

**AT A MEETING of the TRANSPORT FOR SOUTH HAMPSHIRE and the ISLE OF WIGHT (TfSHIoW) JOINT COMMITTEE of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL, SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL AND PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 27 FEBRUARY 2014 at 2.39PM
in THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL, FAREHAM.**

PRESENT:

Voting Members Present:

Councillor Seán Woodward, Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment, Hampshire County Council

Councillor Ian Stephens, Leader, Isle of Wight Council

Councillor Gerald Vernon Jackson, Leader, as Substitute Member for Cllr Jason Fazackarley, Executive Member for Economy and Transport, Portsmouth City Council

Councillor Jacqui Rayment, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Southampton City Council

Transport for South Hampshire Officers

Stephen Gee – Project Officer

John Rider – LSTF Programme Manager

Phil Marshall – Principal Transport Planner

Hampshire County Council Officers

James Strachan – Assistant Director, Economy, Transport and Environment

Dominic McGrath – Strategic Transport Manager

Sue Lapham – Finance Manager, ETE Devolved Finance Unit, Corporate Services

Isle of Wight Officer

Chris Wells – Principal Officer, Transport Policy and Strategy

Portsmouth City Council Officers

Pam Turton – Assistant Head of Traffic and Street Management

Kathy Wadsworth – Strategic Director for Regeneration

Southampton City Council Officers

Frank Baxter – Head of Transport, Highways and Parking

Sarita Riley – Acting Monitoring Officer

Solent Local Enterprise Partnership

Anne-Marie Mountifield – Chief Executive

Stuart Baker – Head of Local Growth

Rob Stevens – Chairman of Solent Maritime Forum

Interested Parties

Marc Reddy – First Group
Stuart Roberts – Havant Borough Council
Go South Coast – Matt Kitchin
Stagecoach – Mark Turner

Observers

Eastleigh Borough Council – Councillor David Airey and Ed Vokes
Federation of Small Business - Charles Burns
Gosport Borough Council – Cllr Peter Langdon
Havant Borough Council – Stuart Wood
Fareham Borough Council – Claire Burnett
Winchester City Council – Cllr Vicki Weston
University of Southampton – Adrian Hickford

With the agreement of Members present, received a presentation on the Solent LEP Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) from its Chief Executive (formerly agenda item 9).

http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/meetingssummary.htm?date_ID=1481

The Acting Monitoring Officer was in the Chair

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Jason Fazackarley, Executive Member for Economy and Transport, Portsmouth City Council, for whom, Cllr Gerald Vernon Jackson, Leader, Portsmouth City Council was present as Substitute Member.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Noting that at 14.39 the meeting was quorate, and with the consent of Members present, nominations were invited to fill the Chairman's vacancy. Cllr Rayment proposed Cllr Woodward, which nomination was seconded by Cllr Gerald Vernon Jackson. Members voted unanimously in favour.

Councillor Sean Woodward took the Chair

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Woodward nominated Cllr Rayment to the vacancy of Vice Chairman, which nomination was seconded by Cllr Ian Stephens. Members voted unanimously in favour.

With the agreement of Members present, items of business were dealt with out of order.

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 6 of the City Council's Members' Code of Conduct leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 6(4) of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 4 Paragraph 13 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

5. BUDGET REPORTS FOR 2013/2014 and 2014/2015

The Joint Committee received a report (formerly Item 7 in the Minute Book).

Progress on revenue and capital budgets in 2013/2014 was provided and Members noted the proposal to carry forward unspent balances to 2014/2015 rather than return funds to the LTAs. DfT had agreed the carry forwards in addition to the year's allocations.

The Joint Committee were asked to approve the 2014/2015 revenue budget that was revised to take account of the available underspent funds and the allocation of the LSTF fund in the 2014/2015 capital budget.

RESOLVED:

- (i) to note the 2013/2014 budget position for revenue and capital;
- (ii) to approve the proposed carry forward of the anticipated unspent balance from 2013/2014 to 2014/2015;
- (iii) to approve the proposed partner revenue contributions for 2014/2015;
- (iv) to approve the provisional revenue and capital budgets for 2014/2015.

6. AUDIT OF 2012/2013 TfSHIoW ACCOUNTS

The Joint Committee received a report on the findings of the audit and the action plan in response (formerly Item 8 in the Minute Book).

There were no questions from Members.

RESOLVED:

- (i) to approve the revised Annual Return for 2012/2013;
- (ii) to note the auditors' report on the Statement of Accounts for 2012/2013; and

(iii) to approve the proposed actions in relation to the issues arising.

7. SOLENT LEP STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN – SUPPORTING TRANSPORT EVIDENCE

The Joint Committee received a report setting out the supporting transport evidence to the Solent LEP's Strategic Economic Plan (formerly Item 10 in the Minute Book).

The report summarised the historical position on funding and the competitive bidding processes in the Local Growth Fund. The transport evidence at Appendix 1 included material from the newly-formed Maritime Task Force and that of the larger scale transformational schemes previously presented together with schemes supporting the region's economic growth beyond 2015/2016 and those aimed at maintaining effective networks across the Solent area.

Cllr Airey (Eastleigh Borough Council) noted the importance of East – West rail connectivity, including better linkages to the Airport from the east, particularly from Portsmouth and Chichester. He also noted the potential for direct links from Hedge End to Southampton..

Similarly, North-South connectivity was emphasised by Cllr Stephens (Isle of Wight Council) for the strengthening of the Island's contribution to the region's commercial prosperity as a whole.

RESOLVED:

To ratify the Joint Committee's transport evidence for submission to the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership in its development of the Strategic Economic Plan for submission to Government.

8. RESPONSE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT'S CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT NATIONAL POLICY FOR THE NATIONAL ROAD AND RAIL NETWORKS

The Joint Committee received a report containing the Response to the Government's Consultation (formerly Item 14 in the Minute Book).

The Response emphasised the symbiosis of future travel demands generated by employment and housing development with that of economic growth across the region. The region's strategic rail freight and port interchanges were stated as being integral to the National Network development and urged the Department to research further the growth in traffic, something that had been historically over-estimated.

RESOLVED:

To ratify the Joint Committee's Response to the Government Consultation submitted on 26 February 2014 (Consultation Deadline).

9. FREIGHT INDUSTRY CONSULTATION

The Joint Committee received a report setting out the conclusions from the consultation held with the Freight Industry concerning issues affecting the region's logistics and haulage sectors (formerly Item 12 in the Minute Book).

The consultation's dominant findings were those of congestion and skill-decline that contribute to costs and operational effectiveness throughout the region. Whilst not averse to LEZ introduction, those interviewed felt their contribution had been made through substantial investment in Euro 4, 5 and 6 vehicles.

Councillor Airey (Eastleigh Borough Council) acknowledged the value of the consultation's findings on warehousing capacity to the development of Local Plans and hoped that the eventual purchaser of the Marchwood Military Port would, or would be encouraged to, make use of the existing good rail connection with the national network in its commercial planning for the site.

RESOLVED:

- (i) to note the key infrastructure needs;
- (ii) to note there is an urgent need to address the skills gap and to recommend that Members, the Solent LEP work with the logistics sector collaborate to deliver solutions to the skills challenge;
- (iii) to note the sector's current belief that there was no need for more logistics sites in the region; and
- (iv) to note the local logistic sector was not adverse to implementation of low emission zones (LEZs).

10. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 OCTOBER 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

11. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

Cllr Vernon Jackson left the meeting at 3.25 pm. The meeting was therefore no longer quorate and all subsequent items were dealt with as 'Briefing Items'.

12. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman updated the Joint Committee on a number of topics including:

- i) Re-naming the Joint Committee, "Solent Transport";
- ii) Transport Award successes included recognition for My.journey.com; Southampton as Transport City of the Year; Hampshire County Council with First Hampshire and Dorset for the Eclipse Bus Rapid Transport Project and Jess Eden, a Southampton employee, highly commended as Frontline Employee of the Year for their work on independent travel training for children with SEN.
- iii) Completion of Portsmouth's Major Schemes at Northern Road Bridge and the new M275 junction and Tipner Park and Ride.
- iv) Immediate and longer term impact of adverse weather in building additional resilience to the existing transport infrastructure and that being designed across the Solent area.
- v) LSTF – bidding for Solent-wide projects from the December 2013 announcement of £78.5M from Government for 2015/2016.
- vi) Collaboration with the Highways Agency and National Rail to the advantage of the Solent area networks.

The Chairman's Announcements are appended to these Minutes and available at:

http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/meetingssummary.htm?sta=0¤tpage=1&tab=1&date_ID=1481

13. SOLENT LEP STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN – MARITIME TASK FORCE

The Joint Committee received a presentation from the Chairman of the Maritime Task Force (formerly Item 9 in the Minute Book).

Members heard about

- i) the formation of the Task Force; purpose and its early endorsement from the Minister;
- ii) inclusion of a maritime supplement into the Solent LEP's Strategic Economic Plan (SEP);
- iii) the region's unique placement for world-leading trade in composites, marine technologies and maritime safety;
- iv) transformational opportunities in the region's ports and marine industry
- v) the need for a unified and coherent response from the maritime sector to develop opportunities for the region as a whole;
- vi) the inclusion of local industry in curriculum development to optimise skills development in readiness for trade development and expansion; and
- vii) insights and developing recommendations for the eight MTF themes across the Solent region.

14. LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND (LSTF) – MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Joint Committee received a presentation on the monitoring and evaluation of the Fund's programme from the Project's Manager and the University of Southampton (formerly Item 11 in the Minute Book).

Members heard about:

- i) The composition of travel throughout the region (frequency; type; distance; mode);
- ii) Formation of transport corridors; analysis of transport flows and needs followed by targeted behaviour changes and their measurement;
- iii) Infrastructure improvements to Fareham/Gosport; Southampton and Portsmouth;
- iv) My Journey; measured behavioural changes in the population's travel choices; recognition by Central Government of innovative scheme of free travel for job seekers that helped 43% of participants find employment during the Recession period;
- v) Engagement with health and children's services that realised independent travel for vulnerable children; reduced travel by car to school; provision of scooter/cycle training for 800 children.

15. LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND (LSTF)

The Joint Committee received a report updating the delivery of the Fund programme of work since February 2013 (formerly Item 13 in the Minute Book).

Members noted that implementation of Smart Ticketing had been achieved under budget and surplus capital funds would be carried forward to the programme's final year. My Journey had continued to be well-received through the campaigns and launches in social media. Publication of the highlights report, A Better Connected South Hampshire, summarised the monitoring work of the Fund with the key outputs delivered and outcomes achieved.

Also reported were the size and scope for the next round of bid-able transport initiatives for which joint and single bids were anticipated and being worked on for submission by 31 March 2014.

NOTED:

- (i) to note the progress of the LSTF work and to support its future work;
- (ii) to note the 2012/2013 Highlights Report; and
- (iii) to encourage bidding for additional revenue from the 2015/2016 LSTF Revenue Fund to support sustainable transport initiatives across the TfSHloW area.