



UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

PORTSMOUTH – THE CITY AND WHAT IT WANTS TO ACHIEVE

About Portsmouth

Portsmouth is located on the south coast of England. The Portsmouth unitary authority area covers the whole of Portsea Island and a wider suburban area of the mainland from Paulsgrove to Farlington. It is bordered by Portsdown Hill to the north, surrounded by the Solent to the south and set between Langstone and Portsmouth Harbours to the east and west respectively.

Portsmouth's growth and character has been influenced and shaped over time by its geographical location and relationship to the sea. Today the city of Portsmouth covers only 40.1 sq. km. With a population density higher than some areas of London, with a growing population of 214,900 (as of 2019). The city currently has a relatively young population, as typically found in cities and which is boosted by the student population attending the University of Portsmouth.

Portsmouth has the title of being the UK's only 'island city' (in the main) and is very flat and low lying. The city is characterised by rows of artisan terraces set out in a grid pattern, originally built to house the dockyard workers and seafarers' families. Over time, the western side of the city has become more dominated by commercial development and infrastructure with the city centre, dockyard, continental ferry port and the motorway (M275). The eastern side of the city has larger open spaces looking over Langstone Harbour with less densely developed residential areas and industrial estates, and open spaces founded

on reclaimed land. The southern part of the city is defined by its seafront, historic fortifications and Victorian residential development. The northern extent of the city lies on the mainland and is characterised by residential areas with larger semi-detached housing dating from the 1930s.

Portsmouth's relatively compact size lends itself to walking and cycling and it is well connected to the wider region and to London and Europe by rail, ferry and road. Portsmouth, despite its dense urban environment and industrial heritage, benefits from a rich diversity of flora and fauna in its coastal, harbour and chalk grassland environments. Over 30% is covered by statutory nature conservation designations in recognition of its value to international, national and local biodiversity. The impacts of new development can cumulatively disturb and pollute these environments, potentially affecting key species and the quality of the water environment in the Solent.

Portsmouth's association with the Royal Navy stretches back almost a thousand years. The legacy of this is some of the greatest concentrations of historic military architecture in Europe, not only in the number of Grade I and II* listed buildings found within the Historic Dockyard, but also in the diverse range of Listed and Scheduled forts and castles that ring the city. Today Portsmouth is still Her Majesty's (HM) Naval Base for almost two thirds of the Navy's surface ships. The city's maritime heritage and historic

waterfront, as well as its literary associations has fostered a range of tourist attractions. These include the Historic Dockyard (home of The Mary Rose, HMS Victory and HMS Warrior), the D-Day Story, Charles Dickens Museum, Gunwharf Quays designer retail outlet and the iconic Spinnaker Tower. There have also been more recent enhancements to the historic environment, including the Hotwalls art studios in Old Portsmouth, a creative re-use of part of the original military seafront defences.

In the early 19th century, the southern part of Portsea Island (Southsea) began to develop as a picturesque satellite settlement with miles of seafront promenade and common. The city's other registered historic parks were established in this era; Victoria Park in the city centre (1878) and Kingston Cemetery in North End (1856). Fratton Park in Milton (1898), constructed late in this period, is still home to Portsmouth Football Club today. Many of the city's 23 conservation areas protect Victorian and Georgian features stemming from this period.

Moving into the 20th century, Portsmouth was one of the most heavily bombed cities in Britain during the Second World War, destroying over 6,000 buildings and damaging many more. Gradual clearance of the worst affected areas, and their subsequent reconstruction, took place between the late 1940s and 1970s in the form of Portsmouth City Council housing estates in Paulsgrove, Landport, Somerstown, Buckland and Portsea, as well as the development of Leigh Park in Havant.

Today, Portsmouth has a total housing stock of 89,800 homes (May 2021). This consists

of 52,882 (58.9%) owner occupied homes, 19,738 (22%) privately rented, 10,080 (11.2%) are council rented and 7,100 (7.9%) are Housing Association homes.

Portsmouth International Port opened in 1976; England's largest municipal port, with the commercial quay serving over 300 ships per year and total imports and exports of 985,000 tonnes in 2019. It deals with over 2 million passengers and 600,000 vehicles a year and is the second busiest cross-channel ferry port and is a key western channel route. The opening of a new terminal in 2011 increased the Port's attractiveness of the Port as a cruise ship destination, and growth of the Port continues with further development of the cruise offer funded by £11.25m Levelling Up Fund Round 1

Today much of the city's key economic sectors in defence, aerospace, advanced manufacturing and technology, and as well as the tourism, digital and creative industries, stem from the city's marine and maritime legacy. These activities are supported and strengthened by links to the University of Portsmouth, an award winning, world-class university, which has recently received international acclaim for its enzyme-enabled solutions for the circular recycling of plastics. The University plays a key role in supporting local businesses and in contributing to the vibrancy of life in the city. In the first, and so far only, national assessment of teaching quality in 2017 (the Teaching Excellence Framework [TEF]) the University got the highest rating available – Gold.

In the recent Research Excellence Framework (REF2021) – the national assessment of university research quality

– 77 per cent of research submitted by the University was ranked in the highest categories – world-leading and internationally excellent.

In the Times Higher Education REF rankings – based on REF2021 results – Portsmouth was ranked 6th of all UK universities for Physics.

As a city, Portsmouth enjoys excellent partnership working with other local authorities and with colleagues in health, including the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Solent NHS Trust, Portsmouth Hospitals University Trust, the police, probation, fire service, University of Portsmouth and with business – through Shaping Portsmouth. HIVE Portsmouth is a critical strategic partner and link to the voluntary and community sector in the city. All partners worked together throughout 2019 and 2020 through the “Imagine Portsmouth” exercise, which brought together around 2,500 people representing residents, businesses and organisations who live and work in Portsmouth to talk about their hopes and dreams for their city.

A vision for Portsmouth

Through workshops, focus groups and city-wide consultation, we heard everyone's ideas about what sort of city Portsmouth should be, and took everyone's ambitions for Portsmouth to create a vision for Portsmouth's future that everyone can get behind and work towards.

Our vision for Portsmouth in 2040 is that we are very proud of Portsmouth, how we behave towards each other and how it feels to live here. Portsmouth people will have strong beliefs and values:

We believe in collaboration – We will all take responsibility for our city and we enjoy working together for the common good, across neighbourhoods, communities, organisations, sectors and businesses

We believe in our equality – We will be a fair and equal city where everyone has the opportunity to succeed, enjoy and

thrive in the life they want to live, and so we welcome and support each other without discrimination

We believe in respect – In 2040 we know every person in Portsmouth has a valuable contribution to make, whether we live, work, study or visit here, so we respect each other's differences, and make sure everyone feels included and safe

We believe in our innovation – We are ambitious and action-oriented, welcoming new ideas and embracing changes that improve people's lives

We believe in our community – We will be so proud of our strong and friendly community spirit, how we all take care of each other, keep each other safe, help each other out, and make sure we all feel we belong

We will be:

A healthy and happy city – We do everything we can to enhance wellbeing for everyone in our city by offering the education, care and support that every individual needs for their physical and mental health. All our residents and communities lives in good homes where they feel safe, feel like they belong, and can thrive.

A city rich in culture and creativity – People in Portsmouth enjoy a vibrant cultural scene that makes the most of our location,

our heritage and our creative energy. We are full of things to do and places to be, welcoming locals and visitors with diverse events, attractions and venues that positively benefit our people and our city. We are known locally, regionally and internationally as a great waterfront and city destination that brings people together.

A city with a thriving economy – Portsmouth supercharges local businesses and entrepreneurs and attracts investment



nationally and internationally from businesses of all sizes. We build strong partnerships between employers and people to develop an excellent skills base and offer brilliant career opportunities to young people, students and adults, growing a better future for us all.

A city of lifelong learning – Our young people are encouraged to develop high, positive aspirations, and are fully invested in to make the most of their talent and potential. Adults have a wide range of education opportunities to choose from at every stage of life that empower them and enrich their lives.

A green city – We have excellent air quality because of our green spaces and sustainable transport, and this means our people live healthy and active lives. We are carbon neutral, use renewable energy and actively work to address climate change. We protect and enhance both our land and maritime environment for future generations.

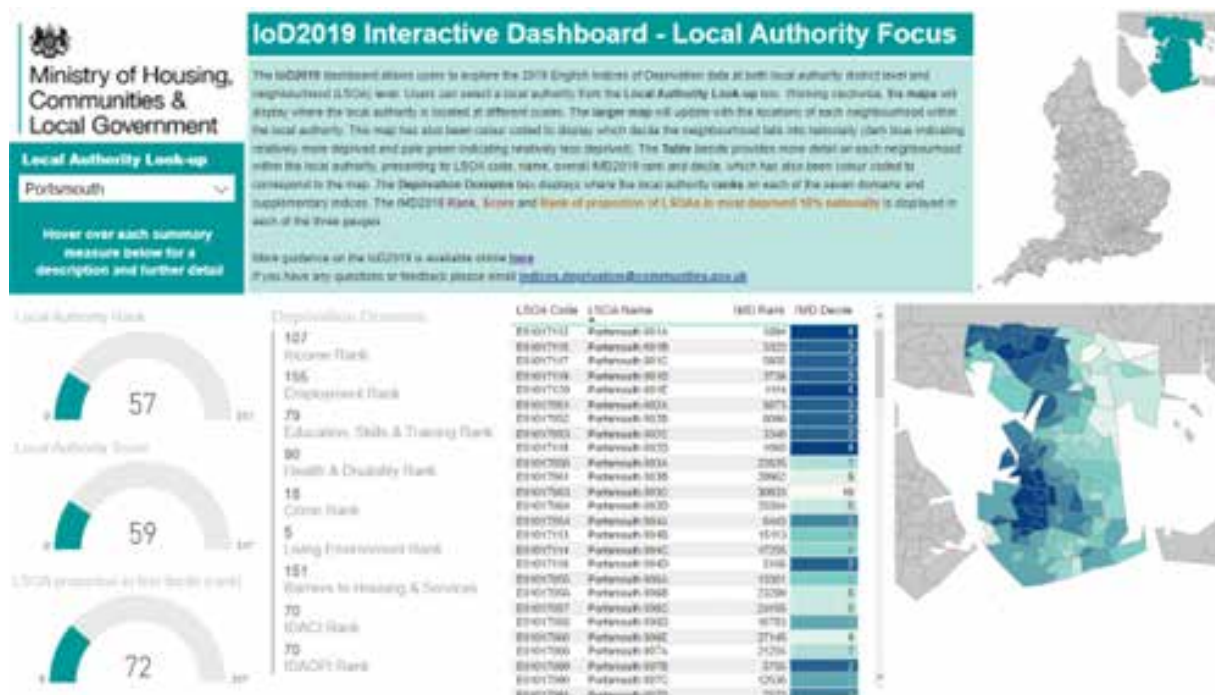
A city with easy travel – Fewer journeys are made by car because we have excellent public transport connections between bus, train, cycling and walking routes, making it easier and more enjoyable to be out and about. We encourage and support more walking and cycling, and we make it easy for people to travel regionally, nationally and internationally for work and pleasure.

Key issues in Portsmouth

Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is the official measure of relative deprivation. Portsmouth (along with Southampton) ranks as significantly more deprived than any other district within Hampshire and Isle of Wight. Of 317 LA districts in England, Portsmouth is the 57th most deprived by the average rank of each LSOA, the 59th most deprived by average score of LSOA, and 72nd most deprived by the proportion of its LSOAs that are in the most deprived 10% nationally. With only 2 LSOAs in the least deprived 10% nationally, and 15 in the most deprived 10%, Portsmouth has pockets of affluence rather than pockets of deprivation.

- 6,500 (16.5%) children under 16 in Portsmouth are in absolute low-income families (before housing costs, 2019/20)
- 8,000 (20%) children under 16 are in relative low income families (before housing costs, 2019/20)
- 6,500 (17%) of over 60s live in income deprivation (IDAOP, 2015/16).
- 21,000 (25%) households in Portsmouth are below 60% of the median income after housing costs (ONS 2013/14 estimates), rising to 45% in more deprived areas of the city.
- In 2021, the median average weekly earnings in Portsmouth was £468, which is than the England average (£496) and Southampton (£521.40); and significantly lower than the South East (£530.40).



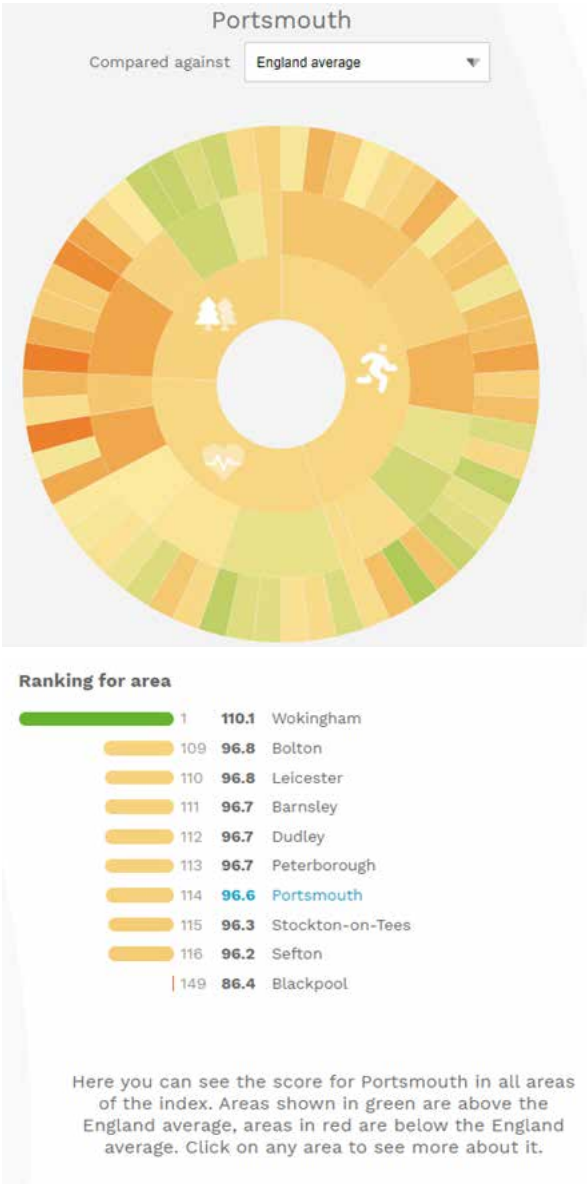
Health inequalities

Health outcomes in the city reflect the levels of deprivation. In 2018, then Chief Medical Officer, Dame Sally Davies, proposed a Health Index “that reflects the multi-faceted determinants of the population’s health”. The Office of National Statistics (ONS) launched the draft Health Index in December 2020, with an updated version due to be published in March 2022. It provides “a single headline indicator of health that is transparent in its construction, can be compared over time, can be compared at different geographical levels, and can be broken down into the effects that drive changes”. The Health Index aligns with the World Health Organization’s definition of health, that health “is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”

The index is broken down into three domains, each with a number of sub-domains:

- healthy people – health outcomes, ensuring representation of the population as a whole
- healthy lives – health-related behaviours and personal circumstances
- healthy places – wider determinants of health, environmental factors.

The Index is scaled to a base of 100 for England in 2015. Values above 100 indicate better health than England in 2015, below 100 indicates worse health. Data for Portsmouth in 2018 showed that health was worse than the England average in 2015, and that the city’s relative position has worsened in the years since. Portsmouth’s position has worsened in relation to health outcomes and



wider determinants, and improved in relation to health-related behaviours. Portsmouth is not an outlier in terms of its overall score. It sits within a pattern in which more deprived areas have less healthy populations.

Exploring sub-domains within the Health Index suggested a number of areas where outcomes are much worse in Portsmouth than in England. For example, out of 149 local authorities, where 1 is the best, Portsmouth ranks 98th for child poverty,

112th for household income, 113th for children's social, emotional and mental health, 133rd for GCSE achievement, 135th for air quality, 139th for self-harm, 141st for pupil absence, and 145th for road traffic

volume. Many of these areas will have been significantly impacted by Covid-19 and existing disparities are likely to have been exacerbated

Educational Attainment

The education that people receive is an important preparation for the rest of their lives, equipping them with many of the things they need to go on and lead successful lives. Attainment can be an important factor in the opportunities people can take up in later life, and in turn, these opportunities can be important determining factors for physical, mental and emotional health.

In many key measures of educational attainment, Portsmouth is ranked lower than other cities. There is a paradox in that the city is strong in terms of Ofsted judgements, with 92% of inspected schools and 96% of early years settings assessed to be good or better, but the city has weak outcomes in terms of educational outcomes, particularly at the end of Key Stage 2, when children finish their primary school years and Key Stage 4, when they finish secondary schooling.

Portsmouth prides itself on being an inclusive city, and received a very positive

report from Ofsted in 2019 on the response for children with special educational needs and disability, and yet relative to other places we see poor outcomes for disadvantaged pupils, pupils on SEN support and children who are looked after.

The city has leaned into the academisation agenda and focused clearly on school improvement, and yet a step change in outcomes has not been achieved. On the last comparable data (before the pandemic struck), at Key Stage 2, 58% of children achieved the expected standard across Reading, Writing and Maths, compared with 65% of their peers nationally. At Key Stage 4, 35% achieved a strong pass in both English and Maths compared to 43% nationally, and 56% achieved a standard pass in these subjects compared to 65% nationally. For children meeting the expected standard in reading at KS2, the city ranks 148th out of 152 local authority areas; and 147th for the average Attainment 8 score at KS4.

Skills and labour market

These outcomes have implications for achievement at further and higher education. The most recent statistics show that the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training has risen to 5.2%. There is also concern about the number of young people leaving post-16 without a positive destination.

Despite being a university city, Portsmouth has relatively few people with degree level skills; this poses a challenge for residents looking to obtain highly paid work. Portsmouth also has a higher proportion of residents with no skills (6.9%) compared to the average for the south east (5.6%), though this remains lower than the national average (8.0%).

Many higher paid and higher skilled jobs are taken by employees commuting into Portsmouth and not by residents. Resident salaries are lower than the national average despite city workplace wages being higher – this indicates the lower skills level of the local workforce.

The employment rate in Portsmouth increased to 76.7% in the year to September 2021, above the UK average rate (74.5%). However, at 5.5% the unemployment rate in Portsmouth is also higher than the UK average, although this had decreased on the previous quarter. In the 12 months to September 2021, the youth unemployment rate in Portsmouth decreased to 12.8%, lower than the UK average (13.3%).

The overall rate of Portsmouth economic inactivity rate decreased to 18.9% in the year to September 2021, and is lower than the UK average rate (21.7%).

Following a seasonal slowdown, hiring intentions (online job postings) in Portsmouth bounced back in February by 8% after falling in January (-8%) and stood 23% above pre-pandemic levels (February 2020). By early March, online labour demand in Portsmouth was 52% higher than in March last year (Emsi), suggesting a buoyant labour market.



City economy

Portsmouth is an important centre for work within the sub-region; home to two-thirds of the UK's naval fleet and an internationally recognised university. The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) predicts that Portsmouth will be one of the key drivers of growth within the sub-region during the plan period.

The city is key to the Solent's growing marine and maritime sector; Portsmouth benefits from the presence of International Port, HM Naval Base and a number of waterfront access sites (including Trafalgar Wharf, Port Solent and The Camber). Portsmouth City Council is one of the city's major employers alongside the Naval Base, the University of Portsmouth, Airbus Defence and Space, BAE systems and Pall Europe. Lakeside North Harbour Business Park in Cosham offers a premier office, research and development space which draws businesses from across the sub-region, while the city's well-occupied industrial estates in Hilsea support a range of sectors. The city's economy is also boosted by its tourism and cultural offer stemming largely from its Naval Heritage and coastal environment. The University of Portsmouth contributed around £1.1. Billion Gross Value Added (GVA) to the British economy in 2015/16, of which £476m GVA was to the direct benefit of the Portsmouth economy.

The presence of the University helps support local businesses and adds to the vibrancy

of the city. The University's activities, which include running business incubators and innovation centres, research and consultancy services, training, student placements and open days, all provide further support to the Portsmouth economy.

However, there is notable under-representation in Portsmouth in some high value-added and knowledge related sectors including finance, insurance and business services and the professional, scientific and technical sub-sector, compared to the national average.

There have been significant net losses in office space in Portsmouth in recent years, particularly in the city centre, largely due to the redevelopment of key sites to hotel and student accommodation as well as office to residential conversions under permitted development rights. While these losses may be reflective of market trends and other factors during this period, providing accessible, high quality office space remains essential for supporting the city's economic development and regenerations aims. New office floorspace is therefore required to meet both the existing undersupply and future demand. Growth in industrial land (mixed industrial and distribution uses) in Portsmouth has been comparatively buoyant in recent years however, and may see demand continue within particular sectors.

Land availability

Planning for the future development of Portsmouth is considered in a much wider context than just the boundaries of the city, in part due to its geographical constraints as a coastal city. Development in Portsmouth can have wider impacts across the sub-region. Equally, development in south Hampshire can affect Portsmouth. For example, Portsmouth forms part of a wider housing market sub-area within which evidence suggests people move home to live and work. The city has a wider draw as a major cultural, commercial and tourism centre for the sub-region. Large volumes of people and goods flow in and out of the city every day, by road, rail, ferry services, cycle routes, the Port and other import wharves.

As a result of its activities, the city has an environmental impact which goes beyond the city boundaries, and is in turn affected by development and activity in other areas. This includes potential impact of traffic in and out of the city, the supply, treatment and the disposal of water, and the pressure on the open spaces for development both within the city and in the surrounding countryside. The Council works effectively with colleagues across the South Hampshire area, through the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) to help plan this development collaboratively.

Portsmouth is known for being one of the UK's most densely populated cities, a trend that is continuing with increases in the average density of new build development since 2012. Building density levels in Portsmouth have always been relatively high, in part due to the historic development of the city, with the rows of artisan terraces built for the Naval Dockyard workers and their families, as well as the island geography constraints on developable land.

Key opportunities for future development are likely to be centred in five strategic development areas:

- **City Centre**
- **Tipner**
- **Fratton Park and the Pompey centre**
- **St James' Hospital and Langstone Campus**
- **Cosham**
- **Lakeside Northarbour**

Balancing the demands for housing space, employment space and preserving the local environment is particularly difficult in a city that is already densely developed, has significant constraints but also significant demands.

Environment

Portsmouth has a rich natural environment; bound to the north by Portsdown Hill and surrounded by the Solent to the south and Langstone and Portsmouth Harbours to the east and west. These habitats support a wide variety of important plant and animal species. In addition, 900 hectares of green space provide for recreation uses. 4.74 Portsmouth being a coastal city has a rich diversity of flora and fauna. There are many protected areas including those of European importance. Diverse habitats include Portsdown Hill to the north of the city to European protected mudflats in the Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (Langstone Harbour). Other internationally important sites include Portsmouth Harbour Special Protection Area, Chichester and Langstone Harbour Special Protection Area (both of which are Ramsar sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest). There is a challenge for the city to protect and enhance the rich biodiversity and habitats in the city whilst providing proposed levels of development, and responding to the challenge of climate change.

Parts of the city are characterised by a highly urban environment dominated by traffic and corresponding high levels of air and noise pollution. Portsmouth has five Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) within the city; with traffic-related emissions (mainly nitrogen dioxide) being the main contributing factor for their poor air quality. Four of the five AQMAs are located along the western corridor, and the Clean Air Zone introduced in November 2021 seeks to mitigate this impact. Our challenge is to reduce reliance

on cars and encourage other modes of transport around the city and ensure suitable infrastructure is provided in conjunction with development.

Portsmouth, being a coastal city, has a higher flood risk than many areas and mitigation through flood defences is needed. Approximately 47% of the city's land area is within Flood Zones 2 and 3 (the areas of highest risk). The coastal frontages of Portsmouth are almost entirely defended from either wave overtopping or tidal flooding by some form of coastal defence and further flood defences are planned. The city is vulnerable from rising sea levels, extreme weather events and consequent flooding from the sea and groundwater.

The Portsea Island Coastal Strategy provides a long term strategic approach to the coastline of Portsea Island. New defences identified in the Portsea Island Coastal Strategy have begun to be put in place, with the major Southsea scheme now underway. The city has received funding from the Environment Agency to support this vital work.

The city also declared a climate emergency in 2019, pledging to reduce the city's carbon emissions. This is a further factor to be considered as options for growth and development are considered. Responses could include locating housing close to jobs and services to minimise the need to travel, and improving the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings, and promoting use of low carbon energy.

City centre and retail areas

Portsmouth's town centres provide an essential network of accessible shops, services and community facilities. This includes Portsmouth City Centre (inc. Gunwharf Quays), Southsea, Cosham, North End, Fratton and Albert Road and Elm Grove as well as number of smaller Local Centres distributed throughout the city. There are also some significant 'out-of-centre' developments in Portsmouth offering a mix of outlet and warehouse retail, leisure and entertainment facilities. Notable sites include Port Solent, Portsmouth Retail Park at North Harbour, Ocean Park in Copnor and the Pompey Centre in Fratton.

Over the last decade, retail occupation in Portsmouth centres has largely reflected the trends seen in the retail sector nationally; declines in the face of competition from online shopping, out-of-centre stores and the shift to other more 'experience' focused pastimes. Since the start of the COVID-19

pandemic, town centres have experienced rapid change, including an accelerated shift to online sales. The larger centres have been particularly affected, due to the combination of continued home working, restrictions on domestic and international tourism and the need for continued social distancing.

Local centres are hugely important in terms of the amenity they provide for those living close to them, and the sense of community and identity they bring to their neighbourhoods. The larger retail areas, particularly the city centre, perform a similar function for the whole city, and are vitally important to the sense of city identity and esteem. The relatively recent loss of large anchor department stores in the city, and the increase in vacant units, have created significant challenges that need to be addressed through creative thinking around the use of buildings and public realm.

Cultural landscape

Culture – from services like libraries and museums, to art galleries and theatres, to community groups and creative business – is unique in being a sector that brings together local government, business and voluntary and community sectors with residents and communities in a voluntary way – for the purpose of enrichment rather than compulsory service delivery. Cultural activity in the city therefore provides a unique platform for groups to come together for enjoyment, but also for change, growth and regeneration.

Portsmouth's unique heritage and coastal environment, together with sporting, arts and music events, offer a distinct cultural setting for the city.

Portsmouth has a wealth of attractions, including:

- Southsea seafront and common; Victorian seaside resort with everchanging sea views across the Solent, family attractions and activities.
- Over 800 years of maritime, defence and literary heritage found at sites across the city;
- Gunwharf Quays Designer Outlet; waterfront shopping and restaurants overlooking the harbour. • Spinnaker Tower; a landmark tower with magnificent views of Portsmouth Harbour, the Solent and the city.

- A growing programme of high-quality national and international events; such as Victorious Festival, the Great South Run, Americas Cup World Series and various food and drink festivals and markets.
- A wealth of cultural attractions and connections; theatre and performance venues (The Guildhall, The Kings Theatre, the New Theatre Royal) and a number of art galleries (including the Hotwalls Studios) and arts communities.
- Portsmouth Football Club at Fratton Park.
- A marina and boardwalk style development at Port Solent with shops, restaurants and leisure facilities.
- An eclectic range of independent eateries clustered in Southsea Town Centre and Albert Road / Elm Grove.

There is a body of research to support the idea that cultural assets and heritage can help to generate a 'sense of place' and belonging and counter feelings of social isolation. Culture is linked to 42% of inbound-tourism related expenditure and with over 550 companies working across the Creative Industries in Portsmouth and a visitor economy worth £600m per annum, supporting 13,000 jobs, culture is integral to the lifeblood of the city. The creative and cultural industries are one of the fastest growing sectors in the city and will be integral to our wider development aspirations, including the regeneration of the city centre.

Portsmouth's UK Shared Prosperity Fund investment themes

In this context, there are specific challenges and opportunities relevant to the investment priorities of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund:

Communities and place investment priority

Challenges

Our key challenges are:

- Arrest and reverse the decline in the city centre, as a gateway to the city and a critical part of the city's identity – create opportunities for collaborative working and building a shared vision
- Address and reverse the decline in other retail and local centres, to ensure that they are vibrant and serve their localities, providing a strong offer and creating a sense of community
- Strengthen the approach to heritage in the city, moving away from an approach dominated by the maritime identity and addressing heritage assets in decline.
- Tackle environmental challenges including Air Quality and the very urban environment

Opportunities

Our key opportunities are:

- Work that has been undertaken through the Future High Streets Fund, and to develop a masterplan for the city centre – this includes adjusting the road layouts for the city centre and developing a greater mix of residential use, and an urban park.
- Build on the strengths identified in the approach to the city centre, including the pedestrianised public realm, proximity to the park and Guildhall and good transport connections (connected to the Levelling Up Fund Round 2 bid)
- Build on the strengths and depths of the creative industries in the city and use these to revitalise areas
- Revitalise the Hilsea Lido
- Work in partnership with Portsmouth Football Club to improve access to the grounds
- Take forward a new heritage strategy that will drive an approach around creative reuse of assets and looking at the intangible heritage of the city.

Local Business Investment priority

Challenges

Our key challenges are:

- The lack of suitable space for business in the city
- The relatively low business survival rate
- Skills gaps in the workforce that deter businesses from investing in Portsmouth

Ensuring that there is clarity around the relationship between growing the local economy and being environmentally responsible

Opportunities

Our key opportunities are:

- Redevelopment of high street areas and the opportunity to consider changes to space usage to address business demand
- Development of strategic sites to take account of demands for employment space, particularly where there are unique features such as deep water access.
- Portsmouth is an enterprising city with a high number of start-ups
- Home to leading university, key marine and maritime businesses, advanced manufacture, international port, freeport site and naval base, supported by access to water and deep channel water
- Advanced agenda for the city environment, including the Clean Air Zone and Climate Emergency, leading to innovative work in green growth and skills

People and skills investment

Challenges

Our key challenges are:

- High levels of deprivation, particularly concentrated in some wards in the city; multi-generational hardship
- Poor outcomes for residents particularly in relation to health, including mental health, and education
- Relatively low levels of skills in the resident workforce

Opportunities

Our key opportunities are:

- Strong approach to supporting employment for people experiencing barriers
- Strong partnerships around skills and employment pathways, and effective programmes
- Developing approach to youth support in the city

The table set out as Appendix 1 highlights how interventions funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund will support us in tackling our identified challenges, amplifying the opportunities for the city and driving improved outcomes.

Appendix 1

UK shared prosperity fund – preferred interventions

Investment Priority – Communities and Place

Linked Levelling Up Fund Mission/s – Healthy Life Expectancy, Wellbeing and Crime

City Vision Link – Imagine a happy and healthy city

Challenge/opportunity area	Policy links	Existing projects to align to	Example projects	Potential outcomes and impacts
High street and retail area regeneration	Local plan City Centre Masterplan and development strategy	Future High Streets £6.9m (Fratton and Commercial Road) City Centre North scheme Guildhall Walk scheme Safer Streets District centres work	Investment in community / social projects Well designed, safe public realm	Pride of place and sense of community Better quality of life for population More attractive place to live and work Increased sense of safety and security Enhanced perception of Portsmouth as a place to live, work and visit More expenditure towards the local economy
Approach to heritage	Heritage Strategy	Hilsea Lido regeneration as part of Linear Park LUF1 project	The development, restoration or refurbishment of local natural, cultural and heritage assets and sites The delivery of outreach, engagement and participatory programmes for these local assets and sites Unlock existing buildings for economic use	Increased visitor numbers Increased footfall Improved perception of facilities/ amenities Improved perceived/experienced accessibility
Environmental challenges, including reducing carbon, improving air quality and supporting biodiversity	Climate Strategy & Carbon Action Plan Air Quality Strategy Local Plan	Greening strategy implementation Clean Air Zone Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan Southsea and Cosham Travel Hubs Future Transport Zone Zero Emission Buses EV charging Lakeside energy efficiency works Portsmouth International Port energy efficiency works	Accessible public transport methods e.g. cycle and pedestrian routes Encouraged use of greenspace through community activities, sports facilities	High quality, well designed transportation networks Improved air quality Improved quality and use of public realm Reduced carbon impact
Develop support for the city's creative and cultural industries	Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy Arts Council Priority Place status	Cultural projects building on literary assets	Creation of new tourism and leisure activities including events Support for cultural infrastructure in the city	Increased employment opportunities in cultural and creative sector Boosted economic performance of cultural and creative sector Improved attraction for cultural and creative businesses to locate in Portsmouth Cultural and creative industries using suitable premises

Local Business Investment

Challenge/opportunity area	Policy links	Existing projects to align to	Example projects	Potential outcomes and impacts
Develop suitable spaces for business, including promoting value of unique locations at strategic sites and the opportunity of the freeport	Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy Freeport development Local Plan	Port Terminal Extension Freight Yard Freeport development Tipner redevelopment	Unlocking employment space to increase number of jobs	Enterprises using high quality, new commercial space Increased employment opportunities Improved diversification of employment offering Boosted economic performance Improved attraction for businesses to locate in Portsmouth Improved labour market
Support environmental responsibility in the local business community, including through research and innovation	Climate Strategy Air Quality Strategy	Greening strategy implementation Clean Air Zone Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan Southsea and Cosham Travel Hubs Future Transport Zone Zero Emission Buses – Bus Strategic Improvement Fund EV charging Lakeside energy efficiency works Portsmouth International Port energy efficiency works	Develop one-stop shop model for business support on environmental issues, including access to networks and peer support	Improved environmental performance in city businesses linked to reduction in carbon impact and improvements in other environmental outcomes. Reduced costs for businesses in long term from impact of interventions eg. energy costs
Increase business support to improve survival and growth rates	Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy	Business support offer Crowdfunder scheme	Business support activity for entrepreneurs Support for starting businesses Funding for start-ups and new companies locating in Portsmouth Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems and connecting businesses to wider support on, for example, innovation, trade and skills Increasing private sector investment in growth enhancing activities, through targeted support for small and medium sized businesses to undertake new-to-firm innovation, adopt productivity enhancing technologies and techniques, and start or grow their exports	Businesses attracted to Gosport due to survival rates More jobs created New businesses created Reduced vacancy rates Improved perception of markets Increased business sustainability

People and skills

Challenge/opportunity area	Policy links	Existing projects to align to	Example projects	Potential outcomes and impacts
Tackle issues around education and skills as a route out of poverty	Health and Wellbeing Strategy Skills and Labour Market Strategy Portsmouth Education Partnership Multiply	Net Zero Skills Hub	Implementation of skills and education programmes for children and adults Adult learning classes/activities Increased awareness of higher education opportunities Businesses working with local schools offering internships etc.	Increased skillset of population Reduced social and health issues Increased economic activity Decreased public spending on health and social care Population gaining qualifications, licences and skills Upskilling of the population Increased number of people with basic skills (English, maths, digital and ESOL) Wider participation in higher education
Strengthen support for people experiencing barriers to work	Skills and Labour Market Strategy SEND strategy		Diversify employment offering Supplement provision available through national employment and skills programmes	Fewer people facing structural barriers into employment and into skills provision
Develop the approach to youth support in the city	Youth Investment Fund approach	DWP Youth Hub	Improved offer of services targeted at younger ages	Improved outcomes for young people and families across domains including wellbeing, education, employment and interaction with criminal justice system.

