
NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET

FRIDAY, 23 AUGUST 2019 AT 10.00 AM

EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM - THE GUILDHALL - FLOOR 3

Telephone enquiries to Joanne Wildsmith, Democratic Services Tel 9283 4057

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

Membership

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE (Chair)

Councillor Steve Pitt (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Dave Ashmore

Councillor Suzy Horton

Councillor Lee Hunt

Councillor Darren Sanders

Councillor Lynne Stagg

Councillor Matthew Winnington

Councillor Rob Wood

Councillor Tom Wood

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

Please note that Portsmouth City Council's Democracy website will be shut down for essential maintenance during the lead up to this meeting; during this time the Cabinet agenda and papers can be located at www.portsmouth.gov.uk/democracy-temp

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.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Declarations of Interests**
- 3 Nitrate Neutrality Mitigation - measures to enable new housing development (Pages 5 - 26)**

Purpose.

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the progress made to address the damage being caused by high levels of water-borne nitrates to ecologically significant sites in the Solent. This has been restricting the

ability of local planning authorities in the Solent area to approve planning applications for new dwellings.

2. A 'nitrate neutrality' mitigation strategy is proposed to enable both PCC and private development proposals. This strategy will help the Council meet the tests of the Habitat Regulations and avert the potential risk of legal challenge.
3. Additionally, the report gives an update on progress made with the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) to develop a sub-regional, long term strategy to address the sources of nitrate pollution in the Solent with central government agencies. With this in mind, the Council is invited to work with neighbouring local authorities to intensify lobbying to resolve the apparent contradictory positions within and between central government departments.

Recommendations

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. **Note the progress and on-going work set out in the report.**
2. **Note the on-going improvements being undertaken to the Council's assets and particularly the council housing stock that is improving water efficiency and contributing to reducing nitrate emissions**
3. **Note the measures being taken through the Council's management of its open spaces to reduce nitrate application and nutrient emissions**
4. **Note the dialogue between the Council, the University of Portsmouth, and Natural England to support the introduction of environmentally friendly measures to reduce nutrient build-up in the Solent.**
5. **Note the dialogue between water supply and treatment companies, registered social landlords, developers and public bodies to establish a strategic partnership to reduce water consumption and nutrient emissions within the area.**
6. **Note the intention to create and manage a database of contributions to mitigation to offset the potential impact of new development, such creation subject to final Cabinet approval.**
7. **Note an intention to adopt as soon as possible the combination of measures, methodology and evidence set out in the report as the Council's interim strategy for demonstrating 'nitrate neutrality' in the determination of planning applications such adoption subject to final Cabinet approval.**
8. **Continue to work with other local councils through PfSH, the Local Government Association and Members of Parliament to lobby central government to resolve the contradictory positions held by agencies within Defra and between Defra and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government and to develop a comprehensive, long-term, funded mitigation strategy for the Solent area.**

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Whilst every effort will be made to webcast this meeting, should technical or other difficulties occur, the meeting will continue without being webcast via the Council's website.

This meeting is webcast (videoed), viewable via the Council's livestream account at <https://livestream.com/accounts/14063785>