



Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

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Subject: GREENPRINT FOR SOUTH HAMPSHIRE: UPDATE

SUMMARY

The Joint Committee has supported the development of a '*Greenprint for South Hampshire*'. The project aims to shape a collaborative approach to building a green recovery for the region, identifying and delivering shared economic, environmental and social objectives. In January 2021 members endorsed for wider discussion a framework comprising five priorities.

In July last year members received an update and endorsed the definitions of those five priorities, which were drawn from an assessment of Councils' and others' plans and strategies: net zero with nature, a natural health service, world class blue/green environments, great places through quality in design and build, and centre of excellence for green skills and jobs.

This report updates members on the conclusions of workshops held with sector specialists over the autumn to develop the definitions of those priorities and determine outcomes which will help guide PfSH member councils and other partners in collaborating to achieve those priorities. It also discusses planning specific actions to realise these outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee:-

- a) NOTE the progress on developing the Greenprint for South Hampshire;
- b) CONFIRM that it is content with the expanded definitions of the five priorities (at **Appendix 1**);
- c) AGREE in principle the ten outcomes which we propose as a basis for developing a PfSH-wide approach to a green recovery (at **Appendix 3**); and
- d) AGREE that Council Officers and others from partner organisations (such as the Solent LEP, Natural England and Solent Transport) work together to develop an action plan to achieve the agreed outcomes.

Background

1. PfSH members wish to work together in shaping a green recovery, giving weight to environmental and social outcomes alongside economic growth. This ambition grew from discussions in the summer and autumn of 2020 as the UK looked to build back from the pandemic. The Partnership provides an opportunity to take collective action in a few carefully defined areas where that collaboration would have a real impact. That joint working would complement the actions of individual PfSH members and regional partners.
2. The last project update to PfSH in July 2021 outlined a framework for a programme of actions which would guide collaboration by PfSH member authorities and other partners to shape a region-wide green recovery. These would be based on the five priorities agreed at that meeting and summarised in **Appendix 1** as a reminder for members. The more detailed text in the appendix - which seeks to define those priorities more fully, draws on the wider discussion at workshops held in the autumn of 2021 (see below).
3. Priorities are drawn from PfSH member authorities' own strategies and plans, and they offer a set of shared priorities which provide a framework for collaboration. As the July report noted, the next step was to put flesh on the bones of that framework, identifying key outcomes and the actions which supports their delivery. Action planning will also entail determining how to measure performance in achieving progress.
4. In the autumn of 2021 a series of workshops were held, each based on one of the Greenprint's five priorities. Each workshop brought together specialists mostly from outside the local government world, both public and private sector, who have expertise and experience in relevant areas (**Appendix 2** lists participants and summarises key conclusions). The conclusions of those five workshops were discussed at a meeting of local government officers representing services covered by the priorities.

Outcomes

5. To help focus on what exactly should be achieved to realise the five priorities the autumn workshops sought to identify two key outcomes for each priority. Those proposed outcomes are summarised in **Appendix 3**. A limited number of outcomes – ten in total for the five Greenprint priorities – will help define the actions that PfSH authorities can undertake collaboratively and with partners. A concise list of outcomes will focus PfSH's work as a partnership so that it will complement the wider programmes of action which individual councils and others will have underway.
6. One clear message from the workshops is that the five priorities, and so the outcomes which will help realise them, are interlinked: actions to deliver one priority may well also assist with the delivery of others. Table 1 (over the page) illustrates how each outcome is focused primarily on one priority but will have secondary impacts on others.
7. Joint Committee will be invited to consider and discuss these outcomes and the contribution each will make to realising the Greenprint priorities. Once Members are content that the outcomes represent areas where PfSH members and other partners can work together productively, then they will provide a basis for planning the specific actions to help achieve those outcomes and so respond to the priorities.

Priority		Outcome									
Primary outcome 	Relevant outcome 	Net Zero auditing	Decarbonised energy and transport	Access to nature	Sustainable Healthcare	Land restoration and protection	Water restoration and protection	Zero carbon build and retrofit	Design, build and nature	Greening the curriculum	Light to dark green jobs
Net zero with Nature 											
Natural Health Service 											
Blue/green environments 											
Quality in design & build 											
Green skills and jobs 											

Table 1: the ten outcomes proposed PfSH should seek to realise to help achieve a green recovery – table illustrates the primary and secondary impact of outcomes on each priority

Action planning

8. Once the outcomes are settled, the next step is to plan actions which will help achieving their ambitions. Many of those may already be in the plans of some PfSH members: in those circumstances the aim will be to co-ordinate the activity across the Partnership for maximum impact. However, there will be circumstances where there is a gap in current activity, and additional actions may need to be identified and agreed.
9. As actions are identified, so clear targets and timetables will need to be agreed, as will the resources to deliver. We propose that officers from PfSH member authorities work alongside those from partner organisations to shape that plan of action. We suggest that process include further engagement with the specialist “communities of practice” who contributed to defining the proposed outcomes at the autumn workshops (see **Appendix 2** – there may be other specialists to include under some of the priorities).
10. This approach will help create a distinctive delivery model for driving a green recovery, with collaborative working to achieve a clear and focused set of agreed outcomes. This will bring together PfSH member authorities with other public and private sector partners and help build a regional consensus on a fresh approach to the economy.
11. The Action Plan can also provide a link between the Greenprint and other regionally important initiatives. The business case for the Solent Freeport proposals, for example, reflect the Greenprint priorities. The Steering Group leading the project are also in discussion with PfSH Planners to ensure that the revision of the Spatial Position Statement can play a role in shaping a green recovery.

12. In future, the framework for delivering against Greenprint priorities will also put PfSH in a strong position to respond to future government policy initiatives, for example the recent proposals from Defra to move to a system of agricultural support based on environmental land management. It can offer a tool for shaping local responses to this and other environmentally and socially led initiatives from Westminster.
13. PfSH's collaborative approach also puts the Partnership in strong position to lobby Government or other organisations for regulatory or policy changes, for example to permit a simpler, locally driven approach to development which takes greater account of climate and nature.

Other matters

14. Members have also been keen to see the PfSH work on a green recovery communicated to a wider audience. The project team have worked with the University of Southampton to develop a short video aimed at a general audience which explains what the Greenprint aims to achieve - which can be found online [here](#). This is still being developed, so we would welcome any feedback members may have.
15. During November's COP26 meeting PfSH also issued a press release which spoke about the Partnership's collaboration to deliver a green recovery. That was circulated to local press contacts by partner authorities communications teams. It was also circulated through linked-in and other social media.
16. We are also building a website which will provide more information, including a summary report which explains all the work undertaken to develop the Greenprint. We are also developing some case studies that would show examples of projects or programmes that contribute to the Greenprint.

Resources

17. Members will recall that they agreed a budget allocation of £20,000 to support the development of the Greenprint. To date £5,000 has been spent on administrative support and c.£4,000 on the short video mentioned above. That funding has also helped lever in support from the University of Southampton, who paid the salaries of our two seconded postgraduate students, a total of around £15,000.
18. In due course the team will return to Joint Committee with proposals for how best to fund ongoing work to deliver Greenprint priorities. To a large degree the cost of its implementation will be met through the projects local authorities deliver under the agreed Action Plan, much of which will be in existing budgets. The long-term aim is to embed both the development and delivery of Greenprint in partners' business plans and budgets.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee:-

- a) NOTE the progress on developing the Greenprint for South Hampshire;
- b) CONFIRM that it is content with the expanded definitions of the five priorities (at **Appendix 1**);
- c) AGREE in principle the ten outcomes which we propose as a basis for developing a PfSH-wide approach to a green recovery (at **Appendix 3**); and

- d) AGREE that Council Officers and others from partner organisations (such as the Solent LEP, Natural England and Solent Transport) work together to develop an action plan to achieve the agreed outcomes.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1: Greenprint priorities
Appendix 2: Summary of Greenprint autumn workshops
Appendix 3: Primary outcomes for the Greenprint priorities

Reference Papers: Greenprint for South Hampshire – Update (27 July 2021)
<https://www.push.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Item-10-Greenprint-for-South-Hampshire.pdf>

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Appendix 1: Greenprint priorities

Greenprint's five key priorities are based on wide-ranging research of local plans and strategies across local authorities in the central South. They have been expanded to give a fuller description of what is intended following discussions with sector specialists in workshops held in the autumn of 2021.



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.

Suggested full definition: Local authorities in the South have declared a climate emergency. Many have begun to develop tools and collect data to measure their carbon footprint. In line with these ambitions, councils have delivered household and commercial retrofits while implementing clean air quality zones. This priority highlights aspirations on net zero auditing, together with current policies to decarbonise energy and transport. Strategies should be built across sectors and within organisations, emphasising natural solutions for carbon sequestration. Careful evaluation and restoration of natural capital is necessary for energy, infrastructure, and enterprise to meet zero carbon targets without diminishing the surrounding environments.



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.

Suggested full definition: The central South has a wealth of natural assets. Aligned with broad scientific consensus, our world-renowned coastlines, national parks, and natural spaces provide a range of positive health outcomes for people in our region. This distinctive geography is now being explored by public health bodies to improve physical activity and mental wellbeing. Access to nature programmes are proliferating and NHS institutions are keen to harness natural spaces for the benefit of patients. Facilitating the use of these spaces supports the urgency in local healthcare to make treatment and practice more sustainable. Healthcare providers are switching to low-carbon infrastructure. To facilitate the transition more rapidly and effectively, organisations would benefit from further cooperation with experts on nature-climate solutions.



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.

Suggested full definition: Balancing the restoration of land and water with regional growth is essential to stewarding our distinctive environment. This priority reconciles ambitions for protecting natural environments with regional socio-economic development and infrastructure. Wildlife initiatives sometimes seem to conflict with one another. Planting trees and restoring seagrass beds, for instance, can produce unintended outcomes. Through targeted resource mobilisation and cooperation with biodiversity specialists, we identify environments rich in natural capital potential. In doing so, the region seeks to protect its world class land- and sea-scapes while meeting health outcomes and net zero targets. This priority must draw on a sustainable design and build programme to succeed.



Great places through quality 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.

Suggested full definition: There is a national mandate for house building and infrastructure, but the relevant sectors are traditionally carbon-intensive and lack environmental enhancement strategies. To achieve a green recovery, we must have the highest standards for our new developments and retrofits. This priority encourages the adoption of a fabric-first approach to design, as well as metrics to measure sustainable construction and post-occupancy evaluation. We aim to meet housing targets through progressive accreditation standards and combined active travel and transport strategies. Welborne Garden Village and One Horton Heath are models for zero-carbon new builds in our region, but we must seek to embed scalable practices to reduce emissions in both domestic and commercial settings.



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.

Suggested full definition: To meet our net zero ambitions, we must have the correct skills and support. This priority emphasises excellent training centres in the area while providing new guidance for further and higher education curricula. We seek to establish long-term linking strategies between colleges and constructors; universities and start-ups; local authorities and households. These partnerships will meet the demands of a new green economy by activating research collaborations through a light-to-dark green jobs framework. This enables a regional approach to green recovery. Job creation, sustained by a high and low-skilled workforce, is the foundation from which the objectives of Greenprint can be achieved.

Appendix 2: Summary of Greenprint autumn workshops

Greenprint is being developed to offer a framework for the delivery of progress against each of the five priorities, including outcomes, measures, delivery partnerships, case studies and required resources. These frameworks were developed in workshops that included experts from academia, public health bodies, local authorities, and environmental organisations. More than 50 individuals from across sectors attended the five workshops. The feedback produced a set of post-workshop frameworks, highlighting the evolution of ideas from the original documents.

The five consultation workshops, with experts dedicated to each priority, sought consultation on the following questions:

- Which of the priority objectives can be delivered?
- Which objectives support emerging national/local policies?
- Which resources are needed to deliver these objectives?

This work has helped the project to progress on several fronts, clarifying the potential for ambition, success and intervention in the region. A striking element of these workshops was the communicated desire from participants to show connections between the five priorities and highlight that success in one priority enables success in another.

Workshops – individual summaries

1. Net Zero with Nature **08/10/21**

Present

David Hutchinson (Univ. of Portsmouth) – Chair

Rhiannon Jones (Univ. of Southampton) Lindsay Armstrong (Univ. of Southampton)

Joseph Owen (Univ. of Southampton) Yaryna Basystyuk (Univ. of Southampton)

Simon Eden (SPC) Damon Teagle (Univ. of Southampton)

Olivia McGregor (NFNPA) Jessica Lewis (SCC: Green City)

Steve Fletcher (Univ. of Portsmouth) Ian Williams (Univ. of Southampton)

Richard Pemberton (Solent Transport) Sarah Taylor (Natural England)

Alison Barnes (NFNPA) James Ford (Solent LEP)

Summary

- active travel and reduction in fossil fuelled vehicles requires behavioural change and top-down investment
- distinction between nature-based climate solutions and nature-based solutions is important
- levelling up agenda should be linked to, as levelling up will help encourage top-down involvement
- Communication, coordination and collaboration between projects and with public is essential for success
- Urgently need green electrification, emissions reductions and CCS at major industrial scale, with the Solent as both a significant emitter of CO₂ and a region with considerable green energy potential

2. Natural Health Service

06/10/21

Present

Alison Barnes (NFNPA) – Chair	Chloe Ponsford (NHS)
Rhiannon Jones (Univ. of Southampton)	Lisa Riley (Univ. of Winchester)
Joseph Owen (Univ. of Southampton)	Becky Broomfield (Testvale Surgery)
David Hutchinson (Univ. of Portsmouth)	Vicki Brown (NHS Forest)
Jim Mitchell (NFNPA)	Yaryna Basystyuk (Univ. of Southampton)
Sarah Whitmee (LSHTM)	Jason Light (Univ. Hospital Southampton)
Steve Guppy (SCC: Green City)	Helen Fisher (Energise Me)
Jo Warwick (NHS ICS)	

Summary

- Consideration of both short- and long-term objectives and outcomes is key
- Healthcare is a huge emitter and this must be addressed, with consideration of the January 2022 NHS Trust Sustainability plans
- A cross-linkage and holistic approach
- Active travel and physical activity must be a focus, with the recognition that big infrastructure changes are required that will need backing and investment from councils
- Make sure active travel is not just focused on commute
- Access to nature and sustainable healthcare should be at the forefront of new roles

3. World Class Blue/Green Environments

13/10/21

Present

Natalie Wigman (EBC) – Chair	
Anna Parry (Bird Aware Solent)	Georgie Sowman (NHS Ocean)
Alison Barnes (NFNPA)	Susie Tomson (Earth 2 Ocean)
Rhiannon Jones (Univ. of Southampton)	Allison Potts (Natural England)
Joseph Owen (Univ. of Southampton)	Joanne Preston (Univ. of Portsmouth)
Simon Eden (SPC)	Nick Tomalin (RSPB)
Paul Walton (NFNPA)	Tim Woodfine (Marwell Wildlife)
Joanne Preston (Univ. of Portsmouth)	Martin Solan (Univ. of Southampton)

Summary

- Consider the balance between the anthropocentric and nature-focus of this priority
- To achieve nature-based solutions we need improvement of support, licensing and permissions. A huge number of designated sites, protected regions and UK-wide waterways are in poor condition. This links with the Defra 25 Year Environment Plan and this link should be made.
- Highlight the economic benefits of blue/green restoration
- Nature restoration brings multiple benefits for climate and biodiversity. Tap in to this and use underpinning data and evidence for these topics.
- Behavioural change is required for success
- Engage with a range of important stakeholders with wider range of knowledge, including fishers, farmers, landowners

4. Great Places through Quality in Design and Build 22/10/21

Present

Tristan Samuels (PCC) – Chair	Andrew Waggott (PCC)
Amy Nguyen (Sustainable & Social)	Samantha Clough (BECG)
Rhiannon Jones (Univ. of Southampton)	Fiona Gray (Buckland Development)
Joseph Owen (Univ. of Southampton)	Yaryna Basystyuk (Univ. of Southampton)
Simon Eden (SPC)	Joe Harries (WSP)
Philippa Klaschka (NFNPA)	Mark Gaterell (Univ. of Portsmouth)
Gary Wilburn (Energy Pro)	Mike Allgrove (MAP)

Summary

- Greenprint can include more than just the energy performance, such as measures of health and well-being, to net-carbon, even skills concerning carbon. A whole life assessment can include metrics from different priorities, making links between them
- Need specific guidance/targets for assured POE and construction which is a lifetime plan. Clear strategy for buildings and green space to have adaptive capacity.
- Scope for retrofitting houses to low/zero-carbon is huge, and this should be a focus of the framework. Push the boundaries here, using exemplar projects as springboards.
- Consider the implications of geography of new projects. Areas not accessible by public transport bring diminished returns for low-carbon travel

5. Centre of Excellence for Green Skills and Jobs 27/10/21

Present

Chitra Nadarajah (HCC) – Chair	David Hutchinson (Greentech South)
Alison Barnes (NFNPA)	Jamie Mackay (EM3 LEP)
Rhiannon Jones (Univ. of Southampton)	Siobhan Flynn (Solent LEP)
Joseph Owen (Univ. of Southampton)	Denise Baden (Univ. of Southampton)
Simon Eden (SPC)	Tim Mills (Rushmoor)
Denise Hewlett (Univ. of Winchester)	
Jagannadha Pawan Tamvada (Univ. of Southampton)	

Summary

- Define green jobs carefully, spanning light to dark, and the range of skills and education level required
- 'Green skills' needs embedding within curriculum, business and enterprise, and should be integrated into all local plans and projects
- Engage in bridging the skills gap at youth level, with educators on board
- Engage with LEPs for career and enterprise opportunities
- Stimulate ongoing thinking for adapting curricula with a future vision

Appendix 3: Primary outcomes for the five Greenprint priorities

These definitions are based on discussion with specialists at the autumn workshops (see Appendix 2)

1 - Net Zero with Nature

Outcome 1: Net Zero auditing

Organisations, businesses, councils and authorities have a net-zero plan in place with ambitious, evidence-based targets. Accreditation will help measure success. The approach focuses on reduction rather than carbon offsetting, and is facilitated through partnerships and knowledge transfer.

Outcome 2: Decarbonised energy and transport

Regional infrastructure facilitates low-carbon public transport and active travel through strategic planning of a coordinated and integrated approach to sustainable travel. Green vehicle research, development and manufacturing for road, aerospace and maritime travel is enabled through evidence-based, region-specific investment and partnership plans between LEPs, Higher Education services and funding providers.

2 - Natural Health Service

Outcome 1: Access to Nature

Improving access to nature through increasing engagement and awareness, and overcoming inequalities through supporting access to nature for underserved groups. Ensuring feasible geographical access and enhancing both rural and urban natural spaces. Access to nature is facilitated through active travel and public transport infrastructure. In enhancing and developing natural spaces, projects ensure public engagement from inception of plans.

Outcome 2: Sustainable Healthcare

Facilitating provision of sustainable access to healthcare and access to sustainable healthcare. Healthcare providers are accessible by public transport and active travel routes through strategic planning both for NHS employees and healthcare users. Partnerships with NHS trusts work to mitigate environmental impact of healthcare, and healthcare estates provide access to nature for staff and patients.

3 - World Class Blue/Green Environments

Outcome 1: Land restoration and protection

Regional environmental commitments work towards evidence-based restoration and enhancement of natural, native biodiversity. Land use and land management plans identify and pursue opportunities for evidence-based restoration and resilience building, starting with protected/designated sites. The region ceases degradation of regions rich in natural capital, such as peatland and heathland, and forested areas.

Outcome 2: Water restoration and protection

Regional environmental commitments work towards evidence-based restoration and enhancement of natural, native biodiversity. Blue environment plans identify and pursue opportunities for evidence-based restoration and resilience building, considering gains for blue carbon and ecosystem health such as oyster restoration, seagrass restoration and saltmarsh restoration. The region ceases degradation of areas rich in natural capital, such as blue carbon or nursery fishing stocks.

4 - Great Places through Quality in Design and Build

Outcome 1: Zero carbon build and retrofit

Planned housing construction and retrofit meet the highest standards for zero-carbon build, and local plans work with higher education institutes and industry sectors to incorporate skills training and investment into facilitating training for zero-carbon construction, retrofit, and maintenance. New and retrofitted domestic builds provide affordable options for the region.

Outcome 2: Design, build and nature

Infrastructure and building/construction developments incorporate plans for mitigation of environmental impact and net restoration for natural spaces over a full lifecycle of planning and delivery.

5 - Centre of Excellence for Green Skills and Jobs

Outcome 1: Greening the curriculum

Authorities work with educators at every level to incorporate the required skills and training into the curriculum. This will cover each of the priorities, and is developed further in the Green Skills overview.

Outcome 2: Light to dark green jobs

Local plans identify regional skills gaps that limit achieving green recovery targets, through careful definition of green jobs that includes light to dark skill sets. Evidence-based action plans follow up to address the skills gap, focusing on facilitating skills training through school, higher education, industry apprenticeships and training courses. The Environmental Audit Committee report on Green Skills offers up-to-date analysis of the Green Skills gap and future need, with high-level recommendations.

ENDS