



# PushQualityPlacesCharter

PARTNERSHIP FOR URBAN SOUTH HAMPSHIRE

## The Importance of Quality Places

PUSH is a partnership of 11 local authorities in South Hampshire. The area is a focus for growth and plans exist to undertake significant development and change over the next 20 years. PUSH recognises that such development will be important to the area's economy, but is equally concerned to ensure that development is delivered at the highest possible quality and is designed and managed to create quality places for the wellbeing of its existing and future residents, workers and visitors.

### The challenge for South Hampshire

PUSH believes that good quality places add economic, environmental and social value to an area. This is widely recognised and supported by research.<sup>1</sup> High quality places and buildings generate greater rental and capital value for local authorities and investors. Such places and buildings heighten the image, attractiveness and competitiveness of a settlement helping to generate inward investment and making it a more desirable place to live, work and play.

The challenge for South Hampshire is to ensure that the principles and value of high quality places, their delivery and management is recognised and supported through each PUSH authority's priorities and decision making.

### What is a quality place?

PUSH believes that a quality place has a number of essential components<sup>2</sup> which have been identified in the diagram on the right.

The application of each component, both individually and collectively, is at the heart of delivering the kind of places and communities that PUSH wishes to see developed as part of the growth of the area over the next 20 years. PUSH recognises that

the components should not be applied to new development alone, but are equally applicable to the management of existing settlements, neighbourhoods, streets, open spaces and buildings. Equally, it is important to ensure that management and development is of the highest possible quality and is applied to small scale as well as high profile and large scale proposals.



Components of Quality Place diagram

## Delivering Quality Places

### A Commitment from PUSH

"The PUSH authorities are committed to the creation of quality places. We recognise the different components that combine to create quality places and will ensure implementation of place-making principles and the processes for their delivery. We acknowledge that we must collaborate and cooperate with the many other organisations and bodies responsible for the management and development of the public realm to achieve high quality places."

### Signed by all PUSH authorities:

Delivering high quality places and buildings cannot be achieved through a statement of intent alone. PUSH recognises that it is equally important that appropriate delivery mechanisms and processes are in place. Each local authority in South Hampshire, as a signatory to the charter, is committed to delivering the following:

- ▶ Leadership and management structures to ensure that creating quality places is a high priority
- ▶ A design-led multi-disciplinary culture which plans, designs and manages new and existing places in an integrated way to achieve high quality outcomes
- ▶ Place-making and quality design policies which underpin Development Plan Documents, including detailed guidance on creating high quality development where necessary
- ▶ Decision making which uses the wider value of creating quality places as a prime consideration rather than cost alone
- ▶ Opportunities to improve the quality and management of existing places
- ▶ Appropriate place awareness and design training for leaders, councillors and officers
- ▶ Community involvement in the planning, design and management of places

"We call upon those organisations and bodies to commit to delivering the place-making components identified in this charter."

Councillor I Carr, Test Valley

Councillor R Smith, Southampton

Councillor B Rickman, New Forest

Councillor K House, Eastleigh

Councillor S D T Woodward, Fareham

Councillor K Learney, Winchester

Councillor M Hook, Gosport

Councillor G Vernon-Jackson, Portsmouth

Councillor A Briggs, Havant

Councillor P Burridge, East Hants

Councillor Dr R Ellis, Hampshire

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<sup>1</sup> CABE research (Sept 2009) and the Value Handbook 2006  
<sup>2</sup> Adapted from 'World Class Places' - (DCLG and DCMS, May 2009)