AGENDA
PARTNERSHIP FOR SOUTH HAMPSHIRE (PFSH) JOINT COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 14 February 2022

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber - Civic Offices

Members:

Chairman	Seán Woodward, Fareham BC
Vice-Chairman	Dan Fitzhenry, Southampton CC
Councillors	Ken Moon, East Hampshire DC
	Keith House, Eastleigh Borough Council
	Graham Burgess, Gosport BC
	Alex Rennie, Havant BC
	Robert Humby, Hampshire CC
	Diane Andrews, New Forest DC
	Gavin Parker, New Forest NP
	Hugh Mason, Portsmouth CC
	Nick Adams-King, Test Valley BC
	Neil Cutler, Winchester CC

Chief Executives	Laura Taylor, Winchester CC
	Claire Upton-Brown, Natalie Wigman
	Natalie Wigman, Eastleigh BC
	Kate Ryan, New Forest DC
	Alison Barnes, New Forest NP

Stuart Jarvis, Hampshire CC
John Couglan, Hampshire CC
Gill Kneller, Havant BC & East Hants DC
David Williams, Portsmouth CC & Gosport BC
Sandy Hopkins, Southampton CC
Andy Ferrier, Test Valley BC
Peter Grimwood, Fareham BC
Nick Tustian, Eastleigh BC

***Co-opted Members**:*

Charlotte Lines, Environment Agency
Brian Johnson, Solent LEP
Vacant Position, Homes and Communities Agency
Paddy May, Partnership for South Hampshire

For further information please contact:
Democratic Services, Civic Offices, Fareham, PO16 7AZ
Tel: 01329 236100
democraticservices@fareham.gov.uk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

To note any apologies and changes in membership for this meeting of the Joint Committee.

2. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 12)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2021.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from Members, in accordance with the Joint Agreement.

5. DEPUTATIONS

To receive any deputations of which notice has been lodged.

6. REFERENCES FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

To receive and references from the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7. PFSH CO-ORDINATORS REPORT (Pages 13 - 18)

To receive a report on 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 a decision.

8. PFSH BUDGET MONITORING 2021/22 AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2022/23 (Pages 19 - 24)

To receive the PfSH Budget Report for the financial year 2022/23.

9. GREENPRINT FOR SOUTH HAMPSHIRE: UPDATE (Pages 25 - 36)

To receive a report outlining the outcomes of stakeholder workshops and progress towards the development of a recommended action plan.

10. SOLENT WADERS AND BRENT GOOSE STRATEGY (Pages 37 - 58)

To receive a report requesting support for the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy, mitigation guidance and funding.

11. UPDATE ON NUTRIENT NEUTRALITY IN THE SOLENT (Pages 59 - 76)

To receive a report providing an update on the work of the Strategic Environmental Planning Officer, including the supply and demand of nutrient mitigation credits.

12. THE FUTURE OPERATION OF THE CULTURE, CREATIVE INDUSTRIES AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT PANEL (Pages 77 - 82)

To receive a report outlining options for the future operation of the culture, creative industries and built environment panel.

13. PFSH MEETING SCHEDULE 2022-2023 (Pages 83 - 86)

To receive a report outlining the PfSH Meeting Schedule for the 2021/22 municipal year.

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Minutes of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) Joint Committee

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Monday, 25 October 2021

Venue: Council Chamber - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor Councillor Seán Woodward, Fareham BC (Chairman)

Councillor Dan Fitzhenry, Southampton CC (Vice-Chairman)

***Councillors*:** Keith House, Eastleigh Borough Council
Robert Humby, Hampshire CC
Diane Andrews, New Forest DC
Hugh Mason, Portsmouth CC
Nick Adams-King, Test Valley BC
Gwen Robinson, Havant BC
Gordon Bailey, New Forest NP
Neil Cutler, Winchester CC

Chief Executives: David Williams, Portsmouth CC
Sarah King, Eastleigh BC
Richard Jolley, Fareham BC
Simon Jenkins, Havant BC & East Hants DC
Louise Evans, New Forest DC
Sandy Hopkins, Southampton CC
Graham Smith, Test Valley BC
Laura Taylor, Winchester CC

Co-opted Members: Paddy May, Partnership for South Hampshire

***Also Present*:** Richard Ivory, Solicitor

Claire Upton-Brown, Chairman PfSH Planning Officers' Group– for item 11
Mike Allgrove – for item 11
Richard Pemberton, Solent Transport – for items 12 and 13

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor Rob Humby (Hampshire CC); Councillor Nick Adams-King (Test Valley BC); Gavin Parker (New Forest NP); and Councillor Ken Moon (East Hampshire DC) .

Attendees joining virtually *(as permitted under current legislation as non-decision makers)*:

Claire Upton-Brown and Mike Allgrove (PfSH Planning Officers' Group) and Brian Johnson (Solent LEP) joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

The Chairman announced that following Bob Jackson's retirement, Colin Read had been appointed interim Chief Executive for New Forest District Council.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes from the PfSH Joint Committee meeting held on the 27 July 2021 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements made at this meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor S D T Woodward declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7 in respect of the Statement of Common Ground as Fareham Borough Council had prepared the Statement of Common Ground.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. REFERENCES FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11 October 2021: -

MINUTE ITEM 7 - PFSH BUSINESS PLAN 2021-2025

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report from Paddy May, PfSH Coordinator, on the PfSH Business Plan 2021-2025.

Members suggested that an additional bullet point within Objectives 1 or 2, to include a section on publicity for PfSH work be considered. This would assist in providing information for the public across the PfSH region.

RESOLVED that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee: -

a) NOTE the contents of the PfSH Business Plan 2021-2025 (Appendix 1);

b) NOTE that Joint Committee will be asked to APPROVE the Business Plan for 2021-2025 for publication on the PfSH website;

c) ask the Joint Committee to consider including a section on publicity within Objectives 1 or 2 of the business plan to assist with publicising the work of PfSH; and

d) recommends that the Joint Committee approve the recommendations as set out above, at its meeting on the 25 October 2021.

MINUTE ITEM 11 - STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND - REVISIONS AND UPDATE

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report from Claire Upton-Brown, Chair, PfSH Planning Officers Group which sets out the proposed updates and revisions to the PfSH Statement of Common Ground.

The Committee discussed at length the challenges faced by the local planning authorities across the PfSH region in meeting their housing delivery, specifically with regards to unmet need. Members raised concerns that the Governments standard methodology results don't account for pressures faced across the PfSH region, such as National Parks and large overdeveloped cities which pose specific challenges on how the PfSH local planning authorities meet unmet need. The Committee asked that the Joint Committee be made aware of these concerns at their meeting on the 25 October 2021.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

a) NOTE the contents of the report;

b) NOTE that Joint Committee will be asked to approve the content of the Statement of Common Ground, that will lead to the production of a PfSH Joint Strategy; and

c) ask the Joint Committee be made aware of concerns that the Governments standard methodology results don't account for pressures faced across the PfSH region, such as National Parks and large overdeveloped cities which pose specific challenges on how the PfSH local planning authorities meet unmet need

7. PFSH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Joint Committee received a report by the PfSH Coordinator, Paddy May, that covered issues which are significant, but do not justify a full report to be brought to the Committee for decision or for information. The report is divided into Parts A and B, with Part A outlining matters for decision and Part B providing information for the Joint Committee on a variety of PfSH matters for note.

Councillor S D T Woodward declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7 in respect of the Statement of Common Ground as Fareham Borough Council had prepared the Statement of Common Ground.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:-

(a) APPROVES the Statement of Common Ground between PfSH local authorities and Fareham Borough Council (Appendix A);

(b) AGREES an extension of the Strategic Environmental Planning Officer (SEPO) role for PfSH for no more than two years to the end of 2023;

(c) AGREES the provision be made for a small annual budget for the SEPO to use to cover ad hoc costs;

(d) AGREEDS to continue PfSH funding for the Solent Design/Quality Place Awards (up to a maximum of £5,000); and

(e) NOTES the matters for information outlined in part B of this report.

8. PFSH BUSINESS PLAN

The Joint Committee received a report by Paddy May in respect of the PfSH Business Plan 2021 – 2025. Following consultation with PfSH Chief Executive Officers, a refresh of the Business Plan has been drafted for consideration by the Joint Committee. This new plan covers a slightly more medium-term period of fours, rather than the previous short-term business plans which have covered one or two years. Joint Committee had previously agreed to roll forward the previous business plan whilst the local authorities were in the response phase to the covid pandemic.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee: -

(a) NOTES the contents of the PfSH Business Plan 2021 – 2025 as outlined at Appendix 1;

(b) AGREES the inclusion of bullet points within Objectives 1 and 2 of the PfSH Business Plan to include a section on publicity for PfSH work, as recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and

(c) APPROVES the Business Plan for 2021 – 2025 for publication on the PfSH website.

9. BIRD AWARE SOLENT – BUDGET REQUEST 2022-2023

The Joint Committee received a report by Anna Parry, Bird Aware Partnership Manager, which was presented by Paddy May, setting out a proposed budget for the Partnership in 2022/23 which had been endorsed by the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership Board at its meeting on the 23 September,

having been considered preferable to confirm well in advance of the usual request made in February.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee NOTES the contents of this report and AGREES the Bird Aware Solent budget for 2022-2023.

10. SOLENT RECREATION MITIGATION PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY BIRD AWARE SOLENT – AMENDMENT TO SITE SPECIFIC PROJECTS

The Joint Committee received a report by Anna Parry, Bird Aware Partnership Manager, which was presented by Paddy May, seeking endorsement from the Joint Committee for minor alterations to two previously approved site-specific projects supported by the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:

(a) NOTES and ENDORSES the revised proposal for the Apuldram Manor Farm site; and

(b) NOTES and ENDORSES the revised proposal for the East Head site.

11. STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND 2021 – REVISIONS AND UPDATE

The Joint Committee received a report from Claire Upton-Brown, Chairman of the PfSH Planning Officers' Group setting out proposed updates and revisions to the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG), first formally agreed by September 2020, to enable it to be signed as a formal SoCG by the PfSH Authorities.

The Joint Committee noted the comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee APPROVES the content of the Statement of Common Ground, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, that will lead to the production of a PfSH Joint Strategy.

12. SOLENT RAIL – CURRENT STUDIES AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

The Joint Committee received a report from Conrad Haigh, Solent Transport Manager, and Paula Haustead, Head of Strategic Planning at Network Rail Wessex, presented by Richard Pemberton, which provided an overview and update on several current studies and initiatives to develop and deliver improvements to passenger and freight services using the rail network in the South Hampshire area. The report identified potential linkages between the proposals and the strategic planning role which PfSH and its constituent authorities play.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee NOTES the contents of this report.

13. INTRODUCTION TO THE SOLENT TRANSPORT FUTURE TRANSPORT ZONE PROGRAMME

The Joint Committee received a presentation from Richard Pemberton, on an introduction to the Solent Transport Future Transport Zone programme of work.

This presentation is appended to the Agenda for this meeting.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee NOTES the contents of the presentation.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm
and ended at 6.58pm).

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 point 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 form 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 find 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:

<u>Facebook</u>

- 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)

<u>Twitter</u>

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

<u>Instagram</u>

- 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:

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Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: **14 February 2022**

Report of: **John Harrison, Executive Director – Finance & Commercialisation, Southampton City Council**

Subject: **PFSH BUDGET MONITORING 2021/22 AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2022/23**

SUMMARY

This report provides an update for the Joint Committee on progress to date against the approved budget, including a forecast outturn for the current financial year. This report also sets out the proposed revenue budget for 2022/23.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee:-

a) NOTES the budget monitoring position for 2021/22, as set out in the report;

b) NOTES that the forecast outturn from the 2021/22 budgets is provisional and may be subject to change in the final outturn budget report;

c) APPROVES the proposed revenue budget for 2022/23, as set out in the report; and

d) APPROVES the partner contributions for 2022/23 as shown on table 5.

INTRODUCTION

1. This report provides an update for the Joint Committee on progress to date against the approved budget for the current financial year.

2. The report also sets out the proposed revenue budget allocations for next financial year 2022/23 in line with the budget arrangements approved by the Joint Committee in June 2019 as part of the partnership's Business Plan.

Resources

3. Table 1 below sets out the PfSH resources available for 2021/22, together with the funds that have been received as of January 2022.

Table 1: Total Resources Available	2021/22 Budget Approved Jun 21	2021/22 Actual received to Jan 22	2021/22 Forecast Outturn
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Revenue Funds			
Core funding (local authorities)	76	46	76
Unallocated balances c/f from previous year	152	152	152
Sub-Total	**228**	**198**	**228**
Total Resources	**228**		**228**

REVENUE BUDGET

4. Table 2 below, sets out the revenue budget for 2021/22.

   The table also shows spend in the current financial year to the end of January 2022, and the forecast outturn for the year.

Table 2 Revenue Allocations	2021/22 Approved Budget	2021/22 Actual spend to Jan 22	2021/22 Forecast Outturn
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Culture, Creative Industries and the Built Environment	13	13	13
Greenprint for South Hampshire	20	20	20
Core Projects & Central Costs	75	43	75
Total	**108**	**76**	**108**
Unallocated balances available	120		120
Total revenue resources	**228**		**228**

5. The **Culture, Creative Industries and the Built Environment Delivery Panel** budget included £10,000 funding for a contribution to Creative Networks South and £2,500 for panel support.

6. The budget includes a contribution to the **Greenprint for South Hampshire** project as agreed by the Joint Committee in March 2021.

7. The **Core Projects & Central Costs** budget reflects commitments relating to staffing costs and other ongoing revenue activities led by the PfSH central team.

8. **Unallocated Balances** are forecast to be £120,000 at the end of 2021/22. It was previously agreed by the Joint Committee that an unallocated budget would be maintained to enable the partnership to have resources available to react to potential future opportunities as they arise.

Table 3: Unallocated balances

	£000
Balance brought forward	152
To fund 2021/22 expenditure	(108)
Contribution income 2021/22	76
Interest income 2021/22	0
Forecast balance 2021/22	**120**

2022/23 BUDGET

9. Proposals for the 2022/23 budget are set out below for approval. The proposed budget is based on the Funding and Subscription arrangements approved by the Joint Committee in June 2019 as part of the PfSH Business Plan. Under the budget arrangement in the plan all existing PfSH members are to contribute to maintain core central costs covering meetings, the programme office, along with legal and financial advice. Project work is then funded by those local authorities participating within any work undertaken.

10. As part of budget planning for 2022/23 an exercise was undertaken to review all costs associated with the administration of the Partnership and the arrangements for compensation.

11. In 2021/22 Portsmouth recharged the partnership for the cost of the core PfSH support team, Southampton received a reduction in contributions for Financial & Legal services provided and Fareham received no financial compensation for Democratic services. To make the arrangements more uniform it is proposed that in 2022/23 all administrative costs will be recharged to the Partnership and therefore Southampton contribution discount is removed and replaced with a recharge into the partnership and Fareham will also recharge for democratic services provided in 2022/23.

12. The current proportions of partnership contributions were also reviewed against up-to-date population data for the areas within the Partnership boundaries and the proposed split of contributions for 2022/23 is based on the percentage of population within each area.

13. In addition to this, funding is required for the Culture, Creative Industries and the Built Environment Delivery Panel of £27,500 to fund the transitionary period of the Panel in 2022/23. This is split £15,000 for Creative Network South, £7,500 for Workshops hosted by the Southern Policy Centre and £5,000 for the Design Awards.

Table 4: Revenue Allocations 2022/23	2021/22 Proposed Budget
	£000
Culture, Creative Industries & the Built Environment	28
Core Projects & Central Costs	98
Total Core and Panel Budgets	**126**

14. It is proposed the revenue contributions for 2022/23 fund the Core Project and Central Costs and the Culture, Creative Industries & the Built Environment Panel budget. The split is based on the up-to-date population proportions.

Table 5: Revenue contributions 2022/23

	2022/23
	£
Partner contributions:	
Southampton City Council	25,000
Portsmouth City Council	22,000
Hampshire County Council	39,000
Eastleigh Borough Council	7,000
Fareham Borough Council	6,000
Gosport Borough Council	4,500
Havant Borough Council	6,500
Test Valley Borough Council	2,000
Winchester City Council	2,000
East Hampshire District Council	1,000
New Forest District Council	9,500
New Forest National Park Authority	1,000
Total	**125,500**

15. Unallocated balances will be maintained at existing levels to support potential future opportunities as the arise.

Table 6 Unallocated balances 2022/23

	£000
Forecast balance 2021/22	120
To fund 2022/23 budget	(126)
Contribution income 2022/23	126
Interest income 2022/23	0
Forecast balance 2022/23	**120**

CONCLUSION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee:-

a) NOTE the budget monitoring position for 2021/22, as set out in the report

b) NOTE that the forecast outturn from the 2021/22 budgets is provisional and may be subject to change in the final outturn budget report.

c) APPROVE the proposed revenue budget for 2022/23, as set out in the report

d) APPROVE the partner contributions for 2022/23 as shown on table 5.

Background Papers:

Joint Committee 27 July 2021 – Item 11: Budget Report.
Joint Committee 4 June 2019 – Item 10: Review of PUSH and Business Plan

Enquiries:
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Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: **14 February 2022**

Report of: **Alison Barnes (NFNPA & Green Halo Partnership)**
David Hutchinson (University of Portsmouth & Future South)
Rhiannon Jones, Joseph Owen and Yaryna Basystyuk (University of Southampton)
Simon Eden (Southern Policy Centre & Green Halo Partnership)

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

Enquiries: For further information on this report please contact:-

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

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)
Alison Barnes (NFNPA)
Rhiannon Jones (Univ. of Southampton)
Joseph Owen (Univ. of Southampton)
Simon Eden (SPC)
Paul Walton (NFNPA)
Joanne Preston (Univ. of Portsmouth)
Georgie Sowman (NHS Ocean)
Susie Tomson (Earth 2 Ocean)
Allison Potts (Natural England)
Joanne Preston (Univ. of Portsmouth)
Nick Tomalin (RSPB)
Tim Woodfine (Marwell Wildlife)
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
Amy Nguyen (Sustainable & Social)
Rhiannon Jones (Univ. of Southampton)
Joseph Owen (Univ. of Southampton)
Simon Eden (SPC)
Philippa Klaschka (NFNPA)
Gary Wilburn (Energy Pro)
Andrew Waggott (PCC)
Samantha Clough (BECG)
Fiona Gray (Buckland Development)
Yaryna Basystyuk (Univ. of Southampton)
Joe Harries (WSP)
Mark Gaterell (Univ. of Portsmouth)
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
Alison Barnes (NFNPA)
Rhiannon Jones (Univ. of Southampton)
Joseph Owen (Univ. of Southampton)
Simon Eden (SPC)
Denise Hewlett (Univ. of Winchester)
Jagannadha Pawan Tamvada (Univ. of Southampton)
David Hutchinson (Greentech South)
Jamie Mackay (EM3 LEP)
Siobhan Flynn (Solent LEP)
Denise Baden (Univ. of Southampton)
Tim Mills (Rushmoor)

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

Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: **14 February 2022**

Report of: **Deborah Whitfield**
Senior Nature-Based Solutions Manager
Hampshire and Isle of Wildlife Trust

Subject: **PFSH SUPPORT FOR THE SOLENT WADERS AND BRENT GOOSE STRATEGY**

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report to Joint Committee is to agree continued PfSH support for the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy (SW&BGS) and commit to an annual contribution towards the cost of an officer post that will facilitate the delivery the SW&BGS. The SW&BGS aims to identify, conserve and enhance sites that functionally support the Special Protection Areas (SPAs) of the Solent sub-region, and advise on mitigation for unavoidable impacts. This proposal is aligned to, and complements, the work of Bird Aware Solent, and seeks to benefit local planning authorities by monitoring the impact of development on SPAs.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that Joint Committee:-

a) FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy 2020 and Mitigation Guidance 2018 (**Appendix A**) as key reference documents for policy and decision-making by PfSH and its partners as appropriate;

b) AGREE the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Steering Group's request for annual PfSH funding of £14k. The funding will be a contribution to an officer post (commencing in April 2022) that will improve communications, access to mapping and data, and help with identifying suitable low-use site mitigation projects; and

c) AGREE that costs be met by LPAs by way of each contributing a proportion based on the sites that fall within each LPA boundary.

BACKGROUND

1. The Strategy

1.1 The Solent Wader and Brent Goose Strategy (SW&BGS) aims to identify, conserve and enhance inland sites that form the ecological network used by overwintering wading birds and brent geese. These sites functionally support the Special Protection Areas (SPAs) of the Solent sub-region and any losses or impacts of development to these sites must therefore be mitigated. The SW&BGS has proven to be a useful tool for planners, developers, statutory consultees, and the NGO sector to support these aims.

1.2 The SW&BGS includes a strategy document which explains the conservation need, survey and analyses methodologies, and recommended conservation policies. This is supported by interactive mapping of SW&BGS sites and mitigation guidance (**Appendix A**), which aims to inform mitigation and offsetting requirements where impacts cannot be avoided.

1.3 The Strategy is a vital tool for local planning authorities (LPA's), informing decision-making by providing key spatial information, as well as a mechanism for effective mitigation. This has been demonstrated recently in the cases of on-site provision, for example, developments at Forty Acres and Sinah Lane and off-site provision for Newlands Lane (mitigation project located at Gunner Point).

2. Project Governance

2.1 The strategy is overseen by a steering group consisting of representatives from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT), Coastal Partners, the RSPB, local authority planning ecologists, Hampshire Ornithological Society and Natural England. The steering group meets quarterly to discuss survey updates, mitigation guidance, planning casework, local plans and mitigation projects.

2.2 Mapping and data analyses for the Strategy are carried out by HIWWT; all updates are shared electronically with the LPA's directly, and via Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) which also share the data with consultants and others making requests via their biological data request service.

2.3 The mitigation guidance, informed by the strategy and available data, is produced by Natural England with input from the Steering Group. In 2017, the LPAs were consulted on offsetting and mitigation guidance and their comments included in the final published version. The guidance was then sent to Natural England's legal team, reviewed by a solicitor, and a Habitats Regulations Senior Specialist. The publication of the mitigation guidance was noted in PfSH meeting minutes in 2017. The update to the strategy document published in 2020 was disseminated to the LPAs in May 2020.

2.4 The Strategy has a website where the strategy document, mitigation guidance and a summary of the mapping are published. The website can be found here.

3. Support from PfSH member LPAs

3.1 The SW&BGS Steering Group are seeking LPA support for the strategy. We recognise that as key users of the strategy, and as decision-makers, it is vital that LPAs understand, have confidence in, receive regular updates and have full access to it. We are therefore seeking the formal acknowledgement by the PfSH Joint Committee that it recognises the strategy and mitigation guidance as key reference documents for policy and decision-making. The mitigation guidance has been previously noted/approved by the PfSH joint committee (in 2017). Since then, the strategy document and mapping have been revised to reflect updated data.

4. Future of the Strategy

4.1 The latest update the "Solent Wader and Brent Goose Strategy 2020" was published in May 2021. The 2020 strategy includes the updated survey findings from three years of bird movement studies up to 2019, all additional bird survey records submitted to date, and a new method for assessing the importance of individual sites. Furthermore, mitigation guidance, issued by Natural England in 2018, for all development proposals that impact sites within the SW&BGS ecological network, is now in place and being used in conjunction with the strategy to guide decision-making.

5. Relationship to Bird Aware Solent

5.1 The Strategy and Bird Aware Solent are separate programmes of work; the strategy is principally concerned with the physical loss of overwintering habitat, grasslands and fields, used by SPA coastal birds and mitigation for where losses are unavoidable. Bird Aware Solent aims to manage mitigation impacts as well, but from increases in recreational disturbance to birds associated with increased development.

5.2 There are commonalities in terms of bird species concerned, mitigation solutions and delivery organisations involved. Furthermore, data from the strategy underpins the evidence base for the Bird Aware Solent research papers, commissioned by the Bird Aware Solent partners.

5.3 The proposal outlined below is for the officer post (recently approved by Bird Aware Solent to deliver the Bird Aware Solent mitigation monitoring) to also delivers the SW&BGS work needed. With the same dedicated officer working on both projects, added value outcomes such as knowledge sharing could be made, potential efficiencies gained e.g. for site monitoring as well as opportunities to develop strategic mitigation sites where multiple mitigation requirements could be developed.

6. Funding Proposal

6.1 In order to continue to maintain and update the strategy, an annual update and re-analysis of all sites is required. Electronic data gathering needs to be developed and promoted to make the process of gathering and analysing survey data as efficient as possible. In order to communicate updates and advise on use of the strategy to all PfSH partners, dedicated officer time is needed. Officer time is also needed to help all LPAs identify projects for mitigating impacts on low use sites. This would be facilitated by active

identification, a call for projects and an assessment of suitability of project applications.

6.2 The SW&BGS steering group collectively hold the knowledge and expertise to lead the delivery of these tasks but no funding is currently available to support this vital work. The LPAs have funded the SW&BGS in the past, the last funding for the bird movement surveys was provided in 2016, and therefore we are approaching again, via PfSH, to ask for funding to continue delivery and support of the SW&BGS.

6.3 We suggest the funding could be made as a grant to Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust which currently host the data analysis work in a voluntary capacity although the final mechanism would need to be agreed. A longer-term commitment to fund the work by way of an annual grant would ensure updates and communications were consistent and reporting to the LPAs via PfSH Planning Officers Group would be made on a regular basis. Access to the steering group via a dedicated officer would also provide a direct channel to the Steering Group.

6.4 The Bird Aware Solent Board recently approved funding for an officer to deliver the monitoring of Bird Aware Solent mitigation project sites, and as part of this funding model there will be some unfunded capacity within this post. It seems a natural synergy for these two programmes to work more closely together and it is likely the skills and experience required for both areas of work could be found in the same individual, therefore recruiting specifically for this person would be preferred.

6.5 It is also proposed that the officer represent the LPA's on the steering group, circulate the minutes and agenda in advance of meetings to LPA officers and that the officer have a regular communications with the SEPO officer with regard to strategic mitigation site development.

The funding asked for would specifically cover the following SW&BGS work:

- An annual meeting held with each LPA to identify priority areas for survey in relation to forthcoming development.
- An annual data and mapping update to LPA's, tailored to LPA's and in advance of wider publication.
- A regular progress report to LPAs via PfSH POG (frequency and format to be agreed).
- Identification and a suitability assessment of strategic and site-specific mitigation projects, managing and promoting a call for sites and assessment of project suitability against agreed criteria.
- Collation of information on site mitigation monitoring conditioned as part of planning approvals.

7. Costing Options

7.1 Based on estimated costs for dedicated officer time spending 30% of a full-time post with a level of senior staff support, a total of £15,000 per annum is required to support the SW&BG Strategy, calculated as follows:

- Costings for an officer level post £28,000 and a proposed start date of April 2022: Salary (including NI and pension) = £31,928, plus overheads of £12,000 = £43,928. 30% requirement is £13,178.40
- An additional £1,821.4 is sought to cover senior HIWWT staff support and oversight making a total of £15,000
- The Isle of Wight Council and Chichester District Council have been approached separately and if approved, their contributions will bring the remainder required from PfSH authorities to **£14,000**

Options for LPA contributions:

7.2 Having previously agreed to support the proposals in principle, at its meeting on 14 January, PfSH Planning Officers Group discussed how funding them should be fairly apportioned across LPAs. Options were later discussed at the PfSH Chief Executives' meeting and the preferred suggested approach is shown below with costs shared proportionately according to the number of sites within each LPA boundary. Costs are, as below:

LPA	Proportion of Sites %	Proportionate Cost £
Eastleigh Borough Council	3	462
East Hampshire District Council	N/A	N/A
Fareham Borough Council	15	2,047
Gosport Borough Council	11	1,486
Hampshire County Council	N/A	N/A
Havant Borough Council	29	4,127
New Forest District Council	8	1,057
New Forest National Park Authority*	13	1,849
Portsmouth City Council	16	2,179
Southampton City Council	4	627
Test Valley Borough Council	N/A	N/A
Winchester City Council	1	165
	Total	14,000

*NFNPA contribution yet to be confirmed and dependent on its upcoming budget announcement.

7.3 Joint Committee is asked to agree that LPAs fund a contribution to the work of the SW&BGS strategy by way of a proportionate share of sites that fall within each boundary.

7.4 When considering this report, PfSH chief executives discussed the merits of taking a more strategic approach to funding initiatives, such as this and others (nutrient and phosphate mitigation, biodiversity net gain, Bird Aware Solent), given the challenges this presents, and will present, to the development industry. It is recognised that land use policy for environmental gain is rapidly changing in a number of different ways. These changes are through instruments such as the Environment Act and policies such as Net Zero with Nature. In order to understand the potential impacts on sustainable growth the PfSH Strategic Environmental Planning officer intends to work with the Greenprint for South Hampshire work to report on the current relationship between development and environmental gain, as well as a review of the potential impact of future proposed changes such as biodiversity net gain requirements. This is all likely to be needed as part of the LPA response to the Environment Act and PfSH is well placed to develop a coordinated approach for the sub-region.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that Joint Committee:-

a) FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy 2020 and Mitigation Guidance 2018 (**Appendix A**) as key reference documents for policy and decision-making by PfSH and its partners as appropriate;

b) AGREE the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Steering Group's request for annual PfSH funding of £14k. The funding will be a contribution to an officer post (commencing in April 2022) that will improve communications, access to mapping and data, and help with identifying suitable low-use site mitigation projects; and

c) AGREE that costs be met by LPAs by way of each contributing a proportion based on the sites that fall within each LPA boundary.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix A - Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy 2020 and Mitigation Guidance 2018

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Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy

Guidance on Mitigation and Off-setting Requirements

Final Report

October 2018

Produced by the SWBGS Steering Group, which includes representatives from wildlife and conservation organisations, with funding received from local planning authorities and other organisations including:

Chichester District Council, Chichester Harbour Conservancy, Eastleigh Borough Council, Fareham Borough Council, Gosport Borough Council, Hampshire Ornithological Society, Havant Borough Council, Isle of Wight Council, New Forest District Council, New Forest National Park, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council

Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy
Guidance on Mitigation and Off-setting Requirements

Introduction

1. The Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy (SWBGS) aims to protect the network of non-designated terrestrial wader and brent goose sites that support the Solent Special Protection Areas (SPA) from land take and recreational pressure associated with new development. The preferred approach is for development to be located outside the network of sites. However, this document outlines the mitigation and off-setting requirements to inform assessments of plans and projects made under the Habitats Regulations and to protect the network should sites come forward for development.

2. The terrestrial wader and brent goose sites are located on land that falls outside of the Solent SPAs boundaries. However, as this land is frequently used by SPA species (including qualifying features and assemblage species), it supports the functionality and integrity of the designated sites for these features. This land will contribute to the achievement of the SPAs' conservation objectives and is therefore protected in this context. This land supports the ecological network by providing alternative roosting and foraging sites.

3. A framework for guidance on mitigation and off-setting requirements has been prepared by the SWBGS Steering Group[1] to achieve the long-term protection of the wider brent goose and wader network of sites. The network extends across a number of local planning authority boundaries in Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and Sussex. This network is under pressure from the growth planned in this area and formal guidance was considered necessary to define an approach for the non-designated sites.

4. The level of mitigation and off-setting required is dependent on the importance of the site within the ecological network and how these non-designated sites support the wider designated Solent SPA network.

5. This framework has been agreed by the SWBGS Steering Group. It will be reviewed every 5 years in line with the SWBGS Project Reports, or ad hoc, if required due to changes to evidence and legislation. Whilst it provides guidance, each development proposal will be examined by Natural England and the Local Planning Authorities (LPA) on a case by case basis including assessment under the Habitats Regulations[2], and it is recommended that early discussions are held with Natural England through their Discretionary Advice Service[3] (DAS) and the relevant LPA to ensure appropriate mitigation and off-setting schemes are designed.

6. This guidance relates to non-designated sites in Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and Sussex. It is separate to the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership's Bird Aware Solent Definitive Strategy[4] which refers to the designated SPA sites and sets out a strategic approach to mitigate for the recreational visits arising from planned housing.

[1] The Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy Steering Group includes representatives from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Natural England, RSPB, Hampshire County Ecologists and East Solent Coastal Partnership
[2] The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (or 'the Habitats Regulations 2017')
[3] https://www.gov.uk/guidance/developers-get-environmental-advice-on-your-planning-proposals
[4] www.birdaware.org

Site Classification

7. The non-designated sites are classified as Core Areas, Primary Support Areas, Secondary Support Areas, Low Use and Candidate Sites and a map of sites can be viewed here. Sites have been classified based on the following criteria:

    - **Core Areas:** All sites that were identified as having:
        - a network value – this relates a site's importance to a network score for birds moving to and from the intertidal areas to inland sites, and between inland sites. This identified two types of site: those that function as 'hubs', with connections to lots of other sites, and those that function as 'bottlenecks, linking two areas of the network together
        - and/or the max score of 7 in 3 metrics (GB Importance, SPA Importance and SPA Assemblage – see Appendix 1 for details),
        - and/or sites that have a max count of bird use of 1000 or more.

    - **Primary Support Areas:**
        - Sites that score 3-6 in the 3 metrics (GB Importance, SPA Importance and SPA Assemblage – see Appendix 1 for details)

    - **Secondary Support Areas**:
        - Sites that score 1-2 (GB Importance, SPA Importance and SPA Assemblage – see Appendix 1 for details),
        - and/or have max counts of 100 plus birds for any species

    - **Low Use:**
        - Sites that have records of birds but in low numbers (score 0)

    - **Candidate sites:**
        - Sites that have records of high numbers of birds (max count equal to or greater than 100) and/or a total score equal to or greater than 1 but have less than 3 records in total.

8. Further details of the site classification methodology are included in Appendix 1 and the detailed methodology is set out in the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy 2019 Interim Project Report: Year One[5].

Reclassification

9. If site classification, and the associated level of mitigation or off-setting requirements, is disputed, reclassification of a site will be considered if confirmed by 3 consecutive years of survey to the agreed survey methodology under appropriate habitat management conditions for waders and / or brent goose usage throughout the survey period.

10. The Solent waders and brent goose network is regularly monitored and new evidence is continually submitted by surveyors which provides the knowledge base and evidence to support the Strategy. Continual review is necessary to ensure the Strategy is up-to-date. New evidence and survey data will be regularly analysed as part of the Strategy and reclassification of sites may result. There may also be cases where the site classification boundary is disputed, for example due to mapping errors. In these instances, the site boundary will be examined on a case by case basis and may be amended if supported by site visits and ecological surveys, as necessary. The latest survey data and site

[5] https://solentwbgs.wordpress.com/page/

classification can be obtained from the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre[6] and the Isle of Wight Records Centre[7].

Special Sites

11. The aim of the Strategy is to ensure that the current geographical spread of sites across the network is maintained and enhanced. In order to achieve this, there is scope for the strategy to identify a number of special sites. These are sites that are considered more important than the statistical analysis would suggest as their locality contributes significantly to maintaining a cohesive and resilient ecological network spread across the geographical range. For example, if there is a Secondary Support Area inland from an adjacent Core Area, and the Core Area is low-lying and at risk from sea level rise, there may be a case to raise the importance of the Secondary Support Area to a Primary Support Area. In this case, there is a risk that the Core Area will be lost over time and the Secondary Support Area would become more important to the SPA birds in the future. In order to safeguard this alternative resource and ensure resilience within the network, there may be a case to raise the importance of the Secondary Support Area to Primary Support Area.

12. A set system will be put in place to identify and agree sites with special status. This system will set out the qualification criteria for special sites, in a process similar to the designation of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and Local Nature Reserves. The organisations involved will include the local planning authorities, Natural England, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and the RSPB and will meet on an ad hoc basis. A list of designated special sites will be included on the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy website supported by a list of sites that have been considered but rejected, with justification. Sites can be recommended for inclusion by local planning authorities and the Steering Group.

[6] https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/biodiversity/informationcentre
[7] http://www.wildonwight.co.uk/lrc/

Mitigation and Off-setting Requirements

Core Areas

13. The Core Areas are considered essential to the continued function of the Solent waders and brent goose ecological network and have the strongest functional-linkage to the designated Solent SPAs in terms of their frequency and continuity of use by SPA features. Securing the long term protection and appropriate management of the Core Areas is a key objective for the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy.[8] The unmitigated loss of these sites would impact on the integrity of the SPA over the long term. For clarity, it is recommended that the Core Areas will be identified for protection by policy within the relevant Solent local authority Local Plans.

14. For many of the Core Areas, the lack of opportunities, eg alternative sites in close proximity to the SPA, will make it difficult to replace sites in a suitable location to ensure the critical importance of these sites within the ecological network is maintained. Elsewhere, where sufficient suitable and appropriately located land is available the provision of a suitable alternative site(s) may be possible. If this is the case, an assessment of replicability will need to be undertaken through discussions with Natural England and the Local Planning Authority. This assessment should determine the ecological function of the Core Area by firstly examining site classification criteria and ensuring any alternative off-setting areas can replicate this ecological function. For example, for sites with network value the assessment should examine whether the site is a hub or a bottleneck and how the off-setting site can replicate and enhance this function. Where sites support an assemblage of species, the ecological function of each species will need to be replicated at any off-setting site. Viable alternative sites should be discussed with the Steering Group, and via Natural England's DAS, at the earliest opportunity.

15. Where impacts cannot be avoided, any risk of potential damage to or deterioration of the integrity of the Core Areas will be considered likely to have a significant effect on the SPAs and should be subject to an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitat Regulations in order to ascertain whether an adverse effect on the site integrity can be excluded.

16. Development that would result in impacts to a Core Area will therefore need to be carefully assessed on a case-by-case basis. In order for such developments to demonstrate no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA(s) then, as a minimum, the full criteria for the replacement of Primary Support Areas (criteria A to I in following section) must be met along with the following additional requirements:

    - A suitable replacement site of an equal, or in some circumstances greater, size and quality must be provided in close enough proximity to the Core Area affected to fully replace its ecological function.

    - The freehold or long term lease (in perpetuity[9]) of the replacement site must be passed to an appropriate conservation body, or the LPA, in a suitable condition and managed in perpetuity as a nature reserve for waders and / or brent geese.

Primary Support Areas

17. The Primary Support Areas are land that, when in suitable management, make an important contribution to the function of the Solent waders and brent goose ecological network. However, it is generally considered that, where on-site avoidance or mitigation measures are unable to manage impacts, there may be opportunities for the loss or

[8] https://solentwbgs.wordpress.com
[9] Please note that the term 'in perpetuity' is defined in this document to be a minimum of 80 years.

damage to these areas to be off-set by the provision of new sites to ensure a long term protection and enhancement of the wider wader and brent goose ecological network.

18. The options for off-setting impacts on Primary Support Areas will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will be subject to ensuring the continued ecological function of the wader and brent goose sites is maintained and enhanced i.e. ensuring that there are significant net benefits to the wader and brent goose ecological network through the creation and on-going management of replacement (off-setting) sites. This may be a site identified within the Strategy provided there is sufficient scope for enhancing and securing its function within the wader and brent goose ecological network, or a site that if brought into appropriate condition has the potential for future use.

19. There will be a requirement for the off-setting area to fulfil the same special contribution and particular function of the areas lost or damaged for the same species of birds. The appropriateness of any off-setting areas in respect of fulfilling the required ecological function will be judged against the following criteria, ranked in order of importance:

    A. Habitat Type – the proposed off setting site must support habitats, or be suitable for recreating habitats that provide the same, or enhanced, ecological function as those that are to be lost or damaged.

    B. Disturbance – the ecological function of an off-setting site is likely to be seriously undermined if subject to regular disturbance from recreational use and unmanaged public access. The appropriateness of the location of the off-setting site and the proposed measures to prevent indirect effects will need to be fully assessed.

    C. Area of habitat – where the replacement habitat would be of equal ecological quality the area required should be of a similar extent to the site being lost or damaged. There may be situations however, where a greater area is required when habitat created may be of poorer quality to that lost or damaged, or there is a high level of risk involved. Similarly, if significant ecological enhancements are possible that increase the carrying capacity of the replacement site above that of the Primary Support Area affected then a smaller area of replacement habitat might be acceptable. This might include the partial loss of a Primary Support Area providing the remainder can be made significantly improved in habitat quality with long term management so as to provide for a greater capacity for the target species than the original site. In all such cases the test will be to ensure the replacement habitats provide a clear and permanent net gain for the target species.

    D. Timing and availability of habitat – operational at the time it is required. Essentially, ‘in time’ to offset the adverse effects which are being addressed, with evidence to show it is functioning and readily available to SPA birds prior to any loss or damage to the original site.

    E. Geographic location – for ecological reasons of structure and function it is considered appropriate for the off-setting habitat to be provided as close to the original site as practicable.

    The solution should also be capable of being:

    F. Validated in respect of achieving its ecological function / purpose; and

    G. Monitored for effectiveness; and

    H. Adapted to adjust to unfolding circumstances in future management; and

I. Resilient in the face of predictable future pressures such as natural population fluctuations and climate change.

20. The land will need to be restored to a suitable condition and managed specifically for the waders and / or geese, ideally as a nature reserve owned or leased by LPA or NGO partner (or similar stable management body such as Land Trust) in perpetuity.

21. The management of the land must be set out in an agreed costed management and monitoring plan and sufficient funds provided to the agreed manager of the site to cover full costs in perpetuity. The preferred approach to secure long term funding for all off-setting areas is to provide an endowment whereby the interest is used for on-going management. This approach secures long term funds in perpetuity.

22. Given the difficulty of 1) justifying the need for a scheme and 2) providing the appropriate level of mitigation up front (ie making the off-setting area available prior to the loss or damage to the original site), it is the preferred approach that acceptable schemes affecting Primary Support Areas should come forward through the local plan process. This will ensure an early assessment of viable off-setting areas and consider how the necessary management can be secured and delivered upfront. A local planning authority could adopt a habitat banking approach to release potential sites provided that the above criteria can be met.

23. Joint working between the local planning authority, Steering Group and applicant is advised in all cases. However, it is ultimately the applicant's responsibility to identify and secure viable replacement sites for the loss of any non-designated wader and brent goose sites.

Secondary Support Areas

24. The Secondary Support Areas offer a supporting function to the Core and Primary Support ecological network, but are generally used less frequently by significant numbers of SPA geese and waders. These sites become important when wader or brent goose populations are higher or when the habitat is in suitable management. In-combination, these sites are essential to secure a long term, permanent network as this ensures a geographical spread of sites across the wider ecological network, thereby meeting the needs of each discrete subpopulation. The Secondary Support Areas network also provide suitable and favoured sites in years when the population includes high numbers of juveniles, as well as ensuring future resilience.

25. Loss of or damage to Secondary Support Areas should be discouraged, and on-site avoidance and mitigation measures considered wherever possible. However, where impacts cannot be avoided or adequately mitigated on-site, there may be scope for a more flexible approach to off-setting the impacts to these sites, provided the continued ecological function of the network is maintained and significant enhancements additionally delivered, for example by improved long term management.

26. There is a preference for some on-site provision to maintain a network of sites across the region. The loss of secondary sites could be off-set on a like-for-like basis within the locality, similar to the replacement of Primary Support Areas. As Secondary Support Areas are generally utilised less frequently than Core Areas or Primary Support Areas (usually due to less optimal management, crop rotation patterns or disturbance), it may also be acceptable for replacement habitats to be located at a greater distance from the current sites, provided that the location is appropriate for the discrete subpopulation.

27. In addition, if Secondary Support Areas are currently available on crop rotation, it may be acceptable to take account of the value of providing permanent optimal waders / brent

goose conditions equivalent to the current resource, as determined on a case-by-case basis.

28. It is expected that in most cases the loss, or partial loss, of Secondary Support Areas will be off-set by the provision of suitable replacement habitats which are supported by an agreed costed habitat management plan and funding secured in perpetuity. The provision and ongoing management of replacement habitat might be delivered by a suitable third party (such as HIWWT, RSPB, Local Planning Authority, Hampshire County Council, Land Trust etc) through a legally binding management agreement.

29. If a management company is used to undertake the management and maintenance of an on-site bird refuge, the local planning authority will need to be satisfied that financial arrangements are in place that will guarantee the provision of sufficient funds to ensure the full delivery of the agreed management plans in perpetuity. The financial arrangements will need to be sufficiently robust to allow the local planning authority to agree to take over the legal responsibility of delivering the management plans should the management company fail. In addition, it is recommended that a NGO partner (such as the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust or RSPB) or an accredited ecological consultancy is involved with at least the first ten years of the management of the site. This expertise will help ensure the success of site and allow management to be modified in the early stages, if necessary.

30. If replacement habitat is to be provided on a non like-for-like basis (i.e. a smaller site / functional area provided than currently available), then the scheme should also provide additional off-setting funding for the management and enhancement of the wider wader and brent goose ecological network. The value of funding required may be calculated using a Biodiversity Compensation Framework approach, or through similar mechanisms, such as the Environment Bank.

31. The Biodiversity Compensation Framework approach calculates the equivalent cost of managing an equivalent area of land elsewhere in a suitable condition for the target species under a suitable stewardship scheme in perpetuity. In addition the DEFRA offsetting multipliers are applied to take account of the additional risks associated with replacing established habitats with compensation funding.

32. Appendix 2 sets out a suggested methodology to calculate the costs of a replacement site and a summary of the compensation funding amounts are set out in Table 1. Worked examples are set out in Appendix 3. Alternative approaches to calculating the cost of replacement sites are possible and will be examined on a case-by-case basis.

	Compensation Costs per hectare
Secondary Support Area	£85,464
Low Use site	£35,610

Table 1 – Summary of Indicative Compensation Costs for Creating and Managing Replacement Habitat (per hectare) – Based on Countryside Stewardship Grants 2017[10]. (Future changes to these costs will be revised in line with any changes to Countryside Stewardship Payments or equivalent, and subject to review)

33. Where the functional area of a Secondary Support Area is to be lost in its entirety with no direct replacement of habitats by the applicant then additional measures will be necessary to ensure the continued ecological function of the network. Appropriate measures include the use of companies such as the Environment Bank to ensure appropriate sites are

[10] https://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants

provided elsewhere within the network, the funding of an identified strategic offsetting site or project that has been agreed by the SWBGS Steering Group, or in addition to Table 1, an additional agreed level of funding for land purchase. In such cases the final compensation package will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

34. The funding secured, via section 106 agreements, will be used to enhance, manage and monitor the wider solent wader and brent goose ecological network. This funding will be managed by the respective local authority and will be used to support schemes across the network, this includes those in neighbouring authority boundaries.

Low Use

35. All Low Use sites have the potential to be used by waders or brent geese. These sites have the potential to support the existing network and provide alternative options and resilience for the future network. The in-combination loss of these sites would impact on the continued ecological function of the wader and brent goose network. In all cases proportionate mitigation, off-setting and/or enhancement measures will be required.

36. In the first instance, consideration should be given to on-site mitigation, off-setting and/or enhancement. Where this has been demonstrated to not be practical or feasible and impacts cannot be avoided or adequately mitigated on-site, off-site options and / or compensation funding should be considered. Compensation funding may include payment towards the management and enhancement of the wider waders and brent geese ecological network.

37. The cost of compensating for the loss of a Low Use site is £35,610 per hectare (see Table 1). This figure is equivalent to the costs of the Secondary Support Areas without Defra offsetting multipliers (see Appendix 2). The lower rate is applied to reflect that while Low Use sites have records of birds the numbers involved are low enough to ensure there is only a negligible risk of not successfully offsetting the loss of a Low Use site through enhancements of the wider network. Nevertheless, all Low Use sites have the potential to be used by waders and brent geese and the unmitigated loss of these sites would in combination negatively affect the long term resilience of the network. Worked examples are included in Appendix 3.

38. The funding secured, via section 106 agreements, will be used to enhance, manage and monitor the wider solent wader and brent goose ecological network. This funding will be managed by the respective local authority and will be used to support schemes across the network, this includes those in neighbouring authority boundaries.

Candidate Sites

39. Candidate sites have records of large numbers of waders or brent geese. However, the large numbers have been recorded less than 3 times from 2006/2007 to present day. Further surveys are necessary to determine the classification of the site and it is likely that these sites will fall into the higher use categories, for example Core Area, Primary Support Area and Secondary Support Area.

40. As such, the maps identify the Candidate Core Areas, Candidate Primary Support Areas and Candidate Secondary Support Area. Depending on the existing records for the site, a minimum of one year survey, in appropriate management conditions, will be necessary to confirm the classification of the site. For some sites, where there has only been one survey to date, two years' of data may be necessary. Development proposals which are likely to affect these sites will need to undertake this survey work, as per the agreed survey methodology, to confirm the site's classification prior to assessing off-setting and mitigation requirements.

41. The agreed survey methodology is:

- To be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist
- A minimum of 12 surveys, equally spaced, between late October and early March to be undertaken 2 hours either side of high-tide and at a range of times (dawn, midday, dusk) throughout the season.
- Field evidence such as feathers, droppings to be recorded
- Using a standard recording form (in the Appendix of 2010 Strategy) to capture: observer name, date, time, species, count (or no birds seen), site code from the Strategy Maps, feeding/roosting behaviour, disturbance.

Indirect Effects

42. There is the potential for new development on land adjacent to or in close proximity to Solent waders and brent goose sites to impact on the ecological function of the network. Indirect effects may arise from increased recreational pressure and access to sensitive sites; overshadowing and lighting from new buildings; or noise and visual disturbance from construction work on land adjacent to sensitive sites. These activities and the presence of built form may reduce the functional area of a site available to roosting and foraging SPA birds.

43. Appropriate mitigation will be required where new development or changes to access and management has the potential to adversely impact the function of the ecological network. Detailed consideration will need to be given to the design and layout of new development adjacent to sites used by SPA birds to ensure there is no disturbance. Consideration should be given to potential impacts from new walking and cycling routes, access to open space, over-shadowing from built development and lighting. In the first instance, consideration should be given to avoidance measures, following which bespoke mitigation should be proposed.

44. The level of mitigation necessary will be determined on a case by case basis. Mitigation could include a range of access management measures such as fencing, signage, interpretation and timing of works / operation. Consideration could be given to improving the management of the site or, if this is not possible, improved management of an alternative site within the network. The provision of funding for wider management of the sites within the network is also an option for consideration.

45. There may be situations where the indirect effects cannot be mitigated by access management measures and the potential for an adverse effect on the integrity of the site remains. In these cases, the loss of the function of a site would need to be off-set by a replacement site.

Appendix 1 - Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy – Interim Project Report Year One : Site Analysis

In order to assess the importance of each site, a metric-based analysis technique was developed.

1) The first metric assesses each site in relation to population thresholds for species at national levels. The BTO publishes national and international thresholds for each species (BTO, 2017), after which a count of that species should be considered important, scoring as follows:

    0: Site has less than the GB threshold for any species
    1: Site has more than the GB threshold for any species.

2) The second metric assesses each site in relation to population thresholds for species at local levels. It compares records for species that are designated a 'feature of interest' in the closest SPA i.e. the number of birds recorded compared to the population size listed in the SPA designation (JNCCa, 2017; JNCCb 2017), scoring as follows:

    0: Site has >1% of SPA's designated population
    2: Site has 1-5% of SPA's designated population
    3: Site has ≥5% of SPA's designated population

3) The third metric assesses the 'feature of interest' for the closest SPA for species assemblage. The total of all max counts for all species recorded, compared to the assemblage population size listed in the SPA designation (JNCCa, 2017; JNCCb 2017), scoring as follows:

    0: Site has >1% of SPA's designated assemblage population
    2: Site has 1-5% of SPA's designated assemblage population
    3: Site has ≥5% of SPA's designated assemblage population

4) The fourth metric is the max count of any target species recorded on the site

5) The fifth metric this relates a site's importance to a network score for birds moving to and from the intertidal areas to inland sites, and between inland sites. This metric uses data from the HIWWT bird movement surveys. The network of sites used by brent geese and waders were mapped, and all movements where both the origin and destination were observed by a surveyor analyses. The properties of this network were then assessed, this identified two types of site: those that function as 'hubs', with connections to lots of other sites, and those that function as 'bottlenecks, linking two areas of the network together.

Appendix 2 - Methodology to Calculate the Costs of a Replacement Site

46. A suggested methodology to calculate the costs of a replacement site is set out below. Alternative approaches to calculating the cost of replacement sites are possible and will be examined on a case-by-case basis.

1) Costs of managing the existing sites

The level of funding per hectare of un-replaced secondary sites may be calculated using the DEFRA biodiversity multipliers, or similar mechanism, with funding to the equivalent value of an 80 year Countryside Stewardship Payment – Creation and management of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl (GS12 and GS10), with threatened species supplement and single farm payment.

2) Use of Defra multipliers as replacement habitat off-site

As replacement habitat will be provided off-site, Defra multipliers are used to take into account the difficulty of successfully re/creating the habitat to be lost (risk multiplier), the difficulty of securing land for off-setting habitats (spatial multiplier) and the length of time for habitat creation (time multiplier).

Habitat creation and maintenance over 80 years	GS12 Creation of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl	£310 per hectare Year 1 – 10	
	GS10 Management of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl	£157 per hectare Year 11 – 80	
	Threatened Species Supplement	£120 per hectare Year 1 – 80	
	Single Farm Payment	£149 per hectare (based on 2016 prices) Year 1 – 80	
	Total costs per hectare	**£35,610**	
Defra Metric multiplier	**Risk Metric** **Low Risk** – creation of arable field margins, coastal floodplain grazing marsh, improved rough grasslands		X 1
	Spatial Metric **Compensation habitat (CH)** is provided but is located elsewhere, but is nevertheless considered to be significantly contributing to the buffering, linking, restoring or expanding of existing habitat. To be used for the partial compensation of Secondary Support Areas not directly fully replaced, either onsite or elsewhere, but through the provision of funding towards the management and enhancement of the wider waders and brent geese ecological network.		X 2
	Time Metric		X 1.2

	Years to condition < 5 years	
Secondary Support Areas	**Total offsetting costs per hectare of functional habitat lost to development and not directly replaced on site, or elsewhere.**	**£85,464**

Table A Indicative Compensation Costs for Creating and Managing Replacement Habitat (per hectare) – Based on Countryside Stewardship Grants 2017[11]. (Future changes to these costs will be revised in line with any changes to Countryside Stewardship Payments or equivalent, and subject to review)

[11] https://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants

Appendix 3 - Worked Examples

Example 1

A new housing application on a Secondary Support Area will result in the loss of 8 hectares of functional area. No on-site avoidance or mitigation measures will be provided, therefore a cost to manage an equivalent area off-site is required. In this situation, the cost per hectare is £85,464, as set out in Table 1.

The off-setting costs area £85,464 x 8 ha = £683,712.

Where the functional area of a Secondary Support Area is to be lost in its entirety with no direct replacement of habitats by the applicant then additional measures will be necessary to ensure the continued ecological function of the network. Appropriate measures include the use of companies such as the Environment Bank to ensure appropriate sites are provided elsewhere within the network, the funding of an identified strategic offsetting site or project that has been agreed by the SWBGS Steering Group, or in addition to Table 1, an additional agreed level of funding for land purchase.

Example 2

A new housing application on a Secondary Support Area will result in the loss of 50 hectares of functional area. On-site mitigation will be provided in the form of a 5 hectare SPA bird refuge area. This is supported by an agreed costed habitat management plan and funding secured in perpetuity. The provision and ongoing management of replacement habitat will be delivered by a suitable third party (such as HIWWT, RSPB, Local Planning Authority, Hampshire County Council, Land Trust etc) through a legally binding management agreement.

However, the on-site mitigation only partially offsets the loss of the 50 hectares of functional land and costs to manage an area off-site are required. In this situation, the cost per hectare is £85,464. A detailed assessment of the site identified that an equivalent area of 5 hectares was required.

In addition, to the on-site provision, off-setting costs are required - £85,464 x 5 ha = £427,320.

As there is a direct replacement of habitat on site. No other additional measures are necessary as this on-site provision will ensure the continued ecological function of the network.

Example 3

A new housing application on a Low Use site will result in the loss of 10 hectares of functional area. The application includes 4 hectares of open space, but no on-site mitigation for the SPA birds. The off-setting costs are calculated based on the loss of function area of 10 hectares.

In this situation, the cost per hectare is £35,610.

The costs required are £35,610 x 10 ha = £356,100.

Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: **14 February 2022**

Report of: **Simon Kennedy, PfSH Strategic Environmental Planning Officer**

Subject: **UPDATE ON NUTRIENT NEUTRALITY IN THE SOLENT**

Summary

The purpose of this report is to identify the key findings of the work of the Strategic Environmental Planning Officer (SEPO) and provides an update to the report presented to the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) Joint Committee on 27 July 2021[1](27th July report). The report will focus on an update to the supply and demand analysis provided in appendix 2 of the 27 July 2021 report.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Joint Committee NOTE the contents of this update.

[1] https://www.push.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Item-13-Nutrient-Mitigation-Recommendations-part-exempt.pdf

1. Background

1.1 The report on 27 July 2021, along with numerous other reports provided to Joint Committee previously[2], are considered to provide sufficient background for those not already familiar with nutrient neutrality in the Solent.

1.2 The 27 July report set out a number of recommendations to member local planning authorities (LPAs) that were endorsed by Joint Committee. The following paragraphs set out an update relating to each recommendation.

Recommendation-

'Local planning authorities consider the purchase of nitrogen mitigation credits from mitigation suppliers specifically to meet the needs of minor development based on an individual authority's assessment of need.'

After careful consideration, including assessment of potential uptake by developers, the majority of LPAs have chosen to rely on provision of credits directly to developers from mitigation providers rather than invest public money on the direct purchase of credits.

Recommendation –

'Local planning authorities that wish to purchase credits are recommended to do so on a combined catchment basis to ensure best market value is achieved.'

As there were insufficient LPAs in a position to purchase credits, this recommendation was not taken forward. However, it should be noted that LPAs such as Havant Borough Council, Eastleigh Borough Council and Test Valley District Council have all directly intervened to financially support, or directly deliver, mitigation schemes.

Recommendation –

'Local planning authorities use a standard suite of template legal agreements to reduce the legal costs to developers and to make the determination of application process more efficient.'

This recommendation has been carried forward by all but one of the impacted LPAs with the outstanding LPA likely to adopt a similar approach in early 2022.

By entering into overarching legal agreements with mitigation providers and other LPAs, permitting LPAs are able to ensure that there is an appropriate framework for management and maintenance that is enforceable by the permitting authority, even where the mitigation is not in their administrative area. This system has also helped to greatly reduce the time and cost associated with permitting schemes using strategic offsite mitigation. The benefit of this approach can be seen through the use of strategic schemes, to support sustainable development, as shown in the next section of this report.

2. Availability of Credits

2.1 There is now a sufficient supply of 'strategic' nutrient neutrality mitigation options to aid the delivery of growth in the Solent region. There are currently ten strategic

[2] PfSH Joint Committee Meeting Page - Nutrient Neutrality Updates from 2019 - 2021

mitigation sites listed on the PfSH website[3] to guide developers to potential mitigation schemes. Additionally, two further schemes are available to satisfy the strategic need for mitigation which are not yet listed on the PfSH website (Warblington Farm and Heaton Farms).

2.2 A December 2021 review of nutrient neutrality credits sold, from strategic mitigation providers, has shown that credits are now available in all catchments of the sub-region. The review has also shown that, supported by an effective legal framework, mitigation sites are actively selling credits to support planning applications and that this is allowing sustainable development to take place. This review undertakes an in-depth analysis of supply and demand in the Test and Itchen and East Hants catchments as this represents the large majority of planned growth for PfSH members.

2.3 Figure 1 shows the available strategic mitigation schemes, including the Warblington Farm and Heaton Farm schemes, the total credits available from the scheme and the total credits remaining from the scheme.

2.4 Key facts and limitations relating to the data shown in Figure 1:

- 4,270 credits have been sold to support planning applications.
- Approximately 2872 dwellings unlocked through strategic mitigation[4].
- The value of credits sold is in excess of £11m[5].
- This does not account for on-site, mitigation solutions.
- Nor does it account for developer led small scale off-site mitigation

[3] https://www.push.gov.uk/work/mitigation-schemes-available-to-developers/
[4] Based on 0.8 credits per dwelling for credits sold in the East Hampshire Catchment and 2 credits per dwelling for the Test and Itchen Catchment
[5] Based on an average value of all credits sold of £2750 per Kg/TN/Yr

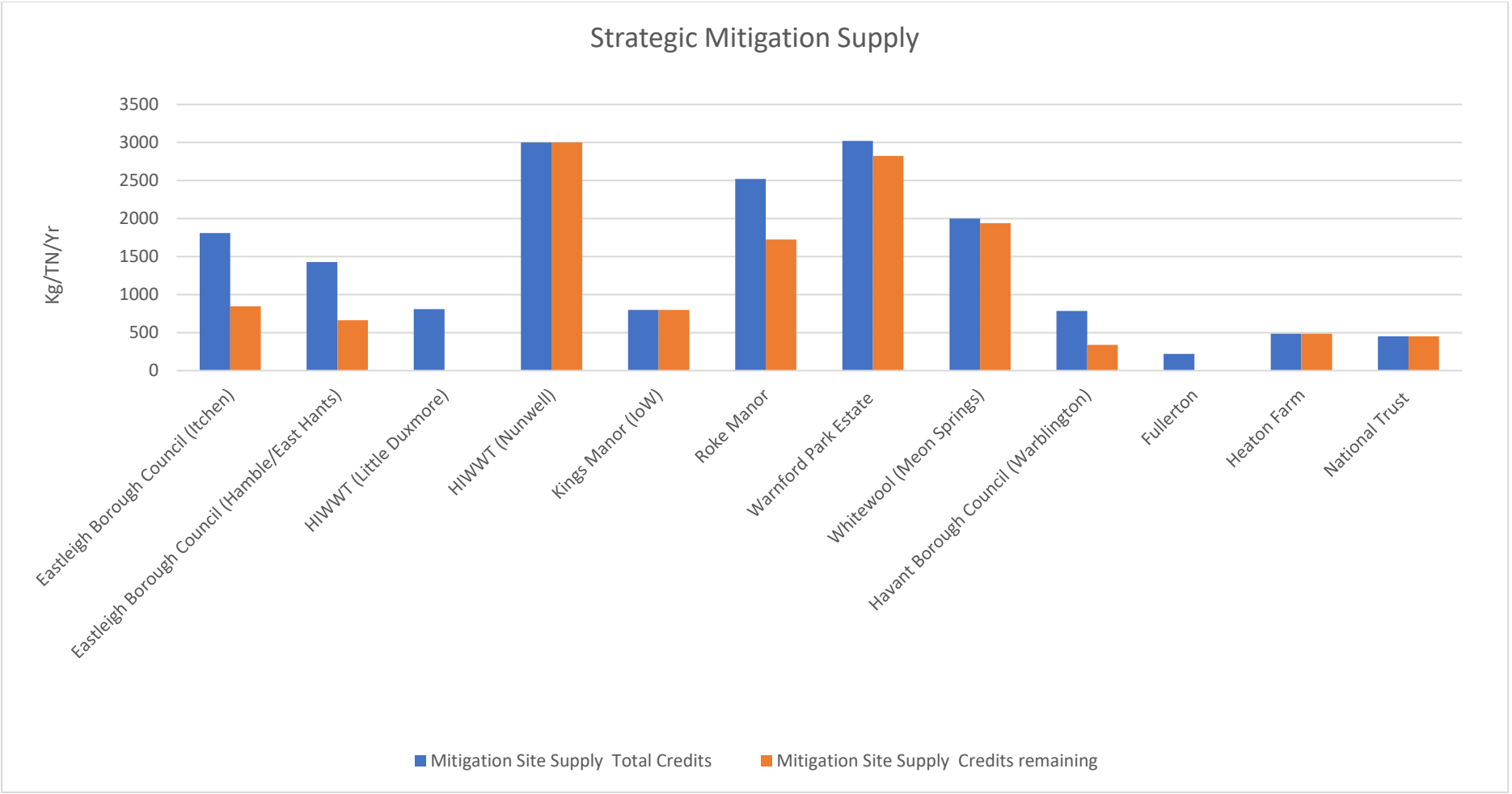

Figure 1 - Strategic Mitigation Supply

3. Supply and demand

3.1 In the Solent sub-region we are now in a position where sustainable growth can continue with the support of private land owners, institutional landowners and local authorities all contributing to the supply of suitable nutrient mitigation land. However, both the concept of nutrient neutrality, in the context of residential development, and the Solent's emerging mitigation market are still in the relatively early stages of development. As such the situation must be monitored closely in order to ensure that the mitigation market is sustainable, so that growth can continue across the sub-region. PfSH has recently extended the role of the SEPO until up to December 2023 and part of the ongoing role of the SEPO will be to produce six-monthly updates to the supply and demand analysis in order to confirm the sustainability of the current approach.

3.2 The supply and demand position for the East Hants and Test and Itchen catchments are shown under the relevant subheadings below. However, the following limitations to the data and interpretations must be considered.

- These data have been collected mid-financial year, with LPA housing trajectories using a financial year reporting period. As such, the housing supply trajectory data for the 2021/22 reporting period has been reduced by 75% to account for the time remaining in this accounting period.
- These data do not account for the supply of on-site solutions or off-site solutions that are not strategic and available to multiple developments, this may result in significant over-estimation of the demand figures.
- Development in some LPAs can be served by different waste water treatments works with differing permit levels, in these instances an average credit per dwelling figure is used to represent the available waste water treatment works that may serve the development.

3.3 The limitations to the data shown in paragraph 5.2 may, in part, be overcome in the forthcoming summer 2022 supply and demand update. The limitation of the current data may result in demand being double counted in instances where large developments may be meeting their mitigation needs on-site. The summer 2022 supply and demand update will be able to use total new dwelling permission figures collated at financial year end by Hampshire County Council. This will allow the data to be synchronised with housing trajectory reporting whilst providing a much greater indication of the number of dwellings permitted outside of strategic schemes, such as through on-site provision.

<u>East Hampshire Supply and Demand Position</u>

3.4 The current supply and demand position for the East Hampshire catchment is shown in figure 2. Key facts and limitations relating to the data in figure 2 are:

- Supply shown excludes 2,287 credits already sold to permitted schemes, permitted schemes account for development of approximately 1,830 homes.
- A figure of 0.8 Kg/TN/Yr per dwelling was used to calculate demand.

- No account has been made for sites that may be able to utilise on-site mitigation and as such the actual demand figure may be lower than shown
- A small proportion of development in Havant is likely to drain to WWTWs in Chichester. There is sufficient mitigation in the Chichester catchment to satisfy the demand in Havant.

3.5 Development in the East Hampshire catchment is predominantly served by Budds Farm and Peel Common WWTWs. Both treatment works employ the best available technology available within the sub-region for the removal of total nitrogen. As such, it is considered unlikely that more effective technology will be employed for nitrogen removal in waste-water treatments works in the East Hampshire catchment, and no sensitivity testing has been completed in this regard.

3.6 There has been a number of privately led mitigation schemes developed within the East Hampshire catchment. Given the available schemes coming forward within the last two years, an assessment has been made of the ongoing supply and demand position on the basis that mitigation continues to come forward at the same rate. The effect of this projected supply against demand is shown in figure 3. The following basic formular was used to project future delivery:

Total new supply of credits for 20/21 and 21/22 = 11,346

11,346 / 2 = an average of 5,673 Kg/TN/Yr of new supply per year

The limitations of assessing assumed future delivery of mitigation schemes, based on currently available data, is recognised. However, based on the emerging market it is considered that figure 3 provides a realistic view of future supply and demand, whilst making clear the need to support further mitigation schemes to continue to come forward.

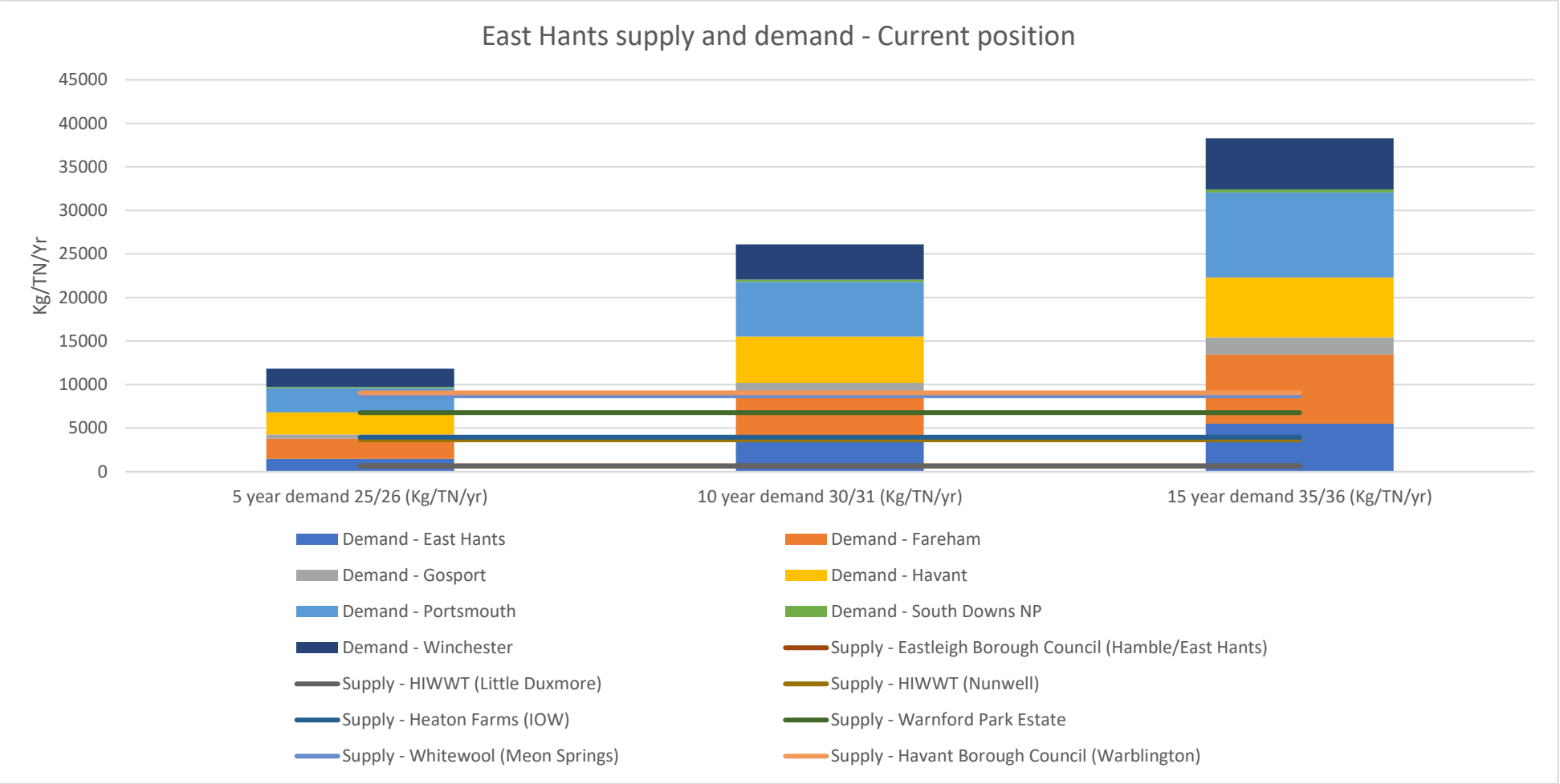

Figure 2 - East Hants Supply and Demand - Current Position - Note: Demand calculated at 0.8 Kg/TN/Yr per dwelling

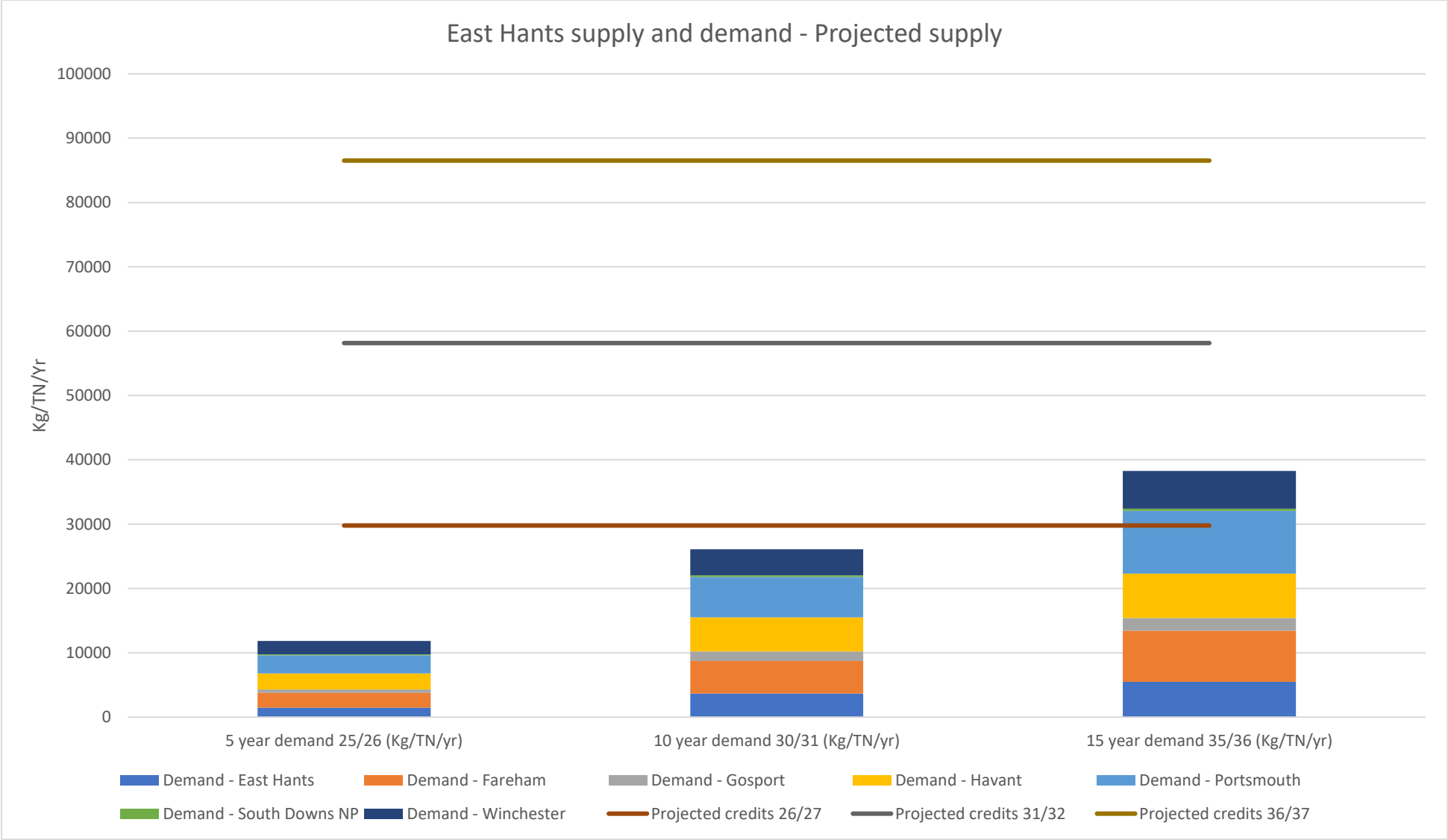

Figure 3 - East Hants catchment supply and demand - Projected supply

East Hampshire Catchment Summary

3.7 The East Hampshire catchment has a current supply of strategic mitigation for approximately 11,323 dwellings. There are a number of emerging mitigation schemes at varying stages of development within the catchment, based on these currently emerging schemes it is considered very likely that sufficient schemes will come forward to meet the supply of nutrient mitigation in the short medium and long term as shown in figure 3. Further reviews of supply and demand will be required to ensure that supply continues to outstrip demand.

Test and Itchen Supply and Demand Position

3.8 The current supply and demand position for the Test Valley catchment is shown in figure 4. Key facts and limitations relating to the data in figure 3 are:

- Supply figures shown excludes 2084 credits already sold to development schemes. These schemes account for development of approximately 1,042 homes.
- No account has been made for sites that may be able to utilise on-site mitigation[6] and as such the actual demand figure may be lower than shown
- Calculating the demand for nutrient mitigation in the Test Valley catchment is particularly complex due to the large number of waste-water treatment works with differing total nitrogen permit limits. Permit limits for waste-water treatment works in the Test Valley could result in between 0.8 Kg/TN/Yr and 2.9 Kg/TN/Yr of mitigation required per dwelling, dependent on which waste-water treatment works the development drains to. Table 1 shows the assumptions made with regard to amount of mitigation required per dwelling in each local planning authority area, based in most cases on an average of permit levels within WwTWs serving the Local Authority area.

Table 1 - Mitigation multiplier assumptions

Local Authority	Notes
Basingstoke and Deane	1.2 Kg per dwelling average
East Hants	0.8 Kg per dwelling average
Eastleigh	1.2 Kg per dwelling average
New Forest District	Full assessment made regarding likely permit limits for planned development
New Forest NP	2kg per dwelling average
Southampton	1.5kg per dwelling average
Test Valley	2.4kg per dwelling average
Winchester	1.2kg per dwelling average

[6] With the exception of the allocated development at Fawley which has a proposed mitigation solution, the associated dwellings are not included in the demand for New Forest District Council.

3.9 Calculating the demand for nutrient mitigation in the Test and Itchen catchment is particularly complex due to the large number of waste water treatment works with differing total nitrogen permit limits. Permit limits for waste water treatment works in the Test and Itchen could result in between 0.8 Kg/TN/Yr and 2.9 Kg/TN/Yr of mitigation required per dwelling, dependent on which waste water treatment works the development drains to. To play their part in restoring the areas protected habitats to favourable condition, it is anticipated that Southern Water will seek to improve the technology in waste-water treatment works in their next funding round. As such an assessment has been made of the impact should all development in the Test and Itchen catchment require 0.8 Kg/Tn/Yr as mitigation. 0.8 Kg/TN/Yr was used as this is currently the best technology employed in waste water treatment works in the impacted area. Figure 4 shows the results of this assessment.

3.10 There has been a number of privately led mitigation schemes developed within the Test and Itchen catchment, with all available schemes coming forward within the last two years an assessment has been made of the ongoing supply and demand position on the basis that mitigation continues to come forward at the same rate. The effect of this projected supply against demand is shown in figure 5. The following basic formula was used to project future delivery:

Total new supply of credits for 20/21 and 21/22 = 6,138

6,138 / 2 = an average of 3,069 Kg/TN/Yr of new supply per year

The limitations of assessing assumed future delivery of mitigation schemes, based on currently available data, is recognised. However, based on the emerging market it is considered that figure 6 provides a realistic view of future supply and demand, whilst making clear the need to support further mitigation schemes to continue to come forward.

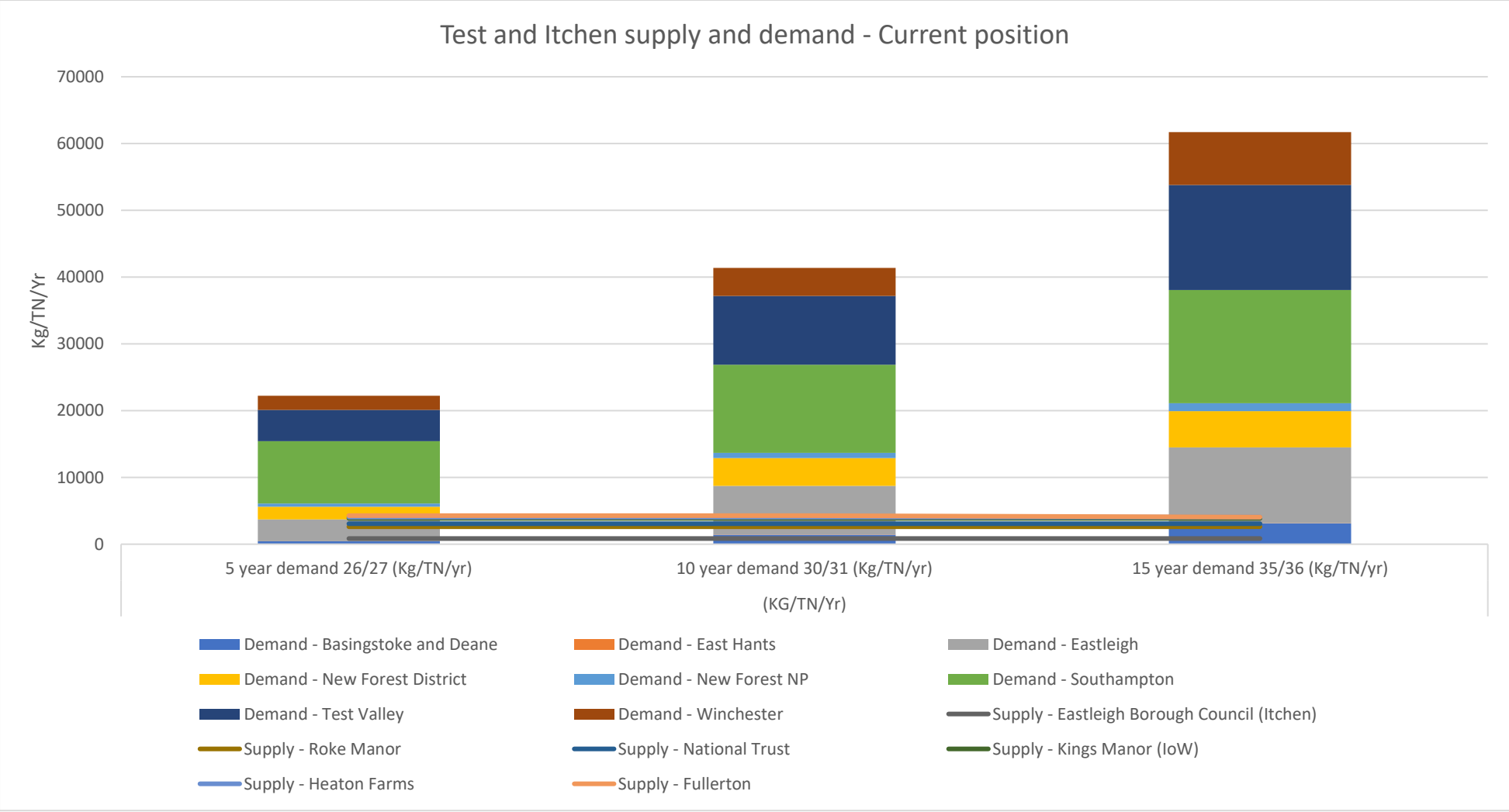

Figure 4 - Test and Itchen supply and demand - current position

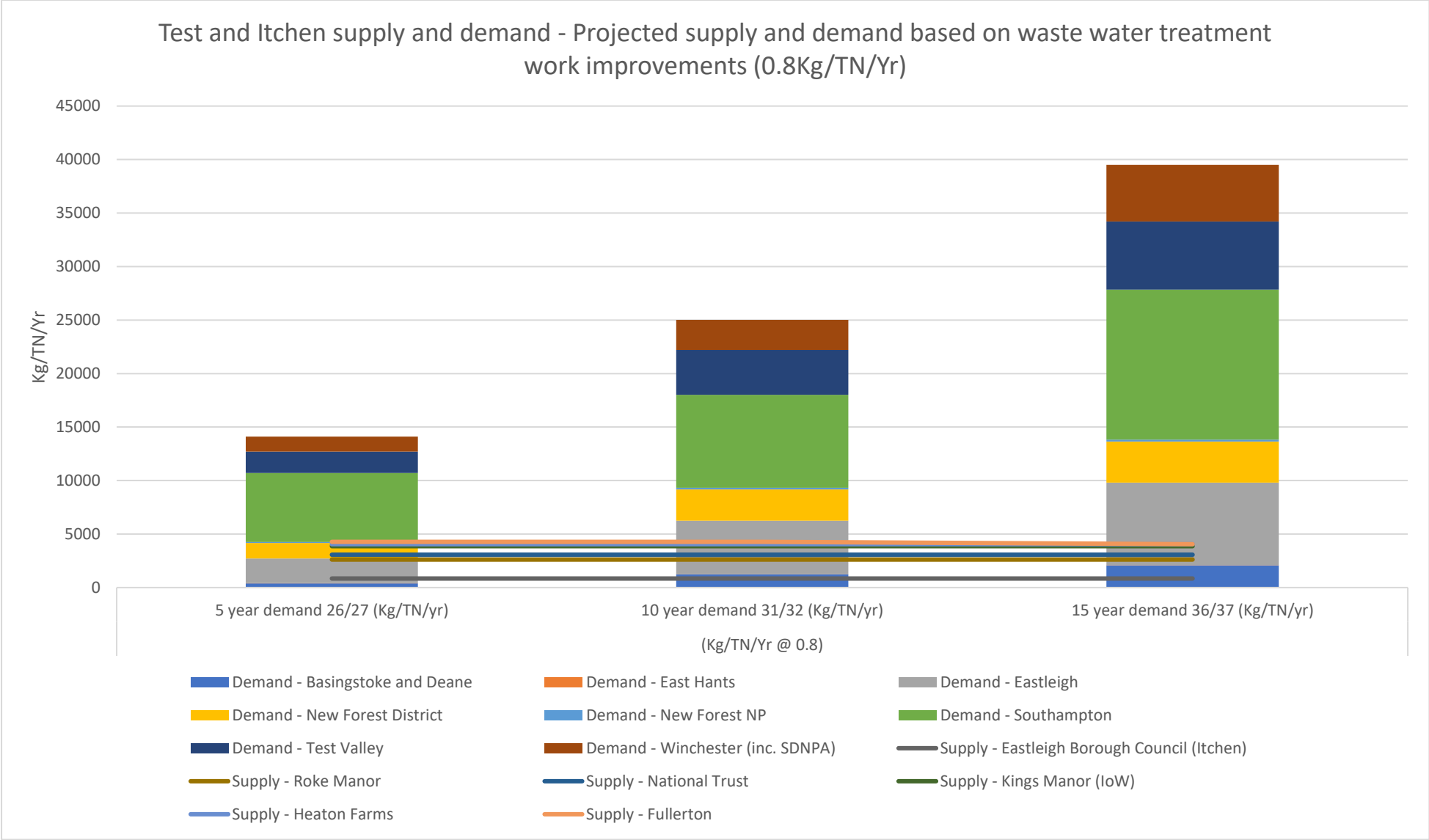

Figure 5 – Test and Itchen supply and demand - Projected supply and demand based on waste water treatment work improvements (0.8Kg/TN/Yr per dwelling)

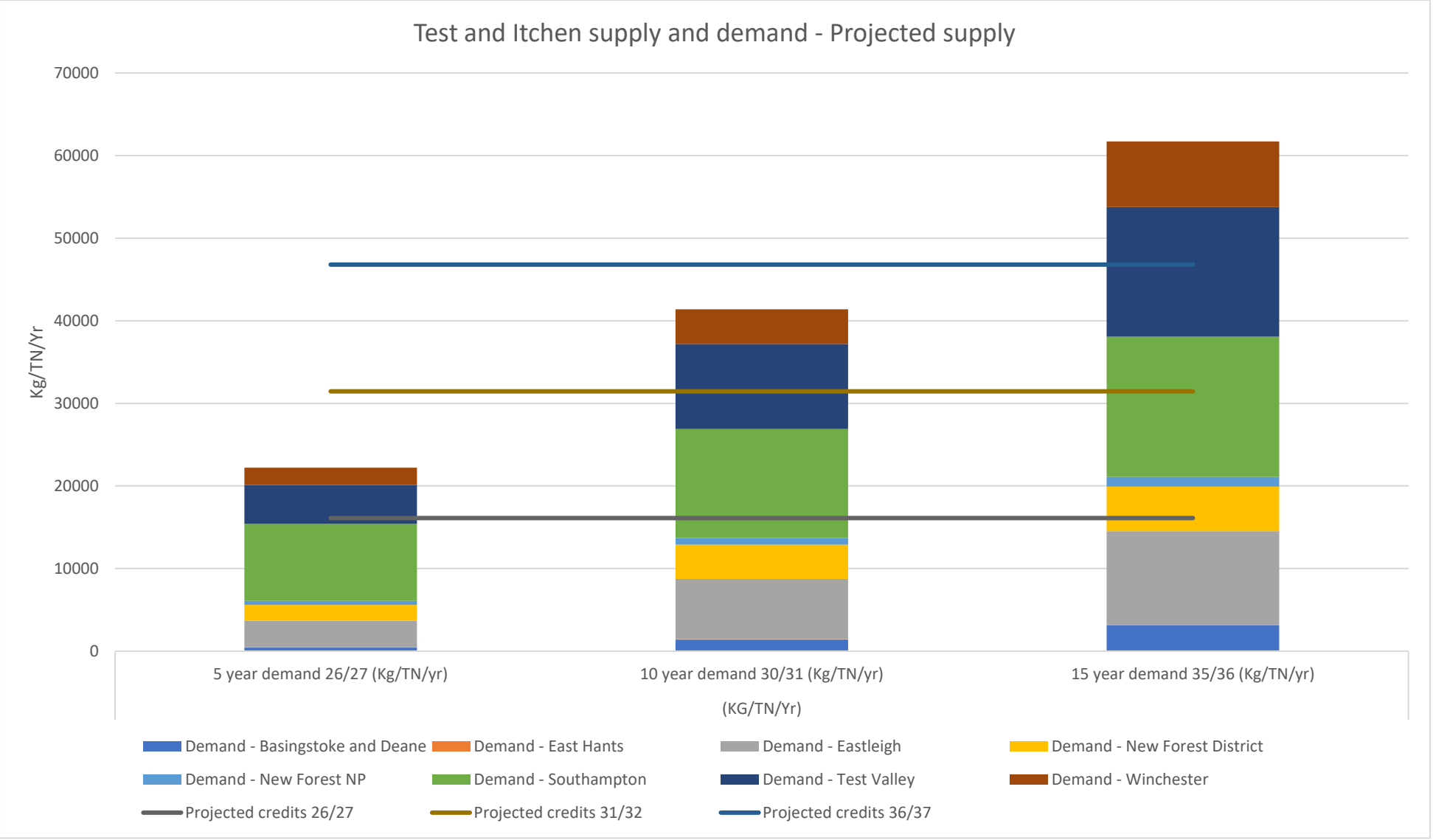

Figure 6 - Test and Itchen supply and demand - Projected supply

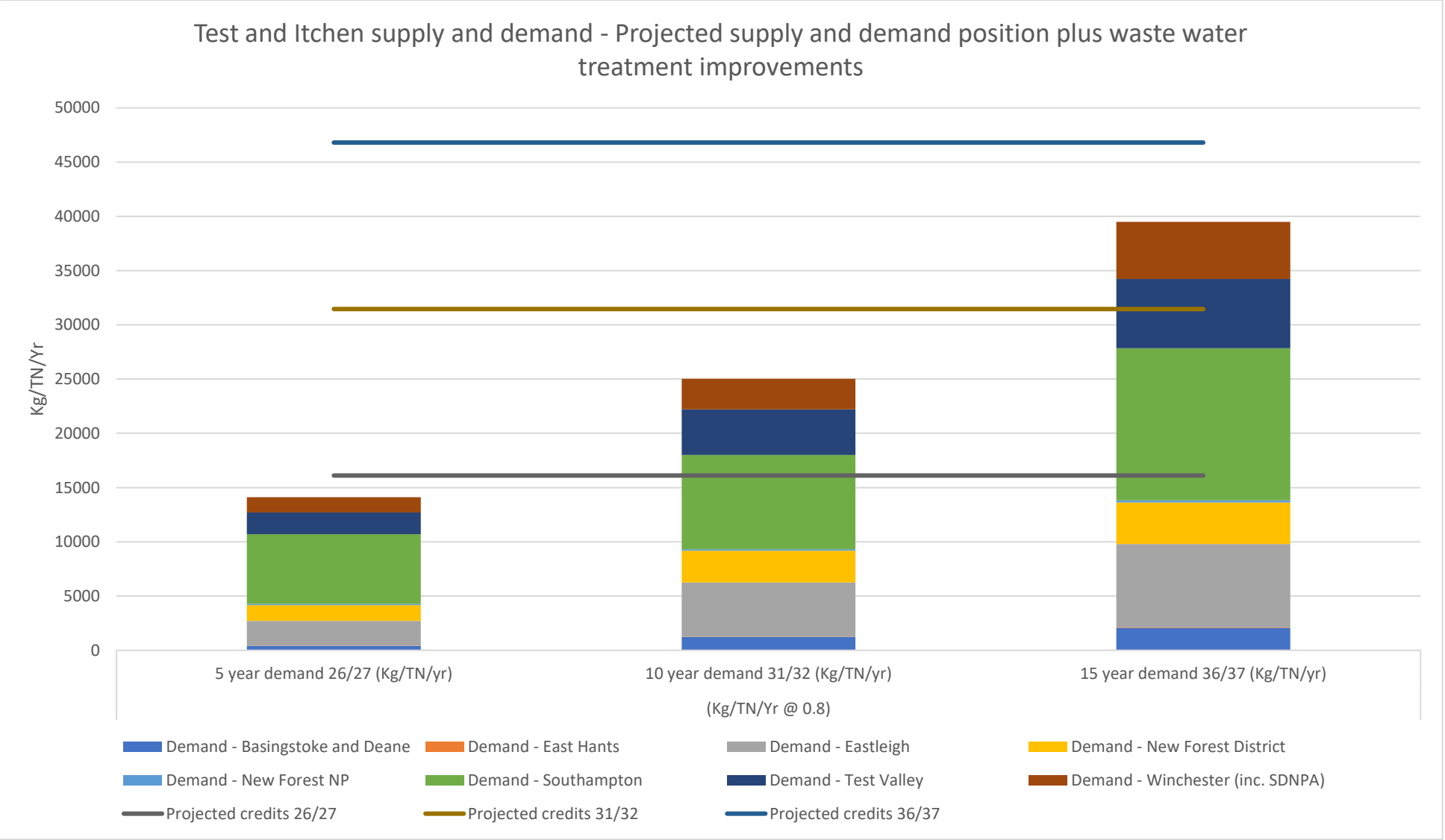

Figure 7 – Test and Itchen supply and demand - Projected supply and demand position plus waste water improvement works

Test and Itchen Catchment Summary

3.11 The Test Valley catchment has a current supply of strategic mitigation for approximately 2,000 dwellings. There are a number of emerging mitigation schemes at varying stages of development within the catchment. However, it is considered likely that delivery of mitigation schemes would need to substantially increase, or waste-water treatment work improvements be made, to meet future demand. It is considered very likely that a combination of both will be required to meet long term demand.

3.12 The Environment Agency is currently undertaking a review of waste-water treatment work permit limits in the Solent sub-region. It is expected that this review will be undertaken in order for Southern Water to request the required budget for improvements within the next funding cycle (AMP 8 2025-2030).

3.13 Delivery of new schemes in the Test and Itchen catchment may also be substantially accelerated by the introduction of the Solent Nutrient Market Pilot, as well as the ongoing work undertaken by local planning authorities, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and other stakeholders.

Solent Nutrient Market Pilot

3.14 The Solent Nutrient Market Pilot is the operating name of the work referred to in previous reports as the Defra Trading Pilot. In late 2021 Defra appointed a consortium led by EnTrade to design and operate the Pilot Nutrient Market for the Solent. The consortium is made up of the members shown in table 2 and aims to support landowners to make long term land-use changes in the Test and Itchen Catchment that reduce nitrogen pollution and deliver wider environmental benefits; and enable new developments to meet the requirement to deliver Nutrient Neutrality on protected sites. It is currently anticipated that the Market Pilot will commence operation by autumn 2022.

Table 2 - EnTrade consortium members

En Trade	A Wessex Water business that creates and operates on-line markets for nature-based solutions
Arcadian Ecology	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's ecological consultancy. They are leading the engagement with landowners
Arup	Leading the establishment of the Trading Platform Management System and the User Testing of the Platform
University of Exeter	Leading the design and development of the market settlement process.
Wheatley Young and Partners	Specialists in environmental policy and strategy, are leading the design of the nutrient market and supporting market information and communications.

4. Summary and next steps

4.1. It is clear from the evidence in this report that there is now a fully functioning, privately led, nitrogen mitigation market within the Solent sub-region. Currently, all development within the Solent sub-region has an available strategic mitigation scheme available. In the Test and Itchen and East Hants catchments, the two

main catchments for housing delivery, there are multiple strategic mitigation options available to developers.

4.2. In the East Hampshire catchment, supply of mitigation measures is considered likely to keep up with demand due to sufficient schemes in development to justify the projected supply assumptions. As such, planned development will be able to meet its mitigation requirements, through the provision of strategic private mitigation, in the short medium and long term. This statement does not underestimate the level of work required in bringing these mitigation solutions forward to the point that the mitigation can be secured against a development. Further monitoring and reporting is required to ensure that delivery of strategic mitigation sites continue.

4.3. In the Test and Itchen catchment it is considered unlikely that supply will keep up with demand and that interventions are required to increase supply. The lack of confidence in supply meeting demand in the future is based on the much higher mitigation demand formed by waste-water treatment works in the Test and Itchen catchment, as well as a relatively low amount of emerging schemes currently in development. There is currently enough strategic mitigation within the Test and Itchen catchment to satisfy demand for 12-18 months and the impact of the Solent Nutrient Trading Pilot and delivery of open market sites will need to be closely monitored during this period to ascertain if any further interventions are required.

4.4. The SEPO will produce further supply and demand reports on a six-monthly basis in order to be able to recommend further interventions should the supply of mitigation fail to meet demand in the future. The summer 2022 update will also allow further analysis of the impact of on-site mitigation in relation to the demand for strategic mitigation.

4.5 In addition to updates on nutrient neutrality, it is recognised that land use policy for environmental gain is rapidly changing in a number of different ways. These changes are through instruments such as the Environment Act and policies such as Net Zero with Nature. In order to understand the potential impacts on sustainable growth the SEPO intends to work with the work of the Greenprint for South Hampshire to report on the current relationship between development and environmental gain, as well as a review of the potential impact of future proposed changes such as biodiversity net gain requirements. This is all likely to be needed as part of the LPA response to the Environment Act and PfSH is well placed to develop a coordinated approach for the sub-region.

4.6 The Solent sub-region is at the forefront of delivering strategic solutions to issues such as nutrient neutrality on a cross boundary basis. It is clear that the work undertaken by PfSH at a strategic level is extremely valuable to help inform government as to the feasibility and effectiveness of its policies, and the impact that these policies may have on sustainable growth.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Joint Committee NOTE the contents of this update.

For further information on this report please contact:-

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E: skennedy@fareham.gov.uk

Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: **14 February 2022**

Report of: **Charles Freeman**
Cultural, Creative Industries and Built Environment Lead
Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH)

Subject: **THE FUTURE OPERATION OF THE CULTURE, CREATIVE INDUSTRIES AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT PANEL**

SUMMARY

Following my decision to step down as the lead for the Partnership's cultural, creative and built environment strands of work, Joint Committee will be invited to agree the future working arrangements for the PfSH culture, creative industries and built environment panel, including any transitional support required.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee:-

a) AGREES the outline approach presented by Southern Policy Centre at **Annex A**. Annex A sets out how support for the Culture, Creative Industries and Built may be determined. Final details of the proposal to then be agreed between Southern Policy Centre and the lead PfSH Co-ordinator; and

b) AGREES to proceed with its support for Creative Network South on the basis of Hampshire Chamber of Commerce continuing as host, and until a decision is made on how future support for culture, creative industries and built environment work is managed.

Background

1. At the meeting of chief executives on 28 September last year, a report was considered relating to the future working arrangements of the of the Culture, Creative Industries and Built Environment Panel. This came following my decision to step down in early 2022 as the lead official for this strand of PfSH work. Chief executives expressed a desire that PfSH should continue its commitment to the work of the panel, and it was agreed that the Southern Policy Centre should be appointed to facilitate a debate about how the future of Creative Network South should be supported. While this discussion occurred the creative industries work stream should continue to be active.
2. Following discussion with both the Southern Policy Centre and the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce, Joint Committee will be invited to agree the proposal prepared by Southern Policy Centre attached as **Annex A** - which sets out its planned approach to determining the future operation of the work. This would involve two workshops provisionally planned for June and July 2022. The budget for the work would be £7,500 and would possibly need to be funded through a contribution from PfSH's unallocated balances - or can be added to PfSH's base budget if funding will not be required until the next financial year 2022-23.
3. The Design Practitioners Group have agreed to proceed with the 2022 Solent Quality Place Awards. Hampshire County Council will act as budget holder. Details of progress will be included in the report to Joint Committee. The budget for the awards is £5000 to be added to the 2022-23 base budget.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee:-

a) AGREES the outline approach presented by Southern Policy Centre at **Annex A**. Annex A sets out how support for the Culture, Creative Industries and Built may be determined. Final details of the proposal to then be agreed between Southern Policy Centre and the lead PfSH Co-ordinator; and

b) AGREES to proceed with its support for Creative Network South on the basis of Hampshire Chamber of Commerce continuing as host, and until a decision is made on how future support for culture, creative industries and built environment work is managed.

Background Papers: None
Reference Papers: None
Enquiries: For further information on this report please contact:

Charles Freeman, Cultural, Creative Industries and Built Environment Lead
E-mail: charlesgjfreeman@outlook.com

Southern Policy Centre

Creativity, Culture and Place: Project Outline

Background

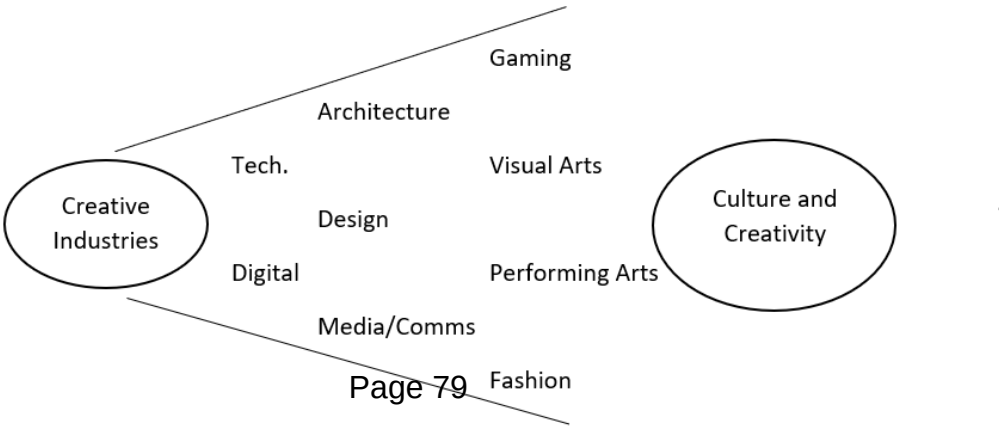
PfSH is reviewing its approach to supporting creative industries and the cultural sector across South Hampshire. This follows many years of successful investment in initiatives to support the sector, including establishing Creative Network South (CNS), which is hosted by the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce.

Support to CNS will change in the new year, and PfSH is taking this opportunity to consider how they wish to take forward their support for the creative and cultural sectors. There are wider factors which may shape the evolving agenda for the sector in South Hants:

- PfSH is exploring how it can lead a green economic recovery for the region as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic. This encompasses, *inter alia,* a discussion about zero carbon economy, health and wellbeing and green skills;
- In the aftermath of the pandemic, and linked to the green recovery discussion, there is a wider national debate developing about the environmental and social responsibilities of businesses;
- Key initiatives across the region which will shape the future, notably the Solent Freeport and also Southampton's *City of Culture* bid;
- Arts Council England (ACE) identified Gosport, New Forest and Portsmouth as three of their 'priority areas' in the Southwest. Outside PfSH but within the central south the Isle of Wight and Rushmoor have also been given priority status – although the implications of 'priority' status are not yet clear.
- PfSH's review of its Spatial Position Statement is underway and will shape infrastructure provision.
- The Southern Policy Centre is also engaged in projects which will have an impact on cultural and creative industry policy. These projects include work relating to the implications of the Government's policies designed to 'level up' for the central South, the role of civic universities and the future of city centres.

The aim of the project is two-fold:

- To give PfSH a clear sense of purpose in its response to and support for the creative and cultural sector; This will explore the breadth of the sector covered, for example is a narrow focus on the creative industries business sector required, or wider focus on the contribution of Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport sectors on the economy, including the visitor economy, regeneration and place shaping required.



- To help build appropriate mechanisms for realising that purpose. This could be anything on a continuum between a loose joining of the dots linking organisations and initiatives (which is currently the role of creative network south) through to a strong developmental partnership, examples of this approach would include the Stride Innovation Corridor, Creative Estuary or might involve collective agenda setting as in the case of the Cornwall Creative Manifesto.

Our approach

We propose a two-stage approach:

1. A seminar for policy-makers to shape the 'vision' for the role the sector plays in PfSH and agree the geographic scope for that vision and the elements of the sector which are of significance
    - Aim: to agree at a high-level the 'vision' for the sector and articulate the 'purpose' of future collaborative working
    - Proposed Chair – Cllr Vernon-Jackson (PCC/LGA)
    - Suggested speakers
        - ACE SW (Phil Gibby/Nema Hart) – ACE perspective on regional collaboration and 'priority place' designation (Portsmouth, Gosport & New Forest)
        - Trevor Keeble (Univ. of Portsmouth) – role of HEIs in supporting culture and creativity
        - Creative Estuary (Sarah Dance) – illustration of the approach to partnership taken elsewhere
    - Invitees (including)
        - Portsmouth Creates
        - SCC City of Culture Team
        - Hampshire Cultural Trust
        - IoW…[cultural partnership]
        - HE sector
        - Cultural practitioners
        - Local authorities
        - LEPs
        - Chamber/business representatives
    - Target date: June/July 2022 – 2-2.5hrs duration
    - Venue: Network Eagle Lab Southampton

2. A workshop for practitioners to discuss practical action to help shape and deliver support for the sector, building on vision and purpose agreed at first session. This will draw on examples from elsewhere and local partnership models [NB – agenda for this workshop will be shaped by discussion at the first session]
    - Aim: to establish a model for future work to support the cultural and creative sector
    - Based on facilitated workshop sessions to explore
        - Sector support needs
        - Scope of partnerships/collaboration
        - Models for collaboration

- Proposed Chair – Simon Jutton (ACE) and or Nema Hart Director of Partnerships
- Suggested presentation
    - SPC Collaborative Culture study (Simon Eden) – to review case for collaborative working developed by SPC research from 2018
    - [others tbc]
- Invitees (including)
    - As per seminar (1) above, albeit should include more ‘hands-on’ practitioners
- Target date: June/July 2022 – half day session
- Venue: tbc

ENDS

Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: **14 February 2022**

Report of: **Head of Democratic Services, Fareham Borough Council**

Subject: **PfSH Meeting Schedule 2022/23**

SUMMARY

The Schedule of Meetings for the Joint Committee and Overview and Scrutiny meetings for 2022/23 has been prepared, following a similar pattern to previous years.

The schedule of meetings includes provisions for the Joint Committee to meet five times in the 2022/23 municipal year, and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to meet five times.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee APPROVES the dates on the schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2022/23, attached at Appendix A.

Appendix A :
Schedule of PUSH Joint Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Meetings for 2022/23

Contact : Leigh Usher, Head of Democratic Services, Fareham Borough Council

PfSH SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2022/23

Appendix A

	May 2022		June 2022		July 2022		August 2022		September 2022		October 2022		November 2022		December 2022		January 2023		February 2023		March 2023		April 2023		
Mon													1												Mon
Tues													1												Tues
Wed			1										2						1		1				Wed
Thurs			2	Bank holiday					1				3		1				2		2				Thurs
Friday			3	Bank holiday	1				2				4		2				3		3				Friday
Sat			4		2				3		1		5		3				4		4		1		Sat
Sun			5		3				4		2		6		4		1		5		5		2		Sun
Mon	2	Bank holiday	6		4		1		5		3		7		5		2	Bank holiday	6		6		3		Mon
Tues	3		7		5	PfSH JC	2		6		4		8		6		3		7		7		4	PfSH JC	Tues
Wed	4		8		6		3		7		5		9		7	PfSH JC	4		8		8		5		Wed
Thurs	5		9		7		4		8		6		10		8		5		9		9		6		Thurs
Friday	6		10		8		5		9		7		11		9		6		10		10		7	Bank Holiday	Friday
Sat	7		11		9		6		10		8		12		10		7		11		11		8		Sat
Sun	8		12		10		7		11		9		13		11		8		12		12		9		Sun
Mon	9		13		11		8		12		10		14		12		9		13		13		10	Bank Holiday	Mon
Tues	10		14		12		9		13		11		15		13		10		14		14		11		Tues
Wed	11		15		13		10		14		12		16		14		11		15		15		12		Wed
Thurs	12		16		14		11		15		13		17		15		12		16		16		13		Thurs
Friday	13		17		15		12		16		14		18		16		13		17		17		14		Friday
Sat	14		18		16		13		17		15		19		17		14		18		18		15		Sat
Sun	15		19		17		14		18		16		20		18		15		19		19		16		Sun
Mon	16		20		18		15		19		17		21		19		16		20		20		17		Mon
Tues	17		21		19		16		20		18		22		20		17		21		21		18		Tues
Wed	18		22		20		17		21	PfSH O&S	19		23		21		18		22		22		19		Wed
Thurs	19		23		21		18		22		20		24		22		19		23		23		20		Thurs
Friday	20		24		22		19		23		21		25		23		20		24		24		21		Friday
Sat	21		25		23		20		24		22		26		24		21		25		25		22		Sat
Sun	22		26		24		21		25		23		27		25		22		26		26		23		Sun
Mon	23		27		25		22		26		24		28		26	Bank Holiday	23		27		27		24		Mon
Tues	24		28		26		23		27	PfSH JC	25		29		27	Bank Holiday	24	PfSH O&S	28		28		25		Tues
Wed	25		29	PfSH O&S	27		24		28		26		30	PfSH O&S	28	Closed	25				29	PfSH O&S	26		Wed
Thurs	26		30		28		25		29		27				29	Closed	26				30		27		Thurs
Friday	27				29		26		30		28				30	Closed	27				31		28		Friday
Sat	28				30		27				29				31		28						29		Sat
Sun	29				31		28				30						29						30		Sun
Mon	30						29	Bank holiday			31						30	PfSH JC							Mon
Tues	31						30										31								Tues
Weds							31																		Weds
Thurs																									Thurs
Friday																									Friday
	May 2022		June 2022		July 2022		August 2022		September 2022		October 2022		November 2022		December 2022		January 2023		February 2023		March 2023		April 2023		

KEY to abbreviations:		
	PfSH JC = PfSH Joint Committee (X5)	
	PfSH O&S = PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee (X5) – Daytime meeting	School holidays / LGA conf (27-30 June) / Cons conf (02-05 Oct) / Liberal Democrat Conf (TBC)