



SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

TRAFFIC, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY PANEL

TUESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 4.00 PM

THE EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM - THIRD FLOOR, THE GUILDHALL

Telephone enquiries to Jane Di Dino 023 9283 4060

Email: jane.didino@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Membership

Councillor Lee Mason (Chair)

Councillor Matthew Atkins
Councillor Stuart Brown
Councillor Charlotte Gerada

Councillor Jo Hooper
Councillor Leo Madden

(NB This supplementary agenda should be retained for future reference with the main agenda and minutes of this meeting).

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

4 Review into Accessibility of Transport Network - Update and Agreement on Next Steps (Pages 3 - 6)

The purpose of this information report is to update the Transport, Environment and Community Safety (TECS) scrutiny panel on the current position with the proposed transport accessibility research, and to advise the committee of options for future delivery of the project.

5 Biodiversity Enhancement in Urban Portsmouth (Pages 7 - 8)

A list of policies that the panel may wish to inform its review is attached for information.

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Agenda Item 4



THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

Title of meeting:	Transport, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel
Subject:	Transport accessibility research
Date of meeting:	16 November 2021
Report by:	Charlotte Smith, assistant director, Corporate Services
Wards affected:	All

1. Requested by

2. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update the Transport, Environment and Community Safety (TECS) scrutiny panel on the current position with the proposed transport accessibility research, and to advise the committee of options for future delivery of the project.

3. Background

In October 2019, a programme of research was commissioned by the TECS panel. An approach was agreed, and a survey was developed and approved by the committee, along with a series of in-depth interviews, engagement events and workshops with key stakeholders and representatives from organisations and charities in the city.

The first phase of the research programme, the quantitative survey was due to launch in March 2020. As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and due to government guidance to restrict travelling and avoid using public transport where possible, it was agreed with the Chair of the TECS Scrutiny Panel to postpone this work.

In discussions to inform this formal meeting, the committee noted its preference for the research to resume in November 2021, with a survey running for six weeks and qualitative research elements running concurrently, and analysis to be incorporated into a scrutiny panel report before the start of purdah in March 2022.

4. Research scope

The aim of the research is to review the overall accessibility of the transport network within Portsmouth with specific focus on:

- Public transport - bus service, rail network

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- Private hire vehicles and hackney carriages
- Highway network - walking and cycling networks
- Road works
- Economic inaccessibility
- Impacts of the Covid pandemic of travel behaviours

5. Resources

The transport accessibility research was originally developed to be delivered by the council's small in-house market research and engagement function. However, since informal discussions about next steps for this research project, the research and engagement manager has resigned from his position and will be leaving the council in December. The result of this unexpected change is that the in-house research function will no longer be able to support the full scope of the TECS accessibility research to the desired timelines.

This is because a piece of research of this scale requires the capacity and the skills and experience of the research and engagement manager to project manage the work, to lead the research officers in delivering the quantitative and qualitative research elements, and to provide robust quality assured analysis. There will be a recruitment process to replace the research and engagement Manager, but it is expected to be a difficult post to fill because the recruitment market for roles of this type is highly competitive.

6. Options

In terms of a way forwards, the proposed approach for consideration is set out at option one, with an alternative possible approach at option two.

6.1. Option one

- quantitative survey to go live in November and run for six weeks, as per the timelines already discussed
- market research and transport to investigate options/timescales for the analysis of the quantitative data (approx. 30 days work) and the preparation of the scrutiny report, with a view to informing the date of the next TECS panel meeting
- qualitative elements of the research be postponed until a new market research manager is recruited, which is very likely to delay this element of the work until after purdah in March 2022.

6.2. Option two

- Outsource the project to an external research agency.

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- This option is likely to result in increased costs and is dependent on additional budget being identified and agreed, and an agency having capacity to undertake the work in line with the committee's timeframe.

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Signed by (Director)

Appendices:**Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972**

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

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Agenda Item 5

Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

Subject: Biodiversity Enhancement in Urban Portsmouth

Initial scoping meeting 2 November 2021

Reference: Council Meeting of: 13 October 2021

The **Notice of Motion** covers: *all relevant policies and practices on urban biodiversity that might harm or undermine local ecosystems, such as grass cutting across the city, re-wilding on allotment plots to improve habitats for insects, including bees. In general, approaches should aim to positively contribute to re-wilding and support other approaches to re "greening" Portsmouth.*

SELECTED POLICY THE PANEL MAY CONSIDER RELEVANT TO SCOPE OF REVIEW (with hyperlinks)

Regional

- [PfUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy 2017-2034](#) (Partnership for Urban South Hampshire)
- [Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy 2017](#)
- [Wilder 2030: Hants & IOW Wildlife Trust Strategy](#)

Local

- Portsmouth Local Plan - [new local plan evidence](#) (draft local plan consultation Sep-Oct 21)
Biodiversity background paper - [Biodiversity and Portsmouth](#) (Portsmouth Local Plan 2038)
- [Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2012-2022](#)
(out to consultation, closing to 14/11/21, prior to update)
Page 103 - Ensuring sustainability and protecting biodiversity
Page 148 - Action Plan, Aim 5
- [Greening Strategy 2020](#) (and the [2021 review submitted to Cabinet](#) 5/10/21)
- [Southsea Seafront Strategy 2010-2026](#)
- Cemeteries Strategy (in draft)
- [Southsea Coastal Defence Strategy](#)

Site specific management plans are available for these wildlife sites (not all on PCC website):

- [Baffins Pond Management Plan](#) (updated plan currently not available on website)
- Southsea Rock Gardens Management Plan
- Milton Park Management Plan
- Farlington Triangle Management Plan
- Milton Common Management Plan
- [Milton Common Local Nature Reserve Restoration and Management Framework](#)
- Hilsea Lines Management Plan
- Fort Cumberland Management Plan
- Portsdown Hill Management Plans
- Victoria Park Maintenance and Management Plan (NLHF submission)

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