

SOLENT FREEPORT – UPDATED PARAGRAPH 5.8

5.8 Collectively, the Solent Freeport Proposal is expected to deliver a significant number of jobs both in the Solent and wider UK economy. A top-down economic impact assessment at the time of the original bid, and based on the size of and anticipated activity on tax sites, **results in an estimated 28,000 jobs and £2.0 billion GVA directly in the Solent**. Using ONS multipliers to estimate indirect impacts (i.e. wider supply chain impacts) this results in c57,000 jobs and £3.6 billion in GVA across the UK (see Table 2). Current end-user interest is already estimated to deliver c16,000 jobs on tax sites and GVA of £1.0 billion to the Solent, multiplying to 32,600 total jobs and to £1.9 billion GVA across the UK. It will be updated figures that will be included within the Full Business Case. End-user interest is expected to increase when the Solent Freeport is formally designated, and ecosystem of the Freeport and surrounding area develops. These wider impacts include the expected impact of the Freeport tax site programme on port capacity, especially for cruise traffic. Southampton is the UK’s preeminent cruise port, and pre pandemic estimates put the number of jobs created in the Solent area by this activity at some 14,000. The investment in port capacity enabled by the Freeport tax sites is expected to allow Southampton to double the number of cruise passengers it can handle.

Table 2. Estimated job impacts from Solent Freeport According to Outline Business Case Submission (thousands)

	Local Authority	Direct jobs	Indirect jobs	Total
Dunsbury Park	Havant BC	1.7	1.8	3.5
Navigator Quarter	Eastleigh BC	3.2	3.3	6.5
Southampton Water - total		23.4	23.2	46.7
<i>Southampton Water - SCC</i>	<i>Southampton CC</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>3.5</i>
<i>Southampton Water - NFDC</i>	<i>New Forest DC</i>	<i>21.7</i>	<i>21.5</i>	<i>43.2</i>
Total		28.4	28.3	56.7