



**Notification to all Members of the council
of decisions by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing
Homelessness**

Issued by Democratic Services
Monday, 25 January 2021

The details set out below will be published in the next Members' Information Service, but in the meantime are notified to all Councillors in accordance with Rule 15(a) of the Policy and Review Panels Procedure Rules

The following decisions have been taken by the Cabinet (or individual Cabinet members) and will be implemented unless the call-in procedure is activated. Rule 15 of the Policy and Review Procedure Rules requires a call-in notice to be signed by any 5 members of the Council. The call-in request must be made to democratic@portsmouthcc.gov.uk and must be made by not later than 5pm on Monday 1 February 2021.

If you want to know more about a proposal, please contact the officer indicated. You can also see the report(s) on the Council's web site at www.portsmouth.gov.uk

	WARD	DECISION	OFFICER CONTACT
		Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness Decision Meeting - 25 January The Cabinet Member has made the following decisions:-	Anna Martyn Tel 023 9383 4870 anna.martyn@portsmouthcc.gov.uk
3	All wards	Council Housing Budget (including rents) 2021 / 2022 DECISIONS: The Cabinet Member approved the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Forecast Revenue Outturn for 2020/21 arising from monitoring discussions with Managers, as set out at Appendix 3, be noted.2. All rents and charges to be effective from 1st April 2021 or such other date as determined by the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services in consultation with the Director of Finance and Resources.3. Dwelling Rents for 2021/22 to be set in accordance with Central Government's Social Rent Policy.4. General Service Charges for 2021/22 to be set at this meeting, as set out in this report, and in	James Hill, Director of Housing, Neighbourhood & Building Services

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		<p>accordance with Appendix 5.</p> <p>5. Sheltered Housing Service Charges for 2021/22 to be set at this meeting, as set out in this report, and in accordance with Appendix 6.</p> <p>6. Laundry Charges for 2021/22 to be set at this meeting, as set out in this report, and in accordance with Appendix 7.</p> <p>7. Heating Charges for 2021/22 to be set in accordance with Appendix 8.</p> <p>8. Garages and Parking Site Rents for 2021/22, 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.</p> <p>9. The Revenue Budget for 2021/22, 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 2021/22.</p> <p>10. The relevant Managers be authorised to incur expenditure in 2021/22.</p> <p>11. The Forecast Revenue Budgets for 2022/23 and 2023/24 arising from the proposals contained in this report, as set out in Appendix 3, be noted.</p>	
4	N/A	<p>Cabbagefield Row Housing Development</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <p>1. The Cabinet Member approved Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Expenditure of £260,000 at most to deliver outline planning consent for a development of circa 150 council housing dwellings on the land known as Cabbagefield Row, Havant.</p> <p>2. The Cabinet Member noted that a further report will be brought once outline planning consent is achieved to detail the consent and to request permission for the build and future capital spend. The build standard and make up of units will also be included in the future paper as they are not yet decided.</p>	James Hill, Director of Housing, Neighbourhood & Building Services
5	All wards	<p>Private Rental Sector Strategy</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p>	James Hill, Director of Housing, Neighbourhood

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		<p>1. The Cabinet Member noted the consultation feedback on the draft Private Rental Sector Strategy amounting to 458 responses.</p> <p>2. The Cabinet Member approved the Private Rental Sector Strategy 2021- 2026 for Portsmouth. (Appendix 1) and agrees the final strategy will be published on the PCC website.</p> <p>3. The Cabinet Member approved the implementation of the actions within the strategy and delegated to the Director for Housing Neighbourhood and Building Services the ability to deliver those actions within existing resources or to provide necessary information to allow the Cabinet Member to make decisions in relation to any requirement for additional resources necessary to implement these actions.</p> <p>4. The Cabinet Member approved that the following actions that were included in the 2020 PRS consultation are prioritised as they received the highest level of support. These actions are outlined in sections 6.7 & 7.3 of the report but are summarised below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Unlicensed HMOs: To continue to deal proactively when an unlicensed HMO is reported (88% of consultation respondents said very high or high priority) and Professional standards of regulation: Ensure that officers responsible for regulating the PRS are trained to a professional standard and capable of meeting the needs of the strategy (84% of respondents said very high or high priority). These actions are expected to be achieved in year one of the strategy. ii. Workshops: (A) To work with landlord groups to provide workshops on how to be a good landlord. (B) To work with tenancy groups to provide workshops on how to be a good tenant, aimed at helping a tenant to maintain a tenancy (76% of respondents said very high or high priority) and Mediation: Create a mediation service between landlords and tenants to help improve security of tenure. (72% of respondents said very high or high priority). These actions are expected to be achieved in year one of the strategy. iii. That the following action is also brought forward as it will help to support people to find homes in PRS as the impact of the lifting of the COVID-19 eviction ban is felt. Financial support: To undertake a pilot of the rent 	<p>& Building Services</p>

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		<p>deposit and bond scheme. This action is expected to be achieved in quarter one of 2021/22.</p> <p>5. The Cabinet Member noted that the following additional actions are expected to be achieved by 31 March 2022. These actions are summarised. Full details are in section 6.8 of this report. These actions are expected to be delivered within current budgets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Communication/information: To provide information for tenants, expand the current website, investigate a single communications and web strategy with stakeholders. ii. Governance: To develop the current HMO governance board into a multiagency partnership group to oversee this strategy iii. Shared services: To work with stakeholders to increase the understanding of the services that could be provided across Portsmouth to support the PRS. iv. Council internal processes: To implement the revised supplementary planning document for HMOs. Review enforcement policies to make them more transparent. Work with other local authorities to find new ideas to support the PRS. Ensure that data sharing is maximised within legislation. v. Pilots: To approach the MHCLG to look for support for the implementation of this strategy, including piloting some of the changes identified in section 7 of the report. vi. Additional licencing for HMOs: A Decision will be required on the appropriateness of a consultation on reintroducing additional licencing for HMOs. This decision is anticipated to be made in the summer or early autumn of 2021 as the PRS becomes more stable and we move away from the pandemic. Further information is contained in section 7.3.5 of the report. 	
6	All wards	<p>Pathway for rough sleepers and purchase of associated property</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Cabinet Member approved the new pathway model to support rough sleepers in the city, as outlined in section 4 of the report. 2. The Cabinet Member approved the use of the Next 	<p>James Hill, Director of Housing, Neighbourhood & Building Services</p>

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		<p>Step Accommodation Programme (NSAP) grant to procure support services for the pathway for 2021-2024, as outlined in section 4 of the report.</p> <p>3. The Cabinet Member approved capital expenditure of £7,311,200 in addition to the NSAP grant funding of £2,152,100 to purchase a portfolio of accommodation (formerly student accommodation) comprising three properties, known as The Registry, St Michaels Road; 155-157 Elm Grove and Kingsway House, Elm Grove, creating accommodation for 110 self-contained rooms (bed spaces) for rough sleepers.</p> <p>4. The Cabinet Member delegated authority to the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services in consultation with the Director of Finance and Resources & S151 Officer to negotiate the acquisition of the portfolio of accommodation and to commission the necessary works to ensure the buildings are fit for purpose to accommodate rough sleepers, whilst ensuring that the schemes remain financially viable.</p>	
7	All wards	<p>Full Fibre to Home - City Fibre</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <p>The Cabinet Member noted the report. The report is for information only and is not subject to call-in.</p>	<p>Meredydd Hughes, Assistant Director of Building Services</p>