

REPORT OF THE
Cabinet
PART I

**254. PARTNERSHIP FOR URBAN SOUTH HAMPSHIRE BUSINESS PLAN 2016/18
AND THE SOLENT GROWTH FORUM**

1. At its meeting on 14 November 2016 the Cabinet received a report of the Director of Economy Transport and Environment regarding the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) business plan 2016/18 and the Solent Growth Forum.

2. The County Council is a member of PUSH which is a statutory Joint Committee composed of twelve local authorities in the South Hampshire and Solent area. It is a condition of the operation of the Joint Committee that each member authority reviews and formally ratifies each update to the business plan and therefore the 2016/18 update was presented to Cabinet to consider and make recommendations to County Council.

3. In addition to the Business Plan, the Cabinet also considered the proposal from PUSH to amend the Joint Agreement to enable PUSH to host the Solent Growth Forum, which provides collective local authority advice and guidance to the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership on its Local Growth Deal funding allocations and general strategy and approach to supporting economic growth.

4. Taking into account the content of the report, the proposed business plan updates, the significance of Local Growth Deal funding and the context in which PUSH is operating, it was resolved:

That Cabinet recommends to the County Council:

- i. That the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Business Plan for 2016-2018 be approved, but that the County Council reiterates its view that the targets for economic growth and related housing development are unrealistic and are not being delivered.
- ii. That authority is given for the County Council, as a member of PUSH, to enter into the revised legal agreement between PUSH and the Solent Growth Forum (SGF), as attached at Appendix 1 to this report, but that the County Council does not accept or agree with all of the contextual information contained in the appendices to the Joint Agreement, much of which is out of date, inaccurate or repeats unrealistic ambitions around growth and development.

5. The Cabinet report and appendices are attached to this report as Annex 1 and 2 for further reference.

RECOMMENDATION

That the County Council:

- (a) approves the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Business Plan for 2016-2018, but that the County Council reiterates its view that the targets

for economic growth and related housing development are unrealistic and are not being delivered.

- (b) as a member of PUSH, agrees to enter into the revised legal agreement between PUSH and the Solent Growth Forum (SGF), as attached at Appendix 1 to the Cabinet report, but that the County Council does not accept or agree with all of the contextual information contained in the appendices to the Joint Agreement, much of which is out of date, inaccurate or repeats unrealistic ambitions around growth and development.