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

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Monday, 16 March 2026

Venue: Council Chamber - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Chair Councillor Keith House, Eastleigh BC (Chair)

Vice Chair Councillor Simon Letts, Southampton CC (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Philippa Gray, Havant BC
Councillor Derek Tipp, New Forest DC
Victoria Mander, New Forest NPA
Councillor Phil Bundy, Test Valley BC

Chief Executives: James Strachan, Eastleigh BC
Andrew Wannell, Fareham BC
Debbie Gore, Gosport BC
Natalie Wigman, Hampshire CC
Claire Griffiths, Havant BC
Tim Guymer, New Forest DC
Graham Smith, Test Valley BC

Co-opted Members: Paddy May, PfSH Manager (Item 8)
Alex Rusell, PfSH Solictor

***Also Present*:** Anna Parry, Bird Aware (Item 7)
Kate Price McCarthy, Bird Aware (Item 7)
Tom Marceau, Bird Aware (Item 7)
Shona Jenkins, Bird Aware (Item 7)
Wayne Layton, Southampton CC (Item 9)
Rachel Jones, Solent Mitigation Partnership (Item 10 & 11)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Apologies from:	Deputy	Council/Organisation:
Councillor Lulu Bowerman	n/a	Hampshire CC
Councillor Simon Martin	n/a	Fareham BC
Councillor Martin Tod	Councillor Neil Cutler	Winchester CC
Matt Goodwin	Claire Griffiths	Havant BC
Natalie Brahma-Pearl	Paddy May	Portsmouth CC
Gary Westbrook	Natalie Wigman	Hampshire CC
Kate Ryan	Tim Guymer	New Forest DC

There were no changes to the Committee's Membership

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes from the 09 December 2025 PfSH Joint Committee meeting be agreed as a correct record.

3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair made the following announcement –

The Chair noted that this was the final meeting of the year, and the last before the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) decision is confirmed.

The Chair expressed thanks and best wishes to James Strachan from Eastleigh Borough Council and the current PfSH Lead Chief Executive, who is stepping down after representing three different authorities during his long involvement with PfSH. The Chair recognised James's consistent contribution since first joining PfSH in 2009, noting that he had been a positive and reliable part of the partnership throughout.
The Chair confirmed that Andy Wannell will take over as PfSH Lead Chief Executive.
The Chair concluded by wishing James well for the future and thanking him for his commitment and service to PfSH.

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 PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 04 March 2026 for the Joint Committee to consider.

6. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations received at this meeting.

7. BIRD AWARE SOLENT

The Joint Committee received a presentation by Anna Parry and her Team from Bird Aware.

The Chair thanked Anna and her team for their presentation and for the informative showcase held prior to the formal PfSH meeting. The Chair remarked that, although there was already a good understanding of Bird Aware's work, the session had clearly demonstrated the breadth and depth of the partnership's activities and the significant impact they continue to make.

8. PFSH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Joint Committee received the co-ordinator's report from the PfSH Manager, 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 proposed Joint Committee schedule of meetings for the committee year 2026-2027;

iii) NOTES and AGREES the light-touch revisions made to the PfSH Business Plan 2026; and

iv) NOTES and ENDORSES the updated Terms of Reference for the Bird Aware Partnership.

9. PFSH BUDGET MONITORING 2025/26 AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2026/27

The Joint Committee received a report providing an update on the position against the approved budget for 2025/26 and setting out the proposed revenue budget for 2026/27 alongside the annual partnership contributions from members.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee is recommended to:-

1. NOTE the budget monitoring position for 2025/26, as set out in the report;

2. NOTE that the forecast outturn from the 2025/26 budgets is provisional and may be subject to change in the final outturn budget report;

3. APPROVE the proposed revenue budget for 2026/27, as set out in the report;

4. APPROVE the use of £38,000 of Unallocated balances in order to reduce the partner contributions for 2026/27 as shown in Table 4; and

5. APPROVE the partner contributions for 2026/27 as shown on table 4.

10. SOLENT MITIGATION PARTNERSHIP - PRICING STRUCTURE FOR NUTRIENT CREDITS

The Joint Committee received a report presenting the revised pricing structure for nutrient credits.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:-

i) APPROVES the revised pricing structure for nutrient credits (Section 3);

ii) DELEGATES detailed decision-making for credit price setting for each mitigation scheme to the chief executive of the lead authority, in consultation with the Chief Executives of the benefiting parties and lead PfSH Chief Executive.; and

iii) AGREES that the authorities party to the Inter Authority Agreement shall enter into a Deed of Variation to vary the agreement on such terms as set out in paragraph 4.3 and 4.4 of the report.

11. SOLENT MITIGATION PARTNERSHIP - PROJECT UPDATE REPORT

The Joint Committee received a report providing an update on the projects being delivered by the Solent Mitigation Partnership (SMP) and seeking approval for two mitigation projects to help address predicted mitigation shortfall in River Test and Itchen catchments.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee:-

i) NOTES the contents of this report;

ii) APPROVES the Householder Septic Tank Upgrade Programme – Grant Framework (Appendix 1);

iii) APPROVES the business case for the Householder Septic Tank Upgrade Programme – Phase 1, River Arle Waterbody (Appendix 2);

iv) APPROVES the reallocation of funding to the Working with Land Delivery Programme to enable the partnership project with the National Trust at Hinton Ampner; and

v) APPROVES the business case for the Land at Hinton Ampner, National Trust project (Appendix 3)

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 6.47 pm).

……. Chair

…..…….…….. Date