



Minutes of the Partnership for South Hampshire Overview and Scrutiny Committee

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Wednesday, 29 March 2023

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor Allan Glass, New Forest DC (Chairman)

Councillor Peter Latham, Hampshire CC (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Malcolm Daniells, Fareham BC
Martin Pepper, Gosport BC
Mike Maltby, Test Valley BC
Neil Cutler, Winchester CC

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

**Also
Present:** Anna Parry, Item 8
Jonathan Evans, Item 9
Simon Kennedy, Item 10

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors Malcolm Johnson (East Hants DC) and Richard Gomer (Eastleigh BC).

There were no changes to the Committee Membership.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on the 30 November 2022 be signed and confirmed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made no announcements at the meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received at the meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were received at the meeting.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PFSH JOINT COMMITTEE

Members were asked to consider any matters arising from the previous Joint Committee meeting held on the 07 December 2022.

Paddy May addressed the Committee to confirm that the recommendation to ask the Joint Committee to consider that the Statement of Common Ground be confined to the PfSH sub-region received overall support by the Joint Committee as a proposed way forward.

7. PFSH CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

The Committee received the PfSH Co-ordinator's report which provided 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.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

a) NOTES the contents of this report;

b) NOTES that it will be recommended to Joint Committee at its meeting on 4 April 2023 that it NOTES the matters for information outlined in part B of the report; and

- c) considered any comments to be passed to the Joint Committee for consideration.

8. BIRD AWARE SOLENT 5-YEAR STRATEGY REVIEW

The Committee received a report from Anna Parry, Bird Aware Solent, that will update the Joint Committee on the initial findings of the 5 Year Review of the work of the Bird Aware Partnership and outline the next steps that will be taken following the results of this review.

Members of the Committee commented that if the proposed study is endorsed by the Joint Committee and the findings do increase the remit of the Bird Aware, this will greatly expand the scope for the partnership. Anna Parry confirmed that the strategy review would reflect the widening remit of the partnership if endorsed and these changes would be brought to the Joint Committee for consideration later in the year.

Members of the Committee voted to support recommendation b) ii, that the PfSH Joint Committee should endorse funding the study related to summer breeding birds if the legal view is that Bird Aware funds cannot be used for this purpose.

RESOLVED that Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

- a) NOTES the contents of this report;
- b) NOTES that PfSH Joint Committee will be asked to:-
 - i. NOTE and ENDORSE the content of this report related to the 5 Year review and the work that will now stem from this
 - ii. NOTE and ENDORSE funding the study related to breeding birds if the legal view is that Bird Aware funds cannot be used for this purpose; and
- c) ask the Joint Committee to support the recommendation above to fund the study related to summer breeding birds if the legal view is that Bird Aware funds cannot be used for this purpose.

9. PFSH BUDGET MONITORING 2022/23 AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2023/24

The Committee received a report from Jonathan Evans, Southampton City Council, which provides an update for the Joint Committee on the position against the approved budget for 2022/23 and sets out the proposed revenue budget for 2023/24.

Members asked if the unallocated balance of £130k within the revenue budget forecast is a typical amount. Jonathan addressed the Committee to confirm that this is an amount agreed by the Joint Committee to enable PfSH to have resources available to react to potential future opportunities that may arise.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

- a) NOTES the contents of this report;
- b) NOTES that it will be recommended to Joint Committee at its meeting on 4 April 2023 that it:-
 - i. NOTES the budget monitoring position for 2022/23, as set out in the report;
 - ii. NOTES that the forecast outturn from the 2022/23 budgets is provisional and may be subject to change in the final outturn budget report;
 - iii. APPROVES the proposed revenue budget for 2023/24, as set out in the report;
 - iv. APPROVES the partner contributions for 2023/24 as shown on table 5; and
- c) considered any comments to be passed to the Joint Committee for consideration

10. UPDATE ON NUTRIENT NEUTRALITY IN THE SOLENT

The Committee received a report from Simon Kennedy, from Fareham Borough Council, which provides an update on the supply of and demand for nutrient mitigation measures around the Solent.

Members of the Committee fully supported the need for funding to cover the operational costs of the Strategic Environmental Planning Team going forward and raised concerns over the lack of money being made available to fund solutions to the nitrates issue in the Solent from Government.

The Committee also agreed to suggest to the Joint Committee that the wording of recommendation b) iv, be amended slightly to say - *AGREES that, should external funding not be available, local authorities are asked to agree to fund the operational costs to March 2025*

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

- a) NOTES the contents of this report;
- b) NOTES that it will be recommended to the Joint Committee on 04 April that it:-
 - i. NOTES the content of the report;
 - ii. AGREES that an extension to March 2025 for the Strategic Environmental Planning Team is necessary;
 - iii. AGREES that, in the first instance, external funding is sought to cover the operational costs of the Strategic Environmental Planning Team to March 2025;
 - iv. suggest to the Joint Committee that the wording of this recommendation be amended slightly to say - *AGREES that, should external funding not be available, local authorities are asked to agree to fund the operational costs to March 2025.*

11. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2023/24

The Committee received the PfSH schedule of meetings for 2023/24 from the Head of Democratic Services at Fareham Borough Council.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: -

- a) NOTE the dates on the schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2023/24, attached at Appendix A; and
- b) NOTE that the Joint Committee will be asked to APPROVE the schedule at their next meeting

(The meeting started at 10.30 am
and ended at 11.07 am).