

Actions resulting from South East Hampshire LPAs Cross Boundary Cooperation Meeting 22 January 2026

Attended by: Fareham Borough Council (FBC), Gosport Borough Council (GBC), Havant Borough Council (HBC) and Portsmouth City Council (PCC)

1. Introductions and Scene setting

It was agreed that the purpose of the meeting was to move on from identifying development need to thinking about how to meet it. The earlier work by PCC, HBC and GBC was necessary as they share the same Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) and Housing Market Area (HMA) and are at the same stage of plan making. Moving on from that initial work it is positive to include FBC in the group as they share the same FEMA/HMA.

Status/progress of Local Plans:

- PCC: progressing under transitional arrangements - Pre-submission consultation closed on 8th Jan, anticipating submission to PINS in March.
- GBC: progressing under transitional arrangements - Reg 19 expected to commence in Feb, submission to PINS in summer 2026, CIL consultation also summer 2026.
- HBC: progressing under transitional arrangements – Reg 19 expected to commence in August, submission to PINS autumn/winter 2026.
- FBC: progressing future local plan under the new plan-making requirements.

2. Housing Numbers

- Fareham Local Plan provides 900 homes for unmet need – 800 are already allocated to PCC. The remaining 100 have yet to be allocated. Group recognised that allocation to GBC was logical approach – shares boundary with FBC. Approach acknowledged and agreed by all.

ACTION: Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) to be prepared in respect of allocation of unmet need contribution – GBC to write to FBC.

- The housing numbers from the Winchester Local Plan were noted as follows: the Pre-Submission buffer had decreased at examination from 1,900 homes to 495. This would be split 30% to PCC and 70% to HBC,

3. Employment Land

- PCC are continuing work to finalise the SoCG with HBC that agrees 31,261 of office floorspace to the Borough.
- HBC requested assistance from FBC in meeting employment land unmet need (19,973 square metres).
- FBC confirmed they are able to assist .

ACTION: HBC to commence preparation of SoCG with FBC in respect of agreement to meet unmet employment need.

- HBC are undertaking an Employment Land Review to understand whether previously identified lower-ranked sites which have failed to progress could be considered for housing where they are suitable located to assist with unmet housing need (small sites). Could this potential additional unmet employment need also be considered by FBC when providing employment land? FBC confirmed that this can be considered, but need to understand the extent of additional requirement.

ACTION: HBC to provide details of relevant sites/additional employment figures to FBC and this would be added to the 19,973 square metres already agreed.

4. Ecological Infrastructure

- Discussion around future ecological network opportunities in South East Hants to address mitigation requirements and meet biodiversity duties, links with the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Green Infrastructure Networks and how this could align with future plan-making. Group recognised this is an important strand of cross boundary cooperation to be progressed.
- It was agreed that all four LPAs were in the same character area for BNG. The intention was to make us self-sufficient in terms of BNG. There were many opportunities to be bigger, better and more joined up in South East Hampshire in regards to nature recovery.
- The Members from all four LPA preferred on site or very local BNG.

ACTION: HBC to lead on organising a further meeting to discuss, to include LPA ecologists. The first step would be an explanatory email on the new work stream

5. Multi-lateral SoCG for South East Hampshire

- Discussion around potential for a multi-lateral SoCG with all four The heads of terms were housing numbers, employment numbers, ecological infrastructure and future joint working
- ACTION: PCC to circulate an initial draft of the SoCG.