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19 September 2007

S U M M O N S

MEETING: Overview and Scrutiny Committee
DATE: 27 September 2007
TIME: 6.00pm
PLACE: Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Gosport
Democratic Services contact: Chris Wrein

LINDA EDWARDS
BOROUGH SOLICITOR

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Councillor Philpott (Chairman)
Councillor Dickson (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Carr	Councillor Jacobs
Councillor Davis	Councillor Kimber
Councillor Farr	Councillor Mrs Salter
Councillor Foster	Councillor Train
Councillor Foster-Reed	Councillor Ward

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

(To be read from the Chair if members of the public are present)

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Proceed downstairs by way of the main stairs or as directed by GBC staff, follow any of the emergency exit signs. People with disability or mobility issues please identify yourself to GBC staff who will assist in your evacuation of the building.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

- If you are in a wheelchair or have difficulty in walking and require access to the Committee Room on the First Floor of the Town Hall for this meeting, assistance can be provided by Town Hall staff on request

If you require any of the services detailed above please ring the Direct Line for the Democratic Services Officer listed on the Summons (first page).

NOTE:

Please note that mobile phones should be switched off for the duration of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies, if any, for inability to attend the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members present are reminded to declare, at this point in the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter, any personal (including financial) or prejudicial interest in any item(s) being considered at this meeting.

3. MINUTES

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26 July 2007 (Attached).

4. INTRODUCTION OF 20 MPH SPEED RESTRICTIONS IN GOSPORT

For the Committee to scrutinise the concept of the introduction of 20 mph speed restrictions in Gosport.

5. COMMUNITY STRATEGY

To consider the revised Community Strategy

6. REQUESTS FOR SCRUTINY

To consider any requests received for matters to be scrutinised.

- (i) Free Parking Permits (Briefing note attached)*
- (ii) Review of Car Parking Charges (Draft minute extract from Community and Environment Board meeting on 10 September 2007 attached)*

7. REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF SCRUTINIES BEING UNDERTAKEN

- (i) Southern Water (Verbal update from Councillor Davis)*
- (ii) Waterfront Zoning (The Working Group has not met since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It is due to meet again on 11 October 2007)*
- (iii) Travel Token Service (Notes attached)*

8. DEVELOPMENT OF A WORK PROGRAMME

To consider the work programme for the Committee and any suggestions from Members for issues to be scrutinised.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**A MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WAS HELD ON 26 JULY 2007**

Councillors Carr (P), Davis (P), Dickson (P), Farr (P), Foster (P), Foster-Reed, Jacobs (P), Kimber (P), Philpott (P), Mrs Salter (P), Train (P) and Ward (P).

It was reported that Councillor Ms Ballard had been nominated to replace Councillor Foster-Reed for this meeting.

15. APOLOGIES

An apology for inability to attend the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor Foster-Reed.

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

17. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 7 June 2007 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

18. DISPARITY IN SHORT-STAY CAR PARKING CHARGES AT LEE-ON-THE-SOLENT IN COMPARISON WITH THE REST OF THE BOROUGH

Consideration was given to a briefing note of the Borough Solicitor on the above matter which provided the Committee with financial information requested at its meeting on 7 June 2007. Details of petitions received from members of the public and business representatives requesting changes to the structure of the Lee-on-the-Solent short-stay car parking charges were also reported to the Committee.

Councillor Smith attended the meeting by invitation in order to take part in the discussion, and he responded to a number of Members' questions relating to car parking charges. Councillor Smith was thanked for his contribution and his attendance at the meeting.

Members debated the issues surrounding short-stay car parking charges at Lee-on-the-Solent compared to those in the rest of the Borough and, as they felt that further information and views were required, decided that an extraordinary meeting of the Committee should be arranged to look further into the subject. Members decided that invitations to attend the meeting should be extended to the Lee Traders Association, Lee Residents Association, Councillor Cully, a Lee Councillor who was not a Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Mrs Driver, who had been involved with organising the petitions. It was felt that these organisations and individuals would be able to provide information and views to enable the Committee to better conduct the requested scrutiny.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) an extraordinary meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be arranged to scrutinise the disparity in short stay car parking charges at Lee-on-the-Solent compared to the rest of the Borough; and
- b) the following be invited to the extraordinary meeting:
 - A representative of the Lee Traders Association
 - A representative of the Lee Residents Association
 - Councillor Cully
 - Mrs Driver
 - A Lee Councillor who is not a Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

19. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Consideration was given to a report of the Development Services Manager which considered performance information relating to Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPs) for the year 2006/07.

Members were advised that the performance information was continually monitored with quarterly in-house reviews being carried out following which any necessary actions were taken

Members noted that the Council was in the top three of the Hampshire Councils in dealing with planning matters and that 58% of indicators showed an upward trend with 15% remaining stable. Officers were congratulated on their performance.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Development Services Manager be noted

20. REQUESTS FOR SCRUTINY

A request was made by Councillor Train for the travel token service to be scrutinised. The Committee supported this request and decided that a 1:1:1 Working Group be established to scrutinise this area. The nominations for the Working Group were as follows:

- Labour: Councillor Train
- Liberal Democrat: Councillor Mrs Salter
- Conservative: Councillor Ward

RESOLVED: That:

- a) approval be given to the travel token service being scrutinised; and
- b) a 1:1:1 Working Group, comprising the above mentioned nominees, be established to scrutinise the travel token service.

21. REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF SCRUTINIES UNDERTAKEN

Southern Water

Councillor Davis updated the Committee on the progress made by the Working Group, which had met once and would be liaising with Southern Water and Hampshire County Council in August 2007.

There appeared to be little communication between the various organisations involved and there was concern for currently privately owned sewers which were due for adoption in 2010. However, this adoption would depend upon the sewers being in an acceptable condition. Members were advised that, with regard to private sewers, there was legislation in place which enabled enforcement by the Council's Environmental Health Services. Environmental Health Services could also assist the Working Group with information relating to private sewers.

It was anticipated that the Working Group would be able to submit a final report to Committee within the timescale (May 2008) and that by then the various organisations involved would be working together.

Councillor Davis advised in conclusion that he would shortly be meeting with the Southern Water officer responsible for sewer adoption.

Councillor Davis's report was noted and Members expressed their satisfaction at the progress made by the Working Group.

Waterfront Zoning Working Group

Consideration was given to the notes of the Waterfront Zoning Working Group meeting held on 9 July 2007 together with the Group's current Action Plan.

Members were advised that the Working Group was looking at Stokes Bay Waterfront being zoned in a similar way to that at Lee-on-the-Solent.

The progress made by the Working Group was noted.

Introduction of 20 mph Speed Restrictions in Gosport

Consideration was given to a briefing note of the Borough Solicitor on the above matter. This advised Members that a representative from Hampshire County Council had indicated that he would be available to attend the meeting of the Committee on 27 September 2007 should it wish to scrutinise this subject on that date.

Members subsequently agreed to scrutinise the introduction of 20 mph speed restrictions in Gosport at its September meeting and that a representative from Hampshire County Council, together with representatives from the Police, Portsmouth City Council and the Road Safety Council, be invited to attend.

Hampshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Key Issues for Work Programme

Members were presented with a copy of a letter sent to Councillor Dr Ellis, Chairman of the Hampshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the above matter.

Councillor Dr Ellis had written requesting suggestions from the Borough Council on key areas of work to be formally considered by his Committee in 2007/08. A 1:1:1 Working Group consisting of Councillors Allen, Train and Mrs Salter had been established to meet with the Environmental Services Manager and agree a response on the Committee's behalf. The Working Group had met on 23 April 2007 and an agreed response was sent to Councillor Dr Ellis on the same day.

The Committee noted the response.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) Councillor Davis's report on the Southern Water Working Group be noted;
- b) the progress made by the Waterfront Zoning Working Group be noted;
- c)
 - (i) the introduction of 20 mph speed restrictions in Gosport be scrutinised on 27 September 2007;
 - (ii) representatives from Hampshire County Council, the Police, Portsmouth City Council and the Road Safety Council be invited to attend the meeting; and
- d) the response to Councillor Dr Ellis on behalf of the Committee be noted.

26 July 2007

22. DEVELOPMENT OF A WORK PROGRAMME

A copy of the current work programme for the Committee was circulated to Members. The programme contained brief details of areas which were currently being or were due to be scrutinised together with dates for appropriate reports to be made to Committee.

RESOLVED: That the work programme and the report dates contained therein be accepted.

23. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business to discuss.

The meeting ended at 8.03 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

GOSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

27 September 2007

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

TITLE: Community Strategy

AUTHOR: Chief Executive

PURPOSE: To consider the revised Community Strategy

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Community Strategy is a policy framework document and therefore subject to scrutiny, although it is owned and produced by the Local Strategic Partnership¹ (LSP).
- 1.2 The approach and process for reviewing and revising the Community Strategy was scrutinised by this Committee in October 2006 (see Appendix A for a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation).

2.0 REPORT

- 2.1 The LSP has reviewed and revised the Community Strategy using the approach approved by this Overview and Scrutiny Committee, by:
- Using an extensive and solid evidence base (the Local Development Framework Baseline)
 - Carrying out consultation (with service providers and the Community through Vision Fair Events)
 - Linking with the Local Development Framework process (by using common data sets and consultation mechanisms).

¹ Membership of the LSP Board includes Gosport Borough Council, Churches Together, Gosport Voluntary Action, Government Offices for the South East, Groundwork Solent, Hampshire Constabulary, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Primary Care Trust, Ministry of Defence, Portsmouth Housing Association, South East England Development Agency and St Vincent College.

- 2.2 The outcome of the review process is a concise Community Strategy (See Appendix B) which reflects the latest Government Guidance and sets out:
- The role of the LSP and its sub-groups
 - The purpose of the Community Strategy and how it has been produced
 - Gosport's 2026 Vision (the long term Vision for the Borough)
 - Achieving Gosport's 2026 Vision.
- 2.3 The Community Strategy and the findings from the review process are being used by the LSP Board to develop an accompanying Action Plan.
- 2.4 This Committee is invited to conclude its scrutiny of the Community Strategy, by recommending Gosport's Community Sustainable Community Strategy, which is the output of the October 2006 scrutiny, to Policy and Organisation Board and then to Council for endorsement.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Financial Implications: None


Legal Implications: None

Risk Assessment: *Failure to endorse the Community Strategy would create a risk to partnership working and reputation management.*

Background Papers: None

Appendices: *A. PowerPoint Presentation to Scrutiny Committee October 2006
B .Gosport's Sustainable Community Strategy*

Contact: *Julie Petty ext 5381
julie.petty@gosport.gov.uk*

COMMUNITY STRATEGY REVIEW


Introduction

- Policy framework document
 - Overview of process
 - Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)
- Context
- Process
- Questions and comments



First Community Strategy

- Local Govt Act 2000
 - Improve quality of life
 - Agree priorities
 - Co-ordinating services and plans
 - New joint ways of working
- GBC key player
 - Local Strategic Partnership 2002
 - Community Strategy



Future Community Strategy

- 'Partnership of all partnerships'
- Sustainable and set out agreed Vision and Priorities
 - Evidence base
 - Consultation
 - Action plan with outcomes (monitor and measure)
 - Link to Local Development Framework (LDF)



New Community Strategy

- Improved....
 - Strong evidence base
 - Vision for Gosport
 - Focused action plan
 - Community actions
 - Performance management

	<p>Process...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Joined up with LDF ■ GBC, LSP Co-ordinator, LSP Co-ordinating Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1. Gather evidence base ● 2. Consult community on key issues ● 3. Produce Community Strategy (vision & action plan) and LDF
	<p>1. Evidence base...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Statistics/performance indicators/survey data – Health, police, GBC ● Consulted on baseline ● Added in new data ● Summary of data – inform Vision and LDF ● Baseline updated
	<p>2. Consult community...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ LSP vision fair events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Town Hall ● Caravan ● Leaflets/on-line/'take away pack' ■ Voting Boards... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Top priorities – General Survey ● Planning and Development issue
	<p>3. Produce Community Strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consultation findings and summary of baseline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vision ● Action Plan ■ New document early 2007 <p>Questions and comments ...</p>

GOSPORT'S 2026 VISION



GOSPORT'S SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY



The Gosport Partnership
" Working Together For The Gosport Community "

Gosport's Sustainable Community Strategy

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Front page picture: Aerial photograph of Gosport

Back page picture: Falkland Gardens, Gosport Ferry



Gosport Business Centre, Frater Gate Business Park, Aerodrome Road

Foreword

By David Miles, Chairman of the Gosport Partnership

As the Chairman of the Gosport Partnership, I would like to welcome you to Gosport's Sustainable Community Strategy and share with you some of my personal thoughts about Gosport's past and future.

Like many people in Gosport I first visited the town whilst serving in the forces over forty years ago. Also, like many of my service colleagues I married locally, raised a family and made Gosport my home. Since then there have been many changes but Gosport has retained its unique identity and would easily be recognised by anyone who had been away for many years. It is a town with the feel of a village where everyone seems to know each other. It is not a typical southern town, with a population having roots from all corners of the country through its links with the military. It has been said that Gosport, together with Portsmouth, more resemble northern towns placed on the South Coast! Gosport people are friendly and have a well-developed community spirit which supports a wide range of community and voluntary activities across the town.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'David Miles' in a cursive style.

Gosport's economic development has been dominated by its links to the Ministry of Defence (MOD). It has a proud record, from Trafalgar to the Falklands, for the provision of services and support for the military, especially the Royal Navy. With the MOD having had ownership of up to a third of the peninsula's land area, its growth was restricted up to the boundaries of the military establishments. Whilst these constraints may have limited the town's economic diversity it has also preserved much of its historical heritage.

Whilst many improvements have been made over time some of the earlier problems that were around when I arrived still exist to this day. The heavy reliance on the MOD for jobs and transport issues still dominate. However they have also ensured that the town has not been overdeveloped, creating a unique peninsular environment with Portsmouth Harbour to the east and the Solent to the west. These coastal amenities, which many local people enjoy, are the envy of those who discover them when visiting the town. Visitors always point out our many assets which sometimes we residents forget in the bustle of our busy lives. The 'Make Your Mark' community consultation recently carried out clearly shows that many of you, like me, think Gosport is a special place to live. The results of the consultation have been incorporated into Gosport's Vision and Sustainable Community Strategy which will guide the Borough's future development.

Like most other areas of the country Gosport has its problems with areas of deprivation, social exclusion and the need to ensure that all our children have the skills to compete in a changing world.

Gosport has clearly shown in the past that it has the ability to meet the challenges that have arisen. The challenge for the future will be to ensure the opportunities presented

by the restructuring of the armed forces and release of MOD land are fully realised. But they must be realised in a way that ensures the best of Gosport is retained, together with making certain that all areas of the community can benefit.

Gosport's 2026 Vision outlines the sort of town we all would like to see and be proud of. I am sure most of us are already very proud of our town today but what we are not very good at is telling others about its good points. To ensure we have a successful future we must all promote Gosport as a great place to live, work and to visit.

We must grasp these opportunities and working in partnership I am sure we will be able to assure the vision for Gosport's future.

David Miles, Chairman of the Gosport Partnership



The Local Strategic Partnership

The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is a system of partnerships which aims to improve the quality of life in a geographical area. In Gosport, this is called the Gosport Partnership and it is the overarching 'partnership of partnerships' for the Borough.

The main objective of the Gosport Partnership is to set a common vision for Gosport and coordinate and drive delivery of local services, ensuring that by working together, it improves the quality of life for the residents of Gosport.

The Gosport Partnership is set up as follows:

The **Gosport Partnership Board** exists to bring together key service providers from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors in Gosport and takes a strategic overview and lead. Its key role is to:

- Place shape
- Develop and facilitate a Sustainable Community Strategy
- Set priorities for improvement
- Coordinate service delivery
- Strengthen partnership working
- Secure the best possible outcomes
- Influence at a local, regional and national level.

Membership includes:

- Churches Together in Gosport
- Gosport Borough Council
- Gosport Voluntary Action
- Government Office for the South East
- Groundwork Solent
- Hampshire Constabulary
- Hampshire County Council
- Hampshire Primary Care Trust
- Ministry of Defence
- Portsmouth Housing Association
- South East England Development Agency
- St Vincent College.

The Board has a subgroup called the **Coordinating Group** which takes a proactive approach to the operation of the Sustainable Community Strategy thereby allowing the Board to focus on strategic issues.

In addition there are multiagency **thematic subgroups** which work towards achieving their relevant outcomes for the Sustainable Community Strategy and inform and influence the Board and Coordinating Group from their particular area of expertise:

- Community Safety Partnership
- Fareham and Gosport Debt and Money Advice Group
- Gosport Business Forum
- Gosport Children and Young People's Locality Partnership

- Gosport Community Learning Forum
- Gosport and Fareham Sports and Physical Activity Alliance
- Gosport Regeneration Action Forum
- Healthy Alliance.

Task and finish groups may also be established to deliver specific projects which contribute to achieving the Sustainable Community Strategy.

The Sustainable Community Strategy

A Sustainable Community Strategy describes a shared vision for a more sustainable future in a geographical area.

In Hampshire there are 11 LSPs developing Community Strategies at a district level and one that spans the county, the Hampshire Strategic Partnership (HSP).

Portsmouth and Southampton, as unitary authorities, also have a LSP and a Community Strategy that covers their area. Each Community Strategy is unique to the area it covers. The Hampshire Community Strategy will be different from those at the district level, as it will look to respond to issues that cannot be addressed by district LSPs individually. Local issues and local implementation will be dealt with by district community strategies and the countywide strategy can consider where working together on a larger scale can provide a better solution. The delivery plan for the County Community Strategy is the Local Area Agreement.

The Gosport approach

The Sustainable Community Strategy sets out Gosport's 2026 Vision which has been developed in parallel with the Local Development Framework (which sets out future land use in the Borough).

The first stage in developing the Vision involved extensive data collection on a range of quality of life issues which provided a statistical picture of the Borough. The second stage involved a large-scale community consultation, 'Make Your Mark', which allowed residents, businesses and visitors to comment and prioritise the key issues. Over 1200 people took part in this highly successful participation event.

In addition to this key service providers were consulted and other consultation findings and local and regional plans and strategies were assessed.

Drawing on the information obtained from the research and consultations Gosport's 2026 Vision was produced.

The Sustainable Community Strategy will be refreshed annually and fully reviewed every three to five years.

Gosport's 2026 Vision

This Vision describes an aspirational picture of Gosport in the future. It sets out a sustainable future for Gosport, meeting the needs of existing and future generations whilst respecting the needs of other communities in the wider region.

This Vision provides a common goal to work towards.

Our Vision for Gosport

Gosport's local economy will be thriving and diverse with increased investment. There will be a good choice of jobs on the peninsula and people will have the opportunity to work close to home. The economy will build on its strengths in the tourism and marine sectors whilst maximising its high-tech manufacturing base. Business start-ups will have increased and released Ministry of Defence land will provide opportunity for maximising business development and growth.

Local people will have improved skills and qualifications. Schools and colleges will, by working with pupils and parents, have increased numbers of children and young people in school and improved qualification levels. There will be more educational opportunities including vocational courses (especially for those aged 16-19 years old) and greater participation in tutored life-long learning. Literacy skills and numeracy skills amongst adults will be improved.

The town's waterfront will be re-developed, taking advantage of the fantastic harbour location. There will be a mix of shops, pubs, restaurants, homes and leisure facilities. Priddy's Hard will be linked to the Town Centre by the popular Millennium Promenade. Gosport will be a place that tourists want to visit. Heritage facilities will be celebrated with historical sites providing unique and popular attractions.

There will be plenty of high quality and affordable leisure and recreational opportunities in the Borough. The proportion of adults taking part in organised competitive sport (especially athletic, running and aquatic activities) will remain high. Open space for recreational and amenity purposes will be retained and sport pitches and play areas improved. The coastline and waterfront will be accessible and enjoyed by many. Leisure facilities will be of a high standard and will provide activities for all age groups. The Alver Valley Country Park will offer a countryside haven providing green open space and lakes with opportunities for nature walks, fishing, picnicking, horse riding and walking.

Gosport will have a good community spirit which will be supported by an active community and voluntary sector. People will continue to see that community activities are improving and there will be plenty of opportunities to participate in voluntary work and projects. The Borough will be a fair and tolerant place and its residents will have a strong sense of pride in where they live. People from different cultures, backgrounds and beliefs will be respected and diversity will be valued. The needs of the ageing population will be taken into account. Disabled people will have full opportunities and choices to improve their quality of life and will be respected and included as equal members of society. Children

and young people's aspirations and expectations will be raised and their health and wellbeing improved. Poverty and social exclusion will be reduced – especially in the three most deprived areas of the Borough. As at December 2006, the three most deprived areas of the Borough are Town, Grange and Leesland.

There will be a variety of housing types that meet the needs of the local community, taking into account Gosport's growing population and its changing population structure. There will be a range of affordable housing on offer, people will have more opportunity to access housing and there will be less homelessness. Housing will be of a high quality and new dwellings will be well designed and built to eco-friendly standards with good access to public transport and services. Some of the housing areas in need of improvement will be regenerated. Sustainable communities will be promoted and people will have a sense of belonging to a local neighbourhood as positively contributing citizens.

There will be a good range of high quality, easily accessible health services. Local health providers, working with the community and agencies, will improve health through preventative measures. Life expectancy will have increased and there will be a reduction in heart and respiratory disease, strokes, cancer and infant mortality. There will be a reduction in low birth weights, obesity (for children and adults), smoking, teenage pregnancies and improvements in dental health (in particular amongst five year olds).

People will feel safer as levels of crime and anti-social behaviour will have decreased. Theft, arson, criminal damage and domestic violence will be reduced. Drug related crime will no longer be a problem and there will be much less anti-social behaviour (such as vandalism, graffiti, large groups gathering and noisy neighbours). Community safety will improve by positively involving local people, good partnership working and targeting of resources.

Traffic congestion (especially that related to out-commuting) will be reduced. There will be increased use of public and community transport, people will be appreciating the benefits of local goods and services and reducing their reliance on the private car. Cycling will continue to be a significant form of transport and the number of people walking to work will remain high.

Gosport's environment will be clean, well maintained and attractive. Nature conservation sites will be protected and biodiversity encouraged, in particular along the coast. The attractive character of the coast, parks and open spaces will be protected.

The community will be taking positive action to reduce its use of natural resources and minimise climate change. Local people, services and businesses will be reducing their carbon footprint.

**In 2026, people will be proud of Gosport
– a fantastic place to live, work and visit.**



Vision Event, December 2006

Achieving Gosport's 2026 Vision

To achieve the Vision, the Gosport Partnership, businesses, schools and everyone who lives and works in the Borough need to play their part.

Please look at Gosport's 2026 Vision to see what action you can take, no matter how small, and start to make the Vision a reality.

The LSP will have a focused action plan to improve the key issues and this will be monitored and reviewed. The action plan will set out not only what the Gosport Partnership will do but provide suggestions on what you can do.

The vision will also be achieved by other strategies and plans such as the Local Development Framework, Children and Young People's Plan and Community Safety Strategy.

To achieve the Vision, the Gosport Partnership will also be working across borough boundaries and will exert influence at a county, regional and national level.

Contact us

To find out more about the Gosport Partnership please visit www.gosportpartnership.co.uk
You can contact the LSP Coordinator at
johanna.hamilton@ports.nhs.uk or telephone 02392 545280.



Lee-on-the-Solent Seafront



Falkland Gardens, Gosport Ferry

If you need this document in large print, on tape, in Braille or in other languages, please ask.

Published: Summer 2007



The Gosport Partnership
" Working Together For The Gosport Community "

GOSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

27 SEPTEMBER 2007

REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY

TITLE: FREE CAR PARKING PERMITS

AUTHOR: BOROUGH SOLICITOR

1.0 PURPOSE:

- 1.1 For the Committee to consider a request to scrutinise the issue of free car parking permits.

2.0 REPORT:

- 2.1 Councillor Wright, the Chairman of the Community and Environment Board, has contacted me with regard to a number of requests he has received to authorise the issue of free car parking permits to various organisations.
- 2.2 There appears to be no clear policy on this issue and Councillor Wright has normally refused these requests. However, it transpires that a precedent has been set over the past few years to grant a number of free permits to a church volunteer group running a club for deprived children on the beach at Stokes Bay.
- 2.3 Councillor Wright has requested that this Committee consider scrutinising the issue with a view to a clear policy being established.

AGENDA NO. 6(ii)

REVIEW OF CAR PARKING CHARGES

**DRAFT MINUTE EXTRACT FROM THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY
AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2007**

21. NOTICE OF MOTION

On 11 July 2007 Council had referred to the Community and Environment Board the Notice of Motion presented by Councillor Taylor, "That a review of car parking charges be undertaken with immediate effect to ensure parity for all traders in the Borough of Gosport".

Councillor Taylor circulated three possible addenda for consideration by the Board . He stated that the Lee Business Association and other traders in Lee on the Solent considered that they were discriminated against by the Council because the Short Stay Car Parks in Lee on the Solent did not operate on the same terms as the Short Stay Car Parks in Gosport.

It was pointed out that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were already looking at this issue and their findings had not yet been made available to the Board.

It was proposed and seconded that a review of car parking charges be deferred until such time as a report had been received from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED: That a review of car parking charges to ensure parity for all traders in the Borough of Gosport be deferred until such time as the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had reported their findings to the Board.

AGENDA NO. 7(iii)

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRAVEL TOKENS WORKING GROUP HELD AT 2.30 P.M. ON 20 AUGUST 2007

Membership: Councillors Mrs Salter (P), Train (P) and Ward

Officers: Peter Wilson, Phil Reynolds and Catherine McDonald

BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 26 July 2007, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered the request for scrutiny of the Travel Token scheme operated by the Council. The establishment of a 1:1:1: Working Group comprising the above mentioned Members had been agreed.

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Under the current scheme, residents applying for Travel Tokens were issued with £40 worth of tokens in fifty pence denominations. These tokens could be used for travel on buses, the Gosport Ferry, the Isle of Wight Ferries and for taxis. There was no time limit on the validity of the tokens and some people either saved up their tokens over several years or did not use them at all. Therefore, the Council spent a significant amount of money on the provision of tokens that were not used on local transport and the scheme was being taken up by residents who did not have an absolute need for it.

National Transport Tokens Limited had developed travel scheme involving smart cards which are used on taxis. The cards could be credited with an agreed amount of money at the beginning of the financial year. Any credit not used up by the end of the financial year could be automatically deleted, thus crediting back to the Council any unused funds.

Costs would be incurred to set up the smart card scheme as taxi firms would need to be supplied with the equipment to read the cards. Members considered whether the cards would also be valid for use on the local Gosport ferry.

The smart cards would display a photograph of the authorised user, thus adding to the security of the scheme and diminishing misuse. Therefore, smart cards could be issued to disabled and vulnerable residents as well as residents over a certain age and greater control could be retained over the cards usage. It was not possible to monitor who used the travel tokens once they had been issued.

THE WAY FORWARD

Four local authorities had already expressed an interest in the smart card technology developed by National Transport Tokens Ltd. Milton Keynes and Dumfries and Galloway Councils had adopted the scheme and were up and running. West Lothian and Newcastle upon Tyne Councils were at the tendering stage.

Members requested that officers make enquiries with Milton Keynes and Dumfries and Galloway Councils as to their progress and satisfaction with the scheme.

It was considered that it would be beneficial for Mr Malcolm Daughtrey of National Transport Tokens Ltd to come and give a presentation to Members on the smart card scheme. In order that all Members were kept fully informed of the proposal being considered by the Working Group, it was suggested that, if it is convenient for Mr Daughtrey, he be invited to address the full meeting of Council on 3 October. Alternatively, he could be invited to the next meeting of the Community and Environment Board on 10 September.

NEXT MEETING

A further meeting of the Working Group would be arranged following the presentation by Mr Daughtrey and when the information requested from Milton Keynes and Dumfries and Galloway Councils was available.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: WORK PROGRAMME

Work Area	Lead Officer	Date to be reported to Committee
Best Value Performance Indicators: <i>Policy Framework Document: Consideration of performance information relating to BVPIs and actions agreed by CMT</i>	Mike Jeffery	At 6-monthly intervals See Q dates June/Nov
Community Strategy: <i>Policy Framework Document</i>	Julie Petty	27 September 2007
Scrutiny Training: <i>Training for Members on Modules of "Why Scrutiny Matters"</i>	Linda Edwards	To be completed by 27 March 2008
Southern Water Working Group	Joe Martin	Update on 27 September 2007
Waterfront Zoning Working Group	David Martin	Update on 29 November 2007
Travel Tokens Working Group	Julian Bowcher	Update on 27 September 2007
Disability Equality Scheme: <i>Receive progress report on an annual basis</i>	Julie Petty	June 2008
Introduction of 20 mph speed restrictions	Dave Duckett	27 September 2007
Car Parking Charges at Lee (Short stay):	David Jago	10 October 2007
Work areas: <i>Review at each meeting</i>		