



Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Position Statement

On 7th June, PUSH issued a Position Statement on the assessed housing need in the Solent area to 2034, which included housing targets for individual Councils. Solent Transport has assisted with this work through runs of the Sub-Regional Transport Model which looked at the impact on the highway and public transport networks of around 4,000 additional homes per year to 2034. PUSH's full position statement and supporting evidence can be found on the PUSH website.

Transport Funding

Since the last meeting of this Committee in February, there has been a mixed picture in terms of local transport funding. Portsmouth City Council and Isle of Wight Council have both made successful bids to the Department for Transport's Travel Transition Year fund, which is revenue funding in 2016/17 for sustainable transport initiatives. In Portsmouth, the funding will extend the work carried out on Personalised Journey Planning, Workplace Travel Planning, school travel and cycling initiatives. Isle of Wight Council was also successful and will be carrying out similar projects in the education, business and tourism sectors. Each authority was awarded around £450,000. However, Solent Transport's bid, along with other Solent local authority bids, was unsuccessful.

We have also been made aware by the Solent LEP that Solent Transport's bid to the LEP for capital funding as part of the Local Growth Fund Round 3 will not be taken forward at this stage. The 'Better Connected Solent' bid would have provided capital funding for improvements to public transport facilities, ticketing and information systems, and cycling and walking networks.

Solent Transport Investment Plan

The LEP's 'Solent Strategic Transport Investment Plan' was approved by the LEP Board in March. This is based on transformational transport investments that could contribute to significant economic growth. The main strands to be developed are the Solent Metro concept, Bus Rapid Transit, better east-west rail connectivity and coastal fast ferry links. Solent Transport has worked with the LEP to submit a bid to the Department for Transport's Local Majors Fund to develop an outline business case for phase 1 of Solent Metro between the port of Southampton and the airport. This bid sits alongside a highway bid for Chickenhall Lane Link Road. The schemes would help to unlock land around the airport for economic use, relieve congestion and improve journey times.

Joint Solent Transport/LEP Planning Workshop

Solent Transport and the LEP are aiming to hold a joint strategic planning day in September. The aim is to prioritise our joint transport planning activity going forward, and to inform the refresh of the Solent LEP's Strategic Economic Plan.