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# NOTICE OF MEETING

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## **CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE DECISION MEETING (SPECIAL)**

**MONDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 10.00 AM**

**CONFERENCE ROOM A - SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC OFFICES**

Telephone enquiries to Lisa Gallacher 02392 834056

Email: [lisa.gallacher@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.gallacher@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

If any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting has access requirements, please notify the contact named above.

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## **CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE DECISION MEETING**

Councillor Ryan Brent (Conservative)

### **Group Spokespersons**

Councillor Alicia Denny, UK Independence Party

Councillor Rob Wood, Liberal Democrat

Labour Group Spokesperson - Vacant

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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)

**Deputations by members of the public may be made on any item where a decision is going to be taken. The request should be made in writing to the contact officer (above) by 12 noon of the working day before the meeting, and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendations). Email requests are accepted.**

## **AGENDA**

- 1 Apologies for absence**
- 2 Declarations of Interest**

**3 Means Testing Assessment Policy for Adoption, Special Guardianship, Child Arrangements and Residence Orders (Pages 3 - 48)**

Purpose of report

To seek approval from the Cabinet Member, to the revised and updated Means Testing Assessment Policy attached at Appendix 1; as well as to the engagement and implementation process with carers.

**RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet Member approve:**

- i. **The implementation of the '*Means Testing Assessment Policy for Adoption, Special Guardianship, Child Arrangement and Residence Orders*' at Appendix 1, with effect from 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017; noting potential changes to the 2017-18 Basic Income Support Personal Allowance Rates once approved by the Department for Work and Pensions (see Appendix 2).**
- ii. **The alignment of the weekly allowance rates for both holders of Adoption and Residence Orders with the age related Standard Fostering Allowance, with effect from the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017.**
- iii. **The proposed transitional protection arrangements for carers as set out in section 8 of the report.**
- iv. **The proposed engagement and implementation process with carers as set out in section 9 of the report; which will be led by the Financial Assessment and Benefits team, together with officers from the Children's Social Care service.**
- v. **To delegate authority to the Section 151 officer to update the personal allowance rates as required, ensuring that they remain in line with the rates published by the Department for Work and Pensions.**

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