



SOLENT FORUM UPDATE

October 2022

www.solentforum.org



Solent Forum Staff

- Peter Barham – Solent Forum Chair
- Karen McHugh – Solent Forum Manager
- Kate Ansell – Solent Forum Officer

Core Services

CORE

- Next Steering Group meeting will be on 22nd February 2023.
- The next Solent Forum meeting will be held on 15 March 2023 in Portsmouth.
- Next edition of Solent News will be published Winter 2022/23 deadline for articles is 23 December 2022.
- Monthly Newsletter, includes list of MMO marine licence applications in the Solent (400 recipients). Monitor Twitter feeds daily and like/retweet relevant information – 367 followers.
- Student Mike Clark Bursary Awards - call for projects will be April 2023. Five awarded in 2022.
- Solent Information Database – ongoing population as part of our news service. Please send your research/reports to us for inclusion.

Sub-Groups

- **Solent Marine Sites (SEMS) Secretariat** Kate Ansell
 - Online survey of activities takes place in April
 - Annual Management Group meeting in September
 - Annual Management Report – published to SEMS website (2022 now published)
 - SF Officer has regular telecoms with other national MPA Officers
- **Natural Environment Group** Karen McHugh
 - Next meeting 2 November 2022. Discussions will take place on actions arising from SEMS Annual Survey and Management Report
 - Key project for NEG = Solent Bird Sensitivity and Activity Mapping Project
 - Three projects funded 2022/23. Fathom Ecology, Intertidal Seagrass Restoration in the Solent; HCC Recoding Snipe on coastal site using one thermal imager; HCC equipment to capture Snipe at Lymington/Keyhaven
 - Call for NEG funding for 2022/23 due February 2023
- **Bathing Water Quality Awards** Karen McHugh
 - 2022 awards published March 2022.
Applications for 2023 awards in January 2023.
 - Award plaque now contains QR Code for information on short term pollution events

www.solentforum.org



Members Services

- **Clean Solent Shores and Seas**

Hub to signpost different initiatives taking place to improve water quality in the Solent. Website hub built to cover a number of directories. Chapters now complete on: Littering, Microplastics, Nutrients, Habitats/Species and Boating. Population of chapters on-going. Next chapter to populate – Amenity and Public Health (mostly complete) and Governance.

- **Building Biodiversity in the Solent Hub**

Information hub to collate work in the Solent (and nationally) on improving the biodiversity of coastal infrastructure. Ongoing project being built over time with resources collated and added.

- **Habitat Restoration Hub**

Collating information and links on REACH and ReMeMare, Local Nature Recovery Strategies, natural capital, blue carbon, Solent seagrass and net gain.

- **Solent Plastics Pollution hub**

Part of the Environment Agency's Preventing Plastics Pollution Project.

Project officially launched 9 Feb 22. Build/publicity continues. www.solentforum.org



Projects and Events

- Beneficial use of Dredgings in Solent (BUDS)

Phase 2 complete. Phase 3 – Bottom Placement of dredgings project commenced April/May 2021. Project due to be completed Autumn 2022. Phase 4 – Saltmarsh Restoration requires funding.

- Local Nature Recovery Strategies and Net Gain Workshop

Planning an event in 2022/23 on coastal and marine aspects of LNRS and strategic goals for net gain. Still waiting on government direction.

- Externally Funded Project Support

We can provide letters of support and stakeholder engagement services for externally funded projects. The Solent Forum are supporting Blue Marine's Solent Seascapes Project (including incorporating the NEG project on Solent Bird Sensitivity and Activity Mapping Project.) The Forum can also provide a vehicle for legacy project outputs, e.g. Solent Plastics Pollution hub is Interegg funded.

Solent Plastics Pollution hub media pack

- The hub is in two parts, web pages with resources on litter picking and Solent Community groups and a Facebook page for posts and events.
- Aim is to build and create community with local Solent based litter picking groups for mutual support.
- We have recently produced a media pack for the hub, please help us to publicise, it includes:

- ❖ Copy for newsletters
- ❖ Image to illustrate newsletter
- ❖ Dynamic QR codes
- ❖ Infographic (noticeboard)



SPP Infographic

SOLENT PLASTICS POLLUTION HUB



What is the hub?

Web resources and a Facebook page to share information on litter picking and wider plastics and litter issues around the Solent.



Volunteers

Find a local litter picking community group on our website or use our resources to set up your own.



Litter picking events

Tell us about your events so we can help publicise them or find a local event happening near you.

Keep in the know

Like our Facebook page to keep in the know about plastics and litter issues around the Solent.



Community groups

Make use of our free web resources and get help to publicise your work and events more widely. Come and join the Solent's plastic pollution community.

Find out more

facebook.com/solentpphub/

solentforum.org/services/Current_Projects/Solent_Plastics_Hub



Thank You

www.solentforum.org

