss how this scheme can be taken forward. This project is one of the schemes in the Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan that was agreed at the previous Joint Committee.

4) Update from Energy and Green Economy

Jason Light from Eastleigh Borough Council has met with colleagues from across Hampshire to consider the energy storage projects initially submitted. Both do fit with the recently published Solent LEP Energy Strategy, but some more work is needed to develop a fit for purpose proposal as it is a while since these projects have been considered. A bid for funding from Solent LEP is also being considered. More detailed information will be provided in the next Co-ordinators report

5) Update from Culture, Creative Industries and the Built Environment

Solent Quality Place Awards

Nine Projects have been Shortlisted for the 2019 Awards:

1. Station Yard, Oxford Road, Sutton Scotney
2. Gilbert White Museum, Selborne
3. D-day Museum Portsmouth
4. Hot Walls, Portsmouth
5. Knowle Lane, Fair Oak
6. Guildhall Square, Southampton
7. West Quay, Southampton
8. Bell Street, Romsey
9. Lepe Country Park

The Judging process will be completed over the summer, and award winners will be announced in the Autumn.

Creative Network South

Creative Network South is continuing to assist PWC's work in review the contribution of the creative industries to the Solent Economy as part of the underpinning research supporting the Local Industrial Strategy. PWC are currently reviewing a series of creative industry case studies.

Charles Freeman has organised a round table meeting with the Solent Apprenticeship Hub to explore how the apprenticeship Hub can support creative and digital businesses.

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- c) NOTES the matters for Information outlined in Part B of this report

Appendices:

- Appendix A** – Draft Statement of Common Ground on the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan (2016 – 2036) between Eastleigh Borough Council and the Partnership for South Hampshire
- Appendix B** – Havant BC Statement of Common Ground
- Appendix C** – Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership SRMP Annual Report

Background Papers:

- None

Reference Papers:

- None

Enquiries:

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Eastleigh BC Statement of Common Ground

Draft Statement of Common Ground on the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan (2016 – 2036) between Eastleigh Borough Council and the Partnership for South Hampshire**1. Summary**

- 1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is between Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC) and the rest of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PFSH) authorities. PFSH consists of the Councils within South Hampshire. The Solent LEP, Environment Agency and Homes England are co-opted members. PFSH has been established to enable local authorities, local partners and government to work together for the greater good of South Hampshire.
- 1.2 This SoCG has been prepared on a 'without prejudice' basis with PFSH as a whole and does not fetter the ability of individual local authorities to comment on the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016-2036 (EBLP).
- 1.3 The Partnership for Urban South Hampshire and Eastleigh Borough Council agree that:
 - a) The PFSH Spatial Position Statement June 2016 plays an important role in demonstrating the operation of the 'duty-to-cooperate' between the South Hampshire planning authorities and other statutory bodies and agencies and is an important contextual document in the preparation of the EBLP;
 - b) With proposed delivery of new housing equating to 747.5 dwellings per year over the period 2016 – 2036, the EBLP proposes to exceed both the PFSH estimate of Objectively Assessed Housing Need (580 dwellings per year, 2011 – 2036) identified through the PFSH Strategic Housing Market Assessment and the Spatial Position Statement target equating to 650 dwellings per year (2011-2034);
 - c) The proposed Strategic Growth Option north of Bishopstoke and north & east of Fair Oak identified in Strategic Policy S5 and the proposed new link road identified in Strategic Policy S6 of the EBLP are consistent with the Spatial Position Statement's approach to the Strategic Development Locations set out in Position Statement SDL1;
 - d) Employment provision in the EBLP of 144,050m² net over the period 2016 – 2036 is consistent with the Position Statement E1 allocation to Eastleigh Borough of 114,000m² in the period 2011-2034;
 - e) The focus of new employment provision in the EBLP on the Southampton Airport Economic Gateway is consistent with the stipulation of Position Statement E2 and, specifically, E2.1;
 - f) The approach taken to the selection and allocation of new sites for development in the EBLP is consistent with the Spatial Position Statement's Key Principle A on Cities / Urban Areas first;
 - g) Strategic Policy S8 of the EBLP on the Protection of Countryside Gaps and the approach taken to selecting housing sites for allocation in the local plan

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accord with the provisions of Position Statement S1 on Strategic Countryside gaps;

- h) With regard to the provision of Green Infrastructure, EBLP Strategic Policy S10 accords with the priorities and principles set out at Position Statement G1;
- i) Policies DM2 and DM10 (as proposed to be modified) accord with the SPS approach to environmental & resource sustainability in committing that the authorities will continue to work together and with their partners to devise and implement consistent cross-boundary approaches on matters related to water supply, waste water disposal, water quality, flood risk management and energy efficiency;
- j) Overall the policies and provisions of the EBLP are in 'general conformity' with those of the PfSH SPS.
- k) There is joint commitment to review the SPS during 2019.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 This SoCG has been prepared between EBC and PfSH in view of the importance of the PFSH Spatial Position Statement June 2016 (SPS) (Examination Document HOU001) in shaping the strategy of the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016 – 2036 (EBLP). PfSH did not make any representations on the 'regulation 20' consultation on the EBLP.
- 2.2 The SoCG focuses primarily on the degree of general conformity between the policies and provisions of the EBLP and the housing and employment land supply targets set out in the SPS. However, it also covers the broader, more contextual policies and spatial principles & objectives of the SPS which have influenced the spatial distribution of development proposed in the EBLP; in particular the area of search for strategic scale development, the framework for countryside gaps, green infrastructure, prioritisation of the use of previously developed and 'brownfield' sites, environmental and resource sustainability.

3. Status of the PFSH Position Statement

- 3.1 The EBLP is being assessed against the provisions of the 2012 NPPF under the transitional arrangements set out in Annex 1 to the 2019 NPPF. The SPS proposes development targets for both housing and employment provision for those full and part districts which fall within the PfSH area. The preparation of the SPS plays an important role in demonstrating the operation of the 'duty-to-cooperate' between South Hampshire planning authorities. The 'duty-to-cooperate' is a statutory legal requirement. The SPS is therefore an important consideration in the preparation of the EBLP. Nonetheless, it is a non-statutory strategy which has never been subject to public consultation or independent scrutiny or testing and so does not carry the full weight of the statutory development plan.

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4. Housing Provision

- 4.1 The PfSH SPS covers the period 2011-2034. In terms of housing provision it is based on a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (Examination Document HOU002) and an Objectively Assessed Housing Need Update (Examination Document HOU003) which cover the period 2011-2036. Position Statement H1 of the SPS identifies a housing target for Eastleigh borough of at least 14,950 dwellings for the period 2011-2034. This equates to an annual average of 650 dwellings per year. It is derived from an Objectively Assessed Housing Need (OAHN) figure for the borough identified in the PfSH SHMA and OAHN update of 580 dwellings per year, uplifted to reflect the SPS strategy and approach to the distribution of housing across the sub-region.
- 4.2 As set out in the published Housing Trajectory Background Paper (June 2018) (Examination Document HOU007) the EBLP makes provision for the delivery of 14,950 dwellings over the period 2016 – 2036 (747pa). This is a surplus of 374 dwellings against a target of 14,576 (729pa). The target of 14,576 over the period 2016–2036 is derived from the PfSH target of 14,950 over the period 2011-2034, carrying forward under-delivery in the 2011-2016 period and pro-rataing the SPS 650 target forward two years from the 2034 end-date of the SPS to the EBLP end-date of 2036.
- 4.3 Accordingly the level of housing provision identified in the EBLP is consistent with that identified in the SPS in that it is higher than both the OAHN and the SPS Position Statement H1 allocation.

5. Strategic Development Locations

- 5.1 Position Statement SDL1 of the SPS identifies the 'Northern Part of Eastleigh Borough' as a new strategic development location identified for mixed use development. Paragraph 5.38 identifies that:
- “There is potential capacity in the northern part of Eastleigh Borough to accommodate new development, subject to significant investment in the infrastructure, particularly transport improvements. On this basis an additional potential growth location is identified in the northern part of Eastleigh Borough. This area provides opportunities for mixed use development, incorporating new housing, employment, local services & amenities and associated infrastructure. The location of strategic growth in Eastleigh Borough will be determined through the local plan process”.*
- 5.2 The EBLP proposes a new Strategic Growth Option (SGO) comprising at least 5,300 dwellings (of which approximately 3,350 are likely to come forward within the plan period) in Strategic Policy S5 along with a new link road to connect the development to the M3 at junction 12 in Strategic Policy S6. It also includes other environmental and infrastructure improvements including new schools, retail centres, employment opportunity, green infrastructure and ecological and environmental mitigation enhancements.
- 5.3 The EBLP therefore accords with the provisions of the SPS insofar as the spatial distribution of strategic scale development is concerned.

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6. Employment Provision

- 6.1 Position Statement E1 of the PfSH SPS requires the EBLP to make provision for a net increase in B-class employment over the period 2011 – 2034 of 114,000m² which is made up of 40,000m² of B1a office floor space and 74,000m² of other B-class floor space. It equates to an annual average figure of 4,957m².
- 6.2 The EBLP proposes to make provision for a net increase of 144,050m² of B-class floor space in the period 2016-2036 (which includes 42,710m² of office floor space). This equates to an annual average provision of 7,203m². This target is derived from the PfSH SPS target but takes into account the additional 2 years of the EBLP period (2034 – 2036) and also losses of employment floor space both in terms of those which have already occurred in the 2011-2016 period and those anticipated to occur during the remainder of the plan period. These losses tend to occur as former employment sites are redeveloped for non-employment (mainly residential) uses and need to be re-provided to ensure the net overall target is met.
- 6.3 A detailed site by site and year by year analysis of employment permissions, allocations and losses is set out in the Employment Background Paper / Trajectory (June 2018) (Examination document ECON001). It shows that, in all likelihood, more than 144,050m² of net new employment floor space will be delivered during the plan period. There is some uncertainty surrounding the precise extent of land which will be developed at the Southampton Airport Economic Gateway (SAEG) within the plan period. The SAEG alone has the potential to deliver approximately 131,900m² of new floor space. Only c30,000m² of this needs to come forward during the plan period to meet the EBLP target.
- 6.4 The site is also identified in Position Statement E2 (E2.1) of the SPS as an employment location of sufficient scale to have sub-regional importance and which should be protected for B-class development from competing development pressures through appropriate policies in local plans. In spite of the uncertainty surrounding the precise extent and timing of delivery of land at the SAEG the council considers that it is reasonable to rely on the SAEG as it is a sub-regionally important employment site in a prime location with unrivalled accessibility characteristics.

7. Urban Area and Brownfield Prioritisation

- 7.1 A key component of sub-regional planning policy in South Hampshire over many years has been 'cities first' which, in its broadest sense, means a focus on existing built up areas and on 'brownfield' sites before considering development on greenfield sites and land outside defined urban areas. This is captured in Key Principle A of the SPS. The council has followed the same approach in the EBLP through Strategic Policy S1 and the establishment of a settlement hierarchy. It is also evident in the Development Distribution Strategy

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& Principles (DDS&P) (Examination Document ORD012) which helped inform the approach to selecting potential sites for allocation in the EBLP. This DDS&P document notes:

- *The borough's settlement hierarchy should be the main consideration in making decisions about the spatial distribution of new development to ensure that development is located in areas which provide the widest range of employment opportunities, community facilities and transport infrastructure and in order to support, enhance and reinvigorate those areas;*
- *Development will be focused first on suitable brownfield sites within the defined settlement boundaries of the borough's most sustainable settlements;*
- *However, given the tightly drawn boundaries of those settlements and the scale of development likely to be required over the plan period, the plan will need to make provision for a significant scale of new greenfield development;*

7.2 Clearly 'cities first' does not equate to 'cities only' and the EBLP does allocate new greenfield sites for development; not least in the form of the proposed SGO. However, it has only been necessary to consider allocating development on new greenfield sites because there is not sufficient capacity within the borough's existing settlements and on sustainable brownfield sites to accommodate the quantum of new dwellings needed to meet the housing target.

8. Countryside Gaps

- 8.1 Another key aspect of 'cities first' and the council's approach to selecting sites for allocation in the EBLP the desire to retain the separate identity of individual towns, villages and local communities and to prevent their coalescence by retaining open and undeveloped countryside gaps between them. Position Statement S1 of the SPS reflects this important principle. It makes provision for local authorities to identify in local plans strategic countryside gaps of sub-regional significance as well as local countryside gaps which are of fundamental local importance.
- 8.2 Strategic Policy S8 of the EBLP sets out to do this and identifies 15 countryside gaps where development, which would physically or visually diminish the gap or have an urbanising effect detrimental to retaining its openness, its character or the separate identity of adjoining settlements, will not be permitted.
- 8.3 The DDS&P document notes that:
- *The separate identity of settlements and local communities should be safeguarded by ensuring the retention of undeveloped countryside gaps between them and avoiding decisions which would result in their coalescence;*

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9. Green Infrastructure

9.1 Position Statement G1 of the SPS commits the PfSH local authorities and their partners to continue to work together to plan, provide and manage connected networks of multi-functional green spaces including existing and new green infrastructure (GI). It is derived from and supported by a PfSH GI strategy which was adopted in March 2017 and updated in July 2018. This sub-regional picture is reflected in Strategic Policy S10 of the EBLP which seeks to provide, retain and enhance a wide range of multi-functional green infrastructure including major landscape-scale links, major country parks and open spaces, all manner of green links, stepping stones and inter-connected wildlife and habitat corridors. Significant new GI will be provided as an integral part of the SGO to the north of Bishopstoke and the north & east of Fair Oak as identified in Strategic Policy S5 of the EBLP (criterion 15).

10. Environmental & Resource Sustainability

10.1 In terms of water supply, waste water disposal and energy efficiency, Policies DM2 and DM10 of the EBLP seek to deliver the ambitions of the SPS in terms of working together to facilitate the sustainable use of resources across the wider sub-region. In turn these reflect the ambitions of the water company Water Resource Management Plans and the plans and proposals of the Environment Agency and other bodies to both reduce water use and improve water quality. Policy DM2 specifies energy efficiency and water consumption targets which reflect the environmental impact of new development in the relatively built-up sub-region and the fact that it is an area of water stress. The council will modify Policy DM10 in response to representations received so that it seeks to phase new development alongside improvements to new water supply and/or wastewater disposal infrastructure where this is necessary to comply with the requirements of the Habitats Regulations and/or the Water Framework Directive. It will also address the issue of nutrient neutrality.

10.2 The council is committed to continuing to work with PfSH, its constituent local authorities and other relevant partners to devise and implement appropriate measures to address matters related to water supply, wastewater disposal, water quality, flood risk management and energy efficiency through work on projects such as the PFSH Integrated Water Management Study, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and the Solent Energy Strategy.

11. Review of the Spatial Position Statement

11.1 At the PfSH Joint Committee meeting on 4th December 2018 a report was considered which discussed the need to scope out a review of the PfSH SPS in the light of the publication of the new NPPF in July 2018. It was noted at paragraph 9 of that report that the “timetable for doing this work needs to stretch over months rather than years”. A follow-up report to the 5th February 2019 meeting initiated that scoping process looking at the potential geographical footprint for the work and options for funding the work. Work is in progress through the PfSH Planning Officers Group and the Hampshire & Isle

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of Wight Planning Officers Group to undertake this review. EBC is fully committed to this work.

12. Conclusion

12.1 While it is a non-statutory document, the PfSH SPS (and the evidence which underpins it) have been important documents in providing the framework for the development of the EBLP. The council has co-operated proactively and effectively with PfSH, its constituent local authorities and other PfSH Partners and agencies in producing the SPS and has incorporated its key provisions in the EBLP. It will continue to do so moving forward to address strategic issues in the light of the 2019 NPPF. Accordingly PfSH and EBC consider the EBLP to be in 'general conformity' with the PfSH SPS.



Statement of Common Ground

Havant Borough Council & the rest of the
Partnership for South Hampshire authorities

June 2019

Havant BC Statement of Common Ground

Parties

The Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH)¹ is comprised of:

- Hampshire County Council

The unitary authorities of:

- Portsmouth
- Southampton

And district or borough authorities of:

- Eastleigh
- East Hampshire*
- Fareham
- Gosport
- Havant
- New Forest
- Test Valley*
- Winchester*

Those district or borough authorities marked by a star (*) are partly within PfSH.

¹ Membership true as of 4th June 2019

Introduction

This Statement of Common Ground is a jointly agreed statement between Havant Borough Council and the rest of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) authorities². It sets out how the local authorities in South Hampshire have successfully worked together on strategic planning matters, how they continue to do so and the common areas of strategic agreement which have informed the production of the Pre-Submission Draft Havant Borough Local Plan 2036 (HBLP 2036). This statement represents the position of PfSH, and without prejudice to the separate completion of Statements of Common Ground with individual PFSH authorities. A plan is provided at Appendix 1 which shows the location of, and the administrative area covered by PfSH which includes Havant borough.

Background

The Partnership recognises the benefits of working together and brings together local authorities in the South Hampshire region to support sustainable development, economic growth and coordinate strategic planning activities.

Whilst the membership has altered slightly over the years, the membership has remained broadly consistent. HBC has been a member of PfSH since its formation in 2003.

The Partnership was heavily involved in the preparation of the South-East Plan. The PfSH authorities have since collectively produced a framework, namely the PfSH Spatial Position Statement, to guide future local plans and housebuilding in the sub-region.

The ethos of collaborative cross boundary working has continued, and the partnership has a successful track record in providing effective strategies for sub-regional planning. As well as working jointly between member authorities, PfSH works with partner agencies in the sub region as well as key Government departments to deliver joint strategies and pool resources.

² At the meeting of the PFSH Joint Committee on 4 June, the decision was made to revise the name from 'Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PFSH)' to 'Partnership for South Hampshire' (PFSH) reflecting a change in membership to encompass the whole of the New Forest, including the National Park.

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Both signatories consider that PfSH represents an excellent way for local authorities in South Hampshire to work positively and proactively collaboratively on cross-boundary issues, including planning matters.

Havant Borough Council is committed to remaining a PfSH member and working with partner authorities on PfSH's goals in its vision³. The actions of the PfSH partnership are also guided by an adopted constitution⁴.

Whilst PFSH did not formally respond to the consultation on the Pre-Submission HBLP 2036, the following sections set out agreed matters between PfSH and HBC. There will, of course be further statements prepared which set out the agreed strategic issues with other PfSH authorities alongside this Statement of Common Ground with PfSH.

PFSH Spatial Position Statement

The Joint Committee noted the completion of the PfSH Spatial Position Statement (SPS) on 7th June 2016 and authorised its publication. The statement is not a statutory development plan, but provides a framework for, and means of coordinating decisions about long-term development and infrastructure across the sub-region.

A process note describing how the Spatial Position Statement was put together is available on the PfSH website⁵. This shows the comprehensive and collaborative way in which the work was undertaken.

The SPS forms a significant part of the statutory duty to cooperate that the Council and PfSH authorities have with one another and has informed the strategic matters in the HBLP 2036 accordingly.

³ <https://www.PfSH.gov.uk/partnership/vision/>

⁴ <https://www.PfSH.gov.uk/partnership/working-arrangements/governance/>

⁵ <https://www.PfSH.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Position-Statement-Process-Paper-2016.pdf>

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The evidence base for the SPS sets out that PfSH includes three separate housing market areas (HMAs). These are the Isle of Wight HMA, the Southampton HMA (which includes Southampton, New Forest, Test Valley, Eastleigh and western parts of Winchester and Fareham) and the Portsmouth HMA (which includes Portsmouth, Havant, Gosport, East Hampshire and eastern parts of Winchester and Fareham). Whilst the SPS was prepared in line with the 2012 NPPF, it is agreed that the HMAs remain relevant for the purposes of the duty to cooperate.

The PfSH Strategic Housing Market Assessment indicates an overall objectively assessed need figure of 121,500 dwellings, whilst the PfSH Economic and Employment Land Evidence Base Paper indicates a need for 971,000 sq. m of B-Class floor space between 2011 and 2036. The latter being informed by the Solent Enterprise Partnership's Solent Economic Plan.

Whilst Southampton and Portsmouth are identified to deliver a significant number of homes, the SPS recognises that the scale of housing need cannot be fully met in Portsmouth which is densely built up within a "peninsula" geography. This is particularly significant given that Havant borough borders the north-eastern extent of the City.

A key role of the SPS has therefore been to consider the capacity of different areas within PfSH to accommodate housing. This should inform Local Plans where there is the ability to meet unmet need from the relevant housing market area provided it is reasonable to do so. On this basis, the SPS considers that only 104,350 homes could realistically be provided in the period up to 2034, recognising the environmental and infrastructure constraints across PFSH.

The following table sets out the agreed Position Statement (H1) sets out the housing distribution across South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight:

H1: Distribution of Housing

2011-34	
Portsmouth HMA	41,360
East Hampshire (Part)	2,120
Fareham (East)	8,410
Gosport	3,350
Havant	9,170
Portsmouth	14,560
Winchester (Part-East)	3,740
Southampton HMA	50,050
Eastleigh	14,950
Fareham (West)	2,050
New Forest (Part)	3,600
Southampton	19,450
Test Valley (Part)	4,640
Winchester (Part-West)	5,370
Isle of Wight HMA	12,950
PUSH Total	104,350

Position Statement H1 has been superseded with the publication of the Government's standard methodology set out in the 2019 NPPF. This is considered in detail below.

Reviewing and updating the PfSH Spatial Position Statement

The SPS is being reviewed to bring it in line with updated development needs.

On 15th October 2018, the PFSH Joint Committee resolved to review the PfSH Spatial Position Statement. This will bring it up to date and in line with the revised NPPF. Havant Borough Council are committed to inputting into this review. This will include considering with PFSH and partner authorities how to meet housing needs that cannot accommodate their own.

PfSH authorities are at various stages of reviewing their local plans with Eastleigh Borough Council and New Forest District Council having submitted their Plan for Examination, however they have done so under the 2019 NPPF transitional arrangements.

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PfSH is supportive of authorities proceeding with local plans before the SPS review has concluded and recognises the importance of local authorities of having up-to-date local plans.

Havant Borough Council would be the first authority in the Portsmouth HMA to submit a local plan for examination and the first PfSH authority to have submitted a plan outside of transitional arrangements.

Housing need in Havant Borough

The following table sets out how Havant borough's housing need has evolved since 2016:

Housing requirement	Dwellings per annum	Housing supply over period
SHMA 2016 update	450	11,250 from 2011 to 2036
2016 Spatial Position Statement	398	9,170 from 2011 to 2034
Government's standard methodology (Sept 2017)	463	9,260 from 2016 to 2036
Government's standard methodology (March 2019)	471	9,420 from 2016 to 2036
Proposed housing supply in Pre-Submission Draft	512	10,231 from 2016 to 2036

Significantly, the PfSH SPS sets a proportionately reduced housing figure for Havant recognising the extent of environmental constraints affecting Havant borough. As set out in the process note³, this was based on analysis of relevant constraints agreed through multiple meetings of planning officers, chief executives and elected representatives, and subsequently informed the Council's first iteration of the Housing Constraints and Supply Analysis⁶. The Council's Local Plan Housing Statement 2016 reflected this, identifying a

⁶ Available at www.havant.gov.uk/localplan/evidence-base

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difference or gap of 4,809 homes between the Borough's established housing need and suitable housing sites available to meet that need.

Nevertheless, since that time the Council has persevered to assess the suitability of land and is in a position to demonstrate that it can accommodate its objectively assessed housing need in full. As set out above, the Pre-Submission Draft HBLP 2036 provides for a total of 10,231 dwellings between 2016 and 2036. On this basis, the Plan would provide for objectively assessed needs, with a buffer of 971 homes to contribute towards unmet needs within the housing market area. Significantly, however, this buffer will be reduced to 811 homes taking any revised development need based on the latest affordability ratio into account.

Unmet housing need in Portsmouth HMA

Whilst the review of the PfSH work is ongoing, it is accepted that Portsmouth City is unable to meet its housing need in full based on the 2016 SPS.

Notwithstanding the updated development needs within respective PfSH authorities (including Havant borough), it is agreed that the Pre-Submission Draft HBLP 2036 has maximised the potential for housing delivery within Havant Borough so far as sustainable development can still be achieved. Both signatories consider that any buffer from the Borough's proposed housing supply should contribute towards Portsmouth City's unmet housing need. This reflects the close physical and functional geography of Havant and Portsmouth within the Portsmouth Housing Market Area.

A separate Statement of Common Ground is in production with Portsmouth City Council which sets out this position in full.

Employment need in Havant Borough

The PfSH SPS (E1) indicates a net change of employment floor space in Havant of 110,000 square metres of employment floor space development from 2011 to 2034. This is split between 55,000 sqm of office floor space and 55,000 sqm of mixed B-Class

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floor space. The SPS (E2) also highlights Dunsbury Hill Business Gateway (now generally referred to as Dunsbury Park) as a strategic development location.

The PfSH Spatial Position Statement's approach to employment provision was informed by the PfSH Economic and Employment Land Evidence Base Paper (March 2016). This provides a high-level assessment of where growth could be located based on trend based labour demand forecasts at a sub-regional level. However, this did not take into account local circumstances of employment land supply and land availability which exist in the Borough. On this basis, the Council has undertaken its own assessment of local employment need through the Employment Land Review (ELR)⁷. This was prepared in association with Lambert Smith Hampton.

This work highlighted that the Borough continues to be a secondary office location by virtue of the lack of credible demand for high quality office accommodation, and the resulting residual land values which do not currently support speculative development. Hence it is not felt that an office floor space of 55,000 sq. m is achievable over the plan period.

The Pre-Submission Draft (Policy DR1) does not distinguish between use classes providing flexibility over the plan period should market conditions improve. As part of this, the majority of commercial allocations in the HBLP 2036 provide for Class B1 and/or Class B2/B8 floor space. On this basis, it is considered that there are adequate opportunities to secure high quality office development as part of new employment provision. This is particularly pertinent as market conditions continue to improve to ensure there is a sufficient choice and availability of employment sites to attract and encourage companies from outside of the Borough to invest.

Based on the local analysis in the ELR, an employment floor space requirement of 82,870 square metres is proposed in the Local Plan. Nonetheless, the Pre-Submission Draft

⁷ <http://www.havant.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Employment%20Land%20Review%20December%202017.pdf>

Havant BC Statement of Common Ground

HBLP 2036 provides for 96,759 square metres provides for some flexibility over the plan period, recognising that Portsmouth City Council may not be able to meet their need for employment. It would however, fall slightly short of meeting the target in the PfSH SPS. PfSH is content that whilst the specific target of 110,000 sq. m (E1) will not be met through the Local Plan, the Council has taken forward the principles in the SPS and used local evidence to refine the need for employment provision in Havant Borough.

Governance of PfSH

The groundwork for the PFSH Spatial Position Statement in particular was undertaken by the PfSH Planning Officers Group, a working group of planning officers from each of the partner authorities together with Solent Transport and the Environment Agency (representing the DEFRA family of agencies).

The work of the Planning Officers is overseen by the PfSH Chief Executives Group, which is comprised of all of the Chief Executives of partner authorities. Ultimately decisions by PfSH, such as the adoption of the PfSH Spatial Position Statement, are made by the PfSH Joint Committee. This is a member group comprised of a councillor from all of the partner authorities, generally the Leader.

Review of this Statement

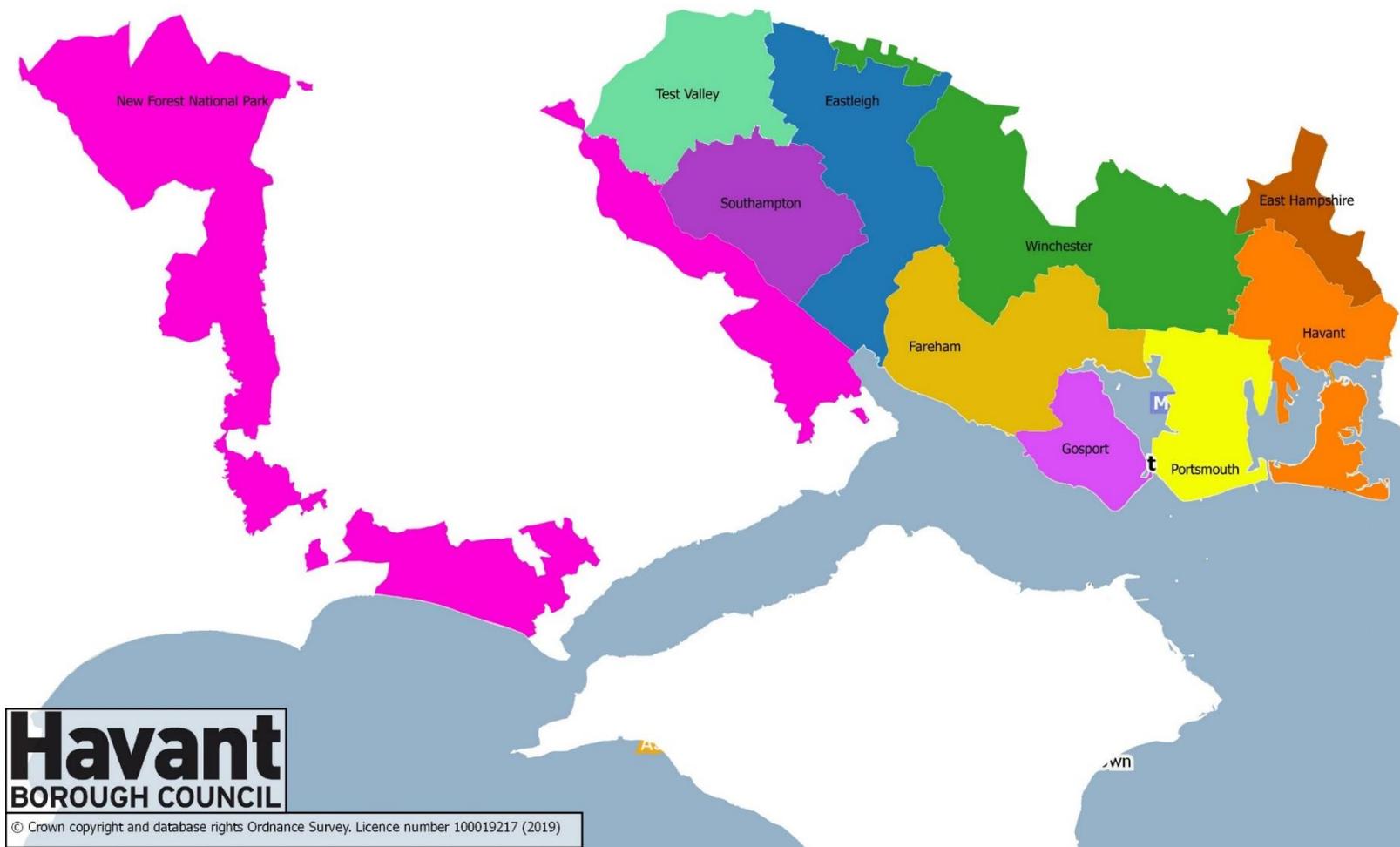
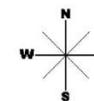
Both PfSH and Havant Borough Council are committed to continuing an effective working relationship. This Statement of Common Ground will be reviewed periodically as and when necessary.

Signatories

This statement has been prepared and agreed by the following organisations	
Havant Borough Council	Partnership for Urban South Hampshire
Signature (when complete)	Signature (when complete)
Simon Jenkins	Name
Director of Regeneration and Place	Title
Date	Date

Havant Statement of Common Ground

Appendix 1: PfSH area



Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy

Fifth Annual Report on Implementation



June 2019

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Solent coast stretches from near Lymington to West Wittering and includes the northern shore of the Isle of Wight from near Colwell to Whitecliffe Bay near Bembridge. It is internationally important for birds, with 125,000 waders and over 10 per cent of the global population of Dark Bellied Brent Geese. Many of these birds travel thousands of miles to spend the winter here. Three Special Protection Areas (SPAs) were designated on the Solent to protect these over-wintering waders and wildfowl.
- 1.2 A substantial amount of housebuilding is planned around the Solent and research shows that this new housing is likely to have potential impacts on the SPAs. One of these potential impacts is increased recreational activity at the coast resulting from population increases associated with the new homes. Increased recreational activity is likely to lead to increased disturbance to the birds within the SPAs. Such disturbance interrupts their feeding which can mean they have insufficient energy to survive the winter and complete their migratory journey back to their summer-time breeding habitats. If that occurred, there would be a reduction in the bird population.
- 1.3 The Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (here after known by its outward facing brand name of Bird Aware) aims to prevent the additional recreational activity from harming the birds. Since 2014, it has been operating under an Interim Strategy, but in December 2017, the longer term, more comprehensive Strategy was endorsed by the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire and was subsequently approved by each local planning authority as a basis for seeking financial contributions to mitigate the impact of housebuilding on the coastline. The new charging rate associated with this long term Strategy came into effect on 1st April 2018. This Strategy is set to run until 2034, and includes an in perpetuity element which will enable mitigation to continue until 2114.
- 1.4 This is the fifth annual report on implementation of the Partnership's work. It describes the progress made during the year 2018/19 and sets out the Partnership's plans for the year 2019/20.
- 1.5 This reporting period covers a time of great progress as it marks the start of the Partnership operating under the long term Strategy, increased staffing levels facilitating greater outreach and more monitoring work being undertaken. Additionally, the work Partnership has been recognised as exemplary by the Royal Town Planning Institute, with it winning the South East Regions 'Planning for the Natural Environment Award' and the overall 'Regional Winner' award.
- 1.6 The Partnership comprises the fifteen Solent local planning authorities, Natural England, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, and Chichester Harbour Conservancy. The authorities are: Chichester District Council, East Hampshire District Council, Eastleigh Borough Council, Fareham Borough Council, Gosport Borough Council, Hampshire County Council, Havant Borough Council, Isle of Wight Council, New Forest

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District Council, New Forest National Park Authority, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, South Downs National Park Authority, Test Valley Borough Council, Winchester City Council.

- 1.7 Political governance is provided by the Joint Committee of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) with the involvement of the representatives of the three non-PfSH authorities⁸. The PFSH Joint Committee approved the 2019/20 budget at its 4th December 2018 meeting.
- 1.8 More information about the mitigation strategy and the Partnership can be seen at: www.birdaware.org

2. PROGRESS DURING 2018/19

Overview

- 2.1 The main strategic focus for the Partnership this year has centred on growing the work and role of the Partnership now that it has a stronger footing through the political endorsement and local approval of the long term Strategy.
- 2.2 The outreach work of the Ranger team has reached new audiences as their work and interactions have benefitted from a larger team, the strength of the Bird Aware brand, the quality of the website and increased presence on social media platforms.
- 2.3 Monitoring work has again been undertaken on behalf of the Partnership and the second tranche of Access Management Assessments (detailed assessments of high priority sites) have taken place.
- 2.4 The Partnership's expenditure during the year is set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.5 Bird Aware started operating under the long-term Strategy on the 1st April 2018. This offers a comprehensive approach to mitigating against rising recreational pressures on the birds. It draws a higher level of Developer Contribution than the Interim Strategy did, thus affording this more comprehensive approach.
- 2.6 There is an anticipated delay between the higher charge levels being implemented, and a higher level of income stream (due to the nature of how some of the Developer Contributions are collected, they may not be payable until the point of development starting on site, which can be a considerable time after the granting of the relevant planning permission). This has therefore meant that a phased approach to implementing the wider work streams has been adopted and this is outlined below.

⁸ Chichester District Council, New Forest and South Downs National Park Authorities

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Mitigation measures

- 2.7 The key mitigation measure is a team of rangers who patrol the coast. The rangers aim to reduce bird disturbance by helping people to better understand the importance of the over-wintering birds and their vulnerability to disturbance. They advise people on how small changes in their behaviour can be hugely beneficial to the birds.
- 2.8 The ranger team was expanded in January 2018 and now consists of the Lead Ranger, two permanent Rangers and further support from 3 additional seasonal rangers employed for the winter period (their employment is from early September until the end of March, thus allowing for a period of induction and training before the winter season officially starts on 1st October). This is still a relatively small team to cover 254 kilometres of coast, so the rangers continued to give priority to visiting coastal sections where there was the greatest potential for bird disturbance, and those sections that afford high levels of public interaction.
- 2.9 During the 2018/19 winter period, the rangers carried out the following engagement activities:

Achievement	Figure
Site visits	729
Total number of people engaged with during site visits	12,811
Percentage of people who responded positively to Rangers on site	89
Leaflets distributed by rangers during site visits	5,324
Leaflets distributed via leaflet boxes/local organisations	2,518
Community events attended	40
Number of people engaged with at events	1,881
Twitter followers at 31 st March 2018	1,139
Facebook followers at 31 st March 2018	714
Instagram followers at 31 st March 2018	348

- 2.10 The rangers are employed by Hampshire County Council (HCC) on the mainland coast and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIOWWT) on the Isle of Wight coast under Service Level Agreements. These current arrangements expire on 31st July 2019 and proposals are being worked up to secure a new contract for a further 5 year period, with options to extend this if agreeable to all parties.
- 2.11 With guidance from procurement colleagues within the Partnership, the proposal being developed is for HCC to employ all the Ranger team, and to work closely with HIOWWT so that the Ranger team continues to benefit from their expertise as well as their network of contacts.

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- 2.12 Outreach work focused on initiatives to encourage responsible dog walking has been further trialled by the Ranger team this year, with them manning stalls at events targeted at the dog walking community. Evidence shows that dogs, especially those off-lead, account for 47% of all instances of bird disturbance resulting in major flights, therefore this is a key group for the Partnership to work with.
- 2.13 Furthermore, the Project Board has given approval to recruit a dedicated officer to lead on dog initiatives. Havant Borough Council will host this post for the Partnership and the role is currently undergoing job evaluation before recruitment will begin. It is anticipated that this new post holder will start in summer 2019 and they will lead on this area of work.
- 2.14 Previously undertaken dog walking market research and other surveys show some people may be willing to walk at inland sites instead of at the coast. The range of recreational greenspaces around the Solent is being enhanced through the Solent Local Growth Deal funding secured by the Partnership. Construction of a country park at Horsea Island commenced in autumn 2016, which will complement the facilities created at Alver Valley and Manor Farm Country Parks during 2015/16.
- 2.15 The pathway resurfacing and installation of interpretation boards at Shoreburs Greenway in Southampton (also funded by Growth Deal money) has continued apace this year, with the works now principally complete and a public relaunch due this Summer.
- 2.16 Additionally, a business case was approved by the LEP to allow the reallocation of Growth Deal funding to assist in the creation of a Brent Goose refuge in Havant. This will comprise of a permanent fenced refuge containing a mix of improved grassland and winter wheat, as well as bird hides and interpretation boards. Havant Borough Council is currently in detailed negotiations with the landowner and expect to advance this project in the coming year.

Monitoring

- 2.17 Monitoring the effectiveness of the mitigation measures is vital. During winter 2018/19, there were counts of the number of visitors and their recreational activities at selected coastal sites, including counts of vehicles in coastal car parks together with counts of people, dogs on/off lead, and activities being undertaken (viewed from vantage points at/near selected car parks) in order that this data can be compared with previous counts and any further counts in later years, so that changes in visitors and their activities can be measured.
- 2.18 The other monitoring work focused on a study of the effect of the rangers' presence on peoples' behaviour. This concentrated on observation of people numbers, activities, bird numbers, and disturbance levels at ten locations with regular ranger patrols. Over time, this work will show if there has been a reduction in disturbance over time due to the ranger's presence.

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- 2.19 In terms of direct monitoring of birds, low tide bird counts were undertaken in Southampton waters by volunteers mobilised by Partnership contacts.
- 2.20 Finally, the 10 footfall counters installed at key points in 2017 completed their data collection within this period.

Information and Communications

- 2.21 Effective communications are key to the Partnership's aim of raising awareness and achieving behavioural change amongst people who visit the coast. Having the Bird Aware branding (i.e. moving away from the less understandable Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership label) and the website (www.birdaware.org) have been instrumental in helping us have our messaging understood and actively promoted.
- 2.22 During this reporting period, the Partnership core team has been extended to include a dedicated Brand and Communications Lead (appointed on a 3 year contract), who joined us in July 2018.
- 2.23 This post holder has created the Bird Aware marketing strategy which was approved in January 2019 by the Steering group. Its purpose is to create, connect and seize opportunities to engage with the users of the Solent coast and create a legacy of positive behaviour. Commencing in April 2019 for five years, it concludes at the end of the 23/24 migration season.
- 2.24 The strategy targets the full range coastal users from dog walkers, through to hard to reach users such as paddle boarders and cyclists. It utilises a range of communication channels such as print, press, digital and social media and covers all of the Bird Aware key messages.
- 2.25 Since October 2018 a series of press releases have been distributed to local newspapers, media groups and news organisations. To date the take up of these has been sporadic, but coverage has been secured in a number of significant publications including; The Daily Echo; The Portsmouth News; The Isle of Wight Observer and The Isle of Wight County Press.
- 2.26 In February a press release about Half Term events was picked up by 'That's Solent TV' which led to the Lead Ranger being interviewed for a short news Item that was aired on 12th February – watch here - <https://bit.ly/2YGu2wk> – This piece was also covered by The BBC Breakfast Show on 13th February with a reported audience of 1.5 million.

Social Media

- 2.27 The Partnerships presence on social media has grown impressively over the past year. Facebook followers are up 53% to 746, Instagram followers have risen by 44% to 347 and Twitter is up 66% to 1,144 followers. Growth on each platform has largely been achieved through engaging, informative and varied content, consistently being added.

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- 2.28 All Partners are reminded that they can help boost our social media outreach and following still further by ensuring that their organisations follow us and share/retweet content.
- 2.29 On Twitter the highest performing tweet reached over 34,000 profile pages, was viewed over 9,000 times and engaged with (retweeted, liked or commented on) over 1,400 times. The Tweet covered a real life struggle of the birds in their environment. View the tweet here - <https://bit.ly/2YGu6Mz>
- 2.30 Facebook's best performing post reached over 8,000 people and was engaged with 654 times. The post highlighted why being a ranger is so rewarding and fascinating. See the post here – <https://bit.ly/2UpjqCE>
- 2.31 Another post that received an excellent social media reaction was the Rangers version of '12 days of Christmas'. View it here - <https://bit.ly/2UfHgRt>

Financial contributions

- 2.32 The Partnership's expenditure (excluding major projects which use Growth Deal funding) is funded by developer contributions in association with planning permissions for new housing around the Solent. From the 1st April 2018, the Partnership started charging the fees set out in the long-term Strategy. These are set on a sliding scale based upon bedroom numbers, ranging from £337 for a one bedroom property to £880 for a five or greater bedroom property. These will be revised annually in line with RPI and rounded to the nearest whole pound. They will also be reviewed every two years.

Planning permissions and appeals

- 2.33 Developers whose schemes will have a recreational impact on the Solent SPAs have the option of paying a developer contribution towards mitigation measures as set out in the Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy, or providing their own mitigation. During 2018/19, planning permission was granted for 2,864 dwellings which were assessed as requiring mitigation. As far as we are aware, all of the planning applicants opted to contribute to the Strategy, as opposed to developing their own bespoke mitigation scheme in consultation with their relevant planning authority and Natural England.
- 2.34 It is now the established norm in planning appeals for the planning inspector to endorse the principle of the developer contribution or cite the absence of mitigation as a ground for dismissing the appeal. The Partnership is not aware of any planning appeals during the year where the inspector did not support the need for a developer contribution to Solent recreation mitigation.

The Bird Aware Brand

- 2.35 Bird Aware and Bird Aware Solent are now registered trademarks, affording us a level of protection from others misusing the brand.

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- 2.36 The Bird Aware branding has attracted significant interest from 3rd party mitigation schemes and the benefits of sharing it with 3rd parties would include having a louder collective voice, more media exposure and economies of scale ensuring that mitigation measures are more effective
- 2.37 Following targeted emails promoting the opportunity for other similar Mitigation Partnerships to join the Bird Aware brand (with their own regional emphasis) the Partnership Manager and the Brand and Communications Manager held meetings with several of the other partnerships.
- 2.38 This has led to a request from the currently titled 'Essex Recreational Avoidance Mitigation Scheme' to move to the more public facing name of 'Bird Aware Essex Coast'. This request is currently being accommodated and formal agreements being drawn up.
- 2.39 Furthermore, Pagham Harbour local nature reserve is looking to extend their staffing levels, with new Rangers joining the team under the Bird Aware branding. Again, this request is being accommodated and formal agreements being drawn up.
- 2.40 There has also been strong interest from a couple of other suitable partnerships and once they have the equivalent of their Board approval to proceed, the Partnership will be in a position to share which ones they are.

Mitigation Meet-up

- 2.41 The Partnership hosted the 2nd Annual Mitigation Meet-Up in Havant on the 15th November. This event was well attended, gave us the opportunity to showcase our work as a Partnership and prompted great feedback from delegates.
- 2.42 The day was attended by 64 people and we were joined by 14 different partnerships/regions along with delegates from NE and the RSPB.

Award News

- 2.43 In November 2018, the Partnership was announced as the winner of the Royal Town Planning Institute (South East region) 'Planning for the Natural Environment' award.
- 2.44 This was then followed by the Partnership being announced as the overall 'Regional Winner' for 2018. The judges' comments related to the Partnership stated that they were 'impressed by the collaborative approach' and 'positive outcomes' which is strong recognition for how we operate.

3. PLANS FOR 2019/20.

- 3.1 The local authorities are pooling the developer contributions through the Partnership. To ensure sound financial management, the Partnership sets its annual budget on the basis of the amount of developer contributions received

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during the preceding year. On that basis, a budget has been set for 2018/19 totalling £1,175,000. This budget (reproduced in appendix 2) will fund the implementation of mitigation measures and associated costs including the part-time Partnership officer.

- 3.2 The mitigation measures described above are being funded by developer contributions from the housing planned in Local Plans over the next 10-15 years, but legislation requires the measures to be provided in-perpetuity. The Partnership is addressing this investing a proportion of the developer contributions received in order to create an investment pot which will fund the mitigation measures in-perpetuity. It has been calculated that nearly 60% of the developer contributions received needs to be invested in that way in order to provide sufficient future income to fund the mitigation measures in-perpetuity.
- 3.3 The decisions, mitigation measures and other initiatives which are planned to be undertaken during 2019/20 include:-
- Allocation of the first round of funding for the Site Specific Projects. The Partnership has set aside £2 million every 5 years to fund series of capital projects designed to further the aims of the strategy through the provision of visitor management techniques, enhanced bird habitats, enhanced strategic recreational space or public engagement and education initiatives. Project bids have been submitted and will be reviewed during this period;
 - Negotiation of a new Service Level Agreement to support the provision of Rangers to the Partnership;
 - Recruiting a dedicated Dog Initiatives Lead officer to implement initiatives to encourage responsible dog walking;
 - Implementing the first year of the agreed Marketing Strategy, growing our reputation and sphere of influence.
 - Actively promoting the use of the Bird Aware brand to 3rd parties
 - Completing the third series of site specific access management assessments
 - Undertaking the fifth phase of data collection to monitor the effectiveness of the mitigation measures.

Annual Report Appendix 1: ACCOUNTS 2018/19

	£'s	£'s
Income from contributions:		812,178
Expenditure:		
Rangers	(200,657)	
Operating costs	(6,636)	
Monitoring Costs	(49,397)	
Marketing Costs	(8,831)	
Brand & Communication Costs	(35,202)	
Partnership coordination officer	(31,484)	
Total Expenditure:		<u>(332,206)</u>
Balance before transfer to in-perpetuity fund:		<u>479,972</u>
Transfer to in-perpetuity fund		(450,000)
Total contribution to reserves 18/19		<u>29,972</u>

Balances at 31/3/2018

Reserves brought forward @ 31/03/18	848,293
Contribution to reserves 18/19	29,972
Reserves carried forward @ 31/03/19	<u>878,264</u>
In-perpetuity fund @ 31/03/18	534,774
Transfer in 18/19	450,000
Interest received	6,163
In-perpetuity fund @ 31/03/19	<u>990,937</u>

Annual Report Appendix 2: 2019/20 BUDGET

<i>Item</i>	<i>000s</i>
Rangers	210
Dog initiatives	20
Partnership Manager	30
Operating budget	10
Monitoring	50
Brand and Communications Lead	40
Comms operational budget	10
Graphic Design Support	15
Dog Initiatives Lead Officer	40
Sub-total	425
Contribution to in-perpetuity fund	750
Total budget	1175