



SAVE OUR SOUTH COAST ALLIANCE

A BIOREGION FOR THE SOLENT CATCHMENT?

By

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Summary

The land that surrounds the Solent is a coherent sub-region of central southern England. Its coherence derives from its geography, geology, natural history, economy and future prospects. All these elements can form a vital part of the developing sub-regional economy based upon smart growth where both the environment and the economy can be winners.

There is nothing new proposed in this paper. Instead it draws heavily on the knowledge, policies, networks and shared values of existing organisations and agencies. Its central concept, the bio-region is not even new. What is new is the way that these elements can be combined to **Build Back Stronger, Smarter and Greener for the whole Solent area.**

It is a call for multi-disciplinary co-operation across administrative boundaries in the interests of recognising and thereby enhancing the qualities of the whole Solent area; the island, and across the coastal parts of two counties. It places the hydrosphere at its centre together with the fluvial linkages and habitats that link existing protected uplands and the marine environment. It aims to future-proof investment against climate change and habitat loss.

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