



Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: 22 March 2021

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Subject: A Greenprint for South Hampshire: request for funding

SUMMARY

At their January 26 meeting the Joint Committee received an update on the work being done to shape a '*Greenprint for South Hampshire*', articulating our shared economic, environmental and social objectives. Members endorsed for wider discussion a framework comprising five principles.

This report seeks financial support from PfSH to complement that already received from other organisations and provide the resources to allow for the framework to be developed and shared more widely.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that Joint Committee AGREE to a contribution of £20,000 from PfSH's unallocated resources to support a programme of work to develop the Greenprint for South Hampshire.

Background

1. As members will recall following the discussion at January's Joint Committee meeting, there has been good progress in shaping a Greenprint for South Hampshire, a framework to guide a balanced 'green recovery' across the area.
2. Members endorsed the five principles which it was proposed captured PfSH members' shared strategic objectives and should be a focus for collaboration to deliver a green recovery for South Hampshire (included at **appendix 1** as a reminder). The Joint Committee also agreed to further work necessary to develop the framework:
 - i. Broaden the discussion of the framework to include all PfSH member authorities and other key businesses and organisations in South Hampshire and its immediate neighbours;
 - ii. Identify the key outcomes for each of these priorities: the improvements to the local economy, environment or communities that we aim to achieve;
 - iii. Identify the projects in development or underway which will contribute to achieving each priority; and
 - iv. Identify the key performance measures to be included on a 'balanced scorecard' for the Greenprint to enable all partners to measure their contribution.
3. Work is already underway on each of these, with ongoing support from several partners. To maintain progress a wide range of tasks need to be undertaken, and this paper requests £20,000 financial support from PfSH to match the funding and support already provided, in cash or kind, by those partners. Further contributions will continue to be sought from other councils or organisations not members of PfSH who join the project.
4. Members will also wish to be aware that the Greenprint framework was presented at a recent LGA Conference on creating a green economic recovery. It was well received, and it is clear that South Hampshire's pragmatic approach to building a collaborative approach on the basis of shared priorities will allow PfSH to make quick progress by comparison with others developing more complex models.

Future Activities

5. To build on the work done to date, there are a number of strands of activity to be pursued, with the following being key to making progress:
 - Meetings with colleagues from PfSH and neighbour councils and other organisations to build understanding and ownership of the framework;
 - Workshops to develop each of the principles and agree key outcomes and performance measures;
 - Sector based workshops to help understand the contribution each of South Hampshire's key economic sectors can make to the Greenprint;
 - A data workshop to help shape the basis of the 'balanced scorecard' by which progress would be measured;

- Community-based deliberative workshops to raise public awareness of the Greenprint, improve understanding and garner support;
 - Hosting an event to discuss other approaches to tackling the challenge of a green recovery, allowing for an exchange of ideas and sharing of information;
 - Ensuring that the Greenprint model is communicated to all partners across the PfSH area its hinterland; and
 - Overall management of the project to maintain progress and ensure we build on the framework already endorsed by the Joint Committee.
6. To achieve this the project team need the resources and capacity to, *inter alia*, provide policy, administrative and project management support for this programme of activities, allow a detailed set of performance metrics to be collated and agreed, and for the Greenprint model to be promoted across the region and beyond. It will complement support for other related pieces of work (see, for example, para.8).
 7. Work undertaken to date has been led by colleagues from the New Forest National Park Authority (on behalf of the Green Halo Partnership), the Universities of Portsmouth and Southampton, and the Southern Policy Centre. There is also a small Steering Group which includes officers from Eastleigh, Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton Councils, as well as Solent LEP. That Steering Group will be expanded slightly to include better community, business and environment representation, but it ought to remain the focus for overseeing work on the Greenprint.
 8. The project continues to need support to maintain momentum, provided in part through the capacity created by those willing to offer their time. In addition, the New Forest National Park Authority and University of Southampton have also directly funded work to-date, contributing around £15,000 between them. The latter supported the secondment of a Postgraduate Student through their Doctoral Training Programme. Portsmouth University have indicated they will support the next phase of work by funding the part-time secondment of a Postdoctoral Researcher. SPC have also been sponsored by Terence O'Rourke to undertake a project on business perceptions of a green recovery, which is being developed in partnership with the University of Southampton.
 9. To match the significant support already provided or committed by others a contribution of £20,000 is requested from PfSH. This will provide the capacity to continue with the project management of the Greenprint, including organising and delivering the various activities outlined above. It will support work over the remainder of the 2021 calendar year. As noted above, additional support will be sought from others joining the initiative.
 10. The Steering Group is best placed to monitor progress and oversee in detail how PfSH and other financial contributions can best be deployed. The Chair of that Group, Alison Barnes from the New Forest National Park Authority, will report progress to future meetings of the Joint Committee.

Impact

11. The contribution sought from PfSH will assist in leveraging further contributions, notably from other organisations outside the Partnership who nevertheless have a part to play in delivering the Greenprint. As noted above, there have already been some financial commitments made, and PfSH support will help ensure others see the project as worthy of investment to help achieving its, and their, objectives.
12. With this contribution and those from others we should aim to have completed development of the Greenprint model by the end of 2021. That will give PfSH members and others a basis on which to build collaboration on projects which can achieve shared ambitions, identify new projects which will help realise those ambitions and monitor progress using the balanced scorecard which is being developed.
13. The PfSH Greenprint model is already having an impact on local policy. It was, for example, part of the successful Solent Freeport bid, giving it a stand-out element. Its continued development will put PfSH and our region in a strong position as an area, and a partnership, which has a clear model for delivering the green recovery that others are also chasing. Several of the Mayoral Combined Authorities are also exploring how best to achieve that, and PfSH will be well placed to show how much can be achieved by a less formal partnership working together towards a shared objective.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Joint Committee AGREE to a contribution of £20,000 from PfSH's unallocated resources to support a programme of work to develop the Greenprint for South Hampshire.

Background Papers: None

Appendix 1: Five Principles for the Greenprint for South Hampshire

Reference Papers: A Greenprint for South Hampshire: update on progress – PfSH Joint Committee, 26 January 2021

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Five Principles for the Greenprint for South Hampshire

- **Net zero with nature** – providing the leadership necessary to reduce carbon emissions, taking a more integrated and holistic approach by working with nature to build a zero carbon economy and zero carbon communities.
- **Natural health service** – improving physical and mental health and wellbeing and tackling health inequalities through greater access to our world class natural environments and bringing nature into our urban communities.
- **World class blue/green environments** – protecting, restoring and improving our distinctive, high quality blue and green environments, enabling the natural capital and ecosystem services they offer us to contribute fully to a strong economy and a healthy, inclusive society.
- **Creating great places through quality in design and build** – encouraging an innovative approach to creating high quality, inclusive and sustainable places for people and nature, adopting a low-carbon, sustainable approach which will make the region an exemplar.
- **Centre for excellence in green skills and jobs** – tackle local skills gaps and economic inequalities by building a future workforce which can seize the opportunities offered by innovation in key sectors of our economy, including zero carbon economy, land management and the visitor economy.

