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# NOTICE OF MEETING

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## CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING

MONDAY, 27 JANUARY 2020 AT 4.30 PM

## EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM - THE GUILDHALL, FLOOR 3

Telephone enquiries to Joanne Wildsmith, Democratic Services Tel: 9283 4057  
Email: [joanne.wildsmith@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.wildsmith@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 HOUSING

Councillor Darren Sanders (Liberal Democrat)

### Group Spokespersons

Councillor Cal Corkery, Labour  
Councillor Scott Payter-Harris, Conservative

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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 **Declaration of Interests**
- 3 **Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy (Pages 5 - 32)**

The report by the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services presents the Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy, which outlines

how the council allocates and priorities temporary accommodation for homeless applicants in priority need.

**RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet Member for Housing:**

- (1) recognises the important role that temporary accommodation has in supporting people who are in crisis as a result of homelessness;**
- (2) recognises that the policy formalises the working practice and ensures the fair allocation of temporary accommodation and meets its legal obligations;**
- (3) approves the council's Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy which will then be published on the council's website.**

**4 Helping people secure a private rented home to reduce homelessness and housing need in Portsmouth (Pages 33 - 78)**

The purpose of the report by the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services is to provide detailed options outlining how the council could expand the financial assistance available to local residents to access the private rented sector.

**RECOMMENDED that the Council Member for Housing:**

- (1) notes the current difficulties that renters have in entering the private rented sector (PRS).**
- (2) considers the options for providing additional support to enter the PRS. This may be either extending the range of support for those that already receive it, or new support for those that the council currently does not have a legal duty to support. Officers recommend the widening of a bond scheme and the use of a community bank to provide low cost loans.**
- (3) notes the officer's recommendation to proceed with extending the bond scheme and enabling a community bank to provide low cost loans (options 2 and 4), and if agreed, to also agree the eligibility criteria for the scheme and determine the details of the scope.**
- (4) Delegates to the Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Building Services the authority to develop and operate a 12 month pilot of the chosen scheme(s) in order to fully develop a working scheme, understand the demand from residents, and expose the financial risk for the council, and report back on the progress of the pilot scheme to the Cabinet Member for Housing.**
- (5) identifies a source of funding from the general fund to provide the**

**resources required to operate the chosen scheme, and to cover the financial liabilities of the pilot.**

**5 Council Housing Budget 2020/21 (Pages 79 - 106)**

The purpose of the report by the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Buildings is to seek the Cabinet Member's decisions on Council Housing budgets, rents and other charges and to give authority for managers to incur expenditure in 2020/21.

The report also seeks to:

- Approve the Revised Revenue budget 2019/20 and give authority to the Director Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services & the Director of Finance and Information Services, to amend the budgets to reflect the latest available information prior to finalising budgets for 2019/20.
- Note the forecast Revenue Budgets for 2021/22 to 2022/23 arising from the proposals set out in this report
- Set rents in accordance with Central Government's social rent setting policy.

**RECOMMENDED**

**It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Housing approve the following:**

- (i) The Revised Budget as set out at Appendix 3.**
- (ii) All rents and charges to be effective from 1st April 2020 or such other date as determined by the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services in consultation with the Director of Finance and Resources.**
- (iii) Dwelling Rents for 2020/21 to be set in accordance with Central Government's Social Rent Policy.**
- (iv) General Service charges for 2020/21 to be set at this meeting as set out in this report, and in accordance with Appendix 5.**
- (v) Sheltered Housing Service charges for 2020/21 to be set at this meeting as set out in this report, and in accordance with Appendix 6.**
- (vi) Laundry charges for 2020/21 to be set at this meeting as set out in this report, and in accordance with Appendix 7.**
- (vii) Heating charges to be set in accordance with Appendix 8.**

- (viii) Garages and parking site rents as shown in Appendix 9 be approved and authority to let garages at reduced rents where demand is low be delegated to the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services in consultation with the Director of Finance and Resources.**
- (ix) Revenue Budget 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 3 be approved and authority given to the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services in consultation with the Director of Finance and Resources to amend the budgets to reflect the latest available information prior to finalising budgets for 2020/21.**
- (x) The relevant Managers be authorised to incur expenditure in 2020/21.**
- (xi) The forecast Revenue Budgets for 2021/22 to 2022/23 as set out in Appendix 3 arising from the proposals contained in this report, be noted.**

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