

HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Meeting held on Friday 28 September 2007 at Council Offices, Newport, Isle of Wight

Present:

Basingstoke and Deane	Councillor A Finney T Curtis (Chief Executive)
East Hampshire	Councillor P Burridge W Godfrey (Chief Executive)
Eastleigh	Councillor K House Councillor A Winstanley B Topham (Chief Executive)
Fareham	Councillor S Woodward Alan Davies
Gosport	I Lycett (Chief Executive) K Carron (Head of Housing and Enabling)
Hampshire	Councillor B Dash Councillor A Rice T.D. Councillor K Thornber Councillor M Woodhall P Robertson (Chief Executive) J Amies (Partnership Director, Sport Hampshire and Isle of Wight)
Hart	Councillor D Neighbour G Bonner (Chief Executive)
Havant	Councillor D Gillett Councillor A Lenaghan S Hopkins (Managing Director)
Isle of Wight	Councillor D Tuson Councillor J Wood J Duckworth (Chief Executive Officer)
New Forest	Councillor M Holding D Yates (Chief Executive)
Portsmouth	Councillor L Mason Councillor G Vernon-Jackson
Rushmoor	Councillor R Dibbs Councillor P Moyle (Chairman) A Lloyd (Chief Executive)
Southampton	Councillor T Matthews M Harris (Head of Leisure and Culture)

Test Valley	Councillor I Carr Councillor P Giddings R Tetstall (Chief Executive)
Winchester	Councillor G Beckett Councillor C Sutton S Eden (Chief Executive)
Isle of Wight Association of Parish and Town Councils	Councillor B Blezzard
Gosport Community Action	D Miles (Director)
Hampshire Fire and Rescue	A House (Director of Strategic Projects and Specialist Response) R Hammerton (Temporary Area Manager)
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Government Association	N Goulder (Director) D Allen (PA to Director)
New Forest National Park Authority	L Cornish (Chief Executive)
Hampshire Police Authority	L Parker
Also in attendance:	
Audit Commission	L Krywald
SEEDA	P Herlihy (South East Co-ordinator for the 2012 Games)
HIOW Improvement Board	V Leary (Director)

31.07 **WELCOME**

The Chairman, Councillor Roger Mazillius and the Leader, Councillor David Pugh, of Isle of Wight Council, welcomed all those present to the meeting

32.07 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor H Robinson (Basingstoke and Deane); Councillor E Cartwright (East Hampshire); Councillors S Cully and D Smith (Gosport); Councillor K Crookes (Hart); Councillor J Patey (Portsmouth); Councillors A Samuels and A Vinson (Southampton); T Johnson (New Forest National Park Authority); S Dovey (Community Action Hampshire); Councillors J Rayment and A Collett (Hampshire Police Authority); Councillor D Bidwell and S Lugg (HAPTC); Councillor Michael Cartwright and J Bonney (Hampshire Fire and Rescue); and K Dufton (One Community).

33.07 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 8 June were agreed as a correct record.

34.07 **LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES**

Simon Eden introduced this item. He felt the Olympics would be a valuable opportunity to promote tourism and health in local communities.

Mr Eden introduced Paddy Herlihy, South East Co-ordinator for the 2012 Games and Mike Harris, Head of Leisure and Culture at Southampton City Council.

Mr Herlihy described the structure of the South East Partnership. He gave details of the South East Offer entitled Compete, Create, Collaborate and gave examples from each of the Working Groups which involved local authorities. He mentioned that there would be many opportunities and made it clear that local authorities would be vital to the delivery of the process. He stressed the importance of keeping in touch through monitoring and evaluation and through the Working Groups. He asked each local authority to inform him who their Lead Officer for 2012 was and also any changes to those officers. He also asked local authorities to provide him with a diagram of their 2012 work. He mentioned he would be very happy to visit individual authorities to talk about 2012. He had produced some documents which he would pass to the Association for onward circulation.

Mike Harris gave a presentation which focussed on:

- Context of the Chief Leisure Officers' Association (CLOA)
- Olympic Headliners
- CLOA's Olympic focus
- Items not currently covered through CLOA

He also circulated a diagram showing the South East England Offer for the 2012 Games.

Mr Herlihy and Mr Harris answered questions and concerns including:

- Funding
- The single rail track which currently ran between Dorchester and Weymouth making access difficult
- A request for a current list of suitable sports facilities

Rushmoor indicated that it was working with the military regarding training facilities in the area.

The Chairman thanked Paddy Herlihy and Mike Harris for their input.

35.07 **HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT IMPROVEMENT PLAN - THE NEXT THREE YEARS**

Will Godfrey, Chief Executive of East Hampshire introduced this report which gave details on the history of the Improvement agenda in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, the work of the Improvement Board over the next three years and the steps to be taken.

Consideration was also given to a report which set out the key points from a workshop held on 21 September.

Mr Godfrey reported that the next meeting of the Improvement Board would consider Members' comments on the Improvement Plan. He emphasised the importance of this Association signing off the Plan at its meeting in January 2008.

As an example of joint working and efficiency, Hampshire County Council asked that elected members with Economic Development portfolios be invited to attend the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Economic Development Officers' Group on 17 October. This was agreed.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

36.07 JOINT WORKING IN TWO TIER HAMPSHIRE

Councillor Ken Thornber (Hampshire) explained that his proposal for a Hampshire Senate - outlined in a meeting of Council Leaders in July - had been intended to unify working across the public services in Hampshire without loss of sovereignty for any constituent authority. He said that concern had been expressed about the County Council's motives and he called for a further meeting of Leaders without officers present to discuss these concerns and the reasons for them.

Councillor George Beckett (Winchester) and Councillor David Gillett (Havant) welcomed Councillor Thornber's proposal for a further meeting. Several speakers felt that Leaders at the July meeting had supported his proposal for a Senate and simply expressed reservations about some of the practical implications - such as joint working across the four Local Area Agreements (LAAs) in the HIOW area.

David Miles (Gosport Community Action) requested on behalf of the voluntary sector that in any new arrangements the sector's leading role in aspects of the LAAs should be properly recognised.

RESOLVED

That a meeting of Council Leaders be arranged through the Chairman of the Association.

37.07 HOME OFFICE FUNDING CUTS

Peter Robertson, Chief Executive of Hampshire County Council, introduced this report which set out the details of the impacts of the funding cuts and the proposals to mitigate them.

The report was particularly addressed to Leaders of District Councils who had met in July with the County Council to consider the funding cuts. Authorities and Strategic Partnerships had objected strongly to the cuts. The County Council would be offering additional funding to mitigate the funding cuts to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships and the Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

Mr Robertson gave details of a meeting of the new Hampshire Strategy Group for Crime and Disorder which was to meet on 1 October.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the offer of cash contributions of approx £48,000 from the County Council and £25,000 from the Hampshire LAA development fund to mitigate the impact of Home Office funding cuts for 2007/2008 on Hampshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships and Drug and Alcohol Action Team be recognised;
- (2) That Hampshire local authorities and partners seek to further address the impact of cuts locally; and
- (3) That taking into account the cash contributions from the County Council and the confirmed commitments to county projects stated in this report, the District Councils support the proposal that funds being received by the County Council via the LAA be distributed as per the indicative Home Office allocations, subject to adjustment required to accommodate the final LAA determination from the Government Office.

38.07 HAMPSHIRE GYPSY AND TRAVELLER ASSESSMENT - UPDATE

Kim Carron, Head of Housing Strategy and Enabling, Gosport, on behalf of the HIOW Strategic Housing Officers' Group, elaborated on her report and answered questions. She explained how the Regional Assembly's formula might work. The Assembly required the proposals from Hampshire and Isle of Wight by 15 October.

Councillor David Gillett (Havant) set out two draft resolutions on behalf of Havant and Portsmouth, one calling for legislation to be changed to allow Portsmouth to share transit sites with neighbouring District Councils, and the other concerned with prioritising social housing.

Councillor Gillett said that Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson (Portsmouth) had met the Minister of State for Housing, Yvette Cooper MP, who had implied that she was prepared to re-visit the legislation.

Councillor David Neighbour (Hart) called for a larger number of smaller transit sites around the County.

Councillors Jilly Wood and Diana Tuson (Isle of Wight) expressed concern about the assessment for the Island.

Southampton City Council was thanked for carrying out the assessment for travelling showpeople.

Kim Carron was thanked for her lead role in pulling together the different authorities' and area groups' findings.

RESOLVED

That the Association:

- (1) Calls on the Government to amend legislation to allow Unitary Authorities to share transit sites with other authorities
- (2) Endorses the area groups' work to date;

- (3) Requests that the three area groups continue to work up proposals jointly in relation to the Regional Assembly requirements; and
- (4) Authorises the Director to submit the three area group findings to the Regional Assembly together with the technical arguments against imposing a regional formula as explained in paragraph 9 of the report.

39.07 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Consideration was given to the report of the Association's Director which set out new appointments to outside bodies where positions had become vacant.

RESOLVED

That District Council representatives on outside bodies as set out in the Annex to the report be approved.

40.07 FIVE MINUTE SLOT AND FUTURE AGENDA

Consideration was given to a report by the Director on the future agenda. Councillor Ken Thornber (Hampshire) asked that the Association at its next meeting considers how Council Tax discounts might be applied at the County Council's instigation given that District Councils were the billing authorities.

RESOLVED

That the County Council's ideas about Council Tax discounts be discussed at the next meeting.

41.07 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Association would be held on 28 November at 10.00 am in the Council Chamber at Basingstoke and Deane Council offices.

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2007-2008

Outside Body	Representative(s)	Local Authority	Political Party
Committee for Rural Hampshire	Councillor Tony Hope Councillor David Neighbour	Test Valley Hart	Conservative Liberal Dem.
Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils	Councillor Alan Rice	New Forest	Conservative
Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust	Councillor Peter Boulton Councillor Cecily Sutton Councillor Nick Walker	Test Valley Winchester Fareham	Conservative Liberal Dem. Conservative
Hampshire Economic Partnership	Councillor John Leek	Basingstoke and Deane	Conservative
Hampshire Playing Fields Association	Councillor Ian Carr Councillor Hugo Eastwood Vacancy Councillor Therese Evans	Test Valley Hart Winchester	Conservative Conservative Conservative Liberal Dem.
Hampshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor John Marsh Councillor Marion Kerley Councillor Peter Luffman Councillor Ray Love	Rushmoor Test Valley Eastleigh Winchester	Conservative Conservative Labour Liberal Dem
Hampshire Strategic Partnership Steering Group	Councillor Peter Moyle	Rushmoor	Conservative
Combined Youth Justice Standing Conference	Councillor Marion Kerley Councillor Anne Claxton	Test Valley East Hampshire	Conservative Liberal Dem.
Hampshire Pension Fund Panel	Councillor Ian Carr (deputy - Councillor Peter Giddings) Councillor Jeremy Moulton+ (deputy - Councillor Steve Wemyss)+	Test Valley Test Valley Southampton Portsmouth	Conservative Conservative Conservative Conservative
Hampshire Area Environment Group	Councillor Brian Bayford Councillor Chris Thomas	Fareham Eastleigh	Conservative Liberal Dem

+ Appointed by Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils jointly