

AT A MEETING of the TRANSPORT FOR SOUTH HAMPSHIRE JOINT COMMITTEE of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL AND PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 26 JANUARY 2012 AT 14:00 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, CASTLE AVENUE, THE CASTLE, WINCHESTER

PRESENT:

Voting Members:

Councillor Mel Kendal – (Chairman) Executive Member for Environment and Transport at Hampshire County Council

Councillor Jason Fazackarley - Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation at Portsmouth City Council

Co-opted member

Russell Kew – Solent LEP

Hampshire County Council Officers

Keith Willcox – TfSH Project Director
Rory Fitzgerald – Head of Finance
Stuart Baker – TfSH Project Coordinator
Heather Walmsley – Project Coordinator
Andrew Wilson – Strategy Manager

Portsmouth City Council Officers

Hayley Chivers – Transport Policy Officer

Southampton City Council Officers

Frank Baxter – Transport Policy Team Leader
Phil Marshall - Regional Transport Planner

Stakeholders

Neil Andrew – Highways Agency
Graham Ellis – Southern Enterprise Alliance
Anne Marie Mountifield – PUSH
Maureen Pullen – Department for Transport
Josie Rogers – Network Rail
Andrew Wickham – Go South Coast

Observers

Charles Burns – Portsmouth Community/ Rail Futures/ Federation of Small Business

Compton & Shawford Parish Council

Councillor Mike Southgate

Eastleigh Borough Council

Councillor David Airey

Fareham Borough Council

Councillor Keith Evans (also HCC Member)
Rosemary Fletcher

Gosport Borough Council

Councillor Peter Langdon

New Forest District Council

Councillor Paul Vickers

Test Valley Borough Council

Viv Messenger

Winchester City Council

Councillor Vicki Weston

92. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Councillor Daniel Fitzhenry – Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport;
- Phil Dominey, South West Trains;
- Marc Reddy – First Hampshire and Dorset
- Andrew Hickman – Winchester City Council

93. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had a personal or personal prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting, they should normally at the time of the debate declare their interest, and having regard to the circumstances described in paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Code.

There were no declarations made by Members under this item.

94. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman's announcements can be found on the MIS system:

http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=&pref=Y&item_ID=3706&tab=2

95. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2011

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 April were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

96. TFSH MEMBERSHIP AND THE SOLENT LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (LEP)

The Chairman welcomed Russell Kew, Chief Executive of Wightlink Ferries and Business Board Member of the Solent LEP, to the meeting.

The Chairman confirmed how TfSH and the Solent LEP had been working together to develop transport solutions and to identify funding opportunities to support economic growth. The role of the Solent LEP was becoming important in terms of prioritising investment to facilitate growth in South Hampshire, and therefore the Solent LEP had been invited to nominate a Board Member to take a position on this Joint Committee. The Chairman informed the Joint Committee that Russell had agreed to take up the position.

Following agreement from Councillor Fazackarley from PCC, it was confirmed the Russell Kew was a co-opted member on the TfSH Joint Committee representing the Solent LEP.

97. UPDATE ON PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL (PCC) FUNDING INITIATIVES

The Joint Committee considered the report of the Assistant Head of Transport and Street Management Strategy) for Portsmouth City Council (Item 6 in the Minute Book) which informed the Joint Committee of the current funding bids developed by PCC; Tipner Interchange and Northern Road Bridge.

The officer enforced the importance of further development for Portsmouth, and how current funding restraints meant being more innovative with developing bids and applications. Portsmouth's success in achieving funding for two major schemes; Tipner and Northern Road Bridge was shared. It was confirmed that Tipner Interchange was very important with regards to access to the City and kick starting the regeneration process in Portsmouth.

The officer concluded that Portsmouth has made positive progress in regeneration and transport will play a key role in delivering the vision and aspirations of future development.

Linking up to the Bus Rapid Transit project was also a priority for PCC and something that Portsmouth were looking at for the future.

RESOLVED:

The Joint Committee:

- a) Noted the contents of the report

98. PLATFORM TO PROSPERITY PRESENTATION

The Joint Committee received a presentation from the Regional Transport Planner for Southampton City Council regarding plans to ease congestion problems in the port areas of the City Centre.

It was explained that a lot of congestion was a result of an increase in port activity, which was likely to further increase in the future with the rise of the cruise and car industry. The Joint Committee were informed that each cruise generated around £2.5m turnover for the local and wider economy and supported approximately 29,000 jobs both directly and indirectly.

The presentation showed areas that would seek further improvement such as Royal Pier and Town Depot, but focused on the Queens Park area and a proposed new route onto the Itchen Bridge.

The Committee were shown street view photographs of the current layout and the one-way routes that currently went around the park. It was demonstrated where the new layout would take place and confirmed that there would be dedicated right turn access into Dock Gate 4. The project was currently in the design stage and it was anticipated that work would start on site from early 2013 and be completed towards the end of 2014.

It was acknowledged that the improvements to congestion were in a Air Quality Management area and that they would have a positive affect regarding the air quality initiative.

The presentation can be found on the meetings information system via the link below:

http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=&pref=Y&item_ID=3707&tab=2

99. PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE LONG TERM STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (LTSIP)

The Joint Committee considered a report from the Project Coordinator for TfSH (Item 8 in the Minute Book) regarding the progress of a transport delivery plan for South Hampshire.

It was confirmed that the LTSIP would replace the current TfSH delivery statement and there were four key steps in the process as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report. 28 barriers had been identified as part of step 1 of the process, which were highlighted in Appendix A of the report. The officer confirmed that many organisations had been invited and taken part in a LTSIP workshop and agreed on the problems and possible solutions.

TfSH was currently working on the Option Testing phase of the study, which was based on the Reduce, Manage and Invest principle. It was accepted that the Implementation Plan was a live working document that would be reviewed in 2015 at the same time as it is estimated that the Sub Regional Transport Model will be updated.

The Evidence Base Contract was due to expire in March 2012, and would need renewing in order to continue. The report identified a number of benefits to renewing with the existing consultant and it was agreed that the Contract should be extended by 12 months.

The model had so far been very successful and received positive feedback from both the Department for Transport and the Highways Agency. In particular, DfT commented that the availability of the Evidence Base has been pivotal in the recent successes the area has seen.

It was stated that the TfSH evidence had been successfully utilised by a number of partners.

TfSH agreed that the findings of the 'Delivering a Sustainable Transport System' (DaSTS) studies had value and that it was important to look across boundaries in the South in order to fully solve some of the transport problems. This was accepted by DfT.

RESOLVED:

The Joint Committee:

- a) Agreed to extend the Evidence Contract with MVA Consultancy for a further 12 months from March 2012
- b) Agreed to take forward opportunities for joint working with the Transportation Research Group at the University of Southampton.

100. 2011/12 BUDGET UPDATE; 2012/13 INDICATIVE BUDGET

The Joint Committee considered a report from the County Treasurer for Hampshire County Council and the Project Director for TfSH (Item 9 in the Minute Book) regarding the budget outturn for 2011/12 and the revenue and capital budgets for 2012/13.

It was confirmed that the budget had increased slightly by £5,000 due to external funding received during 2011 and that funding would remain at the current level. There was also £190,000 of underspend due to changes to budget contributions made by TfSH and also staff vacancies. This allowed further financial support for future projects.

It was anticipated that partner contributions from the authorities would remain the same.

RESOLVED:

The Joint Committee

- a) Noted the current forecast for revenue and capital budgets for the 2011/12 financial year compared to the adjusted original budget;
- b) Approved the proposed carry forward to underspends from the 2011/12 revenue budget to 2012/13; and

- c) Approved the provisional revenue and capital budgets for 2012/13.

101. SOUTH EAST HAMPSHIRE BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) PROGRESS UPDATE

The Joint Committee considered a report from the Project Coordinator (Major Schemes) (Item 10 in the Minute Book) as TfSH Client Manager for BRT.

The opening of the BRT Phase 1A is scheduled for the 23 April 2012 and it is now possible to drive the bus route between Gosport and Fareham. Roads that had been closed for the works have been reopened and promotional days in Fareham and Gosport have been scheduled for the 13 and 20 April, where local residents will be able to find out about all the services on offer before the launch.

It was confirmed that this first phase of the BRT was part of an extensive medium and long term plan, which would eventually see high specification public transport linking Gosport with Fareham, Portsmouth and up to Waterlooville, providing people with state of the art buses and travel information systems. Live bus information would be available on the web and accessible via mobile phones, at bus stops and also Fareham train station.

Councillor Peter Langdon from Gosport Borough Council congratulated the TfSH team and engineers on the work done so far and said he had received no complaints from residents regarding the work carried out in Gosport. TfSH agreed that the contractors working on the project had done a very successful job at minimising the impact on local people. Councillor Langdon was pleased to tell the Joint Committee that residents were looking forward to the opening of Phase 1A and keen to see it expand.

It was agreed that the next few months were crucial for setting up work for the next phases and linking into the Tipner Interchange. Further progress would be fed back to TfSH later in the year.

RESOLVED:

The Joint Committee:

- a) Noted the contents of the report, which provided an update on the South East Hampshire Bus Rapid Transit, Phase 1A and future phases

102. TFESH RESOURCE PLAN

The Joint Committee considered a report from the Project Director for TfSH (Item 11 in the Minute Book) regarding the team structure of TfSH and plans going forward. It was confirmed that with future projects and bids coming up, two roles, over and above the Project Coordinator role are required in order to maintain a high level of work and be able to respond quickly to new workloads. The Joint Committee applauded the work of the TfSH team to date and agreed that it was important to have appropriate staff resource available for work

increases in the future. The Project Director confirmed that the budget was available to fund all posts on a full time basis if required, and that the full time equivalent basis of the two new roles would be determined in due course.

The Chairman made reference to two letters of support that he had had from his counterparts at Southampton and Portsmouth City Council's, confirmed support for the need for three roles within the TfSH core team and a specific post for the project management of the TfSH LSTF programme, should TfSH be successfully funded.

RESOLVED:

The Joint Committee:

- a) Approved the proposed structure of the TfSH core team for 2012/13
- b) Agreed to initiate the process of recruiting a Senior Responsible Officer to manage the Local Sustainable Transport Fund programme.

103. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman confirmed that he had received an email regarding the offered £5.3m grant repayment by Liverpool, which had been rejected by Ministers.

Department for Transport confirmed that there was a new 'Pinch Point' fund managed by Highways Agency, which was aimed at schemes of less than 3 years deliverability. The criteria had not yet been confirmed, but a total of £200m was available for schemes around £10m. Once the criteria had been formalised, Local Authorities would be officially made aware of this fund.

The Highways Agency confirmed that they were currently looking at areas of the M3 and M27, including Junction 5 on the M27. They were looking at remodelling the lower end of the M3 corridor (Junctions 14 -11) in order to ease congestion but were in the early stages of research.

Go South Coast spoke of the launch of Smart Cards, which would be rolled out across the south coast. The cards could be purchased and topped up online and will later extend to incorporate ferry travel to and from the Isle of Wight.

Russell Kew from the Solent LEP enforced that short term projects and those that provided jobs and have match funding were a priority and should be focused on by TfSH. Russell Kew also confirmed that a short document outlining the transport approach for Daedalus would be helpful.

Following an enquiry from Charles Burns from the Federation for Small Business, the Chairman confirmed that no more contact had been received from the Isle of Wight since the offer for them to join TfSH in 2011.