

**In Touch.....keeping you up to date**

# BUSINESS IS BOOMING

Across Hampshire, the Solent area and here in Gosport there are more registered companies than ever before. For the first time ever there are over 100,000 businesses in Hampshire.

In addition, 2016 saw a record number of small business start ups. Rather than damage commerce the Brexit vote last June appears to have brought about an acceleration in start ups and a surge in business confidence.



Local Councillor Piers Bateman is a retired commercial and employment lawyer. And with his planning experience he has a wealth of understanding of the subject. “Small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy,” says Piers. “The mix of a highly motivated workforce and a culture of business support contribute to our area being the fastest growing for new enterprise in the country.”

The Conservative-run Gosport and Hampshire Councils are working with partners such as the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership to deliver the improved infrastructure that will help sustain this boom.

## Brockhurst Gate

Plans have been submitted that would create around 250 jobs on the currently vacant site on Heritage Way known as Brockhurst Gate. The proposals include retail food outlets as well as sports pitches.

The Council are carefully considering the application to ensure there is not a detrimental impact on existing shops or an intolerable burden on the A32.



## Holbrook

“As a member of Gosport Council’s Economic Development Committee I was delighted to support the expansion of the hotel at the Holbrook Leisure Park,” said Cllr Piers Bateman.

The hotel chain boasts one its highest occupancy rates at their premises in Gosport. That is why they are currently expanding the number of rooms by 50%.

