



## Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Project Workshop Meeting Notes

24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

Portsmouth City Council  
Members Room, Portsmouth Guildhall

Chair: Tony Wright (Eastleigh Borough Council)

[http://www.solentforum.org/forum/sub\\_groups/Natural\\_Environment\\_Group/Disturbance\\_and\\_Mitigation\\_Project/](http://www.solentforum.org/forum/sub_groups/Natural_Environment_Group/Disturbance_and_Mitigation_Project/)

### Attendees – see attached

Introduction – Context and description of project phases	<b>Chairman</b>
Presentation of projects aims and results – Phases 1 and 2 Research and Modelling  <i>See presentation 1. on website (link above)</i>	<b>Richard Stillman, Durwyn Liley</b>
Feedback on queries received since the phase 2 results disseminated  <i>See presentation 2. on website</i>	<b>Solent Forum</b>
Perspective from Natural England  <i>See presentation 8. on website</i>	<b>Louise Bardsley, Natural England</b>
<b>Refreshment Break</b>	
Chichester District Council – Experience with development and recreational disturbance  <i>See presentation 3. on website</i>	<b>Sue Payne Tom Day Sarah</b>
Development at Tipner and how mitigation under Habitats Regulation Assessment conducted  <i>See presentation 4. on website</i>	<b>Claire Upton-Brown, PCC</b>
Experience from Isle of Wight  <i>See presentation 5. on website</i>	<b>Chris Mills, IWC</b>

<p>The developer point of view – White Young Green, Martin Hawthorne</p> <p><b>See presentation 6. on website</b></p>	<p><b>Martin Hawthorne, WYG</b></p>
<p>Gosport's involvement in Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Project</p> <p><b>See presentation 7. on website</b></p>	<p><b>Jayson Grygiel, GBC</b></p>
<p>Workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How may use the results</li> <li>- What further evidence required</li> <li>- How move towards and measure mitigation</li> </ul> <p><i>4 groups of 10</i></p> <p><b>See attached transcript</b></p>	<p><b>All</b></p>
<p>Feedback</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>
<p>Next Steps Phase 3 – Avoidance and Mitigation Plan</p> <p><b>See presentation 2. on website</b></p>	<p><b>Solent Forum</b></p>

## Attendees

Name	Attended
Alan Inder	x
Louise Bardsley	y
Alison Fowler	y
Andy Colenutt	y
Bob Chapman	x?
Carolyn Francis	y
Carrie Temple	y
Chris Mills	y
Chris Payne	y
Colin Pope	y
Damien Offer	x
David Bibby	y
David Hayward	y
David Roberts	y
Debbie Gore	x
Durwyn Liley	y
Ed Rowsell	y
Fowler, Alison	y
Gavin Holder	y
Graham Ashworth	y
Hilary Crane	y
Ian Barker	x?
Ian Burt	y?
Ian Hepburn	x?
Jayson Grygiel	y
Julie Boschi	y
Karen McHugh	y
Laura Buchan	
Lindsay McCulloch	y?
Louise MacCallum	y
Jayne Field	x
Neil Davidson	y
Nick Hargreaves	x?
Nick Pincombe	y
Pauline Holmes	y
PCC Claire Upton-Brown	y
Pete Durnell	y
Pete Errington	y
Pete Potts	
Rachel Holmes	y
Rachel Williams	y
Rebecca Gray	y
Richard Stillman	y
Russell Robson	y
Sam Voller	x?

Sarah Hains	y
Sarah Warriss	y
Sue Payne	y
Tony Wright	y
Vanessa Burley	y
Wendy Stowe	y
WYG Martin Hawthorne	y
Zoe James	y

## Workshop Transcript

- How may use the results
- What further evidence required
- How move towards and measure mitigation

### How may use the results?

This evidence is critical. How will it be interpreted. Where and what will the mitigation look like

Model is strategic, this is important for “in combination”. – detailed maps are a good start and give evidence of pressure points

It’s a tool. Detail is crucial

Activities can be broadly grouped and model reflects this, and provides a way for informing

Use results to get clear guidance from NE. Need to be robust. Timing issue now, but will be in a much stronger position

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Focus attention on dogs/recreational disturbance

Need to protect good quality agricultural land

Building ecological benefits into development

Draw out the key messages – dogs on leads, how people access sites, id sensitive sites

Are we right to be spreading the burden (30 people per ha per day) or should we focus public access in areas which are less sensitive

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Need to decide what scale to use – Solent too big, and local too small?

Putting mitigation measures in next door authority

We may get ‘pre-emptive’ strike from developers through appeals

This may un-lock flood risk management funds

Public likely to find this joint approach more acceptable

Possibly management through SEMS

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Take site x and determine what the affect is, and feed into model

Good but danger that this does not look at a strategic overview

Start strategic and look if mitigation is sufficient. Then look up from local sites to see what there impacts will be and whether solved strategically.

How much each developer needs to put in the pot

HRA – not negated as may be needed for other reasons

Results can be used for other things: site management – coastal access and type of access appropriate; improving site management

ID future access and areas appropriate to develop. Not many places where have no birds

### **Further evidence needed**

Need to know effectiveness of mitigation (elsewhere and on site)

Does mitigation work. Will need to monitor existing mitigation sites, as well as housing occupation

Need to look at strategically with regard to current and future plans

Who pays, and who decides prioritisation of funding and monitoring

More data needed on dogs. What spaces work for dogs, what owners need for dogs

Are there sites that are less sensitive to disturbance – if so direct people there

More information on where to prioritise resource

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None to move forward

But now we have model, can be refined. More prey data

May be bale to use caveats/assumptions instead of more data

Do we need more data for IOW. Different ground conditions? Can we just carry over assumptions instead.

If Defra were clearer, we would know

What will be needed at appeal stage

The peer review will give clear guidance

You can't look at every scenario. Look at it broadly and come to a conclusion

Getting developers on board early

Need to make sure all authorise signed-up. Avoid case by case.

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With caution

Important that developers can use raw data for individual sites. Investigate how we could use this data – a guide/spreadsheet/template

Understanding the threshold – open to misinterpretation, each area is different

Developers guide: What can do with the data, caveats, what other evidence does the developer need to provide a supplement to this, standard ways to provide evidence

How important is each section for food

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Availability of parking and policies for parking

Effectiveness of management measures

Brent Geese

Saturation of site disturbance – does new development worsen areas that are intensively used. Understanding of this issue

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Food supply – only trust Soton Water data. Must plug the unknowns

Data in Chichester very old. Improve this. Feed into NE surveys. Add size of invertebrate. They look at this annually in the Netherlands and monitor annual changes, seeing how effected by dredging, alien species, nutrient inputs, chemical pollution, smothering

Roost sites – this is crucial as they are in short supply and need to understand how they are affected as they may be the limiting factor. Harsh weather will influence this. Gavin Holder involved with separate project on this

How SPAs linked. How birds move within and between sites. Creation of new high tide roost sites may be crucial

Terrestrial sites – even those without a designation. How are these linked

How people behave on site – look at methodology elsewhere. Lessons learnt – Chichester, New Forest, Thanet. How would locals want to receive information.

Having right level of staff on site

Mechanism to monitor impacts and feedback to improve for the future needs to start as early as possible

### **How to move towards mitigation**

Look at Dorset Heaths for monitoring methodology

Need evidence first – at least enough to start

Look at spatial distribution of access

Change behaviour of people. Communicate with them and start a dialogue

Can we increase disturbance in one area and decrease in another? Or at least focus activity in one area, and keep other areas quite

Use existing groups to monitor. Ie: HWT, Webs, RSPB

Start to focus on user groups – Kite surfing, canoeing, sailing

Get key people to spread message

Pick a sample of sites to monitor as case studies

Put monitoring as a condition of planning

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Awareness raising

Wardening

Leaflet and signage

Engagement with local communities

Approach organised groups ie: canoes/boating

Controlling car parking provision

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Contribute to larger mitigation schemes – tariff approach – cumulative

Management issues: Car parking locations and design + price, wardens, signage, footpath routes, screening of sensitive sites

More education of public: Importance of species, consequences of behaviour

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Baseline data first – have this to some extent

Large scale developments should trigger surveys – failures just as interesting

New Solent Nature Partnership – may have a role in monitoring

Mitigation- best practice, objectives, how agree what 1<sup>st</sup> site does that is fair

Distinguish between little development and larger developments (need PUSH to be involved)

Coordination between sites/similar to land banking

Key principles of how work in practice – what strategic and what local. Principles of how it will be achieved

Could there be a minimum level at which to look strategically, or is it to do with sensitivity of area and that there are places to avoid

Affects of other issues as well ie; dredging, taking bi-valves, understanding cause and effect, work this out in monitoring programme

Education: ie: graylingwell, signage v important, as at Hamble