

**REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT  
(SUSTAINABILITY) AND LOCAL ENGAGEMENT  
TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL  
ON WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 2016**

Since last Full Council:

- Briefings have taken place with Isle of Wight local councillors and the media concerning the roll-out of the new waste contract. In the coming weeks there will be extensive media coverage at the same time that booklets and new bins are circulated and delivered to householders. For me, this work is of priority.
- I've worked with officers and local councillors on beach hut consultation with owners at Puckpool and Appley. Consultation continues until 24 March and will offer owners a future opportunity to work together collectively.
- A meeting has taken place at 'orphaned' land in Carisbrooke. I am working with officers to look at both short and long term outcomes for this land.
- On sustainability, I have received briefings on Tranche 3 of the Marine Conservation Zones consultation, water efficiency, work place travel and fuel poverty.
- I am working with officers to review and see potential improvements to the authority's existing food contract for all council services including leisure centres, the fire service, The Gouldings, The Adelaide and providers of learning disability services.
- Rights of Way are awaiting dry weather to temporarily replace the steps to Compton Bay. It is hoped that, weather permitting, these can be replaced for May Bank Holiday. In the meantime discussions are taking place with Natural England, landowners - the National Trust and Island Roads for a long term solution.
- Following winter storms, steps leading to Shepherd's Chine and Linstone Chine were damaged. Like the Compton Steps these continue to be monitored.
- A bid is underway by Niton and Whitwell Parish Council to improve a section of public bridleway which connects both villages.
- I chaired the recent Local Access Forum where it was reported the temporary closure order for the public footpath adjacent to the Isle of Wight Festival site is likely to be for ten days rather than three weeks. In addition a new bridleway has been dedicated at Brading, while agreement in principle has been reached to extend the duration of a permissive bridleway for a further two years at Westover.

- Neighbourhood Plan training has taken place with town and parish councillors.
- Following discussions with officers, I am advised that the public slipway adjacent to the former Harbour Lights/ Waterside Inn site is due to reopen in the next month. In addition, I am advised that Red Funnel are taking residents views on the potential to relocate the public slipway at East Cowes.
- I attended a meeting of the Isle of Wight Local Action Group which awards Local Enterprise Partnership financial support to rural businesses.
- Alongside Councillors Bacon, Jones-Evans and Peacey-Wilcox, I attended the Island Chamber of Commerce's Green on Wight Conference and saw this as a positive opportunity to network with some of our Island's key 'environmental' stakeholders. As often arises at such events, I've been requested to follow up a number of issues on attendees behalf.
- Solent coast dog walkers are being asked to share their likes and dislikes about dog walking in an online survey. The partnership wants to hear from everyone who dog walks on the Solent coast between Colwell and Bembridge. The questionnaire is available until 31 March 2016 at <http://www.solentdogsurvey.co.uk/>
- I am due to meet with Freshwater Parish Council to discuss the progress of transferring various services and responsibilities from the Isle of Wight Council. A site visit and meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 15 March.
- At the Solent Forum meeting scheduled for Wednesday 16 March updates are due to be provided on Marine Conservation Zones and the upcoming Marine and Coastal Access Act proposals for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

**Councillor Paul Fuller**  
**Executive Member for Environment (Sustainability) and Local Engagement**