



NOTICE OF MEETING

GOVERNANCE & AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 4PM

THE EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM - THIRD FLOOR, THE GUILDHALL

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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 Leo Madden (Chair)
Councillor Simon Boshier (Vice-Chair)
Councillor John Ferrett
Councillor Hugh Mason
Councillor Judith Smyth
Councillor Neill Young

Standing Deputies

Councillor Matthew Atkins
Councillor Ben Dowling
Councillor Graham Heaney
Councillor Donna Jones
Councillor Terry Norton
Councillor Chris Attwell

(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

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 recommendation/s). Email requests are accepted.

AGENDA

- 1 **Apologies for Absence**
- 2 **Declarations of Members' Interests**
- 3 **Minutes of Previous Meeting - 26 July 2019** (Pages 5 - 14)

RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 July 2019 are approved as a correct record to be signed by the Chair.

- 4 **Overview of Portsmouth City Council complaints, including Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Complaints 2018/19.** (Pages 15 - 22)

Purpose.

To bring to the attention of the Governance & Audit & Standards Committee the Annual Review of Complaints by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) dated July 2019, regarding complaints it has considered against Portsmouth City Council for the year 2018/2019.

Recommended that the Committee & Audit & Standards Committee note the report.

- 5 **Review of polling districts and polling places.** (Pages 23 - 52)

Purpose.

To detail the outcomes of the review of polling districts and polling places recently undertaken and to invite members to consider the recommendations made.

RECOMMENDED that:

1. **That the changes to the current scheme recommended in paragraphs 5.2 to 5.10 are approved and implemented on publication of the 2020 Register of Electors.**
2. **That it be reconfirmed that the Returning Officer has delegated authority to make such variations to polling places as may be necessary arising from the availability of premises for use at a particular election.**

- 6 **Audit review on home to school transport and hire cars**

The report will follow.

7 Update(s) to Portsmouth City Council's Contract Procedure Rules (Pages 53 - 78)

Purpose

The purpose of the report is for the Governance Audit and Standard Committee (GAS) to consider the proposed updates to Portsmouth City Council's (the Council's) Contract Procedure Rules (the CPRs) (the report).

The report sets out the proposals and justifications for:

Implementing a new price increase control by way of an existing agreed approval process for specific Council contracts; and

Carrying out a full legal review of the CPRs in light of recent legislative changes (detailed below).

RECOMMENDED that the GAS consider whether to recommend to Full Council the adoption of the proposals set out in this report.

8 Portsmouth City Council Annual Audit Letter 2018/19 (Pages 79 - 102)

The committee is asked to consider the annual audit letter for the year ended 31 March 2019.

9 Audit Performance Status Report to 4 September 2019 (Pages 103 - 130)

Purpose.

This is an Audit Performance Status Report for the 2019-20 planned audit activities. Appendix A includes the detail of progress made against the annual plan and documents individual audit findings.

RECOMMENDED that members note:

- 1. The Audit Performance for 2019/20 to 4th September 2019.**
- 2. The highlighted areas of concern in relation to audits completed from the 2019/20 Audit Plan, including follow up work performed.**

10 Scrutiny call in arrangements (Pages 131 - 136)

Purpose.

For the committee to consider the request from Councillor Boshier (points 1- 4 below), to review the Council's Call-in rules and process and decide what it consequently supports to go forward to Full Council:

- 1) A suitable time limit for Scrutiny Management Panel to consider the call in
- 2) The subject decision of the Cabinet/Portfolio Holder be not implemented until the call in has been properly considered
- 3) The call in can be a lengthy process and perhaps should be the subject of a special meeting and not included on the agenda of a scheduled meeting.
- 4) If the call in is successful, and the subject report is referred back to the

Portfolio holder or Cabinet for reconsideration, the original unaltered report should not be the subject for reconsideration.

RECOMMENDED that having regard to the contents of this report that:

The committee notes the current call in rules/process, and

- 1. Consider whether its wishes to recommend to Full Council any suggested changes as detailed in paragraph 4 below.**
- 2. Further to 2.2 above, should the Committee support the changes as presented, the associated draft constitutional revisions are incorporated as track changes to section 15 - Call-In, (attached as Appendix A) as part of any recommendation to Full Council.**

11 Date of the next meeting

To be confirmed.

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