



Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: 14 February 2022
Report of: Paddy May, 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.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee NOTES the matters for information outlined in part B of this report.

PART A: MATTERS FOR DECISION

There are no matters for decision.

PART B: MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

1. PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 1.1 At the meeting of the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11 October 2021, Solent Transport presented two reports covering an update on rail development opportunities, and an introduction to the Future Transport Zone programme of work. The reports were presented for information and in the interests of alerting PfSH to ongoing projects that may impact on PfSH's own work streams. These reports were subsequently reported to Joint Committee on 25 October.
- 1.2 The purpose of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to carefully consider reports being put to Joint Committee and make recommendations for its consideration. There was extensive discussion of these items at the Overview and Scrutiny meeting and some of the key points included, firstly that there was a need for the transport hubs to take better account of the needs of people with disabilities and in particular those using mobility scooters, and that secondly the importance of the Hythe Ferry had been understated in terms of its usage and how it could benefit from improved links to bus and rail infrastructure.
- 1.3 Following the meeting of Joint Committee on 25 October, the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee wrote to Solent Transport on 3 December to express his disappointment that two points made had not been raised at Joint Committee. The Chairman sought reassurance that these issues were being considered actively by Solent Transport as work progresses.
- 1.4 By way of reply, Solent Transport responded to the Chairman's concerns in a letter dated 8 December stating that his feedback re Mobility Hub schemes has been actively passed on to relevant project managers, and that Solent Transport would continue to raise these issues on behalf of users. In addition, Solent Transport undertook to pass on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's concerns regarding the Waterside rail and Hythe ferry and bus services at the Waterside Line Stakeholder Group meeting on 10th December 2021.

2. Bird Aware Solent

In-perpetuity Funding

- 2.1 As part of the financial review undertaken for Bird Aware Solent, the project board has sought out a suitable investment fund for the in-perpetuity funding to ensure it receives a rate of return necessary to secure the long-term delivery of the strategy. The current interest rate (bank investments) is not sufficient to meet the growth assumptions to fund the strategy going forward, and so the financial review recommended that we consider alternative forms of investment.
- 2.2 Advice was taken from Arlingclose who specialise in public sector finances and was closely followed by seeking advice from appropriate staff at Fareham Borough Council - in their capacity of accountable body to the Bird Aware Partnership. As a nature partnership it was thought important that issues of environmental and social governance be considered.

2.3 From this work the partnership has adopted the following environmental, social governance statement for financial matters:

The Partnership will -

Seek to utilise investments that improve the environment, bring wider social benefits, and are with organisations with good governance.

Use influence as an investor to encourage best practice management of social responsibility issues.

2.4 Additionally, the Partnership is now investing a sizeable proportion of the in-perpetuity fund in a suite of investments which mirror the investment portfolio of Fareham Borough Council. Assurances have been achieved from the fund managers that it is possible to ringfence the Bird Aware funds separately from the Fareham Borough Council ones - such that monitoring performance of these funds, and the payment of appropriate dividends, will be easier to administer.

2.5 The above was approved via email exchange between the Chairman of the Project Board and Chairman of the PfSH Joint Committee in early December 2021.

3. Strategic Recreation and Mitigation Partnership (Bird Aware) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

3.1 The below covers the period 1 September till the end of December 2021.

The Rangers delivered:

• Site Visits	335
• People interacted with on-site	3808
• Events	26
• People interacted with at events	794

3.2 Additional input has also been given to communications work which is led by the Campaigns and Engagement Officer. Together the team has achieved the following:

Facebook

- Number of followers 2,455 (up by 210, +9.35%)
- 234,701 impressions
- Engagement – 16,735 (12,153 clicks, 330 comments, 206 shares, 3,928 reactions)

Twitter

- Number of followers 2,513 (up by 116, +4.8%)
- 96.8K impressions
- Engagement: 16K profile visits, 249 mentions

Instagram

- Number of followers 1,804 (up by 105, +6.18%)
- Accounts reached: 15K (+600% from previous quarter, 47.5% from promotions)

- Engagement: 5,520 likes, 116 comments
- Key messages (share our shores/disturbance) included within 50.5% of posts, compared with 34% in same period in 2020

Other Campaigns and Engagement highlights include:

- Launch of the new website at the start of October with a much clearer user journey
- Great Solent Birdwatch: pop-up events, press release, and social media promotion leading to more than 3,000 visits to new website.
- Five blog posts
- Monthly press releases
- Monthly radio interviews with Express FM

4. Culture, Creative Industries and the Built Environment

Solent Quality Place Awards

4.1 Following the decision at the October meeting of Joint Committee, the Quality Place Practitioner Group has developed plans for the 2022 Quality Place Awards. The 2022 Awards will again focus on place-making rather than the design of individual buildings. The awards will be coordinated by the quality place practitioners, who will also organise the judging.

4.2 It is proposed nominations will open in February, short-listing will take place in the spring and final judging in the summer. The public will also be invited to vote for a people's choice winner. Awards will be made to the judges winner and the people's choice winner, certificates will also be presented to other projects identified on the final short list of five.

Creative Growth South

4.3 For the past four years creative growth south has provided sector specific business support to micro creative businesses. Over the last year demand has reduced partly as result of the wide a range of alternative provision becoming available to help businesses to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. It also did not prove possible to attract match funding (Arts Council England were approached but the project did not fit their priorities during the pandemic). It has therefore been decided that Creative Growth South will come to finish at the end of March 2022.

Creative Industries Data

4.4 Creative Network South has worked with Hampshire County Council to update its data set relating to creative industry business growth - primarily to review the impact of the pandemic. The full results will be reported to Creative Network South later this month. Initial findings confirm that while creative industry employment growth in South Hampshire greatly exceeded the average for England and the South East between 2010-2015 these figure dropped below these averages between 2015 and 2020. However, during the period 2019 to 2020 (pre-pandemic to mid-pandemic) employment in the sector appears to have remained static. During this period creative industry employment in England fell by 3.6% although across the South East region it increased by 4%.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee NOTES the matters for information outlined in part B of this report.

Background Papers: None

Reference Papers: None

Enquiries: For further information on this report please contact:

Paddy May (PfSH Co-ordinator)

Tel. No. 023 9283 4020

E-mail: paddy.may@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

