

COUNCIL NON- CONFIDENTIAL APPENDICES

Wednesday, 14th September,
2011
at 2.00 pm

APPENDICES ATTACHED TO THE LISTED REPORTS

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NON- CONFIDENTIAL APPENDICES

Agendas and papers are now available via the Council's Website

5 EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

- Decisions taken by Cabinet between July and September

9 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME

- Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel

10 CITY PLAN

- Draft City Plan 2011 - 2014

TUESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2011 HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

DECISIONS BY CABINET 1st August 2011

On consideration of the following reports, Cabinet on the 1st August 2011 agreed the following:

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

The Executive received a report on the introduction of charges for (day) Visitor Permits and the introduction of an Annual Visitor Permit, with consideration of any additional conditions of use that may be required to prevent misuse. Cabinet also approved changes to the issue and conditions of use for Business Permits and that subject to the approval of the above changes, that the charge for a Second Residents Parking Permit is reduced from £60 to £30 per year.

SOUTHAMPTON BUS PARTNERSHIP

- (i) To approve the Southampton Bus Partnership (Appendix 1)
- (ii) To appoint the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport to represent the Council on the Southampton Quality Bus Partnership
- (iii) To delegate authority to the Director of Environment, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport to agree elements of work pertaining to the SBP.
- (iv) To approve, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, the addition of £300,000 in 2012/13 to the Environment and Transport Portfolio Capital Programme for a Bus Partnership scheme funded from the confirmed LTP3 Integrated Transport allocation for that year.
- (v) To agree, in principle, to add similar schemes in 2013/14 and 2014/15, subject to confirmation of the LTP3 Integrated Transport allocations for those years and to future Council capital expenditure priorities.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROJECT APPROVALS 2011/12 – PHASE 2

- (i) To approve a virement of £700,000 from the “Future Decent Neighbourhoods Schemes” budget in 2012/13 to the “Decent Neighbourhoods Scheme – Harefield”, phased £100,000 in 2011/12 and £600,000 in 2012/13.
- (ii) To approve a virement of £475,000 from the “Decent Homes Future Years” budget in 2012/13 to the budget for “Adaptations for Disabled People” in 2011/12.
- (iii) To approve, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, spending on the following schemes

	2011/12 £000's	2012/13 £000's
Decent Neighbourhoods		
Harefield	100	600
<u>Total Decent Neighbourhoods</u>	100	600
<u>Decent Homes</u>		
Disabled Adaptations 11/12	475	
Total Decent Homes 475	475	
TOTAL	575	600

DISPOSAL OF HRA EMPTY PROPERTIES

- (i) To approve a policy for the sale of up to 50 HRA dwellings per annum where:
 - The sale is in accordance with the General Housing Consents 2005; and
 - The council can keep 100% of the sale proceeds
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Environment Director to determine which dwellings should be disposed of having regard to the criteria set out in this report.

2012 – 2013 GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Having complied with paragraph 15 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules:

- (i) To approve in principle that the 2012/13 grants to voluntary organisations budget will be £1,907,300
- (ii) To authorise the Interim Director of Environment to carry out consultation on the following proposals:
 - suspending the current grant application process for awarding grants from the corporate grants budget for 2012/13
 - renewing 2011/12 grants at current levels, excluding any paid notice, for a further year until 31st March 2013 subject to satisfactory monitoring
 - reviewing and potentially bringing forward the timing of the grant application process in future years
- (iii) To delegate authority to the Interim Director of Environment following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing to determine whether or not to proceed with the proposals set out in recommendation (ii) and, within approved budgets, to take any other decisions necessary or expedient to determine the award of all grants for the 2012/13 financial year.

DECISIONS BY CABINET 5th September 2011

On consideration of the following reports, Cabinet on the 5th September 2011 agreed the following:

FIRST QUARTER PERFORMANCE MONITORING FOR 2011/12

- (i) Note that 77% of Council's Key Killer Performance Indicators and 89% of the Service Improvement Actions and Projects set out in the 2011/12 Council Plan are reported to be on target.

FINANCIAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD TO THE END OF JUNE 2011

General Fund

- (i) Note the current General Fund revenue budget monitoring position for the General Fund 2011/12 as at Month 3 (June), which is a forecast over spend at year end of £0.4M against the budget approved by Council on 16 February 2011.
- (ii) Note that the baseline forecast over spend for portfolios is £2.0M.
- (iii) Note that portfolios plan to take remedial action to manage a number of the corporate and key issues highlighted in this report and that the financial impact is reflected in the forecast position.
- (iv) Note that the Risk Fund includes £2.4M to cover service related risks, and that the estimated draw at Month 3 is £0.5M to cover expenditure which is included within the baseline forecast portfolio over spend of £2.0M.
- (v) Note that the Revenue Development Fund totals £1.4M. At this stage of the year it has been prudently assumed that the remainder of the Fund will be fully utilised.
- (vi) Note that £104,300 has been allocated from the contingency to fund the recommendations contained in the 2010/11 Grants to Voluntary Organisations report as approved by Cabinet on 21 June 2010.
- (vii) Note that £45,000 has been allocated from the contingency to reflect the fact that the savings proposal to increase the cost of Meals on Wheels has been reviewed and amended such that the planned increase in income will not be delivered in 2011/12.
- (viii) Note that it has been assumed that the remaining contingency of £100,700 will be fully utilised by the end of 2011/12 with this sum being allocated to fund the majority of the cost of introducing a market supplement of £1,400 per annum for a range of social workers within Children's Services & Learning on a temporary six month basis.
- (ix) Note the forecast level of balances which will fall below the minimum level of £4.5M in the medium term if further remedial action is not taken in year to

reduce the forecast over spend from the current level of £0.4M to at least a break even position.

- (x) Note the performance to date with regard to the delivery of the agreed savings proposals approved for 2011/12 as detailed in Appendix 9.
- (xi) Note the performance against the financial health indicators detailed in Appendix 10.
- (xii) Note the performance outlined in the Quarterly Treasury Management Report attached as Appendix 11.

Housing Revenue Account

- (xiii) Note the current HRA budget monitoring position for 2011/12 as at Month 3 (June), which is a forecast over spend at year end of £34,800 against the budget approved by Council on 16 February 2011.

MEETING THE CARE QUALITY COMMISSIONS STANDARDS IN COUNCIL CARE HOMES

- (i) Subject to the addition by Council of the sum detailed in Appendix 1 for improvements to the fabric and furnishings of the Council owned residential homes, to approve capital expenditure, in accordance with the Financial Procedure Rules as described in this report.

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT 512 PORTSMOUTH ROAD SHOLING SOUTHAMPTON

- (i) To approve the principle of the sale of the Council's freehold interest.
- (ii) To delegate authority to Head of Property and Procurement following consultation with the Executive Director for Corporate Services and the Cabinet Member for Resources, Leisure and Culture to approve the preferred bidder, agree terms of the sale and carry out all ancillary matters to enable disposal of the site.

CITY PLAN

- (i) To endorse the draft City Plan 2011 – 2014 prepared by Southampton Connect and to recommend its approval to Council on 14th September 2011.

TO ADOPT THE SOUTHAMPTON JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2011-14

- (i) That the Cabinet Member agrees the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2011-14;
- (ii) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Health and Adult Social Care and the Director of Public Health to update the JSNA as new data

and information becomes available

**REVIEW OF SOUTHAMPTON CITY
COUNCIL'S SCHEME FOR
MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**

**Report of the Independent
Remuneration Panel**

August 2011

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 - Special Responsibility Allowance for Chair of Audit
- Special Responsibility Allowance for Independent Chair of Standards and Governance
- Co-optees' and Carers Allowance
- Telephone Line Rental
- Travel
- Pensions

D. Conclusions

Appendix 1 - Recommendations of the Panel on Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances

A. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel are that:-

1. There is no change to the linkage of the Basic Allowance to the National Minimum Wage.
2. The Basic Allowance be calculated on the basis of a 25 hour week and that it be reinstated to the current level of the National Minimum Wage and that it remains set at the level of the National Minimum Wage.
3. The rate of the Basic Allowance be adjusted on 1st October 2011 and in subsequent years to bring it into line with changes to the level of the National Minimum Wage.
4. Special Responsibility Allowances be adjusted to the levels and positions detailed in Appendix 1, commencing 1st October 2011.
5. Child Care allowances be claimable up to £4 per hour per child and subject to a receipt from a registered child minder.
6. Dependent Carers' Allowance of £10 per hour be claimable for the period of any meeting attended plus up to one hour's travelling time.
7. The Co-optees' Allowance be discontinued as of 1st October 2011.
8. The current payments for telephone line rental and broadband payment to Members should cease as of 1st October 2011 and be replaced with a single simplified Communications Package Allowance of £15 per month.
9. The HM Revenue and Customs advisory mileage rates be used as the basis for calculating mileage rate claims for private car use.
10. The Local Government Pension Scheme be closed to all Members of Southampton City Council eligible under the Local Government Pension Scheme & Discretionary Compensation (Local Authority Members In England) Regulations 2003 (i) for new members immediately and (ii) for existing Members from the start of the new Municipal Year, May 2012.
11. All other elements of the scheme remain unchanged.

B. INTRODUCTION

This is the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel appointed by Southampton City Council to make recommendations to the Council on the level of allowances that should be paid to Members.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PANEL

The Panel is comprised of the following members:

Panel Members

Jo Ash
Denise Barlow (Chair)
Helen Jackson
Nathan Stafford-King

Another member of the Panel had to give apologies for the period of this review but will remain as a Panel member should a further review of allowances be requested by the Council.

WORK OF THE PANEL

The remit for the Panel was to consider and review the Members' Allowance Scheme. The Panel in particular reviewed the Allowance scheme in relation to the following:-

- Basic Allowance
- Special Responsibility Allowances
- Allowances for Co-opted members of Council committees and panels.
- Criteria for travel and subsistence claims that needed to be reviewed.
- Changes to the Telephone Line Rental payable
- Rates for Carers/Child Care Allowances
- Entitlement to membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme under the Local Government Pension Scheme & Discretionary Compensation (Local Authority Members In England) Regulations 2003
- Matters related to the Member Allowance Scheme that may be raised during the review process.

The Panel requested information from officers to assist in the review. Members were invited to give their views to the Panel on allowance rates, differentials in the Special Responsibility Allowances and any other matters they wished to raise. The Panel also met with a number of Members, to give an opportunity for their views to be taken into account and to enable the Members to ask questions about particular aspects of the review.

The Panel also met with the Independent Chair of the Council's Standards and Governance Committee.

The Panel met on four occasions between May and July. In coming to its conclusions, the Panel took into account the following information:

- Current Allowance Scheme
- Comparison Data of allowances with similar unitary authorities nationally.
- Comparison of allowances paid by authorities in the South East region.
- Responsibilities of Leader and Cabinet Members as detailed in the Council Constitution.
- Feedback from Members.
- Comparison analysis of telephone and broadband packages available.
- Councillor Census data produced by the LGA/IDeA
- Comparison analysis data on the National Minimum Wage, Average Weekly Earnings – Public Sector increases and RPI indicators.
- Commercial rates charged for childminding and carer responsibilities
- The Members' Development Strategy 2010-2013
- The A-Z of Services and Support for Members
- Information on Pension Contributions made by the Authority.

C. CONSIDERATIONS OF THE PANEL

a) Basic Allowances

1. The Panel noted that the Members' Allowance Scheme was last reviewed by the Independent Remuneration Panel in 2007, with the report published on 28th August 2007. The report was considered by Full Council on 19th September 2007 and many of the Panel's recommendations were amended.
2. The Panel noted that in the past, Council had decided to use the National Minimum Wage (NMW) as the basis for the Basic Allowance, based on a 37 hour week, with the Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA) being proportional to the Basic Allowances. Whilst Council has decided to use the NMW as the basis for the Basic Allowance enabling allowances to be compared to the minimum hourly rate, the Panel felt that this tended to give the impression that the allowance was akin to a salary, whereas the allowance was also intended to cover incidental expenses such as telephone calls and visits to constituents within their wards.
3. The Panel noted, however, that there seemed to be satisfaction with the use of the formula of the NMW and with the proportionality of the SRA's to the Basic Allowance.

4. In addition, it was further noted that in February 2010, as part of the annual budget-setting meeting, Council decided to freeze the Basic and SRA's, therefore de-linking Members' allowances from the NMW. The **Panel's recommendation** is that this link should be reinstated and maintained from the 1st October 2011.
5. In February 2011, the Panel was also advised that all councillors through their political groups agreed to take a voluntary 5.5% reduction in their Basic and Special Responsibility allowances in keeping with the maximum 5.5% reduction in pay for staff. The Panel accepted that the decision to voluntarily reduce their allowance was a decision for Members but felt that Members should be paid the basic allowance based on the reinstated National Minimum Wage rate and then it would be up to Members to decide how the allowance was used.
6. Although the Panel considered other formulae, such as the RPI, it considered that the use of the National Minimum Wage to set the Basic Allowances was the most appropriate formula and the **Panel's recommendation** is that there should be no change and that the calculation of the Basic Allowance should continue to be linked to the National Minimum Wage.
7. However, whilst the Panel appreciated that the current link to the National Minimum Wage was based on a 37 hour week, this did not reflect the number of hours that Members indicated that they were spending in undertaking Council duties. In recognition that the feedback obtained by the Panel indicated on average that Members spend no more than 25 hours a week undertaking Council duties, the **Panel's recommendation** is that the calculation of the basic allowance should be reduced from 37 hours to 25 hours per week.

b) Special Responsibility Allowances

1. The Panel noted that in the past, Council had decided to base the Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) using as a multiplier the Basic Allowance. The **Panel's recommendation** is that this approach should be continued as the basis for calculating the amount of allowance to be paid.
2. However, in considering the amount to be calculated in this way, the Panel considered that the rates should be adjusted. This was to reflect the increase in the level of responsibility that the Leader and the Cabinet Members were now undertaking, especially in light of the fact that the number of Cabinet Members had reduced but the responsibilities had not decreased and had been redistributed amongst those remaining Cabinet Members. The Panel also recognised the expanding roll of the opposition Leaders in scrutinising and holding the Executive to account.

3. In addition, the Panel considered the possible payment of an SRA for the Independent Chair of Standards and Governance Committee. When first set up, the Chair was the Mayor and therefore there was no SRA entitlement. However, in the last few years, due to statutory changes, the Chair is now one of the four co-opted members of the Committee. Standards and Governance Committee meets quarterly although it can meet more frequently. The **Panel's recommendation** is that the Chair should be entitled to receive an SRA of £250 for the additional time, responsibility and meetings this role entails.
4. The Panel also considered the other current Special Responsibilities and made appropriate adjustments by comparing them with the roles and responsibilities that Members undertook. The Panel considered the responsibilities of the individual Chairs, and in particular noted the additional work required of the Chairs of Employment and Appeals and Planning and Rights of Way Panel. The **Panel's recommendation** is that a higher allowance be paid to these Chairs. This is based on the contentious nature of the issues that the Panel Chair has to deal with, the knowledge and amount of time required to deal with the detail of employment and planning matters. In addition, the number of members of the public attending planning meetings and the level of chairing skills required, and the fact that the deliberations and decisions for this meeting are taken in public as opposed to decisions taken in private session for most meetings of other regulatory panels.
5. The Panel also noted that there was one SRA that the Independent Remuneration Panel included in their last report that was unwittingly excluded from the Council amendment, and that was the Chair of the Audit Committee. The **Panel's recommendation** is that Chair of Audit Committee should be paid an allowance in view of the additional responsibility of the Chair for ensuring the adequacy of risk management for the Authority and maintaining proper accounting records.
6. In addition, the Panel were advised that in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Leader had appointed a Deputy Leader. The Panel considered whether a Special Responsibility Allowance should be paid to this position and the **Panel's recommendation** is that an amount should be paid in recognition of the Deputising role that the position would undertake in the absence of the Leader.
7. The recommendations of the Panel in relation to the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances are shown in Appendix 1.

c) Co-optees' Allowances

1. The Panel considered the Co-optees' Allowance, which co-opted members of Standards and Governance Committee and Children's Services and Learning Scrutiny Panel are currently entitled to receive. The Panel concluded that the current rates were set at a high rate in comparison with other allowances and the Panel's view was that co-optees undertook their duties in a voluntary capacity. The Panel considered that many people undertook roles in a voluntary capacity without receiving remuneration and that these roles should be treated no differently.
2. The **Panel's recommendation** is that the Co-optees' allowance should be discontinued.

d) Carers' Allowances

1. The Panel were informed that although the Independent Remuneration Panel had recommended that the Childcare and Carers' allowance continue to be set at the rate of the National Minimum Wage, Council decided that these allowances should be set at staff rates.
2. The Panel also noted that there was a significant difference in the way that the Council could support staff with childcare responsibilities (e.g. childcare vouchers funded from employees' gross salary) and that there was no staff scheme for a carers' allowance. Therefore, based on existing but out-of-date rates, the maximum amount that could be paid for childcare could not exceed £15 per day.
3. The Panel concluded, that based on child minding fees obtained from the South East Child Carers Association, the current rates for childcare and carers' allowances were too low. However, the allowance set would only cover the cost of child care responsibilities over and above the normal child care responsibilities that individuals would have in place.
4. The **Panel's recommendation** is that child care be paid up to £4 per hour per child and subject to a receipt from a registered child minder.
5. With regard to a Carers' allowance, the Panel considered that the rates set should be consistent with those set by commercial organisations and the commercial hourly rate charged by them for Carers.

6. The **Panel's recommendation** is that the rate for carers should be set at the mid point market rate for personal carers and the allowance payable be £10 per hour for the duration of any meeting attended plus up to one hour's travelling time.

e) Telephone Line Rental

1. The last Independent Remuneration Panel recommended that the rate for the broadband allowance be increased from £15 to £17 per month, whilst reduced charges for telephone line rental meant that the £12 line rental allowance could be ceased. However, a new mobile allowance of £10 per month was introduced to reflect changing trends in communication. Council, however, decided that the telephone rates should be the same as those for staff.
2. Due to decreasing rates for broadband, the number and range of packages that can now be purchased and the relatively cost effective packages available on the market that can be purchased, the **Panel's recommendation** is that there should be one simplified communications package available for Members and that this should be a fixed rate of £15 per month. The Panel concluded that this should cover the costs of all the rates for any expenses incurred such as line rental or broadband or for the installation of a public line telephone in their homes if a second line is required for family or other reasons.

f) Travel

1. The Panel noted that in March 2011, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the HMRC Approved Mileage Allowance Payment would be increased to 45p per mile and the Southampton Car Allowance for staff will be increased to reflect this. The change comes into effect on 11th July with that of other staff terms and conditions. The Members' Allowance Scheme will be amended at the same time as the staff allowances change.
2. The **Panel's recommendation** is that as the HM Revenue and Customs advisory mileage rates are set below the taxable threshold and accepted generally as the acceptable rate by business and other organisations, this rate should be used for calculating mileage claims for Members.

g) Pensions

1. Under the current scheme, all Members are entitled to join Hampshire County Council's Councillors' Pension Scheme, subject to their entitlement under the regulations. The amounts in respect of which pensions are payable include both Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances, but no other allowances. Approximately 25-30 Southampton Councillors are members of the pension scheme.
2. Having regard to their role as Councillors, the Panel considered whether there should be any changes to Members' entitlement to join the scheme. The Panel considered that the role of the Councillor was not commensurate with having employment but was undertaken in a voluntary capacity as a public duty and there were no contractual obligations to undertaking the role. The **Panel's recommendation** is that the current eligibility for Members to join the scheme should cease and that the scheme should be closed to all new Members immediately and for existing Members as from the 1st May 2012.

D. CONCLUSIONS

The recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel are given on page 3 of this report. The Panel would like to thank all of the Members who contributed their views and information.

Independent Remuneration Panel
August 2011

Appendix 1

Recommendations of the Panel on the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances.

Members Allowance Scheme

Allowance Scheme	*Current Allowance (£) 2009 rate payable	Current Allowance (£) payable October 2011	Recommended Allowance (£) from 1st October 2011	Recommended Allowance Calculation
Basic Allowance	11,159.20	11,697.92	7,904.00	Minimum Wage
Leader of the Council	22,318.40	23,395.84	27,664.00	3.5 x Basic Allowance
Cabinet Member	11,159.20	11,697.92	15,808.00	2 x Basic Allowance
Chair of Employment	5,579.60	5,848.96	5,928.00	0.75 x Basic Allowance
Chair of Planning	5,579.60	5,848.96	7,904.00	1 x Basic Allowance
Chair of Licensing	5,579.60	5,848.96	3,952.00	0.5 x Basic Allowance
Chair of OSMC	5,579.60	5,848.96	7,904.00	1 x Basic Allowance
Chair of Health Scrutiny Panel	2,789.80	2,924.48	5,928.00	0.75 x Basic Allowance
Opposition Group Leaders	8,369.40	8,773.44	15,808.00	2 x Basic Allowance
Chair of Audit			1,976.00	0.25 x Basic Allowance
Deputy Leader			17,784	2.25 x Basic Allowance
Independent Chair of Standards and Governance			250	
Dependent Carer			10	per hour of meeting, plus 1 hour travelling
Child Care			4 per hour, per child	per hour of meeting, per child
Communications			15	Per month
Travel			45p	HM Revenue and Customs Rate
Notes:				
National Minimum Wage as from 1 st October 2011 is £6.08				
Basic Allowance = National Minimum Wage x 25 hours per week x 52 weeks a year				
* ignores voluntary 5% reduction				

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Our Priority Projects

To contribute to the realisation of the Vision, we (Southampton Connect) have agreed 10 priority projects which we will seek to accelerate progress through citywide collective action and focus. Collectively, these 'added value' projects aim to improve performance against 12 key city performance indicators - both across the city as a whole and within our priority neighbourhoods who experience significant levels of under-performance due to high levels of deprivation and disadvantage when compared with the city average. Our priority projects are:

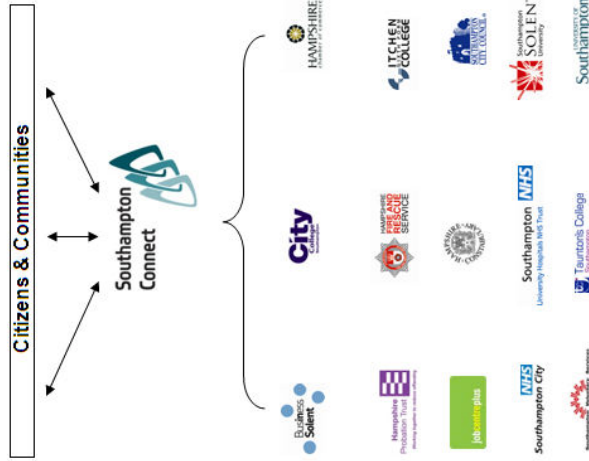
- Promoting Southampton as the Connected City
- Gateway to a World of Business Opportunities
- Gateway to Employment and Volunteering Opportunities
- Connecting Leaders of a Learning City
- Gateway to a World of Learning Opportunities
- Gateway to a Healthier and Safer Southampton
- Gateway to a Better Future
- Connecting the City to Reduce Re-Offending
- Connecting towards a Greener City
- Gateway to a fairer Southampton

Further details on projects can be found in the centre of this leaflet

Southampton Connect will regularly monitor progress on these priority projects to ensure they are delivered on time; and that that new projects can be identified and adopted if needed.

Working Together

Our programme of Priority Projects cannot be delivered by the participants of Southampton Connect alone, but crucially it requires a truly genuine citywide collaborative effort to bring about the improvements to city life we all desire. We are keen to ensure that any potential partner from the community, private, public and voluntary sectors who wishes to contribute to the projects has the opportunity to do so. Please visit our website (details below) to find out more about our priority projects and how you can get involved.



For further information, visit:

Southampton Connect
www.southampton-connect.com

Southampton Needs Assessment
(insert web address)

Future Southampton
(insert web address)

DRAFT

Southampton Connect

Southampton City Plan 2011 – 2014



Southampton - a connected city for growth and creativity; gateway to a world of opportunities

Besides the Vision statement above, this box will contain a montage of city and community photographs that pictorially portray the Vision

A collaborative approach by leaders of key public, private and voluntary organisations, Southampton Connect represents a new way of working together to improve Southampton.

Introduction

Southampton Connect are pleased to introduce our first ever City Plan outlining key challenges facing our city and our programme of priority projects. As we launch our Plan, we all know that we are facing a significant economic squeeze in trying to reduce the national deficit, coupled with the longer term effects of the recession on the city. Across the nation this means significant reductions in public sector spending delivered alongside major public sector reforms; coupled with an urgent drive to promote and increase private sector job growth. Southampton's recovery needs all of us – community, private, public and voluntary sectors – working collaboratively together to keep this great city moving forward. With this in mind, we (Southampton Connect) have agreed two overarching city priorities which underpin our work:

- **sustained economic development**
- **low cost, efficient, customer centred services**

We acknowledge that this will not be easy to achieve, especially at a time when all organisations are tightening their belts as the financial squeeze bites hard - this will be the ultimate test of the strength and commitment of our citywide collaborative working arrangements. However, Southampton is also a fantastic city with plenty of unique opportunities. Acknowledging this, we have articulated a new, forward looking Vision for the city to drive our efforts:

Southampton - a connected city for growth and creativity; gateway to a world of opportunities.

This statement sets out our collaborative aspirations for Southampton and what we will work together to achieve. It is our intention that all our respective strategies, plans, initiatives and projects will contribute to the realisation of our Vision for Southampton. It is the golden thread that will guide all our actions and which we will judge our collaborative performance.

Agenda Item 10

TURNING OUR VISION INTO REALITY: OUR PRIORITY PROJECTS

Each of our 10 priority projects will be led by a key partner organisation who will ensure delivery through a city wide collaborative approach

Promoting Southampton as a Connected City
Led by: Business Solent

- This project aims to build on the progress of Marketing Southampton in co-ordinating marketing activity to raise the profile of the city as a good place to work, study, live, invest and enjoy. Our key milestones include:
 - By 31st March 2012:**
 - Undertaken a review of Marketing Southampton and implemented the findings
 - Created a Marketing and Communications Action Plan for the City
 - By 31st March 2013:**
 - Raised the profile of the Southampton Brand to be recognisable and linked with Southampton
 - Developed a more coherent view of the City shared and communicated by key partners across the City
 - By 31st March 2014:**
 - Maintain and build upon successful initiatives

Gateway to a world of business opportunities
Led by: Hampshire Chamber of Commerce

- This project aims to engage entrepreneurs and new business start-ups at the earliest opportunity to offer an advice group that will provide expertise and experience at the crucial start-up time. It will also provide the mechanisms for ongoing support to enable business to grow and sustain. Our key milestones include:
 - By 31st March 2012:**
 - Reviewed current business start-ups provision and support in the city
 - Established a new city business start-up group
 - By 31st March 2013:**
 - Set up mentoring for new Business Start-ups
 - Identified and set up a cost-effective range of support services through Hampshire Chamber of Commerce and other agencies
 - By 31st March 2014:**
 - Raised the profile of Business Start-ups and celebrate the success stories
 - Continued to harness opportunities for business growth and sustainability
 - Fully reviewed progress & revised programmes where necessary

Gateway to employment and volunteering opportunities
Led by: Southampton Solent University

- This project aims to maintain and enhance the employability and personal confidence of young people and those over 50 by better packaging and coordination of opportunities for work experience, volunteering and internships. Our key milestones include:
 - By 31st March 2012:**
 - Agreed, scoped and started 3 pilots
 - Established supporting partnerships to support the projects
 - By 31st March 2013:**
 - Secured external funding to support the project
 - Rolled out pilot projects or launched successors
 - By 31st March 2014:**
 - Maintain and build upon successful initiatives
 - Communicate and promote success

Connecting leaders of a learning City*
Led by: Southampton City Council

- This project aims to bring together the leaders of learning institutions to establish Southampton as a great 'learners city' exploring new ways to collaborate or work more closely together. Our key milestones include:
 - By 31st March 2012:**
 - Established a clear leadership group for learning across the city
 - Established what a joined up strategy would look like
 - By 31st March 2013:**
 - To Be Confirmed
 - By 31st March 2014:**
 - To Be Confirmed

Gateway to a world of learning opportunities
Led by: Southampton City College

- This project aims to raise the aspirations of children and young people aged 9-19 in the city by the key learning establishments across the city working together to implement a range of initiatives and projects. Our key milestones include:
 - By 31st March 2012:**
 - Established Junior University
 - Targeted 255 young people most in danger of missing out on English and Maths
 - By 31st March 2013:**
 - Second Junior University cohort recruited
 - Achieved reduction in NEEETs figures
 - By 31st March 2014:**
 - To Be Confirmed

KEY CITY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Southampton Connect aims to add value where it can make a difference and not to create any unnecessary bureaucracy or duplication. This approach also applies to performance monitoring where it has agreed that it will only monitor 12 key city performance indicators listed below. Progress on the indicators will be reported to the Southampton Conference and made available on our website.

- Increase VAT registration rates/longevity for new business start-ups
- Increase overall number of private sector jobs created
- Increase overall number of business in the city with staff travel plans
- Percentage reduction in CO2 emissions per person in the local authority area against the emissions in the baseline year
- Increase key stage four results including English and Maths

DRAFT

- Increasing the number of local young people securing jobs, apprenticeships or progressing to further and higher education
- Increasing the number of people progressing into paid work or study as a result of work experience/ volunteering
- Reducing all offending and reoffending rates
- Reducing the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit for mental health reasons
- Reducing the number of working age people claiming benefits
- Reducing the number of NEETs (not in education, employment, or training)
- Reducing the gap between our priority neighbourhoods and the city average for:
 - Educational attainment rates
 - Numbers of Job Seekers Allowance claimants
 - Crime levels
 - Life expectancy
 - Teenage pregnancy rates

• This project aims to promote healthier lifestyles and encourage ways of improving home and community safety through a range of joined up and community based measures and initiatives. Our key milestones include:

By 31st March 2012:

- Stakeholder engagement;
- Health Matters information portals developed
- Project ownership and design
- Launch event held
- Branding and key themes developed

By 31st March 2013:

- Health conversations approach rolled out
- Branded and other opportunities for healthier and safer living expanded and marketed

- Greater “engagement” in health & more individual, family and community capacity for making sustainable lifestyle changes
- Increased uptake of healthier living “offer”
- Improved key health outcome measures in high-needs communities

Gateway to a healthier and safer Southampton*

Led by: NHS Southampton City (Public Health)

• This project aims to assess and mitigate the impact of welfare benefit changes through a coordinated city-wide response, particularly in relation to vulnerable residents and the local economy. Our key milestones include:

By 31st March 2012:

- Established a city wide group to develop a strategic approach to benefit reforms
- Developed a child poverty action including extending Work Focused Services pilot to all core offer Children’s Centres.

By 31st March 2013:

- Ensured Universal Credit, Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Payments are fully understood
- Agreed an anti-poverty approach to provide information and advice to vulnerable people in crisis, in getting to work and managing on a reduced income

By 31st March 2014:

- All incapacity Benefits claimants to have been migrated to Employment Support Allowance
- Developed support to improve financial confidence & capability of residents - with focus on social housing tenants

Gateway to a better future

Led by: Jobcentre Plus

• This project aims to take a whole system support approach to changing behaviour to reduce re-offending. It will integrate 4 strands: employment; accommodation; health and family. Our key milestones include:

By 31st March 2012:

- Created a strong collaboration between custody & community.
- An integrated multi-agency approach to assessment & engagement to encourage increased customer focus and continuous improvement
- Development of a social enterprise

By 31st March 2013:

- Improved employment, health outcomes and family relationships.
- Established co-located/virtual multi-agency team(s) to encourage increased customer focus and continuous improvement

By 31st March 2014:

- Sustained performance
- Reduction in crime & antisocial behaviour
- Community regeneration & Economic benefits.

Connecting the City to reduce re-offending

Led By: Hampshire Probation Trust

• The project aims to deliver low carbon ways of working across public and private sector organisations in the city, with a focus on Sustainable Transport, Low Carbon Energy, and Green Procurement. Our key milestones include:

By 31st March 2012:

- City partners working together to deliver a Sustainable Travel City initiative
- New access to education 16-19 bus season ticket established

By 31st March 2013:

- To Be Confirmed

By 31st March 2014:

- To Be Confirmed

Connecting towards a greener City*

Led by: Southampton City Council

Gateway to a fairer Southampton

Led by: Southampton City Council

- All the projects focus on improvements for the whole of the city of Southampton, however each will also have an element dedicated to improving performance and wellbeing in some of our most deprived communities, thereby reducing the gap between these communities and the city average. This project will support the other projects to target interventions appropriately.

*Priority Project currently being scoped as at September 2011

For more information or to get involved visit: www.southampton-connect.com

creativity, gateway to a world of opportunities

A New Way of Working Together

Comprising leaders of key public, private and voluntary organisations, Southampton Connect represents a new way of working together to improve Southampton and replaces the previous Southampton Partnership. Southampton Connect was launched in April 2011 out of a desire amongst city partners to strengthen our collaborative working arrangements to address the key challenges facing the city. It will be about focusing on what really matters, and then finding innovative and collaborative solutions to address them. The priority areas of focus for collaborative working have been turned into a series of action-orientated priority projects that will form the basis of the work programme for Southampton Connect over the next few years.



Although Southampton Connect is made up of a core group of leaders who will drive the projects forward, we will seek support and input from various partners across the city, and local communities. We want to encourage wide participation from a range of people to create an environment where all interested parties can come together for the good of the city and work to make a real difference.

A full list of Southampton Connect participants can be found online at www.southampton-connect.com/who/participants.

Where we are now?

Southampton Connect has developed a Southampton profile which provides an analysis of the needs and gaps in the City. The profile demonstrates that if we are to improve the quality of life for the people of Southampton, then we must have shared aims and objectives so that we can work together collaboratively, efficiently and effectively. The key findings from our analysis have been used to identify 4 City Challenges as follows:

Economic Development

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (2010) places Southampton as the 81st most deprived local authority area out of 326 across England. Low personal aspirations, below regional average wage rates, poor educational attainment levels, poor health and other factors lead to a number of our communities experiencing significant multiple deprivation and disadvantage when measured against citywide and regional averages.

We must therefore seek to deliver higher levels of economic wellbeing within these neighbourhoods as a route out of poverty.

Wellbeing

In Southampton life expectancy is increasing; heart and stroke death rates are falling; cancer survival is improving and breast feeding rates are improving. However, smoking rates are high; people are not physically active enough; alcohol and drug misuse is causing increasing harm (and costs); sexual infections are increasingly common, teenage pregnancy is above national average. People on lower incomes living in the most deprived areas in the city have shorter lives than those in the more affluent areas. Crime rates nationally have declined over the last few years including within Southampton; however our overall position relative to other cities is poorer than it should be.

We must therefore seek to improve health, wellbeing and safety outcomes across the city.

Educational Attainment & Skills

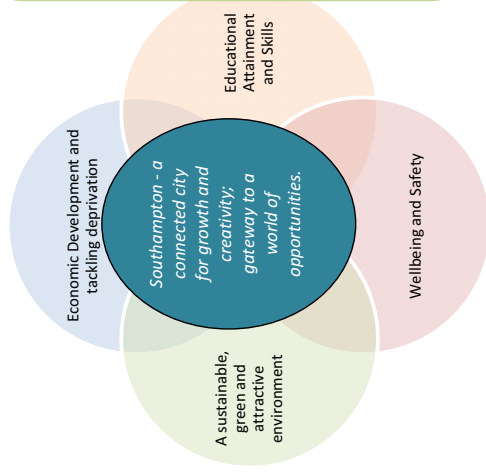
It is essential that we continue to focus on improving the skills levels and educational attainment rates of our city residents and, by doing so, reduce the gap between the city and our surrounding neighbouring areas. This is significant given that unemployment rates are higher amongst those with no or few qualifications. Special attention is also needed to ensure that people with disabilities and mental ill-health, people living in poverty, and other vulnerable and excluded groups are not left behind. We also need to increase the number of young people in education, employment or training.

We must therefore seek to continually raise aspirations, educational attainment and skills levels of all our citizens.

A Sustainable, Green & Attractive Environment

Southampton has ambitions to become the country's leading low carbon city and to thrive in a new low carbon economy - a city adapted to a changed future which is greener, healthier and safer. Through the fourth City challenge of "A sustainable and Green Environment" and working with partners, the aim is to be an epicentre of green business; a location of choice for environmental technology and service firms and new and cleaner investment; a magnet for innovation and talent; a frontrunner in the emerging low carbon economy using the city's knowledge base, existing assets and low carbon infrastructure as a catalyst for development, inward investment, business growth, energy security and new jobs."

We must focus on reducing our carbon footprint.



Where do we want to be? Southampton of the Future
[Future Southampton logo]

Alongside delivery of our Priority Projects Programme (detailed overleaf) to improve outcomes for our citizens, we will also continue to work closely together on how Southampton should develop physically in order to enhance its image and reputation regionally, nationally and globally.

Looking ahead, a new and dynamic City Centre Master Plan has been prepared illustrating what the city centre could look like in the future through a radical transformation focusing on the following six themes:

A great place for business

- o A prestigious new business district around the redevelopment of the Central Station

A great place to live

- o Strong and distinctive neighbourhoods outside the city centre with new homes and communities supported by local services

A great place to visit

- o A re-established historic Medieval street pattern in areas within the Town Walls & an established reputation for the Cultural Quarter

A greener centre

- o An extensive network of green spaces and tree lined boulevards connecting the city centre

Attractive and distinctive

- o Distinctive new buildings with high quality, innovative design & exciting waterfront schemes, at the Royal Pier Waterfront and on the Itchen Riverfront

Easy to get around

- o A more cohesive, better connected, walkable, people friendly city centre with a buzz about it

Overall, our aim is to strengthen Southampton's unique waterfront city reputation and profile by proactively seeking out major growth opportunities to provide new jobs, new businesses and new homes. In addition, we will continue to broaden the city's cultural, entertainment and retail experience for all our residents and visitors.

FINAL TEXT COMPLETE WITH KEY TARGETS / STATISTICS TO BE CONFIRMED ONCE CITY CENTRE MASTER PLAN LAUNCHED IN SEPTEMBER