



>> Chair's Intro:



Ros Cassy

As we start 2007 there are some major activities facing us. The consultation on the CoSS has just ended and work is being done to analyse the comments and draw up a final draft. This strategy will guide our work and that of all our partners for years to come. Transport will play a key part in the city's future and it is encouraging that the Local Transport Plan has received a good rating. Southampton's outstanding location with an airport and a port on our doorstep and good links to the two motorways are strengths we need to emphasise when we promote the city. The new city clipper bus service starting in April will be a great asset and a colourful addition to the city once the bright yellow buses start their service linking the station, London Road, Debenhams, Ocean Village, Town Quay and the Quays

Improving the City's Transport Provision.

>> City Transport plan rated 'good' by DfT:

Last March, the City's second Local Transport Plan (LTP2) was submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) and the Government Office for the South East (GOSE). The plan covers the period from April 2006 - March 2011. Later in the year, at the end of July, a report on the City's delivery of LTP1 (2001-2006) was also submitted to the same bodies. These documents had to comply with a fairly prescriptive format set down by the DfT and, in the case of LTP2, had to have been developed after consultation with a wide range of stakeholders.

Just before Christmas, the City was notified of the outcome of the assessment process, and both documents were rated as 'good' by the DfT. This was particularly pleasing because the good rating for the LTP resulted in the City receiving an uplift of 3% on top of the previously-notified indicative LTP funding allocation for 2007/08. In addition, the DfT also agreed a one-off allocation of £1.6M to enable the repair of the bridge bearings on the two flyovers at Redbridge and Millbrook to be undertaken.

For more info, contact Geoff Cornford
Geoff.Cornford@southampton.gov.uk

Promoting Involvement and Voluntary Action

>> Community Fellowship for Thornhill Champion:

Southampton Solent University has awarded Debbie King, Chairperson of Thornhill Plus You, its 2006 Community Fellow Award.

Debbie was presented with her award, in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the community, by Pro Chancellor and Chairman of Governors, Professor Glyn Tonge, at the University's Graduation Dinner.



The Community Fellowship is awarded on an annual basis, to individuals who, in the opinion of the University have made an outstanding contribution to the development of the City and community of Southampton with particular regard to social cohesion and harmony. Thornhill Plus You is the name of the Government-funded New Deal for Communities (NDC) regeneration programme that works to a Board of 20 people made up of 12 residents and 8 agency representatives.

Debbie, who has been Chairperson for more than five years, has been instrumental in leading the Thornhill project from its initial bidding phase through to its current position of quite considerable improvement. Having lived on the Thornhill Estate for 38 years, Debbie is incredibly knowledgeable about the area, its residents and the issues they face. Her opinion is sought by citizens and professionals alike, at both a local and national level.

Professor Glyn Tonge comments: "Southampton Solent University has enjoyed a long-standing and mutually supportive relationship with the Thornhill area of Southampton. It is through this initiative that we became aware of Debbie's tireless work, and of her very great achievements."

>> Local NHS services make strides in modernising health services:

NHS organisations in the Greater Southampton area are continuing to work together to transform and modernise health services for local people.

Part of bringing these plans to fruition was announced in December. The Department of Health selected Partnership Health Group Limited as the preferred bidder from the Independent Sector, to provide additional services in an Independent Sector Treatment Centre (ISTC) allowing exciting plans to develop the Royal South Hants (RSH) hospital in Southampton.

These plans will enable Southampton City Primary Care Trust (PCT) to continue implementing its long term vision to develop the RSH site as a first class community health campus offering direct, convenient access to a wide range of primary care-led services for the population of Southampton City. Developing the Independent Sector Treatment Centre (ISTC) alongside these services will enhance what we offer and will also benefit patients in the area and throughout Hampshire and Isle of Wight by offering rapid access to routine hospital procedures. Over a period of time GP surgeries, dentists, nurses, dieticians, physiotherapists and other primary care health professionals will move to the RSH where they will to work side-by-side with community hospital services including elderly care rehabilitation wards.

More information about Southampton City PCT's plans for the RSH site are available at www.royalsouthhantshospital.nhs.uk

Improving educational attainment, skills and overcoming barriers to employment.

>> Solent University appoints new Vice-Chancellor:

Southampton Solent University has announced that Professor Van Gore has been appointed as its Vice-Chancellor when Professor Roger Brown steps down at the end of July 2007.

Professor Gore is currently Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Southampton Solent University. Previously at Sheffield Hallam University, he joined the University (then Southampton Institute) in July 2001 as Vice-Principal, Academic. In 2003 he became Senior Vice-Principal and, when the Institute achieved University title in 2005, he was promoted to Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

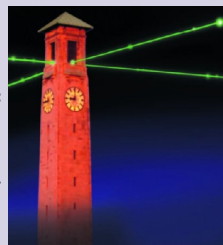


Professor Gore said, "I am delighted to have been appointed the next Vice-Chancellor, and am looking forward to taking up my new role in August 2007. The current Vice-Chancellor, Professor Roger Brown, will however be a very hard act to follow." Prof Gore has recently taken on the role of Chair of the Partnership's new skills and employability board which met for the first time in early December.

Raising competitiveness and increasing prosperity.

>> Laser Gateway Update:

The proposed installation of four lasers in the clock tower of the Civic Centre which has prompted lively public debate has its roots in the City's Plan for Prosperity. This outlines a strategy for improving our local economy and creating prosperity in the city.



The need to improve the city's image and offer is a key part of the Plan for Prosperity. Funding was provided through the AIF to look at how to improve key sites and gateways in the city. One project proposed is the laser gateway. The AIF Panel took the decision to invest funds from its AIF budget on the advice of a team of specialists.

Given the response further work is going on to analyse the impact of the lasers, which the AIF panel had been assured was minimal. We have had considerable help from local experts and await the Council Cabinet's decision on supporting this project.

>> Calendar of Activity

January 2007



27th – Holocaust Memorial Day

From 6:00pm at Solent University, Above Bar.

>> More info from Andy Marshall, 023 8031 9819
andy.marshall@solent.ac.uk

30th – SP Executive Meeting

5:00pm to 8:00pm.

>> More info from Henry Pavey, 023 8083 3332
henry.pavey@southampton.gov.uk

February 2007

18th – Chinese New Year

11:00am to 3:00pm, Civic Centre
Spectacular Dragon dance and City Centre Parade!

21st - 22nd – Titanic Workshop

Chance for children to handle artefacts from the ship at the Maritime Museum.

>> Call 023 8083 3332 to book

southamptonInnovates

We are the first city in the UK where a university, an NHS Trust and the Local Authority are all participating in the Carbon Trust's Carbon Management Programme

