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

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 9 December 2025

Venue: Council Chamber - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Chair Councillor Keith House, Eastleigh BC (Chair)

Vice Chair (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Robert Hylands, Gosport BC
Councillor Philippa Gray, Havant BC
Councillor Derek Tipp, New Forest DC

Chief Executives: James Strachan, Eastleigh BC
Andrew Wannell, Fareham BC
Debbie Gore, Gosport BC
Laura Taylor, Winchester CC

Co-opted Members:

***Also Present*:**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Apologies of absence were received as follows: -

Apologies from:	Deputy	Council/Organisation:
Cllr Simon Letts	n/a	Southampton CC
Cllr Steven Pitt	Paddy May	Portsmouth CC
Cllr Nick Adams-King	Cllr Lulu Bowerman	Hampshire CC
Cllr Phil Bundy	n/a	Test Valley BC
Cllr Simon Martin	Cllr Ian Bastable	Fareham BC
Cllr Martin Tod	Cllr Neil Cutler	Winchester CC
Kate Ryan	Tim Guymer	New Forest DC
Andy Ferrier	Graham Smith	Test Valley BC
Matt Goodwin	n/a	Havant BC

The Chairman announced two changes to the Joint Committee Membership: -

1) David Bence from the New Forest National Park Authority has been replaced by Victoria Mander; and
2) Matt Goodwin replaces Steve Jorden as Chief Executive Officer at Havant Borough Council.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes from the 14 July 2025 PfSH Joint Committee meeting be agreed as a correct record.

3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made by the Chair.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at this meeting.

5. REFERENCES FROM THE PFSH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no references from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 03 December 2025 for the Joint Committee to consider.

6. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations received at this meeting.

7. PFSH MANAGERS REPORT

The Committee received the PfSH Co-ordinator's report 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 Joint Committee:-

i) NOTES the contents of this report;

ii) AGREES the original recommendation ii) of the Bird Aware Solent Report 'Bird Aware Partnership Revised Strategy' 30 September 2024 as drafted in this report at paragraph 1.3;

iii) AGREES the that supporting statement as drafted at paragraph 2.6 of this report can be used by PfSH local authorities in support of their local plan making as a way of demonstrating their ongoing commitment to the 'duty to cooperate' as part of the planning inspection process;

iv) AGREES that, following Hampshire County Council's decision to rescind its hosting responsibilities of The Solent Forum, PfSH assumes the role of host with Southampton City Council acting as accountable body and operational host (staff, human resources, accounting et cetera) on its behalf; and

v) AGREES that, on behalf of PfSH, the lead PfSH chief executive writes to the Chair of The Solent Forum immediately after the meeting of PfSH Joint Committee 9 December to confirm Joint Committee's agreement to assuming hosting responsibilities for The Solent Forum through Southampton City Council as accountable body.

8. UPDATE ON PFSH SUPPORT FOR THE CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

The Committee received a report providing an update on PfSH support for the cultural, creative industries and built environment industries, along with a budget request of £15k for the continued support of the cultural, creative industries and built environment workstream for 2026/2027.

Comments were made by Members of the Committee on the importance of focusing the progression of the various workstreams of the cultural, creative industries and built environment to South Hampshire to avoid diluting these priorities as the area moves forward with devolution.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:-

i. NOTES the contents of this report and the provision of PfSH support report for the cultural, creative industries and built environment panel is noted;

ii. ENDORSES the cultural and creative workstream priorities 2026/2027:

- **The Hampshire and Solent Film Agency** - to work with Portsmouth City Council to support FilmFixer in building a successful self-sustaining Film Agency to serve the area.
- **Skills for the Creative Economy** - to work with Hampshire Chamber of Commerce on the refresh of the Local Skills Improvement Plan to ensure the creative industry skills agenda continues to be progressed in the area.
- **Devolution** - to work with local authorities and cultural sector partners to develop thinking on the way the creative Sector can support the future priorities for the area; and

iii. AGREES that a £15,000 budget be allocated for the provision of PfSH support for the cultural and creative industries in 2026-27. This work will be delivered by Creative Network South, which is hosted by Hampshire Chamber of Commerce.

9. BIRD AWARE SOLENT UPDATE ON FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

The Committee received a report on the consideration that has been given by the Project Board to the current low housing delivery rate and the financial implications of this to the full delivery of the new 2024 Bird Aware Solent Strategy.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee RECONFIRM SUPPORT for the 2024 Bird Aware Solent Revised Strategy and its transitional introduction by September 2026.

10. BIRD AWARE SOLENT ANNUAL BUDGET REQUEST

The Committee received a report seeking approval from the Joint Committee for the Bird Aware 2026/27 budget request, a matter that is considered annually by the PfSH Joint Committee.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee is asked to:

i. NOTE and ENDORSE the Bird Aware Partnership's revised budget statement for 2025/26; and

ii. NOTE and ENDORSE the Bird Aware Partnership's proposed budget for 2026/27.

11. BIRD AWARE SOLENT ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee received a report on the progress and changes within the Bird Aware Solent Partnership during the last financial year and seeking

endorsement of their annual report covering the period of April 2024 to March 2025.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee NOTES and ENDORSES the Bird Aware Solent Partnership's eleventh Annual Report.

12. BIRD AWARE SOLENT SITE SPECIFIC PROJECT FUNDING

The Committee received a report seeking endorsement from the Joint Committee for the Bird Aware Partnership's recommendations for how Site-Specific Project (SSP) funding should be allocated for 2026/2027 along with a series of changes to the SSP process which are intended to support the implementation of capital projects which bring about meaningful mitigation gains.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee is asked to:

i) NOTE and ENDORSE the Bird Aware Partnership's proposed allocation of funding for site specific projects;

ii) NOTE and ENDORSE the granting of delegated powers to the Chair of the Bird Aware Partnership's Project Board to consider recommendations from the SSP Group pertaining to any project proposal changes that come forward between the Project Board meeting and the PfSH Joint Committee meeting; and

iii) NOTE and ENDORSE the creation of a contingency fund and the granting of delegated powers to the Chair of the Project Board regarding its operational management. Projects requiring higher levels of support through the contingency fund are to be referred to the Chair of the PfSH Chief Executives Committee and Chair of the PfSH Joint Committee for a final decision.

13. SOLENT MITIGATION PARTNERSHIP

The committee received a report providing an update on the projects being delivered by the Solent Mitigation Partnership and seeks agreement for the budget request for team resources from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027. It also covered updates on new legislation and a forthcoming pricing strategy.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:-

i) NOTES the content of this report;

ii) AGREES the budget request of £438,368 for team resources from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027; and

iii) NOTES that a report on pricing will be presented to PfSH Joint Committee in March 2026.

14. SOLENT MITIGATION PARTNERSHIP NUTRIENT MITIGATION SUPPLY AND DEMAND ANALYSIS

The Committee received a report providing an update on the supply and demand of nutrient mitigation across the Solent area. It presented the findings from the most recent supply and demand analysis undertaken in 2025/26 on the Solent nutrient mitigation market.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee NOTES the content of the report

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 6.43 pm).

……. Chair

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