



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

POLICY & REVIEW (PERFORMANCE) PANEL

WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2004 @ 4.00PM _____

CONFERENCE ROOM A (THE DUISBERG ROOM), CIVIC OFFICES, PORTSMOUTH

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AGENDA

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

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declaration of Members' Interests

Declaration of members' interests in accordance with Standing Order 14.

3. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 28th July 2004

A copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Review (Performance) Panel held on 28th July 2004 is attached.

...

RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Review (Performance) Panel held on 28th July 2004 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5. Monitoring Report on Corporate Parenting Review

The purpose of the attached report is to update the Panel on progress with implementing recommendations from the 2002 Scrutiny review of the Council's role as corporate parent.

...

RECOMMENDED that the Panel

- 1. notes current performance in terms of looked after children;**
- 2. evaluates progress against recommendations agreed in the review's final report; and**

3. agrees whether any corrective action is required where recommendations have not been achieved.

6. Portsmouth 2nd Generation Local Public Service Agreement

... The purpose of the attached report is to propose the themes, outcomes and possible indicators for incorporation into the initial submission to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for the 2nd generation local public service agreement (LPSA2G).

RECOMMENDED that the Panel endorse the themes, outcomes and possible indicators for the 2nd generation local public service agreement.

7. Best Value Review of Statementing

... The purpose of the attached report and action plan is to inform members of the Policy & Review (Performance) Panel of the outcome of the Local Education Authority Best Value Review and the Audit Commission Review into Statementing.

This item was deferred from the meeting of the Panel on 28th July 2004.

RECOMMENDED that members support the action plan and recommend it to the Executive for approval.

8. ICT Best Value Review – Proposed Approach

... The purpose of the attached report is to seek approval for the proposed approach to the ICT Best Value Review.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1. The proposed two-stage approach to the ICT Best Value Review be adopted;**
- 2. Priority be given to Stage 1 (i.e. to address the organisation of ICT Support Services by end October 2004) in order to meet the needs to the Moving Towards Excellence implementation programme;**
- 3. Consultation on the scope of Stage 2 (i.e. the full BV review) takes place with a range of stakeholders, including the new Strategic Directors, and that a full scoping document be submitted to PMIB and then to the Panel in November 2004;**
- 4. The review address ICT across all of Portsmouth City Council and not just the IT Services department; and**
- 5. The Panel consider whether it wishes to be represented on the ICT BV Board and if so, to nominate its representative(s).**

9. Results of Portsmouth Residents' Panel Survey, Spring 2004

... The purpose of this report is to inform the Panel of the results of the recent Portsmouth Residents' Panel Survey.

RECOMMENDED that the Panel

- 1. notes the results of the Portsmouth Residents' Panel Survey Spring 2004; and**

2. **notes the intention to develop a branding and communications strategy.**

10. Homelessness Strategy – Implementation

... The purpose of the attached report is to provide the Panel with an overview of progress in implementing the Homelessness Strategy, and to assess the impact on performance of actions undertaken. The report also provides the Panel with an update following an earlier report in January 2004.

Copies of the Homelessness Strategy 2003–2006 have been circulated to members only. Additional copies are available on request from Democratic Services.

RECOMMENDED that the Panel

1. **notes performance since the publication of the Homelessness Strategy in July 2003, particularly**
 - **Reduction in homeless applications and acceptances;**
 - **Improvement in performance against BVPI 183 (Bed & Breakfast); and**
 - **The continuing problems posed by the shortage of affordable housing in the City.**
2. **supports the undertaking of a new review of homelessness services in the city by July 2005, in preparation for publishing a new strategy in July 2006.**

11. Voter Turnout and Democratic Engagement

Members have suggested that one of the existing ‘medium’ priorities for review – ‘Voter Turnout and Democratic Engagement’, should be reclassified as a high priority.

... The attached report sets out to provide some background information and identify some particular issues that the Panel may like to suggest are addressed during any review.

RECOMMENDED that

1. **The Policy and Review (Oversight) Panel be asked to re-classify as a ‘high priority’ a review of voter turnout and democratic engagement; and**
2. **The Oversight Panel be asked to refer the proposed review and arrangements for its scoping to an ad hoc panel to undertake at an early date, with a recommendation that -**
 - a) **In respect of voter turn out, as part of its work the panel examines recent local voting trends; considers various initiatives that have been proposed nationally to increase the vote at elections, and brings forward for consideration by the City Council recommendations on ways and means of seeking increased voter turnout; and**
 - b) **In respect of democratic engagement, as part of its work the panel focuses on some of those areas that are not currently the subject of examination elsewhere and that the detail of this part of the review be settled by the ad hoc panel.**

12. Comprehensive Performance Assessment: Progress on the action plan, July 2004

The purpose of the attached report is to comment on progress with the improvement action plan agreed following the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) in 2002.

This report is also being considered by the Executive on 13th September 2004.

...

RECOMMENDED that the Panel

- 1. notes that progress is being made on all seven improvement priority areas;**
- 2. notes that implementing the Moving Towards Excellence Review should add to the drive for improvement, particularly by creating units which will focus on the priority issues such as benefits administration, cleansing, performance management, project and risk management and communications;**
- 3. considers progress on the CPA improvement plan on a quarterly basis in future; and**
- 4. agrees that the points in paragraph 4.9 should be included in the summary sought by the Audit Commission for their annual assessment of the Council's progress.**

13. Date of Next Meeting

Members are reminded that a special meeting of the Panel will be held at 4.00pm on Wednesday 22nd September 2004 to undertake a review of education funding.