

THE SOUTH HAMPSHIRE AGREEMENT (Multi Area Agreement)

2 The Scope and Purpose of the South Hampshire Agreement

- 2.1 The South Hampshire Agreement (SHA) is based upon:
- The PUSH 2008-11 **Business Plan, which** is the short/medium term programme to deliver the South Hampshire Sub-Regional Strategy;
 - An **Economic Development Strategy**, which informs the Business Plan but also offers a longer-term perspective on the delivery of transformational change in economic performance over the period to 2026;
 - The **Transport for South Hampshire Statement “Towards Delivery”**, which sets out priorities for transport interventions to support sustainable growth.
- 2.2 Whilst the Business Plan is the principal document, it is a ‘living’ document that will be regularly reviewed and updated, not least taking account of evidence from various studies and strategy work reporting over the next few months. We are therefore treating Business Planning as an iterative process in response to this evolving picture; a similar approach must be taken with the SHA.
- 2.3 Above all, PUSH sees the SHA as the basis for a new and more productive relationship between local and regional partners and Government and its agencies. Many of the issues that will support our aspirations and objectives will need extended dialogue and development work to bring them to fruition as the evidence base and strategic response are developed. Some of these are signposted in this document as potential candidates for inclusion in later iterations of the SHA.
- 2.4 The present version of the SHA focuses on the following outcome areas:

Collaboration in Delivery	
<p>Outcome 1: Collaboration In Delivery Of Push Objectives Secure the commitment of all partners to the delivery of the South Hampshire Sub-Regional Strategy.</p>	<p>Enabling Measure 1: Duty on all Government departments and their agencies to adopt a commitment to cooperate with PUSH and its key stakeholders on the South Hampshire Agreement.</p>
Promoting Economic Success	
<p>Outcome 2 : Employment & Skills Raise the skills and improve the employment opportunities of all the current and future working age population in line with the</p>	<p>Enabling Measure 2: To be able to set the strategic framework for the public spending through government agencies and local authorities on adult employment, skills and</p>

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<p>aspirations of the Economic Development Strategy.</p>	<p>business support.</p> <p>Enabling Measure 3: Flexibility from national targets for BERR-, DIUS- and DWP-sponsored agencies to allow local determination of targets that will deliver the EDS</p> <p>Enabling Measure 4: Flexibility from national targets for LSC to redefine the funding rules for “Train for Gain” resources to match the outcomes to the needs of local employers in pursuit of raising skills levels.</p> <p>Enabling Measure 5: Flexibility from national 16 hour benefits rules to facilitate transition from benefits to employment whether through accessing training or work experience.</p>
<p>Outcome 3 : Delivering land for economic development and employment Facilitate the delivery of a timely and sustainable supply of Employment land to support both inward investment and business retention to facilitate the required growth in GVA.</p>	<p>Enabling Measure 6: Flexibility to change the funding regimes to enable the SEEDA owned assets to be used to support prudential borrowing by PUSH LA’s to raise investment capital to facilitate major employment sites.</p>
<p>Outcome 4 : Effective Business Support Including Key Sectors – Increased GVA through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the targeting of resources and policies to support business growth in established businesses and retention in line with the PUSH Economic Development Strategy; and • development and implementation of a strategy to support the growth of key economic sectors. 	<p>Enabling Measure 7: Freedom from the national performance indicator setting regime, particularly with reference to market penetration and intensive support, to allow Business Link to allocate resources to match sub regional priorities.</p>
Transport Infrastructure	
<p>Outcome 5 : Sustainable Highways Interventions Delivering sustainable highway interventions to support development and overcome transport constraints on economic growth, including projected increases in congestion, poor accessibility to key development areas and deteriorating journey time reliability</p>	<p>Enabling Measure 8: Relaxation of DfT PSA targets for the strategic highway network in South Hampshire to allow primacy within HA consideration to be given to delivering the sub-regional strategy.</p>
Sustainability and Social Infrastructure	
<p>Outcome 6 : Non-Transport Infrastructure Delivering adequate and timely non-transport related infrastructure to support the development of resilient and sustainable communities in the sub-region.</p>	<p>Enabling Measure 9: Flexibility to ensure developer funding contributions can be deployed at a sub-regional level to support the development of sustainable communities across PUSH.</p> <p>Enabling Measure 10: With partners, encourage regulators to review</p>

	objectives/criteria applied to utilities pricing regime to secure investment related to growth.
Housing and Planning	
Outcome 7 : Delivering housing to support economic growth Increasing Supply Of Housing to deliver a balanced housing market including family and affordable home	Enabling Measure 11: Alignment of funds and investment provided by English Partnerships and the Housing Corporation /HACA with resources set aside and identified in the Regional Housing Strategy
	Enabling Measure 12: modification and clarification of the interpretation of Planning Policy Statement 25 (Development and Flood Risk) to rationalise the application of sequential testing in regeneration areas that are already defended.

The added value of the South Hampshire Agreement

2.5 The approach PUSH has taken to the issues and outcomes to be included in the SHA is based on two criteria:-

- *Will the inclusion of an activity/outcome in the SHA add value to what could be achieved by existing partnership working, for instance through innovative / different patterns of collaborative working with the key stakeholders in the public and private sector; and*
- *Will the inclusion of an activity/outcome help to close the gap both within the PUSH sub region and in comparison with others.*

2.6 Much of what PUSH seeks to achieve will be accomplished by sharing common objectives and achieving better coordination with partner agencies, such as Job Centre Plus, Learning and Skills Councils, Business Links, and SEEDA. On transport matters, the lead at sub-regional level rests with PUSH’s ‘sister’ organisation, Transport for South Hampshire.

2.7 However, PUSH cannot deliver this challenging agenda on its own. The eleven local authorities that comprise PUSH have committed to collaboration at the sub-regional level where this will add value to what authorities can do individually. That commitment is reinforced by the formal powers and functions accorded to the PUSH Joint Committee. But commissioning and delivery of many key actions rests with other agencies listed above. There is high level commitment by all these partners to the objectives, outcomes and targets in the PUSH Business Plan. But as some of these partners are the sub-regional expression of national, Government agencies, and operating largely within target and outcome frameworks determined by sponsor Departments, joined up delivery at the South Hampshire level will be strengthened by formalisation of the shared commitment.

- 2.8 The SHA provides the basis for a new relationship between local and regional partners and Government through which:
- formally to **cement a shared commitment** to delivering the outcomes of the South Hampshire sub-regional strategy;
 - to **strengthen the prospects of early and certain delivery** of outcomes which otherwise may prove significantly more at risk;
 - to deliver **better value for money**;
 - to **close the gap** in economic performance both within the sub region and between the sub region and the rest of the South East; and
 - to develop **innovative approaches** to economic growth.