

**Minutes of the  
Daedalus Scrutiny Panel**  
**(to be confirmed at the next meeting)**

**Date:** Monday, 27 March 2023

**Venue:** Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

**PRESENT:**

**Councillor** S Dugan (Chairman)

**Councillor** Mrs J Needham (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:** M J Ford, JP, Mrs P Hayre and Mrs K Mandry

**Co-Opted  
Members:**

Mr Jonathan Butts

**Also  
Present:** Councillor S D T Woodward, Executive Member for Policy and  
Resources (Item 6)



**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies of absence were received from Councillor Mrs S M Bayford, and Councillor J Englefield.

**2. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Daedalus Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 1 September 2022 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Chairman's announcements made at this meeting.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTION**

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

**5. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

**6. PRESENTATION - EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS OUTCOMES**

The Panel received a presentation by the Strategic Sites Development Officer on employment and skills outcomes on the Daedalus site. (A copy of this presentation is appended to these minutes).

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor S D T Woodward, Executive Member for Policy and Resources addressed the Panel on this item.

Members discussed at length the difficulties that is experienced with broadband at Daedalus and that the expectation for the availability of high-speed broadband by companies had significantly increased over the past few years. Whilst members accept that the Council has tried to engage with broadband companies regarding this issue and that there is very little more than can currently be done to resolve this issue, they encourage Officer's to continue to investigate this issue and to work alongside Gosport Borough Council to try to find a resolution.

RESOLVED that: -

(a) The Strategic Sites Development Officer be thanked for her informative presentation; and

(b) The Panel note the content of the report.

**7. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS**

There were no items of Executive business to consider at this meeting.

## **8. SCRUTINY PRIORITIES**

The Head of Strategic Sites addressed the Panel on this item and advised the members of a number of items that would be coming forward to the Panel in the coming year.

The Panel were given the opportunity to put forward any further suggestions that they may have. Mr Jonathan Butts enquired as to whether an update on the RCA contract could be presented to the Panel. The Head of Strategic Sites confirmed that RCA's Annual Report on the management and operation of Solent Airport will come forward to the Panel later in the year.

The Head of Strategic Sites addressed the Panel in respect of the Daedalus Vision and suggested that an item on this be brought to the Panel during the next year. It was acknowledged that it has been some time since the vision was revisited. She suggested that the Panel would also benefit from an update of the progress and the achievements that have been made since 2018.

## **9. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

RESOLVED that the public and representatives of the press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the matters to be dealt with involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 3, Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

## **10. PRESENTATION - DAEDALUS MARKETING**

The Panel received a presentation by the Head of Asset Management on the commercial opportunities offered by the Council at Daedalus and how these are marketed.

RESOLVED that: -

- (a) The Head of Asset Management be thanked for his informative presentation; and
- (b) The Panel note the content of the report.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm  
and ended at 6.47 pm).



# **Business Engagement At Daedalus**

**Rachel Hick**  
**Strategic Sites Development Officer**



# Daedalus Vision 2015

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**A premier location for aviation, aerospace engineering and advanced manufacturing businesses, creating many skilled employment opportunities for local people, under-pinned by a vibrant and sustainable airfield**

**FAREHAM**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# Employment at Daedalus

- Accurate employment data held only by businesses and HMRC
- Limited, incomplete public data available
- Direct engagement with each business is required
- Added value to FBC building strong relationships

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# Positives

- Location, location, location
- Symbiotic relationships with other businesses on-site at Daedalus
- FBC = supportive landowner with enthusiasm for maintaining airfield
- Apprenticeships through CEMAST
- Benefits of facilities at F.I.C.
- New developments at airfield: AGL
- Flight activity – Spitfires.com, etc.

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# Challenges

- Poor broadband coverage
- Increased costs due to current global climate
- Difficulty recruiting
- Businesses generally maintaining or reducing staff numbers
- Patchy experience of apprenticeships

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# Key messages

- General health of businesses across the Daedalus site
- Employment data
- Ambitions for growth
- Building ongoing relationships
- Value of airport, FIC & CEMAST

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