

## HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on 17 October 2012

Present

Councillor Shimbart (Mayor)

Councillors Bastin, Mrs Blackett, Bolton, Branson, Briggs, Brown, Buckley (Deputy Mayor), Cheshire, Cousins, Edwards, Fairhurst, Farrow, Galloway, Gibb-Gray, Guest, Hart, Hilton, Keast, Lenaghan, Pierce Jones, Ponsonby, Mrs Shimbart, Mrs Smallcorn, Smith G, Smith J, Tarrant, Turner, Weeks and Wilson and Wride

### 24. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bastin, Collins, Gillett, Johnson and Kennedy.

### 25. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 25 July 2012 were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

### 26. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor gave details of past and future civic events and engagements

### 27. Cabinet Member Reports

Cabinet members submitted written and verbal reports on the work within their portfolios.

### 28. Cabinet/Board/Committee Recommendations

- A The Council considered Licensing Committee minute 14/09/2012 which recommended the Council approve and adopt the Criminal Records Bureau policy for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle driver licensing. It was proposed by Councillor Keast and seconded by Councillor Hilton that the minute be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED that Licensing Committee Minute 14/09/2012 be approved and adopted.

- B(i) The Council considered Joint Human Resources Committee minute 9/10/2012 which recommended the Council approve an amendment to the Committee Terms of Reference. It was proposed by Councillor Smallcorn and seconded by Councillor K Smith that the minute be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED that Joint Human Resources Committee Minute 9/10/2012 be approved and adopted.

- B(ii) The Council considered Joint Human Resources Committee minute 10/10/2012 which recommended the Council approve and adopt that draft Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure Policy and the Criminal Convictions Procedure . It was proposed by Councillor Hilton and seconded by Councillor Smallcorn that the minute be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED that Joint Human Resources Committee Minute 10/10/2012 be approved and adopted.

### **29. Portfolio Holders and Chairmen's Question Time**

Councillors Briggs, Cheshire, Guest, Weeks and Branson all answered questions relating to work within their portfolios. Questions for Councillor Collins were noted for future reply. Councillors Buckley and K Smith answered questions related to minutes

### **30. Acceptance of Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes contained within the Minute Volume dated 12 July – 3 Oct 2012 be accepted.

### **31. Appointment of Independent Persons**

The Council noted that Mr Andrew Kirk, Mr Michael Winter and Ms Kirsty Stratton had been appointed to assist the Joint Governance Committee to act in connection with Code of Conduct complaints.

### **32. Chichester Harbour Conservancy**

It was noted that Councillor J Smith be appointed to the Conservancy instead of Councillor K Smith.

### **33. Questions**

There were no questions.

**The meeting commenced at 5.00 pm and concluded at 6.11 pm**

**Portfolio Holder  
Reports  
Supplementary  
Information**

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## Portfolio Holder Report – Council 17 October 2012

### Cllr Weeks – Economy & Communities

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

There has been a slight fall in unemployment locally., regionally and nationally.

#### **Unemployed Claimants and Residential Unemployment Rate:**

**August 2012**

#### **Havant**

Census Area	Statistic Ward	Males		Females		Total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Barncroft		170	9.4	71	3.7	241	6.5
Battins		190	9.8	76	3.6	266	6.6
Bedhampton		84	3.1	44	1.6	128	2.3
Bondfields		164	7.9	71	3.4	235	5.7
Cowplain		56	2.0	29	1.0	85	1.5
Emsworth		51	2.1	31	1.2	82	1.7
Hart Plain		144	5.2	60	2.0	204	3.5
Hayling East		79	3.1	44	1.7	123	2.4
Hayling West		62	2.9	26	1.1	88	1.9
Purbrook		87	3.1	49	1.7	136	2.4
St Faith's		78	3.1	46	1.7	124	2.4
Stakes		146	4.7	75	2.3	221	3.5
Warren Park		218	10.7	116	4.9	334	7.6
Waterloo		99	3.5	41	1.5	140	2.5
<b>Havant</b>		<b>1,628</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2,407</b>	<b>3.4</b>

The “Top 70 firms in Havant” list has been updated by Economic Development staff and is available on request.

The 10 biggest firms in Havant (by number of staff ) are:

1. SSE 2600
2. Southdowns College 1500
3. ASDA, Bedhampton 850
4. Tesco, Solent Road 650
5. Xyratex 650
6. Lockheed Martin 550
7. Apollo Fire 450
8. Havant BC 377 (actual)
9. Fatface 310
10. Sandersons 300

#### **Business start up grants**

Since April 2012 Economic Development staff have visited 55 new businesses and signed them up for the grant scheme which is now fully subscribed. 5 reserve applications will also be taken.

#### **Inward Investment**

The planning application for a hotel and restaurant at the Bosmere Field site (adjacent to Langstone Technology Park ) has been approved. Economic development staff strongly supported the application and will be working with the developers, Fasset on a skills plan.

The planning application for a hotel, restaurant, car show room, industrial units, etc at the BAE site in Elletra Avenue , Waterlooville was approved. Economic development staff supported the application and will be working with BAE on a skills plan.

Economic development staff will be working with the developers to try to ensure that the 6 businesses in Brockhampton Lane who are effected by the planning application by Hargreaves to extend the Central Retail Park will be able to be relocated successfully. 108 people are currently employed at this site.

Demolition work has started on the southern side of Solent Road. Several redundant units have been cleared. The former Shore Laminates factory in Brockhampton Road has also been demolished. These sites are now owned by Hargreaves who have submitted planning applications to develop the sites for industrial use.

### **Local Enterprise Partnerships**

Bridging the Gap fund. 10 new businesses and 9 existing firms from Portsmouth, Gosport and Havant have been selected to put in stage 2 bids to this fund for start up businesses and business growth. New applications to the fund re-opened on 7 Sept and closes on 30 Sept. Economic development staff continue to market this fund to local businesses.

The government has awarded the 39 LEPs an interim £5 million funding package will be made available immediately to draw upon for the remainder of this financial year. This will be followed by up to £250,000 per LEP per year for the following two years.

### **Havant Skills and Employability Partnership**

Havant BC has been awarded Skills Academy status by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) CITB stated :

*“A welcome submission and the Council are to be congratulated on its efforts and commitment in making this happen”*

Economic Development and Planning Policy staff negotiated this with CITB. Skills Academy status enables the Borough to negotiate Skills Plans with developers of major projects.

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Havant Skills and Employability Partnership conference will be held on Friday 30 Nov 2012 at Langstone Technology Park.

## **Tourism**

### **Shopping Centres**

#### **HAVANT BOROUGH TOWN CENTRES VACANT UNITS**

LOCATION	Sept. 2011	April 2012	Sept. 2012
HAVANT	25/256 (9.77%)	27/257 (10.50%)	22/258 (8.52%)
WATERLOOVILLE	15/205 (7.32%)	18/205 (8.78%)	19/205 (9.27%)

LEIGH PARK	21/99 (21.23%)	22/99 (22.22%)	21/99 (21.23%)
EMSWORTH	2/117 (1.71)	3/117 (2.56%)	3/119 (2.52%)
TOTAL	63/677 (9.30%)	70/678 (10.32%)	64/681 (9.40%)

### Local openings and closures

- Headway charity shop has opened in Market Parade, Havant.
- Sallys Computer shop has opened at 8 Greywell Road, Leigh Park
- Autoplay (slot machines) has closed in Wellington Way, Waterlooville

### COMMUNITIES

The Community Marketplace

The second Community Marketplace will be on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at the Plaza. Confirmed presentations include the Community Independence Team, The Billy's Lake Conservation Project with more to follow. Invites will be distributed to local Community and Voluntary groups across the Borough and smaller, harder to reach groups will be targeted.

Hampshire financial review of CVS.

Surveys and Workshops were held throughout the county. Details can be found at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/voluntarysector/cvs-financial-support.htm>

### Waterlooville

Waterlooville Community Forum

Membership of the Steering Committee (15 people) has been confirmed. With an appointed Chairman, Vice Chair, and a Treasurer. A secretary is still yet to be elected.

Community Planning in Waterlooville

A Community planning group has been set up as a sub group of the Community Forum, they will focus on writing a survey and distributing these across the Waterlooville area to gather feedback from the Community.

'Community Development in Waterlooville' Facebook page:

- **Total likes** (the amount of new people that like the page) is 66 people. This is an increase of 4.76%.
- **Friends of Fans** (the amount of unique people who were friends with people that like the page) is 12,858 people (this is an increase of 1.79%).
- **People that are talking about this page** (commenting on status updates or sharing articles) is 26 people. This is an increase of 116%.
- **Weekly total reached** (the unique amount of people that have seen any content associated with the page). Between 16<sup>th</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> September is 508. This is an increase of 84.06%.

#### Waterlooville Events group/other events

A Waterlooville Events group has been set up who meet once a month. Their aim is to organise events in the area including the Town centre.

Events planned include a 3 day Christmas event including a Christmas Grotto, an Arts Trail event and a monthly Bandstand event. Also a big event for 2015 to highlight the Battle of Waterloo.

The Family Games Community event that was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> September and was well attended by local people of all ages. Taster sessions were held by local football teams and Southdowns Karate club. Donations from stall holders were given to the Rowans Hospice.

The Bandstand Marathon event held on 9<sup>th</sup> September in the Waterlooville Town centre was enjoyed by many people. Monthly 'themed' Bandstand events are planned for the near future.

'It's a Knockout' event held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September was a smaller event than previous years but still well attended and enjoyed by families that live in the area.

#### Billy's Lake project

John Candlish Welford has been appointed as the new Outdoor project worker for this project. He will lead the project with the support of members of the local community.

#### Hayling Island

##### Hayling Community Network

The initial consultation phase closes at the end of September, with over 700 responses to date. Key issues are parking, speeding, and things for young people to do, and there are many possibilities for the Network to develop. A full review will be presented to the Network at the October meeting. .

##### Hayling Billy 50 Project

A pre-application has been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund by HBC on behalf of the Project Team for £95,000. Celebrating the 50 year anniversary of the closure of the line, the Hayling Billy 50 Project includes the development of an interactive Leisure Trail to inform and educate on the local conservation areas and on the history of the Line, a project to capture the oral history of the people who worked on and used the Billy Line, the resurfacing of part of the Billy Line to improve accessibility, the restoration of the remaining Semaphore Arm and installation of other railway artefacts to ensure the Heritage of the Billy Line is preserved for the future.

#### Havant & Bedhampton

##### Havant & Bedhampton Community Network



A draft questionnaire has been compiled to be presented to the Network. It is hoped this will be distributed throughout October/November

### Leigh Park

Leigh Park Community Led Planning Group (Battins & Warren Park wards) – the group have started the first draft of a questionnaire/survey which they are hoping to start distributing widely before the end of the year. The Environment Agency have joined the group so that consultation for the Hermitage Stream improvements is incorporated into the community plans in the future

Leigh Park Community Forum – assisted the forum with their constitution and other relevant documentation.

Leigh Park Health Trainers - MyTimeActive have secured the contract for Health Trainers in Leigh Park. There are three positions currently being advertised for 2 x Health Trainers and a manager.

Parchment Place Residents Association. Bellway Homes have now submitted a planning application to Havant Borough Council to remove vandalised play equipment in the small play area.

Leigh Park Outdoor Play Project – the partnership are still waiting to hear from the Big Lottery following a proposal for a 3 year play programme to encourage more children, young people and parents to play outside. Some Leigh Park pupils from the Youth Council have attended the partnership meeting to give their input into the project which is now called “Leigh Park Free Rangers”. The group are also working very closely with the Leigh Park Community Led Planning Group to share consultation and survey findings.

CPIP – Community Playground improvement Project is a local community group of parents from Warren Park who are fundraising for new play equipment in St Clare’ Open Space (also known as Giant Steps). The group will also be sharing their consultation findings with the Leigh Park Outdoor Play Project and also the Community Led Planning Group.

RAPP (Rural Areas Play Project) & Play Day – Families from Warren Park attended the free Play Day that was organised by EHDC RAPP. The trip was at no cost to the council apart from officer time as the Leigh Park Asda Community Life Champion provided a free minibus. This joint partnership work was to build stronger working relationships for the benefit of the Leigh Park Outdoor Play Project which has similar interests to those of the Rural Areas Play Project.

### Emsworth

Emsworth Community Association – support has been to given the Fundraising Committee who are making improvements for the benefit of Emsworth residents.

## **Arts & Culture**

Currently supporting The Spring to produce an Emergency Planning Policy and Business Continuity Plan.

A bid has been submitted to the Lottery for £256k to increase the Cultural offer for the over 55's. The outline bid was successful and we are now working together on the next stage application.

Leigh Park ACE Activity Challenge Enterprise have a display in the Atrium of the Public Service Plaza. The display is artwork from competition winners of pupils across Leigh Park which was judged by the Mayor and Portsdown Arts Society.

## **Health and Wellbeing**

Older Persons Wellbeing – The Havant Partnership has agreed an Action Plan which consists of a wish list of projects for the area. Funding applications are being made by the various partners to secure the necessary budget to realise these projects. Further details available from Nicki Conyard – Communities Team Leader

BILL Roadshows (Being Independent in Later Life)

The BILL Roadshows have continued over the summer visiting Emsworth, Hayling and Waterlooville. Older people continue to receive information on a variety of services to support them to remain living independently at home, and Carers are given information to support them in their caring role

Meals on Wheels Delivery

The Tender process (Hampshire County Council led) has been re-launched as there were insufficient Tenders to cover all of the areas throughout the county.

## **Sports Development**

Street Sport

Street Sport held another successful Summer programme offering a variety of free sporting and cultural sessions.

New sports included volleyball, wheelchair basketball and squash. The programme is open for all year 3 to year 11 students and is hosted in venues throughout the borough.

## **Taste of Sport**

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July Havant Borough Council worked in partnership with East Hampshire District Council to deliver the Taste of Sport event. This event was linked to the Hampshire Water Festival at Staunton Country Park and saw approximately 2000 participants over the day.

This event was designed to raise awareness of local sporting opportunities prior to the start of the Olympic Games and the day before the Olympic Torch Relay came to Petersfield.

### **Light a Lantern Festival**

Havant Borough Council worked in partnership with East Hampshire District Council to deliver a Paralympic Sports Festival on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2012. The festival took place at Alton Leisure Centre and saw approximately 100 participants take part in a variety of disability sports. Such sports included boccia, new age kurling, wheelchair basketball and accessible climbing.

Participants also had the opportunity to hold the Olympic Torch and take part in a variety of arts and craft activities.

The festival raised awareness of disability sports and signposted participants into structure sessions where required.

### **National Windsurfing Festival**

The National Windsurfing Festival took place from the 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> September and was in it's seventh year.

The event saw approximately 500 competitors take part in windsurfing and stand up paddle boarding. This year also saw kite surfing demonstrations for the first time.

Havant Borough Council facilitated taster sessions for local residents over the weekend. A total of 80 participants took part in 1.5 hour sessions delivered by the Official Test Centre.

### **Sport and Physical Activity Alliance**

The Havant Sport and Physical Activity Alliance have funded ParkRun at Staunton Country Park. This free 5k run takes place every Saturday morning at 9am and has been attracting a regular 80 runners and introducing local residents into a physical activity scheme.

The Havant SPAA is now welcoming grant application from community groups to increase levels of physical activity.

### **Facilities**

Havant Hockey Club have opened their new playing surface at Havant College.

South Downs College have completed their new artificial turf pitch in College Road

### **Young People**

The Youth Council were asked to contribute to the Young People's Consultation Plan Summer/ Autumn 2012 for Havant. This is to identify gaps in provision for young people and to ensure that the services that are commissioned are what the area needs. In this way their voices are heard in the future planning of community provision.

Four youth councillors were recognised at the Havant Volunteers Presentation Awards.

The youth council are now working with Warblington School students and Charlie Fletcher on their successfully lottery funded Havant Heritage trail podcast project. The project is designed to increase the relevance and use of the Heritage Trail. The project is in the research stage at present and the group have created their own blog to upload their research to.

The youth council have also been invited by Theresa Wade to become an integral part of the Youth Advisory panel for Off the Record.

Youth council members have been working with the Leigh Park Outdoor Play Partnership to apply for Big lottery funding. If successful with their application the partnership will be seeking to improve and better utilise the current outdoor spaces in Leigh Park.

They are also working on a campaign to highlight the safety issues concerning the current crossing provision of the Langstone Road along the Billy Trail and are petitioning for the installation of a Toucan crossing. Youth councillors are currently working with their respective schools and intend to raise awareness in the wider community.

## HOUSING

### Completions to date

The first quarter (Apr-June) of 2012/2013 saw no new affordable housing provision, however the second quarter (July- September) has already delivered:

- 7 Mortgage Rescue completions
- 6 Government First Buy completions
- 5 Social Rented properties through Radian Housing Association on the Taylor Wimpey site off Hambledon Road in Waterlooville.

Throughout 2012/2013 this site is expected to deliver an additional 26 units

### Current development sites

- **158 Hart Plain Avenue (Brewmaster Pub Site)**- 11 affordable units to be provided by Guinness Hermitage, 1 and 2 bed flats. Start on site achieved March 2012, estimated completion 2013.
- **Raebarn House, Waterlooville**-, financial contribution in lieu of on site provision. This can be used in the future to enable the delivery of more affordable housing in a better location.
- **Hampshire Farm, Emsworth**- proposed 84 affordable units, mixed tenure, phased development over a 3 year period. This site is jointly owned by Bellway and Bloor Homes. First Wessex are now in contract with Bellway to provide 26 affordable homes in Phase 1. Estimated completion between January and April 2013.
- **Purbrook Park School site**- developer Barratts. First Wessex are now in contract with Barratts to provide 23 affordable units, mixed tenure. Handover dates are not known at this stage.
- **Mary Rose House, Woolston Road**- 25 affordable units, mixed tenure, to be delivered by Guinness Hermitage. Planning permission granted 31/08/2012.

**Hampshire Home Choice** - Elizabeth Wallington has started as the Hampshire Home Choice (HHC) Manager working across all four authorities. There was a HHC staff conference at Test Valley on 3 October 2012 giving an opportunity for all staff to discuss any new ideas about joint working and to raise any concerns. On October 26th the Hampshire Home Choice Board will meet with the local authorities' Portfolio Holders to review the HHC Allocations Framework in line with the Localism Act. Priority areas to be considered are under occupation, reducing the number of bands, giving Service Personnel priority and maximising the use of the national HOMESWAPPER scheme. Once reviewed, the Allocations Framework will be taken to the relevant Cabinets for discussion and approval.

**Homelessness Prevention and Housing Advice** – the second quarter of the year continues to see a rise in the number of households approaching the Housing Team for advice and assistance. A total of 9 households have spent some time in B&B during the quarter whilst enquiries are made and alternative accommodation found. Two households had 5 children each, making it very difficult to locate temporary B&B.

The emphasis continues to be on prevention and officers have been very successful attending court and obtaining stays of execution on warrants and resolving cases working with partners Housing Associations.

**Visit to Juniper Court Gosport** – On 20<sup>th</sup> August a visit was arranged to visit Juniper Court, this is an Extra Care Scheme managed by Guinness Hermitage. Also in attendance was Yvonne Weeks, Portfolio Holder for Housing at Havant Borough Council and Cllr Marge Harvey, Ward Cllr for Rowlands Castle. The purpose of the visit was to meet with Peter Rush from Hampshire County Council and look at a newly developed scheme which had received funding from the County. The scheme was beautifully designed. There is still some funding available through the County and there is a proposal to develop an Extra Care scheme on the Oak Park Hospital site in Havant.

**Housing and Welfare Benefits Seminar** – on the 20<sup>th</sup> August a seminar was held at the Plaza for councillors on the Welfare Reform and its potential implications for Housing and the local residents in Havant. It was extremely informative and generated many questions. For a copy of the presentation please contact Tracey Howard Service Manager (Housing) [tracey.howard@easthants.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.howard@easthants.gov.uk)

## Portfolio Holder Report – Council 17 October 2012

### Cllr Cheshire – Marketing & Development

#### MARKETING & CUSTOMER RELATIONS

##### **Customer**

The Service manager and Executive Head of Marketing & Development would like to thank the Overview and Scrutiny for the constructive and positive recommendations on the Customer Access Strategy Work Stream. The Customer Access Group are now working on developing the recommendations and have already made considerable headway by adopting the recommending model and publishing a Channel Strategy shared with EDHC.

During the Overview & Scrutiny meeting Councillors asked for a firmer definition on the phrase 'Channel Shift'. Channel shift is about moving customer contacts and transactions from more expensive options (telephone, face to face contact, letter) to less expensive options (self-service on the web, self-service through automatic voice recognition systems, and through the use of SMS on mobile phones) - effectively by moving from services which require staff to be involved to those which do not. The Havant Borough Council Channel Strategy focuses on moving customers to their preferred channel as a priority and the financial benefits this move realizes is an added benefit.

##### **Communications**

Development of the new Web is progressing well and the web project team are grateful to Councillor George Smith for working so closely with us to ensure we have the right start to our new Web services. Making the new Web live is the beginning of a very exciting programme working towards delivering improved 'back office' services through the Web Channel which can offer our customers improved communications and access to 'self service'. Councillor development drop in sessions with leadership from HR and Business Improvement will take place in January to introduce Councillors to the new Web.

A new-look Councillor newsletter have been introduced to improve the flow of information and ensure Councillors are fully briefed on both national and local developments. If you have any items you would like added to the future editions of the briefing then please get in touch with Will Parsons on [will.parsons@easthants.gov.uk](mailto:will.parsons@easthants.gov.uk).

##### **Marketing**

We are working towards holding an 'Open Day' for the Plaza in the spring of next year to celebrate the Services we offer from the building and to 'market' the Plaza to encourage residents to come in and speak to us. We would like to have a 'Special' visitor and have asked for Royal availability, although clearly Royal visits are limited



and we may need to change tack to an alternative special visitor to raise the profile. More detail about the 'Open Day' will follow as the plans progress.

A Specialist Marketing Company, chosen specifically from the marketing companies who work within our Borough, have been commissioned to assist with the Marketing of the event suite. The bookings of the room is on track as planned for the 'first year of business' and HOOT Marketing are helping us further understand our market and are helping improve our web/on line promotions. This assistance has been achieved at no extra budget due to careful management of the existing budget within Marketing & Customer Relations.

## **Equalities**

The Havant Multicultural Forum, with assistance from the Communities team and equalities officer, held a fantastic Multicultural Festival in Havant park on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September. The event was a huge success with thousands of people attending and excellent following press coverage in the Portsmouth News.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **Councillor Development**

Work is continuing on the Councillor Development Programme. Councillors have been invited to respond to a recent request from HR for any suggested development activity. In addition, HR are working with South East Employers to establish whether there are any development solutions which would be appropriate for Councillors.

Councillors are asked to note that notice has been served to South East Employers, however, use and value for money will be recorded over the 12 month notice period to determine whether there is value in continuing with the membership.

### **Human Resources (HR) Strategy & Transaction**

A significant number of HR activities have been delivered over the past few months in line with the people plan. These include the creation of a leadership development programme; development of a shared terms and conditions proposal and provision of a shared occupational health service.

Key HR focus for the next quarter includes staff engagement activities; development of a health & wellbeing strategy and development of an inclusivity strategy. Councillors are able to view the people plan on the web.

In addition, a workforce analysis dashboard has been implemented to provide managers with a new way of managing performance in their service areas. This dashboard will be produced on a quarterly basis. Councillors are able to view the dashboard on the web.

### **Learning & Development**

A review has recently been undertaken of the e-learning systems at both Councils. A shared e-learning system will be implemented in the next couple of months which will

ensure equal access for all staff to learning opportunities and reduce the overall cost of e-learning by £6,500 per year. We hope to show-case this software at the Drop-In in January (see Business Improvement below).

## **BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT**

### **Business Transformation**

The team is currently developing the strategic approach to service commissioning in the shape of the Marketing Strategy. This is focused on delivering “the right service, at the right time, in the right place, for the right people, with the right outcome”. The introduction of a marketing approach is a long term journey for the Council, and our progress will no doubt be driven by the financial challenges we face. The draft strategy was discussed at Informal Cabinet on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The Cabinet has approved the concept of this Marketing Strategy, which will, affect to some extent each Service within the Havant Borough Council core business.

### **IT Services**

#### *The IT Partnership*

Preparation continues to implement the new IT service at EHDC, and as this develops we are also putting in place new governance arrangements for the Partnership. Myself and the Leader will sit on the IT Partnership Board, alongside EHDC and HCC. The Board will drive the development of the Partnership, and seek out options for growth and development.

#### *Support and Awareness*

Many colleagues have benefited from spending time with the team to learn more about how to get the best out of IT. A further Drop-In is being organised for January, where we will be also show-casing the new web service and e-learning. Invites will follow.

#### *Developments*

It is very encouraging to receive ideas about IT, and how it can be used to improve services and the way we work. One recent example is the introduction of SKYPE, an online communication tool which will help Councillors and Officers to keep in touch, and reduce the need for travel. I’m pleased to say that we have now put this solution in place, and are encouraging it’s to support joint working with EHDC.

A key consideration for all ideas and suggestions is that of security. Along with every government department, the Council must adhere with security standards, and this often presents us with challenges not encountered in the private sector. This doesn’t mean we are not looking to innovate or be smart, and we appreciate all ideas – thank you!



## **Safer Havant Partnership**

### **ASB White Paper**

- Putting victims first: focusing the response on the needs of victims
- Empowering communities: Protecting victims
- Swift effective action: Giving professionals the tools they need to protect victims
- Long term solutions: Tackling the drivers of Anti-Social Behaviour.

Tim Pointer and Ryan Gulliver were speakers at the Local Government Association conference held on the 5<sup>th</sup> July in Westminster. The presentation which focused on supporting vulnerable victims and tackling neighbour nuisance was well received.

### **Strategic Assessment/Partnership Community Safety Plan 2012 - 2014**

The Annual refresh of the Partnership Strategic Assessment and Plan is under way. A draft will be circulated by the end of October to inform decisions at the November meeting of the Partnership

### **Domestic Abuse study**

The aim of the study is to identify any missed opportunities in relation to the early identification and provision of support to victims of domestic abuse.

Stage one of the study involved the analysis of some 250 referral forms completed by Havant Women's Aid (Southern Domestic Abuse Service) in relation to outreach support for survivors of Domestic Abuse.

Stage two will see 1-2-1 and facilitated group sessions with service users to drill down into the initial findings to inform stage three which will involve awareness training for front line staff

### **Performance headlines**

- Anti Social Behaviour has increased by 11% (150) over the last 6 months.
- Both criminal damage and arson have fallen substantially over the last 6 months.
- Violence against the person increased during the summer months in line with previous years trends.
- [www.saferhavant.co.uk](http://www.saferhavant.co.uk) has had over 18,300 unique visitors since its launch in 2008.

## Portfolio Holder Report – Council 17 October 2012

### Cllr Briggs - Leader

#### **Finance**

##### Facing the Future

The seminar on **Facing the Future** spelt out in graphic detail the enormous financial challenges that is facing local authorities in the future, Havant's budget will have shrunk from a high of £18.2 million down to £15.0 million for 2012/13 leaving £750,000 to be found to balance next year's budget.

The forecast up to 2018 is that our finances will shrink even further to around £10million as a result of the Government withdrawing rate support grant and other grants, our ability to finance major capital programmes will also be made much more difficult.

It is clear that Local Government will need to change both in the way in which we engage with our residents, finding out what service they want and are prepared to pay for, and looking at how we deliver those services, in house, outsourced, or in partnership with other authorities and agencies.

It may be that we will need to pool resources across authorities to obtain the efficiencies and quality that our residents will demand; these are the issues that the Cabinet will be concentrating on over the coming months. Ideas and input from members will be most welcome.

##### 2011/12 accounts

The Audit Commission presented their Annual Governance report to the Joint Governance Committee on 18th September. This showed that they expect to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the 2011/12 accounts. They conclude that we have made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in our use of resources. This is an excellent achievement considering that 2011/12 was a year of significant change.

##### Partnership for Urban South Hampshire

At the last joint committee the updated spatial strategy was agreed with no increase in housing numbers for Havant.

PUSH are supporting the Solent Enterprise Partnership bid for City Deal status This would cover the cities of Portsmouth and Southampton and hopefully District Councils of the Solent region.

In my capacity as Chair of the Push Economic delivery Panel, I have arranged a meeting between the Chair of the Solent LEP, Portsmouth City Council and Hampshire County Council to explore opportunities for funding the infrastructure

requirements for Dunsbury Hill Farm. This Portsmouth City Council owned land is a key strategic site in our economic growth plans.

I am a member of the LEP regional Growth Fund Panel which allocates growth fund grants both to start up SME's and SME's seeking expansion in Portsmouth Gosport and Havant. The £2 million fund is to stimulate the growth of jobs in the small to medium size enterprises.

The Joint Committee adopted a green infrastructure plan which has 13 projects going forward. In you would like to read more information about PUSH activities, they can be viewed at <http://www.push.gov.uk/>

## **Solent LEP**

I attended the annual general meeting of the company on 13 September and had the opportunity of meeting with the Directors.

### Public Service Plaza

On 19 September I hosted an informal cheese and wine session with our East Hampshire District Council colleagues, this included a tour of the Plaza. It is always good to be able to showcase our offices to neighbouring authorities, and the feedback was extremely positive.

### Dedication ceremony – Hayling Island

On 27 September, I was delighted to attend the dedication ceremony to mark the reconnaissance work carried out by the Combined Operations Pilotage Parties who were based on the island during the Second World War. Many people attended the ceremony including Countess Mountbatten and General Sir David Richards.

## Portfolio Holder Report – Council 17 October 2012

### Cllr Branson - Governance and Logistics

Havant's options for Council Tax Support were the subject of a South Today broadcast recently where I appeared I appeared in the same item as a disabled claimant, and the minister Brandon Lewis MP. I asked him a question about about this issue at a Department of Communities and Local Government session at the recent Conservative Party Conference. He is now following me a Twitter!!!

#### **Update on Welfare Reform Issues**

- **Benefit Cap** - The introduction of a cap on the total amount of benefit that working age people can receive. This is likely to be £500 per week for out of work couples and lone parents and £350 per week for single out of work adults. The cap will not affect working families, pensioners and those on disability benefits. Initially, from April 2013, the cap will be delivered by Councils and will be applied as a reduction to Housing Benefit payments. Longer term the cap will be delivered through the Universal Credit system.

The Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) undertook a further direct mail exercise between 20th September and 5th October 2012 contacting individual claimants providing information about how the benefit cap may affect them and what support is available.

- **Size Criteria for Social Sector Housing Benefit awards** - From April 2013, there will be a size criteria for new and existing working age Housing Benefit claimants living in the social rented sector. Housing Benefit payments will be reduced by a national percentage rate depending on how many bedrooms the household is considered not to require.

The DWP have now introduced new Regulations that enable us to exchange data with social sector landlords to help with the implementation of these changes and with the identification of which households are likely to be affected. Discussions with social landlords are continuing and the Benefits team are working closely with social landlords and the Housing Options team to identify and inform customers who will be affected.

- **Localising Council Tax Support**

The Welfare Reform Act abolishes Council Tax Benefit. This is to be replaced, from April 2013, by a localised scheme of Council Tax Support which will be introduced by the forthcoming Local Government Finance Act.

We will be responsible for designing and implementing our own Council Tax Support scheme. The Government will continue to fund the scheme but overall there will be a 10%-15% reduction in government grant. Details of the exact impact on individual Council's have not yet been announced but the

funding reduction for benefits paid to Havant Borough residents is estimated to be around £1.4m. This reduction would be apportioned between ourselves, as the billing authority, and the other precepting authorities.

The Local Government Finance Bill also proposes giving Councils the flexibility to reduce the council tax discounts that currently apply to certain types of empty properties and second homes as a way of increasing council tax revenue. This could be used to offset some of the funding reduction.

Cabinet has considered a number of approaches and has decided to consult on three options. These were discussed with Councillors at the briefing session held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

Public consultation on these options commenced on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2012 and will run for 12 weeks until 4<sup>th</sup> November 2012. A decision on the final scheme needs to be made by December 2012.

### **Internal Audit**

As reported to the Joint Governance Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> September, as at 31 August 2012, 12 of 29 audit projects (includes 2 follow up reviews) for 2012/13 have been completed to final or draft report stage. 5 audit reviews are currently classified as work in progress. The 2012/13 audit plan is currently on target to achieve 100% as revised during the first quarter of 2012/13.

### **Income Collection**

- Council Tax collection as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012 was 48.76%. This is an increase of 0.3% when compared to the same point last year.
- Business Rates collection at the end of August 2012 was 50.56%, slightly up on the 50.18% collected for the same period last year.

### **Emergency Planning**

#### **Weather**

This summer has been very wet! We have received a total 110 Met Office severe weather warning (and on several occasion more that four per day). These reports are monitored and checked against the tide height a time to assess the risk to residents. During the summer we received no reports of any significant flooding or storm damage in the Havant area.

#### **HCC SLA**

HCC emergency planning unit has undergone a number of staffing changes, this has not reduced their ability to carry their work under the Service Level Agreement. They have produced and amended a number of emergency plans during the summer.

#### **Pollution**

The Marine and Coastguard Agency (MCA) has now refunded our costs for the Palm Oil incident in January 2011.

We received a number of calls about the sea turning red in Langstone Harbour in September, we worked with EA, SWA, and HBC environmental team in identifying the cause (drain tracer dye).

## **Legal, Democratic and Electoral**

The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

On 10 September 2012 new regulations came into force which affects the day to day business of District and Borough Councils'. Set out below is a summary of the salient points and how they apply to us.

The Government have said that the new regulations improve transparency in local authority decision making and applies to all Districts/Boroughs, Counties and Unitaries in England that operate executive arrangements under Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000 (both Havant and East Hampshire do). The general principle of the Regulations is for the public to have access to meetings and documents where a local authority executive, committee or individual is taking an executive decision.

i) The Regulations set out:

- The presumption that meetings of local authority executives and their committees are to be held in public;
- Circumstances during which the public must be excluded from meetings;
- The formalities to be complied with before a private meeting is held;
- Formalities to be complied with before a public meeting takes place; and
- Rules relating to access to the agenda and reports for executive meetings.

We are complying with the majority of these points already, but one change is that if the Cabinet intend to hold a meeting that will consider a confidential item, we must give 28 days clear notice of the intention to do so. This means confidential items will need to be planned well in advance. There is dispensation to deal with an urgent confidential matter within the 28 days period with the permission of the Scrutiny Chair and the Mayor/Chairman of the Council.

ii) There is a requirement to slightly amend the way we publicise forthcoming key decisions by adding more information to the Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

This has been actioned by Democratic Services.

iii) There are regulations stating that decisions, once made, must be recorded in a written statement and made available to the public both online and at the Council's offices together with background papers and reports.

The minutes of Cabinet that are always produced after each meeting cover these aspects of the regulations. Where a decision has been made by a Portfolio Holder (at Havant) or by Standing Order 41 (East Hampshire), Democratic Services will from now on publish online the details of the decision and where the public can find further information.

iv)The Regulations state that Overview and Scrutiny Committees have additional rights to access documents and that they have the right to view confidential and exempt Cabinet reports if they are related to subjects that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are currently scrutinising/reviewing, or have included in their work programme for future scrutiny or review.

Both Havant and East Hampshire Scrutiny members involved in an issue where a confidential report is produced for Cabinet are currently entitled to see it.

The remainder of the Regulations are already covered by procedures that we carry out now and have done for some time.

### **Business Continuity**

Business continuity plans are being reviewed to ensure they meet the changing needs of the business as the service reviews continue. Work is also being done on a plan for the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections in November with particular attention being paid to the possibility of adverse weather conditions.

## **Portfolio Holder Report – Council 17 October 2012**

### **Cllr Collins - Environment & Neighbourhood Quality**

#### **Operational Services**

##### **Open Spaces including Beachlands**

The programme of highway weed control that we undertake for HCC under an agency agreement is coming to an end for 2012. This has been the most challenging year for over a decade with many more days of rain than is normal. Given the programme is for two applications of non-residual herbicide, the objective is not eradication of weeds but control of the amount and size of weeds to prevent structural damage to the highway. We have been very successful in achieving this.

Work on converting Bidbury Mead bowling green to an all-weather surface began on Monday 1 October with HBC assisting in this Bowls Club project. Conversion to an all-weather surface will extend the length of the playing season, reduce maintenance costs and help make the future of bowls more sustainable.

A programme to refurbish the Council's tennis courts is also under way with courts in Cowplain recreation ground and Purbrook Heath completed so far. This work will prevent deterioration of valuable assets and pave the way for a growth in 'park tennis' in the future.

##### **Waste Strategy and Recycling**

Garden Waste is going from strength to strength, even through September we were averaging 10 new Customers a week. To date we have 6105 Customers on the scheme, compared to 4,700 end of first year an increase of 23%

Total of bag licences sold 3,145

Total of wheeled bin licences sold 2,937

Tonnages up 22% this year (compared to first six months of last year)

On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September Councillor Jackie Branson & I attended with senior officers and councillors from across Hampshire a workshop on 'The Strategic Future of Waste in Hampshire', which considered the 'refresh' of the Hampshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and future plans for the Project Integra Action Plan. Final approval will be sought from Cabinet by the end of the financial year.



Waste Advisers and crews are focussing on contamination of recycling and excess waste in the Waterlooville area from September until October and following on the success of the previous project in Leigh Park we are confident that the work the Team do will help our residents.

## **Environmental Health**

During the summer months there was a noticeable increase in complaints about mosquitos not only on Hayling Island but from areas which do not normally experience problems such as Waterlooville and Cowplain. The increase was due to the combination of particularly wet weather and warm temperatures and probably aggravated by restrictions placed by English Nature on the treatment of SSSI sites. Following discussions they were reassured that treatments we use are harmless to non-target species and permission has been granted to resume treatment of known breeding areas. The increase in mosquito numbers was conversely matched by a dramatic decline in the number of requests for treatment of wasp nests.

## **Neighbourhood Quality**

### **Community Safety including CCTV**

The Community Safety Team is currently working with the Police and other Partners to tackle alcohol and drug related antisocial behaviour in the vicinity of Norfolk Mews and Norfolk Crescent on Hayling Island. Other areas being addressed at present include Swanmore Road, Havant Thicket for motor cycle noise nuisance and Masefield Avenue, Longmore Road where requests have been received from residents to close an alleyway linked to crime and anti-social behaviour.

Plans are being drawn up at the monthly Community Tasking and Co-ordinating Group meetings to tackle an anticipated increase in Anti-social behaviour over the Halloween and Guy Fawkes period.

## **Environmental Quality**

We continue to aggressively patrol hot spot areas for litter, dog fouling, fly tipping, graffiti and fly posting offences and appropriate action is taken. We are also working closely with the HCC Accredited Community Safety Officers (ACSOs) who also have powers to serve fixed penalty notices

We continue to monitor open spaces in the borough to ensure defences are still in place against unauthorised encampments. Following on from the successful seminar on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, an updated draft unauthorised encampments protocol and the policy

on gypsies and travellers is being prepared . It is hoped that this will encompass both Havant & East Hampshire Councils.

A bill for the repossession of the highway land at the A259 cul-de-sac has been sent to Hampshire County Council.

## **Transport & Implementation**

### **Hayling Billy Trail Phase 4 Bridge Approaches (Sustrans / HBC / HCC S106 Funded)**

The project to extend the Trail southwards from opposite ‘The Ship Inn’ to Langstone Bridge has been tendered and the required minor land purchase is in progress. Work will start on 5<sup>th</sup> November to build the section of footway widening at the Ship Inn bus stop; the contractor is Caroway Contractors from Rowlands Castle. This work will be complete by Christmas but will require a few days of traffic light control on Havant Road to build the new bus stop. We are presently unable to carry out the last section of work on the Trail (an off road track past the Langstone Sailing Club HQ) due to the refusal of the Development Management Committee to remove a condition from an earlier planning permission affecting the mainland part of the Trail (completion of this last section would place the Council in breach of the planning condition). The project to complete the route from the south end of the Bridge to the ‘Texaco’ garage is in design and a small section may be ready for construction in the spring (again subject to funding and tender return values).

### **Park Road South, Havant Enhancement (HBC / HCC S106 Funded)**

Design is continuing and subject to the approvals process, construction of the scheme is expected to be undertaken from April 2013. Detailed design centred on the arrangement of the toucan crossing next to McDonalds will be resolved shortly and this will allow the scheme proposals to be finalised.

### **Park Road North, Havant Enhancement (HCC Funded)**

In parallel with the Park Road South scheme, this project has been designed and subject to cabinet approval, safety Audit, and tender return values will be constructed starting on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

### **Morelands School (HCC Funded Safe Routes to School)**

This scheme continues to be designed up with some details of the proposal being subject to approval of Portsmouth city Council. The scheme involves the transfer of some school land to the highway authority and this is in progress; this will enable the

widening to shared cyclist / pedestrian status of the path linking Crookhorn Lane to Liddiards Way.

### **Eastoke Access and Disabled Parking**

The railings have been installed around the shrub bed and the final bound gravel surface will be laid in early October on the first dry day. The replacement shrubs and trees will be planted in November.

### **Waterlooville Town Centre (HBC, PUSH Funded)**

The canopy with artist designed decorative roof panels was installed in August in the central event space and an opening event was held on 9 September, just before the launch of the Bandstand Marathon. The canopy was formally opened by the Deputy Mayor, and representatives from Rocon Contractors, Sun & Shade canopy fabricators and the artist Bruce Williams attended.

### **Hambledon Parade, Waterlooville (HBC Funded)**

Two alternative parking layouts are being explored by the design team and Members will be consulted about the preferred option this autumn. Once a preferred option is agreed the project will go to Cabinet for approval.

### **Middle Park Way / Petersfield Road (HCC Funded Safe Routes to School)**

Signing completed and lining in Middle Park Way creating a cycle link between Petersfield Road and Woolston Road still to be carried out

### **Havant Park Ramp, Havant (HBC Green Transport Funded)**

The works have been completed.

### **Havant New Lane Cycleway, Havant (HCC Funded)**

Detailed design of the project completed and tenders are expected back by Mid – October.

### **Trosnant Schools (HCC Funded Safe Routes to School)**

Possible options for a crossing are being considered and detailed design is expected to be complete by end of October 2012

## **West Beachlands Resurfacing Works (HBC Funded)**

Remedial works and resurfacing of a section of the access road leading to the Inn on the Beach have been completed. Works to apply a surface dressing to the access road, Sunset Café bench area and the toilet car park have been deferred until early March 2013 due to the weather and reaching the end of the surface dressing season. Options are being explored to resurface the toilet car park and café bench area with an alternative material.

## **Frendstaple Road Cycle Route (HBC Green Transport Funded)**

Design has commenced on a scheme to provide a cycle route from A3 London Road to Park Lane via Highfield Avenue, The Glade and Tempest Way utilising the existing highways and footpaths wherever possible. The first stage of the scheme is to provide a link to Queens Inclosure Primary School via Burnside and a route from Highfield Avenue to Cornelius Drive via the Glade

## **Parking and Traffic Management**

The Parking Team continue to patrol the Borough and issue tickets to vehicles contravening the restrictions. The school visits have started again with the return of the schools in September in a bid educate new parents and remind old ones about the safety issues caused by parking outside schools. 25 tickets for zig zag parking at schools have been issued to date.

The Traffic Management Team continue to locate the speed limit reminder in locations where speeding complaints have been received and then forward data to the police when necessary to get them to follow up with enforcement action. Several Traffic Regulation Orders are being worked on and several more have been implemented.

Hulbert Road, lay-by – Complete 03 September

Linkenholt Way, junction parking – Works ordered, completion by end of October

Charles Close\Gordon Road – Public consultation complete – no objections

Homewell/Bulbeck – Ready for advertisement

Havant East – Cabinet October

Silvester Road – Cabinet October

Marples Way, Emergency TRO, DYL's access. – Objections received possible Cabinet November

Auriol Drive, Havant Road and Glebe park Avenue – Objections received possible Cabinet November

The Drive, Fitzwygram Crescent - Objections received possible Cabinet November

After consultation with Councillors both Eastoke Avenue and Bliss Close/Shafsbury Avenue have been agreed that no more action be taken and the requests dropped.

# Report to Council 17 October 2012

By: Cllr David Guest, Planning & Development Portfolio Holder, Design & Heritage Champion

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## Planning Policy

The Planning Policy Team continues to promote investment in the Borough through involvement in all the stages of major sites and plan making to create an investment framework.

Background work on the Local Plan; Allocations, has been on-going with technical transport modelling, further research on flooding, infrastructure coordination and a public exhibition on initial ideas for the regeneration of East Street in Havant.

The next significant stage is a special Cabinet meeting scheduled for 24 October when the preferred sites will be recommended to Councillors. The sites that are agreed will then go forward for further public consultation early in November for a six week period. The public and media interest in this is expected to be significant and Councillor's support at the exhibitions will be appreciated.

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Examination took place in September by written representations and the Inspector's report is awaited. The implications of introducing the CIL Charging Schedule could be far reaching and will change our relationship with Hampshire CC, who will expect us to give them a significant proportion of the money we collect to maintain their services. A Memorandum of Understanding is being drawn up as a start of this process.

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## Development Management

### Major applications

Despite the Economic downturn the team is extremely busy with a number of major applications. The planning team continues to work very close with planning policy, housing and economic development to deliver the Council's strategic priorities of jobs and homes for local people.

There has been a flood of significant major planning applications (16 currently on the books) for both housing and employment developments. Five major housing applications across the Borough are currently under consideration proposing a total of over 450 homes in addition to a revised proposal for part of the Hampshire Farm development at Emsworth. New major employment and retail schemes are also being considered in Solent Road, Havant.

A number of major housing schemes are now well underway – this includes Hampshire Farm at Emsworth, Waterlooville MDA and Purbrook Park. This will increase the number of new homes completed which is very much welcomed and will boost the amount of New Homes Bonus available to the Council for investment.

Two major employment proposals were considered at a special meeting of the Development Management Committee held on 18 September. The Committee resolved to grant permission for employment and leisure proposals, including two new hotels, at the BAE Systems site at Waterlooville and at land adjacent to the Langstone Technology Park in Langstone.

### Councillor Training

A comprehensive Councillor training event for Havant and East Hampshire members was held on Friday 28th September at the Plaza. This, the second of a series of shared planning training events, was provided by Trevor Roberts Associates and focussed on the Councillor's role in Development Management.

The next shared planning training event will be an in-house session focussing on Conservation and Heritage – to be held on Monday 15th October 2012 from 6pm to 8pm in the Council Chamber.

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### **Building Control**

The implementation of Building Control charges at Havant was completed in August 2012 and we are now carefully monitoring the situation. Although we are at a very early stage the current position is that we have not seen any increased loss of work to the private sector and income is beginning to slowly increase as the impact of the changes takes hold. Current figures show that Building Control is on track to meet budget predictions at Havant although the figures should be treated cautiously as the impact will only be fully seen over a longer term.

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### **Coastal Engineering**

#### **Coastal Partnership**

Client Manager Board Meetings have been attended by all authorities.

A meeting of the Joint Cllr Member Board has been arranged for the 22nd November 2012.

Monthly budget profiles are now being circulated to Client Managers and spend profile is on target.

Key Projects are being progressed in accordance with agreed programmes and targets.

Staffing - New Coastal Engineer (Mark Stratton) joined the Team in August, Coastal Project Engineer (Kirsty Klepacz) on maternity leave and Coastal Engineer (Clive Moon) given notice of resignation to leave in November due to relocation. The recruitment process commenced to replace the impending vacancy and to provide cover for maternity leave.

#### **Procurement Professional Services & Minor Works Frameworks**

The formation of the coastal partnership saw early complications with regards to complying with the varying standing orders and the ability to 'join up' our delivery methods for our various projects. The shared service environment is best served by a framework approach for suppliers.

Priority was given to enabling the appointment of professional services (consultants) to facilitate delivery of the various strategies and studies being undertaken. Not only does the framework approach tackle standing order variations, it also allows quick and easy appointment to different sized tasks thus enabling the Coastal Team to work in an integrated approach, optimising income opportunities for the team.

The second priority was to form a contractor's framework for the purpose of undertaking maintenance/minor works across all partnership authorities. Participation from neighbouring authorities not within the partnership was also to be investigated with the aim to share procurement costs. Minor Works Framework for the procurement of maintenance and minor capital coastal works is currently in the last stages of tender evaluation. This follows a robust restricted procurement procedure advertised in the OJEU.

Suppliers were shortlisted to tender by way of Pre-Qualifying Questionnaires with procurement professional support provided by PCC.



The framework will cover a total of 17 coastal authorities across the region. All future users outside of the partnership will be required to contribute towards the framework set up cost. The framework is due to be implemented in November 2012. The professional services framework is being used effectively by the team, having already called off contracts for the River Hamble - Portchester Strategy and the Solent Wide Habitat Study. A total of 6 suppliers are on the framework, with sign up from 11 local authorities. Agreement has been gained by the Environment Agency to refund the procurement costs in total via recharging on our various capital schemes. Standard documentation and guidance is in development to ensure consistency with our Team approach.

### **Eastoke Point Coastal Defence Works**

The Environment Agency approved a sum of £240k for Havant Borough Council to design new sea defences to manage the risk of a breach and flooding. The scheme has progressed well with an estimated saving on the allocated budget with the design work costing ~£180k. The Project Appraisal Report PAR submission is being prepared and is due to go to the Environment Agency for approval in the next few weeks. It is programmed that an application for planning consent will also be submitted in the next few weeks. The estimated scheme cost is £5.1million and it is the intention that this will be fully met by 'Flood Defence Grant in Aid' funding. Subject to approvals construction could start in spring 2013.

### **South Hayling Beach Management Plan**

A Beach Management Plan (BMP) is required for the Eastoke nourished beach and will extend across the entire Hayling open coast. The BMP will identify how the nourished beach is managed, including areas where material is extracted for recycling. The plan will be used as the basis for securing future funding from the Environment Agency. The BMP report is now drafted and is due to be peer reviewed by the EA prior to submission in October. The Project Appraisal Report (PAR) submission for 5 years FDGiA funding is being prepared and is also about to undergo EA peer review. Both the BMP report and PAR are to be submitted to PAB (Environment Agency approval) in October. The recommendations of the BMP are being presented to JEB and Cabinet in September for approval prior to submitting to the EA. The sum requested from the EA is ~£1.4million to meet the costs of Recharge, Recycling & Monitoring over the next 5 years.

### **Solent Wide Scoping Study for the Strategic Network of Environmental Sites**

The aim of this study is to fully scope the requirements for a future detailed study on sustaining and enhancing the integrity of the Solent wide network of strategic environmental sites. This will have an emphasis on high water roost sites and identify key influences that impact strategic land use.

Basically, the study will explore the effects of localised coastal change policy on the wider Solent network of sites, enabling us to avoid harm when making localised management decisions - vital for sites such as Farlington Marshes. This study has an approved budget of £77,000, which is 100% externally funded by Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA).

This Scoping Study is nearing completion. The second workshop (held on 28th March 2012) was well attended and the project team received a lot of useful information from stakeholders, helping inform the development of the final Action Plan and study. The Action Plan is a key output of this Scoping Study, as it sets out future works, recommends lead authorities to undertake the works, considers costs, timings, and prioritises works based on their importance.



The Action Plan has been drafted, reviewed by the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP), and the Consultants are currently making amendments following our comments. We anticipate receiving a final draft report and Action Plan by the end of September 2012. Upon completion, this final draft will be circulated to Key Stakeholders, to seek their opinion on whether completion of the Actions would help us move forward and make informed coastal change management decisions in the Solent, whilst maintaining the network of strategic environmental sites. Mapping outputs from the report have already been used to advise development control. The final Scoping Study will be available on our website (November 2012) and we will continue working closely with Stakeholders to ensure the Action Plan moves forward.

### **Portchester Castle to Emsworth Strategy**

The Environment Agency is working in partnership with Havant Borough, Portsmouth City, Chichester District and Fareham Borough Councils to produce the Portchester Castle to Emsworth Coastal Flood and Erosion Risk Management Strategy. The Strategy will look at the best way of managing coastal flood and erosion risk over the next 100years. The final Strategy Appraisal Report (StAR) has been reviewed by the ESCP to ensure that all of our previous comments have been taken into account. The EA are now considering our final comments and once Officers are satisfied they have been incorporated into the StAR we will then seek Cabinet approval.

### **Coastal Communities Adapting to Change (CCATCH)**

The CCATCH project will raise awareness and understanding amongst Solent communities of coastal change and in particular sea level rise. Climatic changes predicted over the next few decades may increase sea levels and the frequency and magnitude of storms, which would increase the risk of coastal flooding and erosion.

CCATCH; through working in partnership with Local Authorities (such as the Coastal Partnership), will identify the priority 'at risk' communities around the Solent by assessing the future risk of coastal climate change. Through consultation, communication and engagement, the CCATCH project will help coastal communities most at risk to coastal change, understand the process of coastal change which will enable adaptation to increase flood resistance and resilience to their homes and properties (ways to keep water out and also limiting water damage).

These coastal communities comprise residents, local businesses and landowners. Hayling Island and Langstone have been selected to participate in the CCATCH project which is being led by the Solent Forum. The CCATCH project is part of the wider CC2150 European project which aims to engage with coastal communities at risk of change in new and innovative ways.

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