Minutes of the Partnership for South Hampshire Overview and Scrutiny Committee

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Wednesday, 2 July 2025

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Chair Councillor Allan Glass, New Forest DC (Chair)

Councillor Tina Ellis, Fareham BC
Councillor Julie Westerby, Gosport BC
Councillor Graham Heaney, Portsmouth CC
Councillor Valerie Laurent, Southampton CC
Councillor Mark Cooper, Test Valley BC
Councillor Margot Power, Winchester CC

Co-opted Members: Paddy May - PfSH

***Also Present*:** David Balding, Fareham BC – Item 9
Richard Jolley, Fareham BC - Item 9
Acqusilia Mudzingwa, Southampton CC – Item 11
Jayson Gryiel, Gosport BC – Item 13

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Having been duly proposed by Councillor Julie Westerby and Seconded by Councillor Margot Power, it was RESOLVED that Councillor Allan Glass from the New Forest District Council be elected as Chair for the 2025/26 municipal year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

Having been duly proposed by Councillor Allan Glass and seconded by Councillor Julie Westerby, it was RESOLVED that Councillor Peter Latham from Hampshire County Council be elected as Vice-Chair for the 2025/26 municipal year.

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

Apologies of absence were received as follows: -

Name	Deputy	Authority
Cllr Gwen Robinson	n/a	Havant BC
Cllr Peter Latham	n/a	Hampshire CC
Cllr Mary Vallely	Cllr Graham Heaney	Portsmouth CC
Cllr Neil Gwynne	Cllr Mark Cooper	Test Valley BC

Councillor Graham Heaney from Portsmouth CC confirmed that he has now been appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2025/26 municipal year, replacing Councillor Mary Vallely.

The Chair welcomed Councillor Margot Power from Winchester City Councillor to the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes from the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 27 February 2025 be agreed as a correct record.

5. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair welcomed all Members of the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee to this first meeting of the municipal year.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM PFSH JOINT COMMITTEE

Paddy May addressed the Committee to confirm that as there were no references to the PfSH Joint Committee at the last meeting, there were no matters arising for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

8. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were received at this meeting.

9. SOLENT MITIGATION PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee received a report from David Balding, Interim Programme Manager from Fareham Borough Council, providing details on the development of the Solent Mitigation Partnership to facilitate the nutrient Mitigation credit sales function and delivery of the central government Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund from inception in 2024, through to March 2025.

Members of the Committee asked several questions for clarification on various elements within the complex report in order to gain a better understanding of the content of the Annual Report, including the science behind reducing nitrates and the data used to calculate against mitigation.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

i) NOTES the contents of this report;

ii) NOTES that Joint Committee will be asked to NOTE the content of this report and the Solent Mitigation partnership Annual Report; and

iii) CONSIDERED any comments to be passed to the Joint Committee for its consideration.

10. PFSH COORDINATORS REPORT

The Committee received the PfSH Co-ordinator's report from Paddy May, providing 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:-

i) NOTES the contents of this report;

ii) NOTES that the Joint Committee will be asked to:-
   a) NOTE the contents of the report;
   b) AGREE that future contributions (2026/27) be recalculated and updated to reflect East Hampshire District Council's withdrawal from PfSH using the established methodology for doing so.
   c) AGREE that PfSH Coordinators should undertake a light-touch review and update of the PfSH Business Plan 2021-2025 (reflecting its current operational context as local government

reorganisation and the creation of a strategic mayoral combined authority progresses); and

iii) CONSIDERED any comments to pass on to Joint Committee for its consideration.

11. PFSH BUDGET AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2024/25

The Committee received a report from Acquislia Mudzingwa, from Southampton City Council, summarises the outturn against the budget for the financial year 2024/25 and included presentation of the Statement of Accounts 2024/25 for approval. The report also notes the revenue budget for 2025/26 as approved at the meeting of Joint Committee in March 2025.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

i) NOTES the contents of this report;

ii) NOTES that Joint Committee will be asked to:
   a) NOTE the outturn for the financial year 2024/25 (Table 2).
   b) APPROVE the Statement of Accounts for the 2024/25 financial year and the Annual Governance Statement (Appendix 1).
   c) NOTE the revenue budget for 2025/26 as set out in the report (Table 4); and

iii) CONSIDERED any comments to be passed to Joint Committee for its consideration

12. BIRD AWARE SOLENT PARTNERSHIP

The Committee received a report from Anna Parry, from Bird Aware Solent, seeking approval from the Joint Committee for a number of matters related to the Bird Aware Partnership - namely the process for assessing small value project bids, a change to the timeline for a Partnership review, additional budget to pay a Partner organisations to fulfil the accountable body role and the recruitment of additional staff.

Members of the Committee suggested the PfSH Planning Officers Group prepare a chart to help compile the data for the various mitigation measures that are currently affecting the region. This data would be useful for Members to better understand the impact of things like Bird Aware, against the other mitigation measures.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

i) NOTES the contents of this report;

ii) NOTES that Joint Committee will be asked to:-
   (a) NOTE and ENDORSE the Bird Aware Partnership's proposal for steps to review and support £5k and under site specific

projects, and the proposed panel assessment scoring system;

(b) NOTE and ENDORSE the Bird Aware Partnership's proposal for the Chair of the Project Board to be granted delegated authority to make the final funding decision on these proposals;

(c) NOTE and ENDORSE the Bird Aware Partnership's proposal for a process of review/reflection in 2027, with a full independent review conducted in 2031;

(d) NOTE and ENDORSE the Bird Aware Partnership's request for an additional £15k to the Bird Aware 2025/26 budget to cover the likely costs of resources necessary to undertake the Accountable Body role going forward;

(e) NOTE and ENDORSE the Bird Aware Partnership's request for an additional £5k to the Bird Aware 2025/26 budget to cover the costs now indicated by the current Accountable Body;

(f) NOTE and ENDORSE the ongoing review work being undertaken surrounding our financial position; and

iii) CONSIDERED any comments to pass on to the Joint Committee for its consideration.

13. LOBBYING FOR GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR FLOOD DEFENCES ON BROWNFIELD SITES TO FACILITATE NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Committee received a report proposing that PfSH write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury in order that the Government can consider providing specific funding for flood defences associated with brownfield sites.

Councillor Graham Heaney queried the information on the St James and Langstone campus sites set out in the report and asked if this information could be checked with regards to the estimate for the site being within the flood zones 2 & 3a by 2122. Jayson advised he would check this information with the Planning Officers at Portsmouth City Council.

Members of the Committee suggested that the letter should also be sent to all local MP’s as well as the relevant Government Departments and asked that this be recommended to the Joint Committee for consideration.

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

i) NOTES the contents of this report;

ii) NOTES that Joint Committee will be asked to NOTE PfSH's intention to write to relevant government departments (as drafted at Appendix 1), requesting that they consider the issue of funding flood infrastructure associated with brownfield development; and

iii) ASK that the Joint Committee consider writing to all local MP's as well as the relevant government departments.

(The meeting started at 10.30 am
and ended at 11.41 am).

……. Chair

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