

## HPPB LVEP Business Case Report – Appendix B

### Draft Letter to the LVEP Assessment Panel

Dear LVEP Assessment Panel,

I write on behalf of Hampshire County Council, and the Hampshire Prosperity Partnership Board, to offer my support for the Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP).

We fully endorse the formation of the LVEP and the opportunity to work alongside Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council, as well as with Tourism South East in their role as accountable body for the partnership.

Hampshire County Council recognises the tourism and hospitality sector as a significant economic driver for the Hampshire economy, contributing some £3bn annually. We welcome the opportunities that LVEP accreditation will bring to the county and the benefits of a closer working relationship with the national tourist boards and Government within this structure.

We believe that the leadership and strategic direction provided by the LVEP will support a more collaborative approach to promoting economic growth across the county. A joined-up destination management plan (DMP) will also provide an improved means to focus on sustainable and inclusive development into the future.

Hampshire County Council has agreed that the £5,000 subscription currently paid to TSE, along with existing Council staffing resource, can be used to fund the first year of the LVEP and develop a DMP. Any further funding from the Council is subject to separate funding requests following the completion of the DMP.

The uncertainty around the future shape of local government also needs to be taken into consideration, as it is likely that governance arrangements and structures will look different in the future.

We look forward to collaborating with our partners and wider public and commercial sector stakeholders to ensure that the LVEP is a success.

Yours sincerely,