



### **Solent Transport Manager**

Firstly, I'd like to welcome and introduce Andrew Wilson, who was recently appointed as the Solent Transport Manager. Andrew is responsible for leading on the work of the Solent Transport Partnership and I hope you will all join me in wishing him well in this important role.

### **Transport Funding**

I am pleased to announce that since this Joint Committee last met in October, more transport funding has been secured for the area, which will improve connectivity and help support economic growth.

The Highways Agency has secured significant levels of funding to improve the operation of the Strategic Road Network in the Solent area. This includes a number of localised improvements at the worst capacity bottlenecks and the implementation of Smart Motorways measures on both the M3 and M27 motorways. The Highways Agency will also be investing in the local road network, where this can improve the performance of the strategic network. We have a presentation on today's agenda from the Highways Agency with more details of their proposals.

The Solent LEP has also secured further Growth Deal funding for the Fareham/Gosport improvements package and essential maintenance work at Millbrook Roundabout, which is a key access point to the Port of Southampton.

### **Solent Transport Investment Plan**

Solent Transport is working closely with key partners through the Solent Strategic Land and Infrastructure Board to develop the Solent Transport Investment Plan. It is important that the development of this Plan is closely aligned with other strategic work, particularly the Partnership for South Hampshire's Spatial Strategy work, which is planning how new development will be implemented across the Solent over the next 20 years. This will ensure that the Solent Transport Investment Plan can comprehensively identify the transport interventions necessary to support growth in the Solent in the short, medium and longer term.

### **DfT Visit**

On 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015, First and Solent Transport hosted a visit to the Solent area by approximately fifteen staff from the Department for Transport, led by Anthony Ferguson, Head of Buses and Taxis at the DfT. The visit covered the Eclipse Bus Rapid Transit route, the Gosport Ferry, The Hard Interchange scheme, the Solent Go Smartcard, Portsmouth Park & Ride and the A3 Quality Bus Corridor from Portsmouth to Waterlooville.

Feedback from Anthony Ferguson was very positive:

"I am so grateful for the time and effort you and colleagues put in to making the trip so interesting and informative. I have done a few visits of this kind and yours has set a new standard.

In tough times there is a lot to learn from what you and your local authority partners have done in South Hampshire."