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# NOTICE OF MEETING

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## HOUSING & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL

**FRIDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 9.00 AM**

## GROUND FLOOR MEETING ROOM 4 - CIVIC OFFICES, PORTSMOUTH

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### Membership

Councillor Darren Sanders (Chair)  
Councillor Gemma New (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Jennie Brent

Councillor Alicia Denny  
Councillor Frank Jonas  
Councillor Leo Madden

### Standing Deputies

Councillor Matthew Winnington  
Councillor Lee Hunt

Councillor Hugh Mason  
Councillor David Tompkins

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(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the minutes of this meeting.)

Please note that the agenda, minutes and non-exempt reports are available to view online on the Portsmouth City Council website: [www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)

### A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies for absence**
- 2 Declarations of Members' Interests**
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting - 4 July 2016 (Pages 1 - 2)**  
  
RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel held on 4 July 2016 are approved as a correct record.
- 4 New Review: Housing Need and Empty Properties in Portsmouth and the impact of Government Policy on them (Pages 3 - 4)**

The Scrutiny Management Panel met on 8 July 2016 and agreed that the Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel should proceed with a review to look at Housing Need and Empty Properties in Portsmouth and the impact of Government Policy on them. The panel will therefore:

- a) consider the Draft Scoping Document and potential witnesses to invite to future meetings
- b) receive evidence from officers.

## **5 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Friday 21 October 2016 at 9am in conference room A. Further evidence will be received as part of the review.

Members of the public are now permitted to use both audio visual recording devices and social media during this meeting, on the understanding that it neither disrupts the meeting or records those stating explicitly that they do not wish to be recorded. Guidance on the use of devices at meetings open to the public is available on the Council's website and posters on the wall of the meeting's venue.

# Agenda Item 3

## HOUSING & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL

Minutes of the meeting of the Housing & Social Care Scrutiny Panel held on Monday, 4 July 2016 at 9.00 am at the Civic Offices, Portsmouth.

### Present

Councillor Darren Sanders (in the Chair)

Councillors Gemma New  
Jennie Brent  
Alicia Denny  
Frank Jonas  
Leo Madden

#### **40. Apologies for absence (AI 1)**

There were no apologies.

#### **41. Declaration of members' interests (AI 2)**

There were no declarations.

#### **42. Minutes of the previous meeting - 24 March 2016 (AI 3)**

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 24 March 2016 be approved as a correct record.**

#### **43. Discussion of future topics for review (AI 4)**

Angela Dryer, Deputy Director of Adult Services was present to assist the panel with their discussions relating to independent living. Owen Buckwell, Director of Property and Housing Services was present for part of the meeting to assist the panel in relation to the housing topics proposed.

Members of the panel suggested the following topics:

- Housing allocations - to consider how do we allocate properties. To find out if the allocation system is fair and how the points system works. To hear about the allocation policy as it stands to be able to offer ideas of how that could be improved. The chair suggested that this topic could be reviewed at a half day conference style event, with an hour session from Housing, followed by the hearing from several witnesses. The panel could meet to discuss the conclusions and recommendations.
- Independent living - how we support individuals in their independent living, who can live independently and should they live independently.
- Housing need and empty properties in Portsmouth and the impact of Government Policy.

**RESOLVED** that the panel agreed the following topics for review to be forwarded to the Scrutiny Management Panel of 8<sup>th</sup> July:

- **Housing Need and Empty Properties in Portsmouth and the impact of Government Policy**
- **Housing Allocations**
- **Independent Living - how we support individuals in their independent living, who can live independently and should they live independently.**

The meeting concluded at 9.45 am.

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Councillor Darren Sanders  
Chair

# Agenda Item 4

## Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel

### DRAFT - Scoping Document

**Review title: Housing Need and Empty Properties in Portsmouth and the impact of Government Policy on them**

#### **Background**

This topic was agreed by the Scrutiny Management Panel on 8 July 2016 and forms part of the Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel's 2016/17 work programme.

#### **Objectives of the inquiry**

1. To understand the specific policies.
2. What is the impact of these policies on Portsmouth, especially the City Council?
3. What is being done to alleviate the impact?
4. What else can be done to alleviate it?
5. What can we learn from other local authorities?

#### **Possible witnesses**

Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Steve Wemyss  
Owen Buckwell, Director of Property and Housing  
Elaine Bastable or Steve Macer, Housing Options  
Bruce Lomax, Private Sector Housing Manager  
Nick Haverley, Finance Manager  
David Mearns, Assistant Housing Manager, Property and Housing  
Private landlords  
Kate Kennard, Tackling Poverty Co-ordinator  
Carole Damper, Roberts Centre

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