



## **SOLENT FORUM UPDATE**

**Solent Forum Members Meeting 23<sup>th</sup> September  
2009**

**Southampton Council Chamber**

# MEMBER SERVICES

## CORE

- Solent Forum Steering Group meets three times per year. Next one October 2009.
- Solent News twice per year and monthly updates.
- Websites – Solent Forum, Solent European Marine Sites, SolentPedia.
- Member Meetings twice per year – September and March.
- Student Bursary Scheme

## SUB-GROUPS

### ■ Recreation sub-group

- Met 25<sup>th</sup> March
- Due to meet 30<sup>th</sup> September

### ■ Nature Conservation sub-group

- Last meeting 10<sup>th</sup> June included a boat trip around Chichester Harbour
- Next 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009

### ■ SEMS Secretariat

- Meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009
- Another meeting planned for November to specifically look at review.

### ■ Water Quality sub-group

- Last Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009
- Next meeting 4<sup>th</sup> November
- Planning for a conference for a round March/ April 2010

### ■ Solent Communications Group

- Ongoing work with EA and Defra to research need for group
- Revised proposal being considered

# CURRENT WORK

## **Towards Solent Marine Planning (SoMaP)**

Working with stakeholders to prepare for a Marine Planning System and scoping a system at a Solent scale – Aug 2009 – Aug 2010.

- Project launch today – separate presentation and Briefing Note
- Established Steering Group and Data Group
- Solent Forum website – full details of project
- Next meeting for the steering group November 5th

**Contact Karen**

## **DISC (Data Information of the Solent Catalogue)**

- Catalogue of all research projects relating to the Solent.
- Solent Forum regularly maintains.

**Contact Kate**

## **Wader Roost Project**

- Contract let for site characterisation work to Footprint Ecology.
- Work ongoing over the summer and Autumn.
- Project to finish 2010 with official launch for wader roost strategy.
- Brent Goose Strategy also being updated.

**Contact Rhian**

## **State of the Solent & Coastal Sustainability Indicators**

- Full update is currently being scoped and planned for this Autumn.
- Links with SoMaP.

**Contact Gemma**

## **Solent Communications Group**

- Revised proposals for this group have been produced.
- Plans for the Group to run a two year Community Engagement Campaign on Climate Change Adaptation – non- technical
- Seeking definite funding from EA, Defra to complement HCC funding
- It is hoped the group can be set up towards by August 2010.

**Contact Karen**

## **Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Project**

- Phase 2 – First years worth of bird surveys completed – report available on Solent Forum Website.
- Further bird surveys and visitor surveys plan to be carried out over next winter.

**Contact Rhian**

## Recreation Audit

- Solent University are conducted the work, guided by an elected project board.
- Brochure produced to help promote the project to interested parties.
- Phase 1 to provide desk audit of Solent Water Based Recreation and detailed methodology for Phase 2 – primary research.
- Phase 1 of Recreation Audit is nearing completion – Presentation and workshop to take place on 30<sup>th</sup> September
- Funding for phase 2 is required – Hoped that Phase 2 will start Winter 2009

**Contact Karen**

## Date For Your Diary

- 21<sup>st</sup> October 09 – Business Planning meeting. All members welcome to help shape the forum over the next three years.
- Followed by steering group meeting.
  
- Staff changes – Karen is now working on SoMaP 2 days a week. Rhian now works full time for the forum.