



# Agenda & minutes

Full Council meeting of Tuesday, 9 November 2021

### Portsmouth City Council

AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL will be held at the **Council Chamber - The Guildhall on Tuesday, 9 November 2021** at 2.00 pm and all members of the council are hereby summoned to attend to consider and resolve upon the following business detailed from agenda item 1 onwards:-

### Information with regard to public access due to Covid precautions

- Attendees will be requested to undertake an asymptomatic/ lateral flow test within 48 hours of the meeting.
- We strongly recommend that attendees should be double vaccinated.
- If symptomatic you must not attend and self-isolate following the stay at home guidance issued by Public Health England.
- All attendees are recommended to wear a face covering while moving around within the Guildhall.
- Although it will no longer be a requirement attendees may choose to keep a social distance and take opportunities to prevent the spread of infection
- Hand sanitiser is provided at the entrance and throughout the Guildhall. All attendees
  are encouraged to make use of hand sanitiser on entry to the Guildhall and are
  requested to follow the one way system in place.
- Attendees are encouraged book in to the venue (QR code). An NHS test and trace
  log will be retained and maintained for 21 days for those that cannot or have not
  downloaded the app.
- Those not participating in the meeting and wish to view proceedings are encouraged to do so remotely via the livestream link.

# Agenda

- 1 Declaration of Members' Interests
- 2 To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 October 2021 (Pages 15 50)
- To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor may desire to lay before the Council, including apologies for absence
- 4 Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24

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 (stewart.agland@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) by 12 noon of the working day before the meeting (so Monday 8

November for this meeting), and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendations). Email requests are accepted.

- 5 Questions from the Public under Standing Order 25 (there are none)
- 6 Appointments
- 7 Urgent Business To receive and consider any urgent and important business from Members of the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order No 26
- Portsmouth Youth Offending Team (PYOT) Annual Youth Strategic Plan 2021-2023 (Pages 51 78)

To receive and consider the attached report. Recommendations from the Cabinet meeting on 2 November to follow.

### **Notices of Motion: Process information**

Following the Full Council meeting of 21 July 2020, the Council agreed to change Standing Order (32(d)), meaning all Notices of Motion of the agenda will automatically be dealt with at this meeting unless caught by the 6 month rule, thereby dispensing with a three minute presentation from the proposer and subsequent vote to enable its consideration.

### 9 Notices of Motion

### (a) Southern Water Sewage

Proposed by Councillor Charlotte Gerada Seconded by Councillor Judith Smyth

Southern Water has been illegally discharging raw sewage into rivers and seas for a number of years across the region. The company was fined £90m by the Environment Agency this year for deliberate failings, causing major harm to protected areas, conservation sites and oyster beds.

This issue has affected Portsmouth and the surrounding areas significantly, as little or no warning is provided to residents when sewage leaks occur. This puts the health and safety of residents at risk, not to mention the damage it is doing to local wildlife.

Despite Southern Water's actions, the company continues to make millions in profits, including £138.8m in the 2020-21 financial year. What is more, the fine Southern Water received has not changed their behaviour and sewage leaks are still ongoing.

Full Council debated a motion in 2019 to tackle the company's sewage dumping, which received unanimous support. However, the situation with Southern Water hasn't improved and now is the time for renewed unity across political parties and the city, to force action for once and for all.

Therefore, the Council asks the Leader of the Council and all Group

Leaders to write jointly to Southern Water to demand they stop illegal discharges and take urgent action to give adequate notice to residents if the sea is not safe to swim in.

Full Council also calls on the Cabinet to engage with the Environment Agency to explore any additional enforcement action which can be taken in order to try and resolve these continuing issues.

"Should Motion (a) above be considered at the Council meeting, below motion (b) cannot subsequently be put and considered as it will be caught by the Council's Standing Orders in respect of the 6 month rule"

### (b) Southern Water

Proposed by Councillor Matt Atkins Seconded by Councillor John Smith

The council condemns the continued discharge of sewage into our Harbours and The Solent. Between May and September of this year, Southern Water discharged sewage nearly 3000 times into our coastal waters. The impact that this has on our local marine and coastal environment, ecology and water users has united Portsmouth politicians in condemnation of these practices and are disappointed by the lack of firm commitment by DEFRA, on their plans to address the problem of discharging untreated sewage into local waters.

Currently, it is hard to move away from the perception that environment ministers are not putting the emphasis on tackling these issues that we expect them to as a city and coastal community that is directly affected by these awful practices.

Council recognises the work being undertaken by local Members of Parliament, partners and campaign groups to hold Southern Water to account and their ongoing work to put pressure onto them to come forward with plans to end this practice.

The sewage system across the country requires vast amounts of investment to make it fit for purpose in terms of infrastructure so that there is no need for discharges of untreated effluent into our coastal waters. Government should be forthcoming with how they will look to address this. Currently, the plans laid out on 20th October 2021 in the House of Commons didn't provide the transparency and assurances that members of the public and politicians expect, as raised by John Redwood MP in the House of Commons chamber.

We ask all council group leaders to write to the Prime Minister, Lord Goldsmith, The Rt Hon George Eustice MP (the Secretary of State for DEFRA) and Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State Rebecca

Pow MP to outline our concerns and condemn the practices of Southern Water and other water companies in the strongest terms and ask those ministers to outline a clear and meaningful timescale to end the discharging of sewage into our harbours and coastal waters here in and around Portsmouth and The Solent.

### (c) County Lines

Proposed by Councillor Terry Norton Seconded by Councillor Ryan Brent

Vulnerable children and adults are being recruited as drug runners to move drugs and cash all over the country. This is serious organised crime, and often connected to sexual exploitation, violence, gun & knife crimes and human trafficking.

Portsmouth is not free from county lines. As city leaders we must play our part in improving essential early intervention through schools, our Community Safety Partnership & YOT. By raising public awareness, and encouraging people to step forward and report these serious crimes, we can challenge the increasing social acceptance of drug use across the city.

### Council recognises:

1. That County lines drug dealing & the supply of drugs affects children across the city.

### Council Notes:

- 1. The Council is committed to building on the multi-agency relationships and increasing the partnership working that supports the most vulnerable children in the City.
- 2. The excellent work that has already taken place by Police forces including Hampshire Constabulary and dedicated multi-agency teams around the signs of criminal exploitation and County Lines.

### Requests that:

- The Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families uses her good offices to agree a cross party approach and by way of letter to be sent to EVERY secondary school in Portsmouth encouraging them to:
  - Increase the work they are doing to raise awareness of County Lines and the wider criminal activity related to it;
  - b) Include County Lines training for ALL staff as part of the compulsory annual Safeguarding training.

- c) Provide County Lines education to ALL students via PSHE and Assemblies to raise awareness amongst children and help them to identify risk factors themselves.
- d) Provide appropriate support to give our children the confidence to ask for help and/or to report any suspicious activity.
- 3. All members are encouraged to make a firm commitment, via this motion, to raise awareness within individual Wards, working with the Police, local schools and community groups.

### (d) Levelling up funding

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor Darren Sanders

The City Council records its thanks to the Government for the support to Portsmouth from the Levelling Up Fund for Portsmouth North and records its thanks to Penny Mordaunt MP and to the City Council for the joint work on this.

The investment in Hilsea Lido to bring it back to full use.

The creation of a linear park through the north of the City.

The investment in the commercial port to create a new cruise terminal to encourage additional cruise ship visits to the city.

The investment is very welcome. The Council also congratulates Pompey in the Community for its successful bid to the Fund for the John Jenkins Stadium at Moneyfields.

### (e) Adult Social Care

Proposed by Councillor Kirsty Mellor Seconded by Councillor George Fielding

- Council welcomes the recognition from government that significant additional resources are needed to support the delivery of adult social care services with its Build Back Better plan for health and social care.
- Council is concerned that the additional resources actually allocated will be insufficient to alleviate the current crisis in social care which can impact severely on older people, working age adults with disabilities, family carers, the social care workforce and social care providers.
- Council believes that social care has the potential to weave a web of relationships and support in our communities, connecting council services, independent providers,

voluntary and community organisations, families and local community networks. The council can play a leading role by providing support to and working alongside local people and organisations to share new ideas and bring new energy to their life by organising and funding social care in a different way.

### 4. Council agrees to:

- Use the Local Government Association and other available channels to bring pressure on central government to agree cross party plans to:
  - a. increase funding for Adult Social Care
  - improve morale among care workers by increasing resources to alleviate problems of staff shortages and enable them to provide the quality and level of care needed
  - c. ring-fence social care funding and ensure there are no further cuts to council social care budgets
- To request that Cabinet review the implementation of the Ethical Care and Residential Care Charter agreed by the council in 2019.
- To request that the Cabinet Member responsible for Adult Social care, namely Health, Wellbeing and Social Care, be tasked with a mandate to send a strong signal of support to older people and those working in the care sector by initiating an update of the Portsmouth Ageing Population Strategy 2010-2021, and further the Council agrees to ask the Cabinet to work towards Portsmouth becoming recognised as an 'age friendly city'
- Request that the Cabinet Member for Health,
   Wellbeing and Social Care takes all practical steps to
   improve the communication exchange between the
   council and care providers and further investigate
   ways of delivering social care in a more collaborative
   way by involving care service user representatives,
   carer support and interest groups, voluntary and
   community organisations, care providers, trade unions
   and care workers.
- Request officers to provide a bi-annual report to councillors on the scope and outcomes from the above or that the relevant Director takes steps to include within any statutory reports to Full Council comment upon the above directives.

N	otes

Research shows that:

- 1.4 million older people go without the care they need for essential everyday tasks such as getting washed or dressed. Two thirds of the cost of dementia care is paid by people with dementia and their families. The number of people with dementia is projected to rise to 1.6 million by 2040.
- 14.1 million disabled people live in the UK, including nearly 1 in 5 of working age adults. 33% of those receiving social care support are working age adults with physical and learning disabilities. They account for half the total expenditure on more long-term support.
- The Office for National Statistics estimates that disabled people account for 59% of all Covid 19 deaths between March and July 2020 in England and Wales. BBC research shows that millions more have been isolated with deteriorating health and struggle for access to basic supplies and social care support.
- Carers UK estimate that unpaid carers save the UK economy £132 billion a year, roughly equivalent to the annual cost of the NHS. An additional 4.5 million individuals have been added to the estimated 9.1 million unpaid carers across the UK since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Future Social Care Coalition argues that the economic case for social care workforce reform is incontrovertible. The sector is worth £41 billion to the economy annually and employs 6% of the entire workforce more than the NHS. It is estimated that an additional 520,000 employees will be needed over the next 15 years to meet the increasing demand for social care; there are already an estimated 112,000 vacancies in social care and staff turnover rates are high and increasing.
- The Portsmouth Pensioners Association estimate that since 2010, £51m has been removed from Portsmouth's Adult Social Care budget as part of government-imposed austerity measures. The remaining budget is unable to meet the needs of older and disabled citizens requiring help. Since then 1,500 Portsmouth people considered to be in the medium to lower needs group have had their social care removed in order to make budget savings.
- The Hampshire Care Association have surveyed their members and concluded that the Covid-19 pandemic has hit adult social care providers with a toxic mix of increased costs combined with a reduction in income. Financial support, while welcome, has not always made up the difference. Concerns over the future sustainability of services has skyrocketed and there are growing signs of a drop in lender confidence.
- A recent survey and round table meetings with local care providers, service users and carers, hosted by Stephen Morgan MP, have identified the following key concerns:
  - a. Experience of lack of communication between health and social care services
  - b. Lengthy waiting list for social care assessments

- c. Reductions in direct payments and increased charges for social care support
- d. Inadequate funding for 'care businesses', insurance costs rising, lack of support from banks
- e. Significant impact on staffing levels from low pay, Brexit, Covid, and recent vaccination legislation

### (f) Royal British Legion

Proposed Councillor Simon Bosher Seconded Councillor Benedict Swann

Over six million men served on the front line during the Great war and of those who came back, 1.75 million suffered some kind of disability and half of these were permanently disabled. We also needed to remember the emotional and financial impact this had on those who were left behind – wives and children, widows and orphans as well as the parents who had lost their sons.

Out of this concern, the Legion was established and they have helped the Armed Forces community and their families ever since. The Legion provided lifelong support to serving members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families. Their wide ranging activities included support through debt and emergency situations, employment, dementia care, support nearly 36,000 War Disablement Pension cases for war veterans, make around 300,000 welfare and friendship visits every year and support places with Remembrance parades and services

The difference that the Royal British Legion made to people's lives could not be underestimated and as they marked their 100th year in May, This Council wishes to place on record our sincere thanks to the Royal British Legion for the contribution this organisation made to the people of Portsmouth.

### (g) Action on Decarbonising Portsmouth

Proposed by Councillor Judith Smyth Seconded by Councillor Charlotte Gerada

On 19 March 2019 Portsmouth City Council agreed to declare a climate emergency for Portsmouth to accelerate our progress to achieving net zero carbon emissions as a city by 2030.

Specifically the following actions were agreed:-

- 1. Declare a 'Climate Emergency' then ask partners to sign up including local business, schools and community groups.
- 2. Pledge to achieve net zero carbon emissions in Portsmouth by 2030, considering, both production and consumption of emissions according to the Standard provided by the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol
- 3. Require the Leader of the Council to report back to the

Council within six months with an action plan, detailing how the Council will work with partners across the City and with central government to ensure that Portsmouth's net carbon emissions (Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions as defined by the GHG Protocol) are reduced to zero by 2030.

4. Provide an annual report on Portsmouth GHG emissions, what is working and what is more challenging and progress towards achieving net zero-carbon emissions.

Whilst a number of actions have been taken and some work has been done to green the city, particularly to reduce the carbon footprint of the city council itself, it is apparent that far too little has been done to achieve the rapid step changes that are needed in response to the global crisis we all face.

In particular, two years have passed without any progress in establishing the baseline measurement of carbon generation across the city so that the impact of new projects, programmes and developments (positive and negative) can be accurately assessed and so that we can measure the overall progress of the Portsmouth area to zero carbon by 2030. As in all other programmes for change, measurement is of key importance. If we cannot measure we cannot manage.

The enquiries we have made about progress with developing a clear framework for measuring carbon levels across Portsmouth reveal a few obstacles including the Covid pandemic. Whilst the affect of Covid on deployment and workloads is understood surely the urgent nature of the climate crisis should have seen the necessary resources found and deployed.

During November 2021, COP26 is taking place in Glasgow. While global leaders congregate to discuss strategies and plans to achieve a net zero carbon future, the summit presents an opportunity for local authorities and political leaders to reflect on what more can be done on climate change.

Full Council therefore calls upon the Cabinet to take immediate action as follows:

- To identify and allocate the necessary funding for a full carbon audit from an appropriately qualified and experienced external organisation to provide a baseline of carbon emissions across the city to be completed by April 2022.
- Develop and agree a framework for measuring changes in carbon emissions across the city including full carbon audits of all planned projects, programmes and developments to inform decision making and contribute to forecasting and planning to be completed by February 2022
- 3. Agree key indicators to inform regular and formal reporting of changes in carbon emissions after consultation with leading

local authorities and other experts by February 2022.

4. Apply the information gathered to provide a detailed action plan showing how Portsmouth will achieve net zero carbon emissions across the city by 2030. To be overseen by the Climate Action Board and the Cabinet with the plan being completed by July 2022 for submission to Full Council by way of update.

"Should either Motions (a) or (b) above be considered at the Council meeting, the below motion (h) cannot subsequently be put and considered as it will be caught by the Council's Standing Orders in respect of the 6 month rule"

### (h) Southern Water

Proposed by Councillor Darren Sanders Seconded by Councillor Kimberly Barrett

Council condemns the latest discharges into Langstone Harbour, including one for 49 hours and reaffirms its belief that Southern Water must stop them.

10 Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17. (Pages 79 - 80)

David Williams
Chief Executive

Members of the public are permitted to use both audio visual recording devices and social media during this meeting, on the understanding that it neither disrupts the meeting nor records those stating explicitly that they do not wish to be recorded. Guidance on the use of devices at meetings open to the public is available on the Council's website and posters on the wall of the meeting's venue.

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 <a href="https://livestream.com/accounts/14063785">https://livestream.com/accounts/14063785</a>

If any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting has access requirements, please notify the contact the Local Democracy Manager at <a href="mailto:Stewart.Agland@portsmouthcc.gov.uk">Stewart.Agland@portsmouthcc.gov.uk</a>.

Civic Offices
Guildhall Square
PORTSMOUTH
1 November 2021

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at the Guildhall Portsmouth on Wednesday, 13 October 2021 at 2.00 pm

### **Council Members Present**

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor Councillor Frank Jonas BEM (in the Chair)

### Councillors

Rob Wood Leo Madden Dave Ashmore George Madgwick Matthew Atkins Hugh Mason Chris Attwell Lee Mason Kirsty Mellor Simon Bosher Ryan Brent **Terry Norton** Stuart Brown Scott Payter-Harris Tom Coles Gemma New Cal Corkery Robert New Ben Dowling Darren Sanders Jason Fazackarley Jeanette Smith George Fielding John Smith Charlotte Gerada Lynne Stagg Lewis Gosling Judith Smyth Graham Heaney Benedict Swann Linda Symes Hannah Hockaday Claire Udy Ian Holder Jo Hooper

Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE

**Daniel Wemyss** Suzy Horton

Lee Hunt

### 43. Declaration of Members' Interests

Councillor Jeanette Smith declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in minute 57 as she was a paid official of Unison, a union which represented care workers.

Councillor Cal Corkery declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in minute 57 as he was a paid official of Unison, a union which represented care workers.

### To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 18 May 2021 and the abandoned Council meeting held on 19 July 2021

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor Simon Bosher

### 2 13 October 2021

That the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 18 May 2021 and the abandoned Council meeting held on 19 July 2021 be confirmed as correct records.

These were agreed by assent.

## 45. To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor may desire to lay before the Council, including apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Kimberly Barrett and Councillor Luke Stubbs.

Apologies for lateness had been received from Councillor Ryan Brent and Councillor Ben Dowling.

With great sadness, the Lord Mayor paid tribute to the recent passing of three former Councillors and expressed his sincere condolences on behalf of the Council.

Hon Alderman Fred Warner, who passed away on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021. Hon Alderman Warner was Lord Mayor in 1985 and was conferred the title of Honorary Alderman on 14 May 2002. Hon Alderman Warner was a member for the then Farlington Ward from May 1976 to June 1983 and then as a member for the Drayton and Farlington Ward from June 1983 to May 2002.

Barry Maine, former Lord Mayor and Honorary Alderman, passed away on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Barry Maine was a Portsmouth City Councillor for Drayton and Farlington Ward from 1988-2004 and Lord Mayor in 2000/1. He was conferred the title of Honorary Alderman on 22 June 2004 and this was presented at the Council meeting of 26 October 2004.

Michael Andrewes, who represented the Baffins ward from May 2002 until May 2008 and then the St Jude Ward from May 2011 to May 2015.

The Lord Mayor expressed his sincere condolences on behalf of the Council in respect of the extremely sad and very tragic death of former Cllr Steve Wemyss's daughter.

Finally, the Lord Mayor congratulated Councillor Simon Bosher on becoming Conservative Group Leader, with Councillor Ryan Brent continuing as Group Deputy Leader.

### 46. Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24

The City Solicitor advised that seven verbal deputation requests had been made for this meeting.

In addition, two written deputations had been submitted and circulated. The first was a dual deputation from Rachel Hudson, Portsmouth Friends of the Earth and was in respect of minute 55 ' Pesticide Use and minute 63 'Biodiversity enhancement in urban Portsmouth'.

The second was from Mathilde Chanvin and in respect of minute 63 'Biodiversity enhancement in urban Portsmouth'.

The City Solicitor advised that Andrea Carey, who had submitted verbal deputation requests in respect of minute 55 ' Pesticide Use - Portsmouth City Council' and minute 63 'Biodiversity enhancement in urban Portsmouth' was unable to attend the meeting and as such would be unable to make her deputations.

The City Solicitor invited those who had submitted oral deputation requests to deliver their deputations in turn.

Two were in respect of minute 56 'Time to pause and rethink the Tipner West Project' from Celia Clark and Selma Heimedinger;

One was in respect of minute 60 Bodmin Green' from Nick Horton;

One was in respect of minute 61 'House Building Target' from Selma Heimedinger; and

One was in respect of minute 63 'Biodiversity enhancement in urban Portsmouth' from Godfrey Gleadle.

The Lord Mayor thanked everyone for their deputations.

## 47. Questions from the Public under Standing Order 25 (see attached) (1 carried forward)

The first public question had been received from Ken Bailey.

"The people of Portsmouth have been patiently waiting for the last 7 years for the formal recognition of a public right of way around Town Quay at the Camber in Old Portsmouth. This issue today still remains unresolved.

Considering the following:

- Between 2011 and 2021 PCC did not have a Definitive Map of the public rights of way in the city that it is required to hold by law.
- As the Surveying Authority PCC investigated and assessed an application in 2016 for an existing public right of way at the Camber, Old Portsmouth to be added to the Definitive Map – which resulted in PCC losing a subsequent appeal on this matter.
- PCC did not comply with national guidance in respect of consultations prior to publishing a Definitive Map Modification Order for this Camber right of way in February 2019, despite having taken a year to action this Secretary of State's directive.
- It took 6 months for PCC to acknowledge the submission of a large number of formal representations and objections by the public to the

#### 4 13 October 2021

Definitive Map Modification Order which were received over two years ago.

 The Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation has not acknowledged or replied to questions raised in May 2018 regarding how PCC might identify and learn lessons in how to improve its Public Rights of Way administration performance.

Do you, as the responsible councillors, agree that this situation is unacceptable and will you:

- Provide the date by which submission of the DMMO to the Secretary of State for confirmation will urgently occur?
- Subsequently ensure the failings in timely resolution of this case are formally investigated so that lessons are learned?"

The Leader, Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson, provided his verbal response to this question and the supplementary question that followed.

Council was advised that Les Cummings, who had submitted the second public question, was unable to attend the meeting. Mr Cummings had accepted that under Standing Order 25 his question could not be put and would instead be considered at a future meeting.

The third public question had been received from Alan Burgess.

"In 2019 Portsmouth City Council took the step of declaring a climate emergency and setting a target of zero carbon emissions in Portsmouth by 2030. It is true that PCC authored the Climate Emergency Strategy, with a forward by the leader of the council and the cabinet member responsible for the environment and climate change, in which they say: "We will provide a further report in mid-2020, following a critical appraisal by Local Partnerships early in the year, which will include a costed action plan supported through the 2020/21 budget." "When will the promised costed action plan be delivered? When will the Carbon Trust be commissioned to produce a carbon audit and emissions reduction plan?"

Councillor Dave Ashmore provided his verbal response to this question and the supplementary question that followed.

### 48. Appointments

RESOLVED that the following changes to Conservative group seats be AGREED:

### Planning Committee

Councillor Daniel Wemyss and Councillor Linda Symes added as Standing Deputies.

### Scrutiny Management Panel

Councillor Benedict Swann added as a Standing Deputy.

### Governance, & Audit & Standards Committee

Councillor John Smith to replace Councillor Simon Bosher as a committee member.

Councillor Daniel Wemyss appointed as Vice Chair.

Councillor Luke Stubbs to replace Councillor John Smith as Standing Deputy.

### **Employment Committee**

Councillor Simon Bosher to replace Councillor Matthew Atkins as a committee member and Vice-Chair.

Councillor Scott Payter-Harris added as a Standing Deputy.

### TECS Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Matthew Atkins to replace Councillor Simon Bosher.

Councillor Simon Bosher added as a Standing Deputy.

### **EDCL Scrutiny Panel**

Add Councillor Linda Symes added as a Standing Deputy.

### Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Luke Stubbs added as a Standing Deputy.

# 49. Urgent Business - To receive and consider any urgent and important business from Members of the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order No 26

Due to the likelihood of the disclosure of exempt information during debate the Lord Mayor agreed to vary the order of the agenda so that the following item would be considered as the last item of business:

Recommendation from Cabinet from its meeting held on 5 October 2021

**Minute 83 -** Regeneration of the City Centre (part thereof) compulsory purchase order resolution report.

### 50. Local Transport Plan 4 Adoption

Minute 47 - Local Transport Plan 4 Adoption

This item was opposed to allow for debate.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Lynne Stagg Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

That the recommendations contained in minute 47 of the Cabinet meeting held on 22 June 2021 be approved.

Following debate, this was put to the vote and CARRIED.

### **RESOLVED that Full Council**

- (a) Approves the draft Portsmouth transport strategy and Portsmouth transport implementation plan for adoption as the Portsmouth Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) 2021-2038; and
- (b) Delegates authority to the Director of Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation and the Section 151 Officer to agree any minor amendments to the strategy and implementation plan that may be required to take account of future funding and policy announcements.

### 51. Portsmouth International Port Harbour Revision Order

Minute 48 - Portsmouth International Port Harbour Revision Order.

The recommendations contained in minute 48 of the Cabinet meeting held on 22 June 2021 were approved unopposed.

### **RESOLVED that Full Council**

- (a) Approves an application being made to the Marine Management Organisation ("MMO") for a Harbour Revision Order ("HRO") for a full consolidation and modernisation of legislative powers; and
- (b) Delegates authority to the Port Director in consultation with the Port's Portfolio Holder and the Harbour Master to determine the wording of the HRO based on legal advice and undertake all procedures for the submission of the HRO to the MMO.

### 52. Modern Slavery Transparency Statement

Minute 49 - Modern Slavery Transparency Framework.

The recommendations contained in minute 49 of the Cabinet meeting held on 22 June 2021 were approved unopposed.

RESOLVED that Full Council notes for information only the Cabinet decisions to approve -

- (a) The Modern Slavery Transparency Statement for publication on the council's website (see appendix 1 of the report); and
- (b) The programme of work set out in item 5 of the report.

### 53. Review of Political Proportionality on Committees and Panels

The Lord Mayor advised that the report from the Chief Executive had been previously circulated.

In response to the recommendations in the report it was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor Simon Bosher

"To adopt the overall political balance and allocation of seats as set out in the Chief Executive's report and agree the following changes on the basis -

That the Conservative Group gain two seats from Councillor Symes as a previously non-aligned member and those two seats be on the Scrutiny Management Panel, both previously held by Councillor Symes who will continue holding those seats as a Conservative Group Member."

This was put to the vote and CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Council adopt the overall political balance and allocation of seats as set out in the Chief Executive's report and agree the following changes on the basis -

That the Conservative Group gain two seats from Councillor Symes as a previously non-aligned member and those two seats be on the Scrutiny Management Panel and the Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel, both previously held by Councillor Symes who will continue holding those seats as a Conservative Group Member.

### 54. Notices of Motion

The Lord Mayor advised that there were twelve notices of motion before council today.

### 55. Pesticide Use - Portsmouth City Council

It was

Proposed by Councillor Jeanette Smith

Seconded by Councillor Claire Udy

That notice of motion (a) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Darren Sanders Seconded by Councillor Dave Ashmore

- a. In Par 4, line 3, insert "including Portsmouth" after UK
- b. Insert new paragraph 5, thus.

Council welcomes the work that has occurred since 2018 to cut their use. This includes:

- Stopping the use of the MMC pro chemical to treat areas of moss
- Stopping the use of the Dicophar chemical to treat weedy grassed areas
- Trialling the use of soda crystals in 2018 and Foamstream in 2019
- Designing out the need to use any chemicals at all through:
  - Reducing over planting
  - Ensuring repairs are done well first time, so not allowing weeds to grow
  - Using bulk mulch as a natural suppressant while plants are growing
  - Using Westermann weed ripper machines and longhandled scrapers and as an alternative to pesticides
  - Using battery-operated equipment including hedge cutters, strimmers and blowers
  - Backing new wildflower meadows across the city, for instance at Tamworth Park and Lake Road
- c. Insert new paragraph 6, thus:

Council notes the work that has already been done to remove pesticides in total. It also notes the issues working with the alternative machinery required to do this pose, in particular the increased risk of manual handling injuries such as Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome. Council recognises the importance of keeping its workers safe.

d. Insert new Par 7, thus:

Council notes that many of the pesticide 'bans' have been done over a period of time. For instance:

- Green-run Brighton and Hove taking three years;
- Labour-run Bristol and Cambridge taking two years;
- Trafford when the Conservatives were the biggest party and Lib Dem Colchester taking a year.
- e. Para 5 (to be new para 8) Delete all and including from the word " immediately" and replace with: "go further and support the banning of all forms of pesticides used on all areas of land under the authorities' control in principle "
- f. Insert new Par 9, thus:

Council asks Cabinet to report at the earliest opportunity on the practical implications of doing that, in particular:

- The cost of achieving this and from where the money can be found
- How we can maintain worker safety, especially through compliance with the Control of Vibration at Work Regulations 2005
- The concerns those who would implement this scheme have raised around how to treat objects such as gravestones and Japanese Knotweed

Following debate the mover of the original motion did not wish to subsume the amendment into the motion.

Upon being put to a vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Darren Sanders was **CARRIED**.

Upon being put to a vote the substantive notice of motion incorporating the amendment in the name of Councillor Darren Sanders was **CARRIED**.

### **RESOLVED** that

At last count, 38 different toxic pesticides were being used in UK towns and cities. They are sprayed in parks, playgrounds and other green spaces, road verges, pavements and around shopping centres, hospitals and schools. Almost all of the pesticides used are weed killers designed to do nothing more than keep places looking 'neat and tidy'.

These chemicals are linked to an array of <a href="https://example.com/health-problems">health</a> problems including cancer, asthma, birth defects and reproductive issues. Vulnerable groups such as <a href="https://example.com/chicken-problems">children</a>, pregnant mothers and the elderly are particularly at risk.

Wildlife such as bees, birds and hedgehogs are increasingly seeking refuge in our towns and cities. However, the overuse of pesticides in urban areas is contaminating the natural resources that they depend upon. Our pets can also be susceptible to pesticide poisoning.

But urban pesticide use is unnecessary. There are many viable and cost-effective <u>non-chemical alternatives</u> available and more than <u>60 towns and cities across the UK</u> including Portsmouth have already taken action to end or significantly reduce their pesticide use.

Council welcomes the work that has occurred since 2018 to cut their use. This includes:

- Stopping the use of the MMC pro chemical to treat areas of moss
- Stopping the use of the Dicophar chemical to treat weedy grassed areas
- Trialling the use of soda crystals in 2018 and Foamstream in 2019
- Designing out the need to use any chemicals at all through:
  - Reducing over planting
  - Ensuring repairs are done well first time, so not allowing weeds to grow
  - Using bulk mulch as a natural suppressant while plants are growing
  - Using Westermann weed ripper machines and longhandled scrapers and as an alternative to pesticides
  - Using battery-operated equipment including hedge cutters, strimmers and blowers
  - Backing new wildflower meadows across the city, for instance at Tamworth Park and Lake Road

Council notes the work that has already been done to remove pesticides in total. It also notes the issues working with the alternative machinery required to do this pose, in particular the increased risk of manual handling injuries such as Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome. Council recognises the importance of keeping its workers safe.

Council notes that many of the pesticide 'bans' have been done over a period of time, such as:

- Green-run Brighton and Hove taking three years;
- Labour-run Bristol and Cambridge taking two years;
- Trafford when the Conservatives were the biggest party and Lib Dem Colchester taking a year.

This council calls on the administration to go further and support the banning of all forms of pesticides used on all areas of land under the authorities' control in principle.

Council asks Cabinet to report at the earliest opportunity on the practical implications of doing that, in particular:

- The cost of achieving this and from where the money can be found
- How we can maintain worker safety, especially through compliance with the Control of Vibration at Work Regulations 2005
- The concerns those who would implement this scheme have raised around gravestones and Japanese Knotweed.

### 56. Time to pause and rethink the Tipner West project

It was

Proposed by Councillor Cal Corkery Seconded by Councillor Judith Smyth

That notice of motion (b) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor Hugh Mason

To delete the penultimate paragraph, which reads "It's time to pause and rethink the Tipner West project to ensure value for money is achieved, the environment is protected and the maximum possible levels of affordable housing are delivered."

Following debate the mover of the original motion did not wish to subsume this amendment into the motion.

Under Standing Order 48b eight members of the Council requested a recorded vote on the motion proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson.

Council voted on the motion proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson and seconded by Councillor Hugh Mason

### The following members voted in favour

Councillor Dave Ashmore
Councillor Chris Attwell
Councillor Stuart Brown
Councillor Ian Holder
Councillor Suzy Horton
Councillor Lee Hunt
Councillor Leo Madden

Councillor George Madgwick
Councillor Hugh Mason
Councillor Darren Sanders
Councillor Lynn Stagg
Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Councillor Rob Wood

### The following members voted against

Councillor Matthew Atkins Councillor Kirsty Mellor Councillor Simon Bosher Councillor Terry Norton

### 12 13 October 2021

Councillor Ryan Brent
Councillor Tom Coles
Councillor Cal Corkery
Councillor George Fielding
Councillor Charlotte Gerada
Councillor Lewis Gosling
Councillor Graham Heaney
Councillor Hannah Hockaday
Councillor Jo Hooper
Councillor Lee Mason

Councillor Scott Payter-Harris
Councillor Gemma New
Councillor Robert New
Councillor Jeanette Smith
Councillor John Smith
Councillor Judith Smyth
Councillor Benedict Swann
Councillor Linda Symes
Councillor Claire Udy
Councillor Daniel Wemyss

### The following member abstained

Councillor Jason Fazackarley

The amendment proposed by Cllr Vernon-Jackson was therefore **LOST**.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Scott Payter-Harris Seconded by Councillor Terry Norton

In the final paragraph, delete the words "a future." and replace with "the December"

Following debate, the proposer of the original motion agreed to subsume this amendment into the motion.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Graham Heaney Seconded by Councillor George Fielding

At the end of para 4 add:

"This includes £4.6m in consultancy fees of which £4.2m went to one firm of "property & planning experts" who continue to play an active role in promoting the scheme both within and outside of the council."

After para 6 add new para reading:

"While the draft Local Plan agreed by Cabinet does contain a number of alternative options for the Tipner West site, it seems to be framed in a way that prioritises the 'super-peninsula' land reclamation proposal being promoted by the Strategic Developments service. It is regrettable that Cabinet missed the opportunity within the draft Local Plan to make clear any objection to government housebuilding targets on the grounds of environmental and land supply constraints."

Delete part of final sentence reading:

"in advance of the draft local plan being published and consulted on"

Following debate, the proposer of the original motion agreed to subsume this amendment into the motion

Under Standing Order 48b eight members of the Council requested a recorded vote on the substantive motion as proposed by Cllr Cal Corkey and incorporating the subsumed amendments proposed by Cllr Scott Payter-Harris and Cllr Graham Heaney.

Council voted on the substantive motion.

### The following members voted in favour

**Councillor Matthew Atkins** Councillor Kirsty Mellor Councillor Simon Bosher Councillor Terry Norton Councillor Ryan Brent Councillor Scott Payter-Harris Councillor Gemma New Councillor Tom Coles Councillor Cal Corkery Councillor Robert New Councillor George Fielding Councillor Jeanette Smith Councillor Charlotte Gerada Councillor John Smith Councillor Lewis Gosling Councillor Judith Smvth Councillor George Heaney Councillor Benedict Swann Councillor Hannah Hockaday Councillor Linda Symes Councillor Jo Hooper Councillor Claire Udy Councillor George Madgwick **Councillor Daniel Wemyss** Councillor Lee Mason

### No Councillors voted against

### The following members abstained

Councillor Dave Ashmore
Councillor Chris Attwell
Councillor Stuart Brown
Councillor Jason Fazackarley
Councillor Ian Holder
Councillor Suzy Horton
Councillor Lee Hunt
Councillor Leo Madden
Councillor Hugh Mason
Councillor Darren Sanders
Councillor Lynn Stagg
Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Councillor Rob Wood

The motion was therefore **CARRIED**.

### **RESOLVED** that

Increasing numbers of local people are raising concerns about the Liberal Democrat administration's plans for Tipner. The council has already spent over £10m of taxpayer cash drawing up plans which would see the creation of a 'super-peninsula' through large scale land reclamation at Tipner West.

We share the concerns of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) who are opposing the destruction of the intertidal mudflats that are legally protected as sites of scientific and environmental importance. Over

23,000 people have signed their petition calling for the proposals not to go ahead but the council doesn't seem to be listening.

Not only would the plans cause unacceptable damage to the local environment and wildlife, we are also concerned the kind of development being pursued is not what our city needs. Despite most of the Tipner West site being publicly owned land the current proposals include just 30% affordable housing meaning the majority of new properties on the site will be expensive luxury homes out of reach of many local people.

The council has already spent some £10.8 million on the Tipner regeneration proposals and expects to incur another £7.5 million getting it to the stage of applying for planning permission (figures correct as of report to Cabinet in October 2020). This includes £4.6m in consultancy fees of which £4.2m went to one firm of "property & planning experts" who continue to play an active role in promoting the scheme both within and outside of the council.

Members of the Liberal Democrat Cabinet have themselves expressed concerns about being able to secure permission for their current proposals but are still prepared to gamble £18.3 million of public money on something that may well not go ahead.

Several important stakeholders including the HIWWT, the RSPB, The Portsmouth Society, heritage groups and others are against the current proposal and are asking for more extensive and effective consultation. This wider community engagement remit should include exploration of alternative proposals and options for developing the site.

While the draft Local Plan agreed by Cabinet does contain a number of alternative options for the Tipner West site, it seems to be framed in a way that prioritises the 'super-peninsula' land reclamation proposal being promoted by the Strategic Developments service. It is regrettable that Cabinet missed the opportunity within the draft Local Plan to make clear any objection to government housebuilding targets on the grounds of environmental and land supply constraints.

It's time to pause and rethink the Tipner West project to ensure value for money is achieved, the environment is protected and the maximum possible levels of affordable housing are delivered.

Full Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to bring a report on the Tipner West project to the December Full Council meeting as a matter of urgency. This report should update councillors and members of the public on the current status of the project, including total spend to date. This report must also include consideration of viable alternative options for the site and set out a timeline for further decisions to be made.

Cllr Ryan Brent joined the meeting at 16:25.

The Lord Mayor adjourned the meeting for a short break at 17:03.

The Lord Mayor reconvened the meeting at 17:24.

### 57. Parking for domiciliary care workers when working in Portsmouth

As previously advised by the Lord Mayor this item had been withdrawn from the agenda by the proposer of the motion, Councillor Simon Bosher.

### 58. Supporting a ban on conversion therapy

It was

Proposed by Councillor Stuart Brown Seconded by Councillor Claire Udy

That notice of motion (d) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

Following the debate, under Standing Order 48b eight members of the Council requested a recorded vote on the motion.

Council voted on the motion.

### The following members voted in favour

Councillor Dave Ashmore Councillor George Madgwick Councillor Hugh Mason Councillor Chris Attwell Councillor Simon Bosher Councillor Lee Mason Councillor Ryan Brent Councillor Kirsty Mellor Councillor Stuart Brown Councillor Terry Norton Councillor Tom Coles Councillor Scott Payter-Harris Councillor Cal Corkery Councillor Gemma New Councillor Jason Fazackarley Councillor Robert New Councillor George Fielding Councillor Darren Sanders Councillor Charlotte Gerada Councillor Jeanette Smith Councillor Lewis Gosling Councillor John Smith Councillor Judith Smyth Councillor Graham Heaney Councillor Hannah Hockadav Councillor Lynne Stagg Councillor Benedict Swann Councillor Ian Holder Councillor Jo Hooper Councillor Linda Symes Councillor Suzy Horton Councillor Claire Udy Councillor Lee Hunt Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Councillor Leo Madden Councillor Daniel Wemyss Councillor Rob Wood

### The following members voted against

Councillor Matthew Atkins

### No members abstained from voting

The motion was therefore **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED that this Council calls on the Government to follow through on the promises made, not just in this year's Queen's Speech, but for the past three years, to ban the practise of so-called conversion therapy.

This Council calls on the Relevant Government Department & Minister to introduce an effective ban on conversion therapy within England, supported by a programme of work to help tackle these practices in all their forms.

Furthermore this Council asks Cabinet to highlight and promote the continued support, counselling and advocacy our local groups provide to members of the LGBT+ Community here in Portsmouth, recognising the excellent work done by local people and such as Portsmouth Pride, The 4U Youth Group, and our LGBTQ+ Champions, and extends it's thanks and support to them.

### 59. Tackling cyber-bullying

It was

Proposed by Councillor Hannah Hockaday Seconded by Councillor Daniel Wemyss

That notice of motion (e) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Suzy Horton
Seconded by Councillor Dave Ashmore
After the fourth paragraph ending "...and quality of life due to cyberbullying and misinformation."
Add:

Locally, the council commends:

- The creative "Trolls" campaign developed though the Portsmouth Childrens Safeguarding Partnership which helps children and young people to understand cyber bullying for what it is and to respond appropriately, seeking support from adults in their lives. This awardwinning campaign was the brainchild of a PCC officer; it started several years ago and this Summer saw the latest trolls products (including books and videos), being rolled out across the whole of Hampshire with support from HCC, SCC and the Isle of Wight.
- The investment in the Training of Cyber Ambassadors in all secondary schools in the city. This is a scheme develop by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and follows a peer-led approach by skilling-up a small number of students on key online safety issues. These informed students then pass on their learning and offer helpful support to their peers promoting good digital citizenship and civility.
- The Extensive information for children and parents on the Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership website about how to stay safe on-line and how to report cyberbullying

- The Portsmouth Education Partnership toolkit on reducing bullying including cyber bullying originally produced in 2018
- Planned workshop in Autumn for schools and colleges on peer sexual abuse in schools and colleges following the report which Ofsted published last month
- Anti-Bullying Conferences 2018 and 2019
- Support for parents regarding bullying of SEND children via the Local Offer website
- Embedding Restorative Practice as 'the way we work in Portsmouth' with more and more schools being trained and embracing this way of behaving and being.

Amend the fifth paragraph to read:

"Council calls on the administration to continue this positive work and to support schools and other partners in promoting positivity and courtesy online..."

Add a final paragraph as below:

"The council considers that despite the progress made in recognising cyber-bullying, that such examples as the racist cyber-bullying of the England football players following the Euro 2021 Final, indicates that there needs to be a collective commitment to extend and expand local commitment whilst calling for national legislative powers."

Following debate, the proposer of the original motion, Cllr Hannah Hockaday agreed to subsume the amendment put by Cllr Suzy Horton into the motion.

Following a vote, the substantive motion incorporating the amendment was declared **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED that the council notes and commends the progress made in increasing the awareness of cyberbullying, the negative and detrimental mental health implications that can occur as a result, as well as the embedding within the school curriculum and within the community.

The council supports the further accountability demanded upon social media companies by the government online safety bill and commends the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioners new programme designed to help secondary pupils stay safe online.

However, more legislative measures must be encouraged and brought forward in order to deter cyberbullying and protect against instances such as hate crime and the negative impact on mental health. The wide-scale ability to share non-factual information on social media about individuals, young people and local businesses is abhorrent. Social media firms should be further held to account.

Therefore, the council requests that the Chief Executive and all leaders of political groups write to the Secretary of State and Ministers for

Digital, Culture, Media and Sport as well as the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner to further lobby and investigate increased legislative measures to mitigate the possible decline in any individual's mental health (including businesses) and quality of life due to cyberbullying and misinformation.

### Locally, the council commends:

- The creative "Trolls" campaign developed though the Portsmouth Childrens Safeguarding Partnership which helps children and young people to understand cyber bullying for what it is and to respond appropriately, seeking support from adults in their lives. This awardwinning campaign was the brainchild of a PCC officer; it started several years ago and this Summer saw the latest trolls products (including books and videos), being rolled out across the whole of Hampshire with support from HCC, SCC and the Isle of Wight.
- The investment in the Training of Cyber Ambassadors in all secondary schools in the city. This is a scheme develop by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and follows a peer-led approach by skilling-up a small number of students on key online safety issues. These informed students then pass on their learning and offer helpful support to their peers promoting good digital citizenship and civility.
- The Extensive information for children and parents on the Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership website about how to stay safe on-line and how to report cyberbullying
- The Portsmouth Education Partnership toolkit on reducing bullying including cyber bullying originally produced in 2018
- Planned workshop in Autumn for schools and colleges on peer sexual abuse in schools and colleges following the report which Ofsted published last month
- Anti-Bullying Conferences 2018 and 2019
- Support for parents regarding bullying of SEND children via the Local Offer website
- Embedding Restorative Practice as 'the way we work in Portsmouth'
  with more and more schools being trained and embracing this way of
  behaving and being.

Council calls on the administration to continue this positive work and to support schools and other partners in promoting positivity and courtesy online in Portsmouth. Council also places on record its thanks to city MP's Stephen Morgan and The Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt for their work in Parliament around tackling cyber-bullying.

The council considers that despite the progress made in recognising cyber-bullying, that such examples as the racist cyber-bullying of the England football players following the Euro 2021 Final, indicates that there needs to be a collective commitment to extend and expand local commitment whilst calling for national legislative powers.

### 60. Bodmin Green

It was

Proposed by Councillor Jo Hooper Seconded by Councillor Gemma New

That notice of motion (f) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

Following debate, this was put to the vote and CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the proposed Bodmin Green echelon parking scheme in Paulsgrove, will provide an essential resource to local residents and the Victory Primary School. The project was originally conceived in the years 2011 and 2012, and is well remembered by former Councillors and residents alike, who now welcome the implementation of this much needed, and previously anticipated facility.

Unfortunately, the programme stalled in the past, but the Council have now been approached by residents, former cross party Councillors and the Victory Primary School to address the issue of the lost facility

The Council should be reassured that a considerable amount of work has already been committed to the design of the scheme, which will benefit both residents and the school, where the pick up and drop off of pupils can be problematic on the busy thoroughfare that is Allaway Avenue.

Multiple meetings have now taken place on site and within the civic offices, and the scheme has been fully designed and costed. Officers have confirmed that the funding is available.

Housing Officers have also been fully engaged on this project, as the Council department in ownership of the land. It is envisaged that they will manage the car park with multi use echelon parking in mind, ensuring that both residents and the school have fair and equitable usage to best suit their needs. Matters will also be subject to resident consultation in order to ensure harmonious usage is provided and maintained, which takes the bespoke needs of multiple users into account.

Thank you to the multiple officers involved across regeneration and housing for all of their hard work and vision in regard to this project. It must also be stipulated that the engineer's design is a thoughtful undertaking that both respects the green credentials of the site, allowing the vast majority of leisure space to remain, whilst etching the echelon parking to the northern and western boundaries of Bodmin Green. Thank you as well to the staff from the housing department for responding to engineers' requests for meetings to discuss this crucial provision.

Along with Penny Mordaunt MP's compelling, sensible and ultimately 'green' aspirations to reopen the halt station in Paulsgrove, this project provides a pragmatic response to trying to manage parking in the ward of the City that is the most geographically remote, as well as assisting a local school. The need is obvious and essential.

This Council requests that the Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation bring forward a report outlining the timescale for approval and implementation of the scheme.

### 61. House Building Target

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor Hugh Mason

That notice of motion (g) as set out on the agenda be adopted,

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Judith Smyth Seconded by Councillor Cal Corkery

To add the additional paragraph to the end of the motion:

"We note the recent SOS correspondence, shared with us by the Leader of the council, in which the government has stated that any local authority which disagrees with the housing targets suggested by the standard formula, for example due to land supply or environmental constraints, should use their local plan development process to evidence this and propose an alternative local target. Council regrets the missed opportunity to put a reduced target and the reason for it in the Draft Local plan currently out for consultation and confirms that everything that can be done to ensure that the next version of the Local plan contains a fully justified reduced housing target."

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Matthew Atkins Seconded by Councillor Ryan Brent

Para 1 - replace everything after "...house building target" with "on the City of Portsmouth but that the target is subject to yearly recalculation due to the fact that the Administration has failed to deliver an up to date Local Plan for several years.

Para 2 - replace everything after "The City Council" with "notes the following in objection to Central Government Housing Targets:"

Para 3 (point 1) - delete everything after "...City environment."

Para 4 (point 2), first sentence - add "projected yearly target of 855 or" between "The" and "17,000". Add "over 20 years" after "17,000",

Para 5 (point 3), first sentence - delete everything after "...affordable housing"

Para 5 (point 3) - add a second sentence to read " The current housing delivery by the Administration of 183 units of non-student accommodation in 2018/19, 80 units of housing in 2019/20 and 260 in 2020/21 falls well short of the needs of the city for affordable housing."

Para 5 (point 3), third sentence - delete everything after ".....affordable housing" and replace with " but this situation is made worse in Portsmouth by the Administration failure to identify a 5 year housing land supply as this has led to a presumption in favour of sustainable development being imposed on the city.

Delete Para 6 (point 4), which begins "The Government target of over 17,000"

Para 7, first sentence - add "to oppose central government housing targets, and" between " ...write to the Government" and "...reiterates that..." Delete everything after "...local decision"

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Darren Sanders Seconded by Councillor Lynn Stagg

In the first sentence delete the words "The City Council recognises that" Add "over" before "17,000" Replace "20 years" with "16 years"

In point 1, add after the word "wrong" the words "and neither achieved their national housing targets."

In point 2, in the first sentence, add the word "current" between the words "The target"

Delete third sentence starting with "Our roads," and replace with "With additional need to plan for employment land as well as our roads, hospital, schools, GPs and other services, this places significant pressure on current communities and the ability of the City to create high quality places that people want to live in."

Delete all of point 3 and replace with new point 3

"The Government target of over 17,000 additional homes cannot be met without significant impact on the protected habitats that surround Portsmouth. It would be wholly wrong for the Government to unaccountably require the Council to cause environmental harm by over-riding environmental protection legislation."

Delete all of point 4 and replace with new point 4

"Under the Habitats Regulations the City Council is able to seek the opinion of the Secretary of State as to whether the need to meet this imposed housing target as part of a potential redevelopment of the Tipner-Horsea Island area is an 'imperative reason of overriding public interest' justifying the scale of development required and the impacts on the ecology of the Solent Waters. Given that it is a Government imposed housing target, whether the need to meet this target is a reason of 'overriding public interest' is a matter the Government should be clear on."

In the final paragraph

Delete the words after "write to the Government" to and including the word "lower" and replace with

"to establish whether the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government is of the opinion that the housing target and the necessary associated development in the Tipner-Horsea Island area are of such overriding public interest as to justify the scale of development required and the impacts on the ecology of the Solent Waters. If the Government does not consider there to be justification then the Council demands a significantly lower housing target so that environmentally sensitive areas are not forced into development by the Government"

Following debate, the mover of the original motion, Councillor Vernon-Jackson, agreed to subsume the amendment proposed by Councillor Darren Sanders into the substantive motion.

The mover of the original motion, Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson, did not wish to subsume the amendments proposed by Councillor Judith Smyth or Councillor Matthew Atkins into the motion.

Upon being put to a vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Judith Smyth was **CARRIED.** 

Upon being put to a vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Matthew Atkins was **CARRIED.** 

Council voted on the substantive motion which incorporated the amendments proposed by Councillor Judith Smyth, Councillor Matthew Atkins and Councillor Darren Sanders.

### **RESOLVED** that

The Government have imposed a house building target on the City of Portsmouth but that the target is subject to yearly recalculation due to the fact that the Administration has failed to deliver an up to date Local Plan for several years.

The City Council notes the following in objection to Central Government Housing Targets:

- 1. The decision on housing need in Portsmouth should be made by local people in Portsmouth and not imposed by Government since local people understand the opportunities, constraints and complexities of the City environment. Both Conservative and Labour led Governments have imposed house building targets and neither achieved their national housing targets on the City of Portsmouth but that the target is subject to yearly recalculation due to the fact that the Administration has failed to deliver an up to date Local Plan for several years.
- 2. The current projected yearly target of 855 or 17,000 over 20 years is too many. Portsmouth is an island with virtually no unprotected land to expand into. With additional need to plan for employment land as well as our roads, hospital, schools, GPs and other services, this places significant pressure on current communities and the ability of the City to create high quality places that people want to live in.
- 3. The Government target of over 17,000 additional homes cannot be met without significant impact on the protected habitats that surround Portsmouth. It would be wholly wrong for the Government to unaccountably require the Council to cause environmental harm by over-riding environmental protection legislation. The current housing delivery by the Administration of 183 units of non-student accommodation in 2018/19, 80 units of housing in 2019/20 and 260 in 2020/21 falls well short of the needs of the city for affordable housing. Government rules in many cases allow developers to avoid building any affordable housing but this situation is made worse in Portsmouth by the Administration's failure to identify a 5 year housing land supply as this has led to a presumption in favour of sustainable development being imposed on the city.
- 4. Under the Habitats Regulations the City Council is able to seek the opinion of the Secretary of State as to whether the need to meet this imposed housing target as part of a potential redevelopment of the Tipner-Horsea Island area is an 'imperative reason of overriding public interest' justifying the scale of development required and the impacts on the ecology of the Solent Waters. Given that it is a Government imposed housing target, whether the need to meet this target is a reason of 'overriding public interest' is a matter the Government should be clear on.

The City Council therefore asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Government to oppose central government housing targets, reiterate that the decision on the amount and sort of housing should be a local decision and to establish whether the Secretary of State for Housing

Communities and Local Government is of the opinion that the housing target and the necessary associated development in the Tipner-Horsea Island area are of such overriding public interest as to justify the scale of development required and the impacts on the ecology of the Solent Waters. If the Government does not consider there to be justification then the Council demands a significantly lower housing target so that environmentally sensitive areas are not forced into development by the Government.

We note the recent SOS correspondence, shared with us by the Leader of the council, in which the government has stated that any local authority which disagrees with the housing targets suggested by the standard formula, for example due to land supply or environmental constraints, should use their local plan development process to evidence this and propose an alternative local target. Council regrets the missed opportunity to put a reduced target and the reason for it in the Draft Local plan currently out for consultation and confirms that everything that can be done to ensure that the next version of the Local plan contains a fully justified reduced housing target.

### 62. Permanent Closure of Eastney Swimming Pool

It was

Proposed by Councillor John Smith Seconded by Councillor Matthew Atkins

That notice of motion (h) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Judith Smyth Seconded by Councillor Graham Heaney

Add new paragraph

"The Cabinet be asked to consult on any plan to provide affordable public swimming pools in the south of the city and consider immediate provision of vital swimming lessons for young children through the coming years. Membership of the university pool and access to the pool at charter academy should be taken into account including proposals to make these genuinely affordable to families."

Following debate, the proposer of the original motion agreed to subsume the amendment proposed by Cllr Smyth into the motion.

Following the vote the substantive motion incorporating the amendment was declared **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED that the Council regrets the closure of Eastney Swimming Pool.

The Cabinet be asked to consult on any plan to provide affordable public swimming pools in the south of the city and consider immediate provision of vital swimming lessons for young children through the coming years. Membership of the university pool and access to the pool at charter academy should be taken into account including proposals to make these genuinely affordable to families.

#### 63. Biodiversity enhancement in urban Portsmouth

It was

Proposed by Councillor George Fielding Seconded by Councillor Charlotte Gerada

That notice of motion (i) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Simon Bosher Seconded by Councillor Scott Payter-Harris

Under Council notes, in the third bullet point, delete the words ", the Labour Party want more to be done and action to be quicker." And replace with " this Council believes that more can be done to improve our City"

Delete both bullet points under "Council resolves:" and replace with

- To request that Scrutiny Management Panel and the Transport, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee reviews all relevant policies and practices on urban biodiversity that might harm or undermine local ecosystems, such as grass cutting across the city, rewilding on allotment plots to improve habitats for insects, including bees. In general, approaches should aim to positively contribute to rewilding and support other approaches to re "greening" Portsmouth.
- That Scrutiny seek views from residents, interested community groups and ward councillors.
- That Scrutiny report back with recommendations to Cabinet for consideration.

Following debate, the proposer of the original motion agreed to subsume this amendment into the motion.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Darren Sanders Seconded by Councillor Dave Ashmore

- 1. Delete second paragraph
- 2. In par 3, line 4, replace "the Labour Party" with "people of all parties and none"
- 3. Replace Par 6 with the following:

 Since May 2018, the Council has done much, much more than just inform people about biodiversity. It has acted, for instance on the city's housing estates alone:

	Plants, shrubs & native	No. of	No. of Daffodil
Area	hedging	Trees	Bulbs
Somerstown	2,000	170	22,390
Paulsgrove	2,000	16	47,000
Landport &			
Portsea	2,800	167	128,850
Buckland	23,500	330	118,900
Total	30,300	684	317,140

In addition, the following wildflower and meadow areas are sown each year, starting between 2018 and 2021:

- Baffins ward: Copnor Bridge, the junction of St Mary's Road and Milton Road at Kingston Prison, Tamworth Park
- Central Southsea ward: Devonshire Avenue
- Charles Dickens ward: Lake Road, Queens Street
- Copnor ward: College Park, Althorpe Drive, Copnor Road
- Cosham ward: Portsmouth Road
- Drayton and Farlington ward: Zetland Field, Eastern Road roundabout
- Eastney and Craneswater ward: Canoe Lake
- Milton ward: Bransbury Park, Bransbury Gardens, St James' Green, Milton Park
- Nelson ward: Mills Road
- Paulsgrove ward: Hempsted Green
- St Jude ward: Clarendon Gardens, Western Parade, Southsea Castle Moat, Rock Gardens, Ladies Mile
- St Thomas ward: Pembroke Triangle

The following areas are being trialled for 're-wilding:' being left to allow development of natural grassland / wildflowers, rather than being subject to a regular mowing regime

- Copnor ward: East Bastion (seaward side),
- Cosham ward: Langstone Gardens
- Fratton ward: Kingston Rec play area
- Hilsea ward: Alexandra Park sports field
- Milton ward: behind Glasgow Road, Kingsley Road
- Nelson ward: Stamshaw Park
- St Jude ward: Duisburg Way, Pyramids (seaward side), Clarence Parade car park
- St Thomas ward: Long Curtain banks (north and south facing),
   Pembroke Gardens, Pier Road (near Clarence sports ground)

Wildflowers are also being explored for South East Hampshire Rapid Transit schemes and, though the PFI, the M275 Mile End junction, the Spur Road roundabout and Oakhurst Gardens.

In addition, Council has turned about two hectares of Portsdown Hill - south of Kintyre Road, in the area around Cliffdale Gardens, the main viewpoint car park area and areas near Fort Widley - into a managed countryside site.

There are also a range of sites where different regimes have been pursued since May 2018. These include:

- Western Fort Cumberland
- Milton Common
- Foxes Forest at Hilsea Lines
- Farlington Triangle, home to one of the few natural populations of water voles in Hampshire.
- Sites affected by the sea defence project: Anchorage Park, Langstone Harbour, Milton Common and Tipner

However, more must be done. That is why the administration has asked the Council to pursue more projects, for instance:

- Wild flower turf at Atherstone Walk
- A large meadow area and with help from the Portsmouth District Bee Keeping association - a bee hive for Gloucester Terrace
- Wild flower meadows at Kingston Road
- A new meadow at Princes Place
- Living walls at Grafton Street and Estella Road
- Make the successful return of Landport Community Garden the first step towards encouraging council residents to 'grow their own'

Council welcomes and supports these initiatives. Council also recognises that it must not do this alone. Therefore it congratulates Cabinet's approval of a community greening fund to help local community groups do just that.

Council congratulates Bramble Infant School in winning the first tranche of this money. Its plans for a range of activities, including growing its own food, making its lessons more nature-oriented and encouraging children and parents to look after the trees and wildlife areas they will create, are excellent.

Council also welcomes the excellent relationship councillors have with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and how it has helped councillors on various projects, including:

- Councillor Horton and former Councillor Pitt on Fawcett Road and Frances Annie Place
- Cllrs Sanders and Stagg backing Tamworth Road residents joining the 'Wilder Portsmouth' initiative, helping local people create wildflower meadows at Tamworth Park and exploring another one on Edenbridge Road.

Council notes the Cabinet approving a greening strategy in March 2020, which committed to planting 30,000 trees by 2030. It also notes the extensive work already done, including:

- 50,000 at Horsea Island
- Working with the Tree Council to expand the MP for Portsmouth South's 'Vote 100, Plant 100' to cover the north of our city too
- Securing Tree Council funding for:
  - 200 mixed native whips on Baffins Field
  - 200 mixed native whips at Great Salterns
  - New trees on London Road, the Hilsea Sea Defence area and John Wesley Gardens
- Backing the Charles Dickens Community Orchard project, with planting in, among other places, Portsea, Buckland and - to mark D-Day - Port Solent.
- The extensive work done by the Parks department to plant hundreds of trees over the last three years.
- 4. Below Council resolves:
- a. Delete and replace Paragraph 7, sentence 1, to read: The words "To request that the Cabinet reviews and updates" with " Council welcomes the work done so far on improving the city's biodiversity and urges it to go further by asking the Cabinet to review and update"
  - Council welcomes the work done so far on improving the city's biodiversity and urges it to go further by asking the Cabinet to review and update all relevant policies and practices on urban biodiversity that might harm or undermine local ecosystems.
- b. Delete all the words after "ecosystems" and insert as a new second and third sentence:
  "In particular, there should be a full consultation with all plot holders before any changes, if any, are brought forwards. An initial consultation with all Chairs of allotment committees has seen them express real concern about increasing the amount of wilding allowed on allotments."
- c. Reinsert the current final sentence of Par 1 should form a new paragraph 2 (adding "That, " at the start to read " That, in general, approaches should aim positively to contribute to re-wilding and support other approaches to re"greening" Portsmouth."

The mover of the original motion did not wish to subsume this amendment into the motion.

Upon being put to a vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Darren Sanders was declared **LOST**.

Upon being put to the vote the substantive notice of motion incorporating the amendment proposed by Councillor Simon Bosher was declared **CARRIED**.

#### **RESOLVED** that

#### Council notes:

- Nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history. The dramatic decrease in biodiversity across the world is both caused by, and is also contributing to, the acceleration of the climate crisis.
- At present, Portsmouth City Council mows grass verges, de-weeds pavements and sends 'Dirty Plot Notices' to residents who re-wild sections of their allotments. This is despite environmental charities recommending that a proportion of allotments should be re-wilded to support biodiversity and local ecosystems.
- Whilst we are aware of the policies being developed as part of the new Local Plan, we want to accelerate implementation of a better approach to biodiversity now rather than waiting for 18 months or more to do so. When it comes to green issues, this Council believes that more can be done to improve our City.

#### Council believes:

- As part of the Council's strategy to address the climate crisis, measures to enhance biodiversity should be central. Small actions taken by residents and the Council can increase the cumulative, positive impacts of re-wilding.
- Local Authorities in the UK, and abroad, have taken a variety of measures to enhance biodiversity, such as re-wilding the tops of bus shelters or on council buildings, extensively planting wildflowers and greening built-up city areas. These are examples but the scope is virtually unlimited to make a significant impact to local biodiversity and by corollary have a direct effect upon our local environs and climate change.
- This Council should use its considerable influence and leadership to inform residents about the importance of enhancing biodiversity, by rewilding for example. Additionally the Council is asked to take such steps as are necessary to make usage of householders' areas greener and more impactful thereby supporting biodiversity- eg strategies for removal of green waste, composting, hedging etc.

#### Council resolves:

 To request that Scrutiny Management Panel and the Transport, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee reviews all relevant policies and practices on urban biodiversity that might harm or undermine local ecosystems, such as grass cutting across the city, re-wilding on allotment plots to improve habitats for insects, including bees. In general, approaches should aim to positively contribute to re-wilding and support other approaches to re "greening" Portsmouth.

- That Scrutiny seek views from residents, interested community groups and ward councillors.
- That Scrutiny report back with recommendations to Cabinet for consideration.

#### 64. Universal Credit

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor Suzy Horton

That notice of motion (j) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

Following debate, this was put to the vote and CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the City Council recognises the work the Government put in place to support families during the pandemic with the furlough scheme and the £20 uplift in Universal Credit.

The Council also recognises the work the City Council did to step in where Government funding ceased so that families with children receiving free school meals did get support in school holidays and half terms.

The Council wishes to place on record thanks to the City's Tackling Poverty Co-ordinator, the many local groups or organisations like the Hive and all the volunteers who worked in food banks and pantries across the city who worked so hard to support local families, along with support from both of the city MPs.

The Council opposes the Government's choice to end the £20 uplift in Universal Credit payments to families on the lowest incomes. This seems bizarre when those families face rising bills due to the energy crisis and the same Government's decision to use National Insurance - not income or wealth taxes - for the NHS and social care and end furlough.

Therefore, the Council asks the Leader of the Council and all Group Leaders write jointly to the Prime Minister and our local MPs to ask for a change in Government policy so the poorest families are able to survive.

#### 65. Aquind decision - Potential for Judicial Review

It was

Proposed by Councillor Graham Heaney Seconded by Councillor Judith Smyth

That notice of motion (k) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Robert New Seconded by Councillor Simon Bosher

Third paragraph, delete everything between "A public petition by..." to the final sentence starting "The City Council..." and replace with "both Members of Parliament for Portsmouth North and South respectively has been presented to the House of Commons and Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, who will shortly undertake the decision on the AQUIND interconnector scheme, with near to 10,000 signatures in total."

Following debate the mover of the original motion agreed to subsume the amendment into the motion.

Upon being put to the vote the substantive notice of motion incorporating the amendment proposed by Councillor Robert New was declared **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED that The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy is due to make a decision on an application by Aquind for the development of an interconnector through Portsmouth by 21 October.

All parties on the City Council have opposed this application as have the two local members of Parliament and there has been a significant public campaign against the proposals.

A public petition by both Members of Parliament for Portsmouth North and South respectively has been presented to the House of Commons and Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, who will shortly undertake the decision on the AQUIND interconnector scheme, with near to 10,000 signatures in total. The City Council has presented a strong case to the Planning Inspector arguing for the rejection of this proposal.

While we hope the Secretary of State will reject this proposal he may not do so. In this case Council therefore urges the Cabinet to demonstrate the city's community leadership in this vital campaign by:

- instructing officers to undertake initial work now to lead the preparation for any judicial review

- setting aside the remaining allocated budget for legal advice and support to assist with any judicial review
- commit to pursuing further funding if necessary to support this action if it were to proceed with this.

#### 66. Protecting Funds for Children and Education in Portsmouth

The Lord Mayor advised that the proposer, Councillor Terry Norton, had withdrawn this motion.

67. To determine proposed revisions to the programme of Full Council meetings for the Remainder of the current Municipal year to enable these meetings to be held in the Guildhall Auditorium, commencing 2pm (except for Annual Council which commences at 10am)

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor George Fielding

That Full Council approves the following revisions to the programme of Full Council meetings for the remainder of the municipal year to allow these meetings to be held in the Guildhall Auditorium, commencing 2pm (except for the Annual Council which commences at 10am)

November Meeting - Reschedule from Tuesday 9 November to Thursday 18 November 2021

December Meeting - Reschedule from Tuesday 7 December to Monday 13 December 2021

February Meeting - Reschedule from Tuesday 15 February to Tuesday 1 February 2022

Following debate, this was put to the vote and declared LOST.

Consequently, the previously agreed programme of Full Council meeting dates for the remainder the municipal year commencing 2pm (except for the Annual Council which commences at 10am) remain unchanged.

68. Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17 (those previously submitted for the abandoned July Council meeting have been carried forward to this meeting (1-10) - others subsequently received have also been included)

Twelve questions from members had been received under Standing Order No

Question 1 was from Councillor Cal Corkery

"Will the Cabinet Member for Housing consider the request from residents of The Courts blocks in Landport for the long term empty ESO office on their estate to be converted into a community space?"

This question was answered by the Cabinet member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness, Councillor Darren Sanders.

There were no supplementary questions.

Question 2 was from Councillor Jeanette Smith

When will an updated budget for Communities & Central Services be published within a decision making meeting as there has been no scrutiny on this for over 2 years?

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Cabinet Member for Communities & Central Services, Councillor Chris Attwell.

Question 3 was from Councillor John Smith

"How soon after 19<sup>th</sup> July does the leader envisage the council returning to normal business?"

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Leader, Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson.

Question 4 from Councillor Linda Symes was withdrawn.

Question 5 from Councillor Bosher was withdrawn.

Question 6 from Councillor Gemma New was withdrawn.

Question 7 was from Councillor Matt Atkins

What are your future plans for the enforcement of box junctions?

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Cabinet Member for Traffic & Transportation, Councillor Lynne Stagg.

Question 8 was from Councillor Ryan Brent

When can residents of Cosham, Drayton and Farlington and Paulsgrove expect that their bins will be collected regularly on the correct day again?

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Environment, Councillor Dave Ashmore.

Question 9 from Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson was withdrawn.

Question 10 was from Councillor Jeanette Smith

When will the PCC Annual Equality Duty Report be published for 2020/2021 and what scrutiny has been completed for the report dated 2019/2020?

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Cabinet Member for Communities & Central Services.

Question 11 was from Councillor Judith Smyth

We have noted from recent SoS correspondence shared with us by the Leader that the government has stated any local authority which disagrees with the housing targets suggested by the standard formula, for example due to land supply or environmental constraints, should use their local plan development process to evidence this and propose an alternative figure. Could you please tell us if this is an approach being taken by PCC and if so detail the proposed actions to make this happen?

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Cabinet Member for Planning Policy & City Development, Councillor Hugh Mason.

Question 12 was from Councillor Tom Coles

Can the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development confirm what plans are in place for the Fox Box café at Kingston Rec following the handing over of the unit from Fratton Big Local?

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development, Councillor Ben Dowling.

#### 69. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor Suzy Horton

It was

Resolved that under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985, the press and public be excluded for the consideration of the following item (Urgent Item Under Standing Order 26 - item 7 - Regeneration of the City Centre (part thereof) compulsory purchase order resolution report) as it was likely that during the discussion there would be disclosure to them of information classified as exempt in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972.

## 70. Urgent Item Under Standing Order 26 - Regeneration of the City Centre (part thereof) compulsory purchase order resolution report

Recommendation from Cabinet from its meeting held on 5 October 2021

**Minute 83 -** Regeneration of the City Centre (part thereof) compulsory purchase order resolution report.

This was opposed to allow for debate.

It was Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson Seconded by Councillor Horton

That the recommendation from the Cabinet meeting held on 5 October 2021 be accepted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Hugh Mason Seconded by Councillor Chris Attwell

That the existing text of the recommendation following " in consultation with the Leader of the Council, " be replaced with:

"to borrow the sum required to fund the acquisition of the Delancey Assets in accordance with recommendation 2.5 and amend the Capital Programme and Authorised Borrowing limit accordingly. Any borrowing (and therefore acquisition) to be the subject of a satisfactory financial appraisal approved by the S.151 Officer and must adhere to the Prudential Code which includes the requirement to be affordable, prudent and sustainable."

The proposer of the original motion agreed to subsume the amendment into it.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the substantive recommendation incorporating the amendment was **CARRIED**.

#### **RESOLVED** that

authority is delegated to the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to borrow the sum required to fund the acquisition of the Delancey Assets in accordance with recommendation 2.5 and amend the Capital Programme and Authorised Borrowing limit accordingly. Any borrowing (and therefore acquisition) to be the subject of a satisfactory financial appraisal approved by the S.151 Officer and must adhere to the Prudential Code which includes the requirement to be affordable, prudent and sustainable.

J		
Lord Mayor		

The meeting concluded at 0.07 am.



## Agenda Item 8



Title of meeting: Cabinet

Full Council

**Date of meeting:** Cabinet 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

Full Council 9th November 2021

Subject: Portsmouth Youth Offending Team (PYOT) Annual Youth

Justice Strategic Plan 2021-2023

**Report by:** Lisa Morgan, PYOT Service Leader.

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: Yes

#### 1. Purpose of report

1.1 To share with Cabinet and Full Council details of the Portsmouth Youth Offending Team Partnership Management Board's (PYOT) Strategic Youth Justice Plan 2021-23 (Appendix 1) and seek approval for that Plan.

#### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet to approve the plan and the priorities set out within it.
- 2.2 Cabinet recommends the plan is approved by full council.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Strategic Youth Justice Plan 2021-23 has been agreed by members of the PYOT Partnership Management Board and requires final approval by full council in line with governance processes.
- 3.2 This Plan has been updated following a review of the previous plans and objectives and in accordance with the current operational and strategic priorities as agreed by the PYOT Partnership Management Board.
- 3.3 The Plan notes achievements to date and identifies a range of partnership working activities which are in place. It also highlights work planned for 2021-23 in respect of key performance indicators and other aspects of our work.



#### 4. Reasons for recommendations

4.1 Local Authorities have a statutory duty to submit an annual youth justice plan relating to their provision of youth justice services to the Youth Justice Board (YJB), which can be published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State. Key areas of content are stipulated within guidance issued by YJB, subject to local arrangements for governance and sign off. The Strategic Plan 2021-23 has been agreed by members of the PYOT Partnership Management Board based on analysis of current risks and needs. It now requires approval by Cabinet in line with local governance processes and, subsequently, recommendation to Full Council for adoption as the statutory plan.

#### 5. Integrated impact assessment

- 5.1 An integrated impact assessment is not required as the recommendations do not have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the specific protected characteristics as described in the Equality Act 2010 for the following reasons:
  - 5.1.1 It is a statutory requirement for us to produce Youth Justice Strategic plan under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998
  - 5.1.2 The Youth Justice plan is subject to an annual review to ensure the plan is up to date and relevant, and partner agencies have had the opportunity to comment on the review of the strategy for example: the PYOT Management Board.
  - 5.1.3 The overall aim to update on the progress made to date and to make clear the objectives, priorities and necessary changes that are still required to improve service delivery within the PYOT and wider partnership.
  - 5.1.4 The review does not include any changes to the service provision or policy so an EIA is not required in this instance.

#### 6. Legal implications

- 6.1 Section 40(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 ("the Act") provides that::
- (1) It shall be the duty of each local authority, after consultation with the relevant persons and bodies, to formulate and implement for each year a plan (a "youth justice plan") setting out:
  - (a) how youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded; and
  - (b) how the youth offending team or teams established by them (whether alone or jointly with one or more other local authorities) are to be composed and funded, how they are to operate, and what functions they are to carry out.
- 6.2 Further, under Section 40(4) of the Act, the local authority must submit their youth justice plan to the Youth Justice Board established under section 41 of the Act, and shall publish it in such manner and by such date as the Secretary of State may direct..
- 6.3 In accordance with Regulation 4(1) and Schedule 3 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 the Plan is to be referred to Full Council for consideration and adoption.



#### 7. Director of Finance's comments

The Portsmouth Youth Offending budget is made up of grant income and partner contributions. The Strategic Plan will need to be monitored alongside the budget, and will need to take into account any changes in income the budget might have in future years, along with changes to planned expenditure.

Signed by: Sarah Daly, Deputy Director Children and Families Services, Children, Families and Education



Append	ices:
--------	-------

#### Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Strategic Youth Justice Plan 2021-23	Appendix 1

The recommendation(s	s) set out above were a <sub>l</sub>	pproved/ approved as an	nended/ deferred/
rejected by	on		
-			
Signed by			



## PORTSMOUTH STRATEGIC YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2021-23

(As required under S40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998)

## **CONTENTS**

Section	<u>Title</u>	Page Number
1.	Introduction from the Chair of the YOT Partnership Management Board	3
2.	Vision and Strategy for Youth Justice Services in Portsmouth	4
3.	Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements	8
4.	Resources and services (including planned partnership working)	10
5.	Performance and priorities- Then, Now and Next	12
6.	Responding to COVID-19 and Recovery Roadmap	17
7.	Challenges, risks and issues	19
8.	Sign off by Core Partnership Board Members	20
Appendix 1	Portsmouth Youth Justice Strategy Delivery Plan	21

#### 1. Introduction from the Chair of the YOT Partnership Management Board

Under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, it is the duty of each Local Authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan setting out:

How youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded

need to inform our decision making and strategic delivery.

• How the youth offending team (YOT) or equivalent service will be composed and funded, how it will operate, and what functions it will carry out.

For 2020-21, our planning- like many others- focused on contingencies and responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, with tentative recovery as restrictions would allow. This year we will build more readily on our recovery focus, rebuilding our services with learning from the pandemic, recognising both the opportunities and challenges it has presented in the past 18 months.

Our plan for 2021-23 is aligned with wider strategies developed under the umbrella of the Portsmouth Children's Trust Plan 2020-23, embedded within the Portsmouth Safeguarding Strategy 2020-23 and supported by Hampshire Constabulary's Child Centred Policing Strategy. It has been developed and agreed across the Portsmouth Youth Justice partnership, working together to reduce offending and reoffending by children in Portsmouth, via the Portsmouth YOT Partnership Management Board.

We have agreed our areas of focus as: Reducing First Time Entrants, Reducing Reoffending and Reducing Use of Custody. Within these, we aim to enhance our delivery of prevention and diversion options, ensure timely and co-ordinated responses to risk and need, and embed early, constructive resettlement within our work. We will explore opportunities for family based work within YOT practice. We will also sharpen focus on diversity, identifying disproportionality where it exists, and putting in place plans for remedial action where required. Working with the local Violence Reduction Unit, we will continue to strengthen our work to reduce serious youth violence in the City and in recognition of national developments, seek to embody a 'child first' approach in all that we do. Within that, we will seek to offer increased consultation on our work and key decision making, hearing more about what our key stakeholders want and

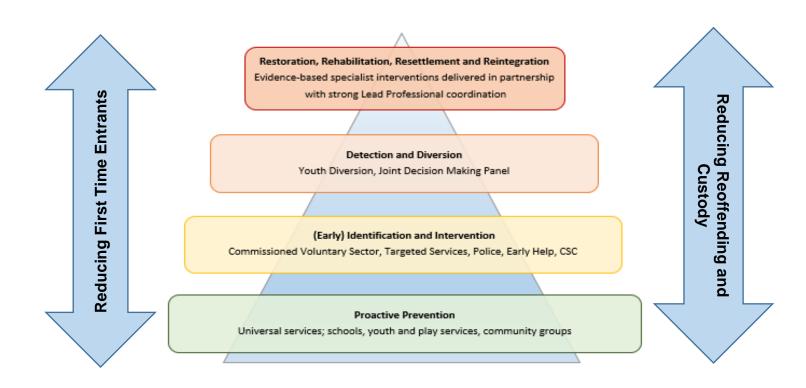
Collectively, we will identify opportunities for improvement, tackle risks and challenges which may pose barriers to success, and continually strive to focus on our key areas of priority in youth justice; recognising our achievements to date, building on our effective local partnership arrangements, and working together to meet our key aims and objectives. We have adopted this approach to ensure the oversight and delivery of youth justice services in Portsmouth is a key part of our overall work to keep our children, and our City, safe.

Superintendent Clare Jenkins, on behalf of the Portsmouth YOT Partnership Management Board.

#### 2. Vision and Strategy for Youth Justice Services in Portsmouth

Over the last 12 months, we have reflected on our approach and redesigned our strategic youth justice objectives to bring them *out of* the YOT, and *in to* a broader partnership-led approach.

We have created a model to depict our vision of how the various levels of youth justice practice and delivery, and our key performance indicators, correspond to services operating at more traditional safeguarding tiers.



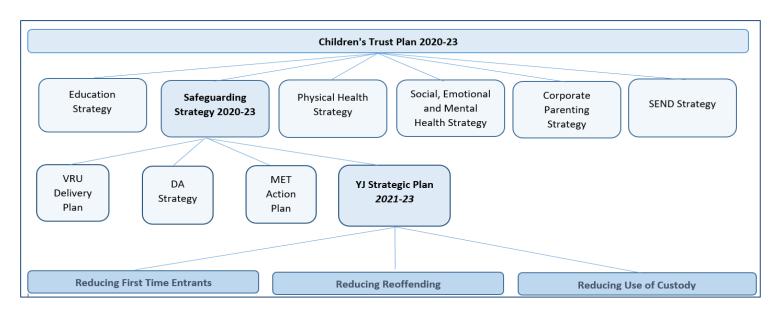
Within our day to day work, we will support staff in our own organisations- Police, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, Probation, Health, Social Care and Education- to understand the role they can play in preventing and diverting children from offending, and reducing reoffending, to actively contribute to youth justice partnership aims. The YOT Service Leader will support this via a local Preventing Offending Champions Network, and the work of the local YOT Team.

We have aligned our work in Youth Justice with the over-arching Portsmouth Children's Trust Plan 6 priority areas:

- 1. Improve education outcomes the Education Strategy
- 2. Improve early help and safeguarding the Safeguarding Strategy
- 3. Improve physical health the Physical Health Strategy
- 4. Improve Social, Emotional and Mental Health the SEMH Strategy
- 5. Improve outcomes for children in care and care leavers the Corporate Parenting Strategy
- 6. Improve outcomes for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities the SEND Strategy

Under Children's Trust Priority 2, the Safeguarding Strategy outlines 10 Strategic Objectives, of which Strategic Objective 5 is to "Reduce the prevalence and impact of offending, serious violence and custody".

The Portsmouth Youth Justice Strategic Plan has been agreed to support this, and is therefore now embedded within wider strategic planning as follows:



Deliverables are outlined in detail Appendix One. They will be monitored via the YOT Partnership Management Board, and feed in to wider partnerships aim and objectives via the Safeguarding Strategy and Children's Trust Plan.

#### During 2021-23, we will focus on the following key areas of work to support effective delivery of youth justice services:

#### Reducing First Time Entrants

- Early Identification
- · Preventative Pathways
- Effective Diversion
- · Increase identification of SLCN amongst children
- Increase workforce awareness of identification of, and responses to, criminogenic need.
- Ensure MASH pathways identify criminogenic risk and refer on appropriately through clear pathways.
- Establish FTE profile
- Establish systems through MATs for identifying cohorts who may be at risk
- Increase number of schools where (PACE) and restorative approaches are in place.
- Work in partnership with SEMH Special School and Alternative Provision to reduce exclusions and increase family support.
- Develop coherent/clear youth crime prevention offer with VCS and confirm pathways.
- Ensure violent crime prevention initiatives are offered within Schools and pathways are in place to secure additional support for children and families.
- Hold monthly FTE Multi-Agency Scrutiny Audits Feb-Aug 2021.
- Enhance threshold application and revise Triage delivery to align with MASH
- Inform local innovation via ross-Force review of PYOT/Hants area Triage decision making re: FTEs
- Identify, develop and share evidence-based interventions to tackle criminogenic need
- Establish Point Of Arrest (point of entry) Youth Diversion Scheme

#### Reducing Reoffending

- · Swift and appropriate responses
- · Strong, coordinated whole family support & challenge.
- Maximise resourcing to support targeted planning.
- Maximise 'windows of opportunity' outside YJS processes not waiting for formal YJ process.
- Embed and expand 'Preventing Offending' Champions Network across the City.
- Revise Triage processes in YOT to enhance pre-Panel assessment, including Voice of the Child.
- Improve offence to outcome timeliness.
- Ensure clear Lead Professional allocation and whole family planning is in place.
- Adopt 'Staying Close' PATH approach and enhance work with Parents/Carers/Families within YOT
- Develop work on SLCN to support earlier identification and assessment of support needs at Court.
- Identify options within the overall partnership resource through shared assessments, planning, interventions and workforce development.
- Develop Reoffending Profile
- Develop the YOT offer for children who re-offend, based on that profile and stakeholder feedback and inform partnership approaches.
- Align cross-agency plans; ensure effectiveness is regularly reviewed against shared aims
- Co-ordinate Exit/Step Up/Step Down plans across all agencies to ensure these take account of criminogenic need
- Align work with wider exploitation, safeguarding and 'at risk' approaches
- Develop City wide responses to SYV via YJB SYV checklist and

#### Reducing Use of Custody

- · Preventative targeting
- · Remand/Sentence Reduction
- · Early constructive Resettlement
- Develop Custody Cohort Profile through use of data from YOT and partnership services
- Utilise custody cohort profile to strengthen early identification and support targeted preventative interventions (link to VRU).
- Enhance interventions available across the City to reduce the incidence of repeat and most serious offences
- Establish Remand Reduction Strategy
- Develop partnership response strategies for those at risk of custodial remand and/or sentencing.
- Ensure robust bail packages are supported through partnership working.
- Revise and embed EH, CSC and YOT Joint Working Protocol specifically in relation to RILAA/YDA remands
- Embed Constructive Resettlement within YOT Practice
- Develop understanding of Constructive Resettlement practice across key areas of the partnership workforce
- Actively seek stakeholder feedback and reflect on lived experiences' to inform and improve practice in this area.
- Enhance strategic oversight of service delivery in the Secure Estate to support effective monitoring (and escalation if required)

We will review our progress at the end of 2021-22 to identify any new objectives required and refresh this plan in full at the end of 2022-23.

During this time, we will seek to embody and embed the YJB's vision is of a Child First youth justice system, defined as a system where all services:



- **Prioritise** the best interests of children and recognising their particular needs, capacities, rights and potential. All work is child-focused, developmentally informed, acknowledges structural barriers and meets responsibilities towards children.
- Promote children's individual strengths and capacities to develop their pro-social identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims. All work is constructive and future-focused, built on supportive relationships that empower children to fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to society.
- **Encourage** children's active participation, engagement and wider social inclusion. All work is a meaningful collaboration with children and their carers.
- **Promote** a childhood removed from the justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion and minimal intervention. All work minimises criminogenic stigma from contact with the system.

Within this, we will explore how to increase consultation, feedback and evaluation about our work and strategic decision making. We want to hear more about what our children, parents/carers, victims of youth crime, staff, volunteers and other key stakeholders think about what we are doing, how well we are doing it, and what they would like to us to do in future. We also want to expand the ways in which we receive these views, offering a variety of opportunities at various times and via a range of means, to ensure this is as accessible as possible. This will build on developments in technology during the COVID 19 period, but also retain and develop existing methods in recognition of the potential digital divide.

We also want to be more effective in sharing our key messages and updates, continue to develop our online presence via a new website and communicate more widely through a range of channels.

Finally, we want to explore how models of family based work can be incorporated into the YOTs delivery of frontline practice; expanding existing work done with parents and carers in relation to their children, and broadening this where possible to include effective responses to needs and risks within the wider family to encourage and support sustainable change. Working restoratively with families, we need to seek their views on this, to underpin any resulting approaches.

#### 3. Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements

#### **Overall Summary:**

Nationally, the YOT is supported and overseen by the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Ministry of Justice. Locally, it is overseen by the Portsmouth YOT Partnership Management Board which meets on a quarterly basis and is chaired by the Local Superintendent, consisting of core representatives from the 4 statutory agencies, Children's Services (including Education), Hampshire Constabulary, National Probation Service and Health. Representatives of Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Services, the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner and the lead Member for Children's Services are additional core members. Board members also attend a range of connected partnership forums, including the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, the Corporate Parenting Board, the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the Children's Trust.

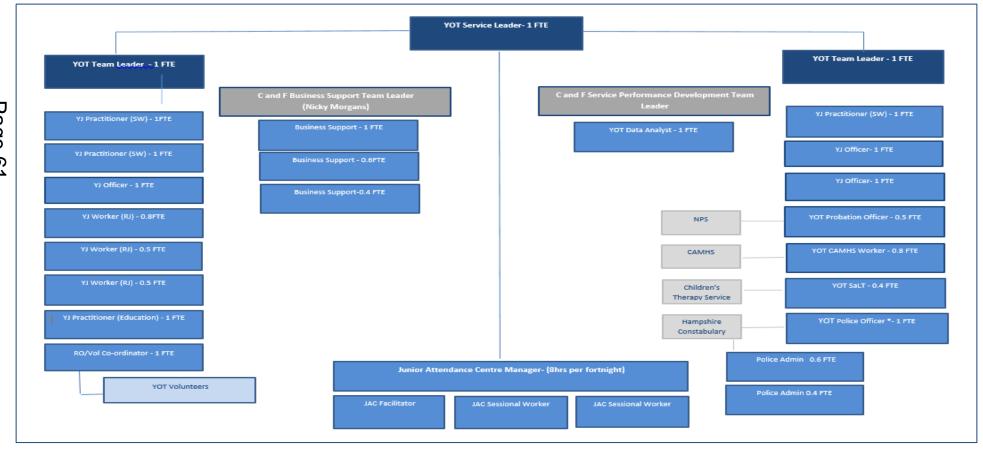
The local Board holds the YOT to account by monitoring performance against both national and local indicators, reported on a quarterly basis via the YOT Service Leader, and ensuring that it maintains compliance with the terms and conditions of YJB Grant. It oversees youth justice services for the Portsmouth City Council (PCC) Local Authority area comprising the local Youth Offending Team (YOT), Junior Attendance Centre (JAC) and Appropriate Adult (AA) services contracted out to The Appropriate Adult Service (TAAS). The YOT continues to be located with the Harm and Exploitation branch of Children and Families Services within the Children, Families and Education Directorate. Broader preventative functions (including targeted support) in the Portsmouth area are served via Early Help and Prevention services, and supported by a range of programmes offered via third sector organisations.

The YOT Management Team consists of:

- The Head of Service for Harm and Exploitation- who is embedded within the wider Children and Families Senior Management Team, reporting to the Deputy Director for Children's Services. Their remit includes domestic abuse, Prevent, edge of care and substance misuse services as well as the YOT. They attend the Safer Portsmouth Partnership (SPP) and are Co-Ordinator for the local Violence Reduction Unit.
- The YOT Service Leader- who has strong links with youth justice services in the pan-Hampshire area, attending quarterly meetings with pan-Hampshire YOT Managers who divide representation at local criminal justice forums (including the Local Criminal Justice Board) and other partnership meetings between them.
- Two YOT Team Leaders- (one of whom is on secondment whilst the substantive post-holder completes their own secondment to HMIP) who supervise frontline practice and provide operational links for youth justice functions delivered across the City including the Joint Decision Making (Triage) Panel and services to local Courts

A shared Business Support Team Leader oversees YOT administrative functions (alongside similar in two locality Social Care Teams). Other YOT functions are supported by PCC colleagues in IT, Human Resources, Finance, Workforce Development and Service Performance Development Teams. A new YOT Data Analyst post commenced in May 2020, supported via OPCC Grant funding, to support and inform our work and is based within the PCC Children and Families Service Performance Development Team.

In the wider YOT Team, Youth Justice Practitioners (Social Workers), Youth Justice Officers and a Probation Officer form the 'case management' hub of the team, sharing overall responsibility for the supervision of Out of Court Disposals and Court Orders (including custodial sentences) and providing services to the local Courts. The Referral Order and Volunteer Co-Ordinator arranges delivery of our Referral Order panels, and the recruitment, training and supervision of our YOT volunteers. Restorative Justice Practitioners deliver services to victims of youth crime in line with the Victim Code, including victim contact and interventions to repair the harm caused. Substance misuse services for under 19s are provided via the local children's Drug and Alcohol Support Service, which the YOT can refer in to, whilst in-house specialist workers are available in relation to Education, Mental Health, Speech and Language. The YOT PC performs key duties in respect of Joint Decision Making (aka Triage), delivery of Out of Court Disposals and additional monitoring of the YOT's Priority Young People Scheme (overseeing children assessed as posing a High Risk of Reoffending). JAC staff continue to offer fortnightly delivery of JAC sessions. The current structure is as follows:



#### 4. Resources and services (including planned partnership working)

#### Our YJB Effective Practice grant and partnership contributions (both cash and in kind) are outlined below:

Agency	Staffing Costs	Payments In Kind	Other delegated fund	Total
Youth Justice Board	236,530			236, 530
Local Authority	403,470		107,300	510,700
Police		76,600		76,600
Police and Crime Commissioner	71,400			71,400
Probation	5,000	22,000		27,000
Health	54,800	30,700		85,500
Other	10,000			10,000
Total	781, 200	129,300	107,300	1,017,800

With these provisions, we will meet staffing requirements and deliver our statutory functions, including supervision of bail and remands, out of court disposals and court orders (including custodial sentences) via the Youth Offending Team, delivery of a Junior Attendance Centre and provision of Appropriate Adults (via contract with The Appropriate Adult Service). The YOT also delivers non-statutory work in relation to children made subject to Youth Community Resolutions as part of our commitment to reduce First Time Entrants, and supports the work of the Courts and Secure Estate. Where grants are received, they are used in accordance with their Terms and Conditions to support our aims for continual improvement, as outlined in our delivery plan (Appendix One)

#### For 2021-22, we have already been able to achieve the following:

- Continuation of the YOT's Referral Order and Volunteer Co-Ordinator post and recruitment of a new full time YOT Data Analyst to support the YOTs data and performance functions, who will be based in the Directorate's Service Performance Development Team, via grant from the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner.
- Confirmed, recurring YOT Speech and Language Therapist at two days per week (building from previous year on year funding) to create a permanent role funded via the Clinical Commissioning Group and located within the Portsmouth Children's Therapy Service.

#### We are also intending to:

- Recruit a new permanent, full time Youth Justice Practitioner to support developments in Triage and Diversion, supported via reallocation of funds from the overall YOT budget.
- Recruit a temporary, full time YOT Parenting Support Practitioner to support the YOTs work with parents and carers, strengthen
  links with existing providers of parenting support and increase our understanding of need in this area to support all areas of YOT
  work. This will be funded via a temporary, one off uplift to the YJB Effective Practice Grant.

Outside the YOT, through effective, collaborative working, we intend to progress the aims of the Youth Justice Strategy across the YOT partnership and beyond. In 2021-23, our performance will be improved through partnership working such as:

- strengthening further the links with colleagues in Early Help and Prevention, and other services offering preventative functions, to reduce the rate of entry into the youth justice system in Portsmouth
- re-evaluating and remodelling our work in 'Education and Youth Justice' to strengthen links between the YOT and Local Authority Educations services, as well as schools, colleges and other providers for both the pre and post 16 age group
- working closely with Police partners in relation to their Child Centred Policing Strategy given the clear links to delivery of youth justice outcomes and services to victims of youth crime, including work on disproportionality and diversion (respectively).
- ensuring the YOT is represented on the Portsmouth Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) and Pan-Hampshire VRU Core Group, to influence and inform resource allocation in the City (and wider pan-Hampshire area) to prevent and reduce serious youth violence.
- aligning the YOT more closely with the Local Authority Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to support improved information gathering within existing resource, particularly in relation to children being harmed, or at risk of being harmed, by exploitation and continuing our work to reduce the criminalisation of Looked After Children.
- streamlining the monitoring of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Speech and Language contracts secured through
  integrated commissioning, and supporting continued delivery of the local children's Drug and Alcohol Support Service; seeking also
  to develop the YOT's joint working with School Nurses and Health visitors over time.
- continuing to deliver our well-established Youth to Adult Transition work in partnership with Probation and Through Care services, and enhancing our transitions work further to embed constructive resettlement practice for children in custody

#### Then:

In May 2020, our National Standards Self- Assessment was completed and submitted to the Youth Justice Board. In July 2020, the YOT Partnership Management Board reflected on its progress to date by reviewing the Strategic Plan from the previous year (2019-20) as follows:

**First Time Entrants -** Work focussed on 4 key areas- wider awareness-raising, early help and prevention, YOT intervention delivery and joint working with Police. An FTE cohort analysis supported greater understanding of key issues in this area, including service involvements outside the YOT, and generated a helpful level of debate. Good progress was made against planned actions with the outcome of raising the profile of First Time Entrants rates across key areas of the partnership. Whilst this had not yet impacted in terms of reducing First Time Entrants in Portsmouth, it moved discussion on to consider what was required from the wider partnership and what opportunities were available to develop strategic approaches which could be more cognisant of criminogenic need and exploitation.

**Reoffending-** Work in 2019/20 focussed on 6 key areas- understanding the local reoffending cohort, identifying the extent and impact of 'system' delays, strengthening support for key points of transition and vulnerability (Y2A and LAC), delivering a robust and effective Priority Young Person (PYP) Scheme, embedding processes to improve the quality of YOT's delivery, and ensuring that service development is informed by service users. Progress was made against all actions assigned, though was stronger in some areas than in others which was perhaps a consequence of both the number of actions agreed in this section, and the breadth of scope they commanded. Whilst it had yet to impact on the reoffending rate, analysis had identified key lines of enquiry and potentially two distinct cohort groups (those who commit less than 5 offences, and those who commit more) within the reoffending group.

**Use of Custody-** Work during 2019/20 focussed on 4 key areas- report writing, reflection, serious youth violence and resettlement. It was assessed that work already completed in 2018/19 had contributed to the reduction subsequently evidenced, with progress made in 2019/20 contributing to an ongoing downward trend. The ongoing delivery of the YOT's Priority Young Person scheme, with its additional management oversight and developing links to relevant services, had supported sharper oversight of and for those children, to ensure opportunities for collaboration, risk management and community sentencing were not missed. A key issue of repeat sentencing, often linked to delays in case progression, had been highlighted and informed the YOT Management Board's approach to monitoring offence to hearing timeliness which appeared to be improving, and the development of more bespoke sentencing proposals had supported sentencer confidence as well as compliance with resulting Court Orders.

Actions identified in the National Standards Self-Assessment were progressed throughout the year under challenging circumstances arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, as was our work on the 3 national Key Performance Indicators. At times, responses to COVID-19 were rightly prioritised, as was the opportunity to reflect on what was required to support COVID recovery, but our core work continued and resulted in our revised current plan.

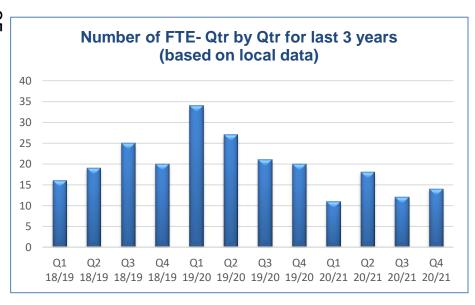
#### Now:

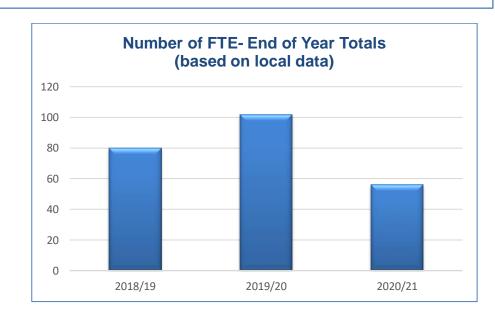
#### First Time Entrants (local data):

Children become First Time Entrants when they receive a first 'substantive outcome' i.e. Youth Caution (YC), Youth Conditional Caution (YCC) or Court conviction. For monitoring purposes, this measure is calculated in full year rolling periods as a rate per 100,000 of the local 10-17 year old population via data drawn from the Police National Computer and Office of National Statistics.

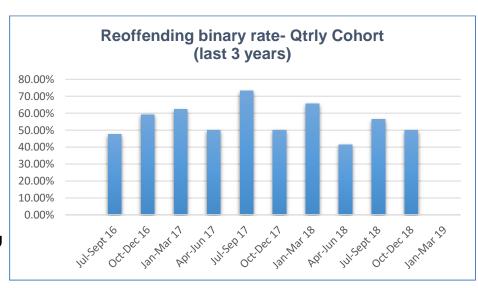
Unfortunately, due to COVID disruption, national data for 2020-21 is not available. Therefore the below reflects data gathered locally, and shows the number, rather than rate, of FTE identified via the YOTs Case Management System in the periods stated. Whilst this is not directly comparable to national data, and has yet to be checked against trends within it, it has enabled a level of monitoring throughout the year in the absence of those national returns.

Prior to the temporary cessation of national returns, the PYOT rate was considerably higher than national and comparator averages and therefore this will remain an area of priority for the Board. However, based on local figures, the number of FTE in Portsmouth has reduced over 2020/21 in comparison to the previous 2 years. In fact, local figures suggest the number in 2020/21 was almost half of that for 2019/20 (n=102, reducing to 56). Confirmation of this trend (and any resulting position amongst comparators) is awaited via publication of national data. Analysis is also planned to understand what other steps are needed to reduce our rate.

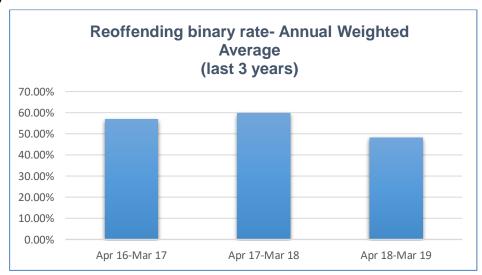




#### **Reoffending (national data):**



Page 66

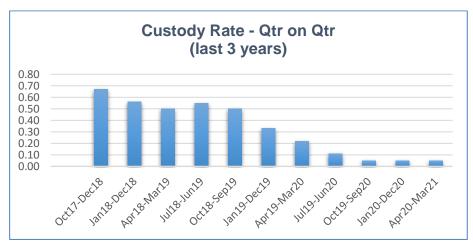


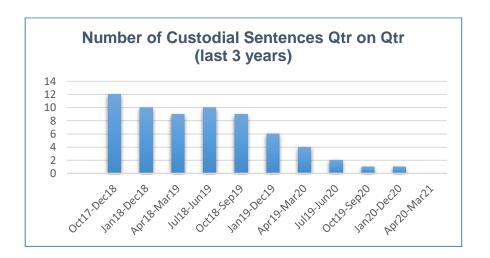
This indicator measures reoffending using data drawn from the Police National Computer (PNC). It reports on children who are released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at Court, or a caution within a rolling 3 month period. A proven reoffence is defined as any offence committed within a following 12 month period, or within a further 6 month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in Court. This is the same methodology used to calculate adult reoffending rates.

Whilst there has been some disruption to the availability of national data during the COVID period, this has largely been resolved and therefore the charts here are based on most recent national returns. Given the data lag, they do not yet evidence any impact of recent work to reduce reoffending rates, or the COVID period. However, the new YOT Data Analyst will be able to develop a greater understanding of more recent cohorts to support the Board in their work.

Figures for the more recent periods evidence fluctuation within the 3 month cohort but within that what could be an emerging trend of reduction with the binary rate (the % of children within the cohort who go on to reoffend) based on annual weighted averages. Positively, the YOT area's reoffending frequency rate (the number of re-offences per offender/reoffender) is also evidencing some reduction in most recent returns. However, reoffending rates in Portsmouth remain higher then regional, comparator and national averages, and this will therefore remain a priority area for our work.

#### **Use of custody:**





This indicator counts the number of custodial sentences given in rolling 12 month periods to young people with a local residence aged under 18 years on the date of their first hearing related to the outcome, drawn from the YOTs Case Management System. It is presented as a 'custody rate' as per 1,000 young people in the local population, taken from the Office of National Statistics midyear estimates.

The first graph shows the rate per rolling periods for the last 3 years based on national data. The second graph shows the actual number of custodial sentences imposed based on the local case management system.

PYOT have achieved an ongoing reduction in custodial sentencing over the last 3 years, which is attributed to improvements in YOT assessments and Court Report writing as well as good working relationships with Court services who have confidence in YOTs delivery. However, it is assessed that more recent reductions may also have some link to COVID disruption to the Courts, and resulting delays; it is also noted that serious youth violence may result in increases, and therefore this area will be monitored closely.

Overall, there is evidence of local improvement within all 3 key performance indicator areas from the end of year data currently available to the partnership. However, we await confirmation of delayed national returns to assess and evaluate this fully, as well as review our position amongst comparators and the regional/national average. We have also secured additional resource to support this work, through the new YOT Data Analyst post, and develop greater insight over the coming year.

#### Next:

We are keen to improve our understanding of the YOT cohort, which has been a key driver for the new YOT Data Analyst post, to inform both our strategic decision making and operational delivery over the course of this Strategic plan.

Our <u>primary</u> Board priority for 2021-22 will be reducing the rate of First Entrants becoming known to the Youth Justice System. Work has already begun to understand and address this, including collaboration with Pan-Hampshire YOTs to develop proposals for Youth Diversion to be adopted in the Hampshire Constabulary area. For this key priority, we want to secure:

- Early identification
- Preventative Pathways
- Effective Diversion

Our second Board priority for 2021-22 is to reduce reoffending by children). We want to ensure our services offer:

- Swift and appropriate responses
- Strong, co-ordinated whole family support and challenge
- Maximisation of resourcing to support targeted planning.

Reducing use of custody is also important, and will be progressed under our delivery plan mainly via relevant Heads of Service and the YOT Service Leader due to progress already made in this area (which will be subject to ongoing review). We are cognisant of the needs of children who experience custodial disposals, and of our responsibility to continue to deliver with and for them, and are therefore seeking to achieve across the partnership:

- Preventative targeting
- Remand/Sentence Reduction
- Early Constructive Resettlement

Within all of the above, we want to develop our local understanding of, and response to, disproportionality in response to the YJB's January 2021 report on remands and sentencing. Alongside this, the YOT Service Leader and Data Analyst will work with the Data and Performance Team Leader and PCC Strategic Intelligence Manager to re-assess our local targets and monitoring measures over the course of 2021-22, to create an enhanced reporting framework for 2022-23.

An Operational Team Plan will also guide the work of the YOT Management Team and frontline practitioners, incorporating actions identified in our National Standards self-assessment and subsequent COVID-related learning. This will also be a two year plan, to ensure work is appropriately prioritised and paced, reviewed at 6 monthly intervals.

#### 6. Responding to COVID-19 and Recovery Roadmap

The initial impact of what has now become known as the COVID 19 global pandemic was significant, with the closure of Civic buildings and the necessary technological adjustments to working from home. At the outset of 'lockdown', PYOT adopted 'Temporary Operating Procedures' (TOPs) to outline how key services would be delivered. These have been amended regularly since then, reflecting changes in national restrictions and local planning; associated risk assessments have also been revised as responses to the pandemic developed.

In September 2020 we submitted our COVID Recovery Plan to the Youth Justice Board. This summarised key impacts in relation to the needs of children, the needs of staff and strategic partnerships. It also outlined our intended phased approach to recovery, and recommendations under each of the National Standards for Children in the Youth Justice System to support this as restrictions eased.

Subsequently, we have had to adapt in response to a very uncertain landscape; flexing where possible, revising when not and all the while reflecting on the impact our key decisions have had on the communities we serve in order to continue to offer the best possible service, under the most challenging conditions. Following the first lockdown, the YOT Team reflected on their work during that initial period to identify areas of strength and stretch; reaching an understanding of the progress they wanted to maintain, as well as the practice they wanted to return to. Later, as further lockdowns loomed, the Team reviewed their approach again based on that learning, agreeing greater scope for face to face contact on the basis of need and engagement levels as well as risk status and intervention type. Challenges then were to manage the influx of work as the Courts resumed their work, to find suitable venues for meetings, whilst also supporting children back in to education, and balancing the demands of working from home whilst maintaining confidentiality and continuity of service.

In response, the YOT Team have revised the way their interventions are delivered, to maximise use of technology where appropriate, and build or maintain relationships through face to face contact offered in a variety of locations. Restorative practitioners have also developed ways to repair harm in the absence of more established reparation placements which could not be utilised within restrictions, and staff at JAC have made use of the time made available to remodel their sessions and ensure they are more interactive for future face to face delivery.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation's publication of the Thematic Review of YOTs' work during the pandemic in November 2020 confirmed similar experiences in other YOTs, and that our work on recovery planning had taken the right focus on managing resumption of Court work, recognition of vulnerability and awareness of education, as well as developing greater understanding of children's access to technology. A series of 'tech time' events were held amongst practitioners to support development of their skills for remote working, and the YOT have now developed a Rough Guide to Remote Communications to support this area of our work and key prompts and guides for the children we supervise. We are also awaiting collation of responses from children and their parents/carers gathered during Feedback February which we hope can further inform the way we shape our service as recovery continues.

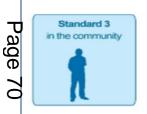
#### In terms of the key areas of our work, aligned to National Standards for Children in the Youth Justice System, we have ensured:



The Appropriate Adult Service continued to operate at Police stations in Portsmouth, though moved to an on-call model from in-situ when circumstances required. Joint Decision Making Panel (aka Triage) has continued to meet weekly throughout the pandemic, moving to a virtual platform to reduce unnecessary face to face meetings and associated travel. Out of Court Disposals have continued to be delivered via the YOT PC, with OOCD Clinics where possible, and the YOT have continued to deliver those disposals through a combination of face to face and virtual contacts.



PYOT Case Managers have continued to attend Court in person throughout the pandemic, though the number of Court Listings days has been reduced in light of restrictions across HMCTS estates. Access to Cloud Video Platform was arranged relatively quickly, but assessed as less effective for our client group and therefore more appropriate face to face delivery has been maintained. Close working with Court colleagues supported a robust approach to managing the backlog arising from Court closures between March and June 2020, and continued monitoring of the impact of reduced Listings remains in place via regular regional Court Capacity meetings attended by the PYOT Service Leader.



PYOT practitioners have maintained contact levels through a variety of means, offering flexibility to enable compliance where this has proved difficult due to family circumstances, access to buildings and/or technology. Levels of face to face contact have varied in line with restrictions in place, and their impact, with significant challenges posed during the winter months when options for 'outside' meetings were dependant on the weather. Use of technology has increased, and is likely to continue in some form, but will not wholly replace the benefits of direct, face to face work. As recovery continues, we are increasing this in relation to Panel Meetings, JAC delivery and Restorative Justice, as well as more 'standard' contacts to maintain levels of reporting. Voluntary contact has also been offered as needed.



Whilst our custody rate is low, the PYOT Service Leader has received regular updates on arrangements in the secure estate via regional meetings with key partners facilitated via the YJB Regional Advisor. PYOT staff have liaised with colleagues in the secure estate, and meetings have been held via video link when circumstances dictate. Regular updates and newsletters have been circulated when available, and release planning has been completed for those children who have experienced custody during this time.



PYOTs work in relation to Youth to Adult Transitions has continued, with meetings again moving to a virtual platform to support them taking place. Our work in resettlement has been refreshed with the development of new policy and procedures. Practitioners have also, as far as possible, worked with children and their parents/carers to support them in managing the transitions in and out of lockdown, and in and out of education, as well as the delays caused by disruption to Court work and changes in YOT practice which they will have observed first hand.

Overall, there is much to be proud of in the work we have continued to deliver during the COVID 19 pandemic, and our responses to learning along the way.

#### 7. Challenges, Risks and Issues

As we move towards longer term COVID recovery, there will be challenges in managing the impact on our stakeholders, agreeing new ways of working for staff and revising partnership arrangements as required. These will be in addition to existing challenges (e.g. our response to serious youth violence and disproportionality). Our key headline risks and planned actions, are outlined below:

	Key Risks	Mitigation/Intended Actions			
	Impact of COVID experience on children and families resulting in increased risk or need (e.g. offending) and greater demands upon YOT	<ul> <li>Strategic planning in place to mitigate impact in education, health and social care (including new School Link Co-Ordinators).</li> <li>Monitor YOT caseloads and risk/need profile to identify any changes emerging.</li> </ul>			
	Limited availability of suitable accommodation for children who are unable to live with their families.				
	Limited availability of/access to Education, Training and Employment options suitable for the YOT cohort.	<ul> <li>Revise Education and Youth Justice Sub-Group to ensure maximum impact.</li> <li>Strengthen the YOTs pre-16 work with schools and education teams</li> <li>Explore funding options and other opportunities to increase commissioning/provision at post-16.</li> </ul>			
77	Absence of point of arrest diversion impacting on outcomes for children and FTE rates	<ul> <li>Continue to work with Police colleagues to shape Diversion proposal</li> <li>Implement and embed if proposal agreed (or review as necessary)</li> </ul>			
	Continued levels of increased serious youth violence	<ul> <li>Violence Reduction Unit and clear delivery plan in place, including focus on preventative work across the City</li> </ul>			
	Service capacity- specifically Team Leader capacity following increased staffing.	<ul> <li>Monitoring workloads and reporting lines via quarterly performance report presented by YOT Service Leader. Explore options as required.</li> </ul>			
	Limitations of year on year funding and impact on ability to undertake long-term planning.	nd impact • Forecast review via quarterly Board Meetings and continue to explore options			
	Unexpected changes to the current COVID Recovery Roadmap (e.g. return to restrictions)				

We will monitor the above, and identify any actions required to address new risks which may emerge during the year, at our quarterly Board meetings.

#### 8. **Strategic Delivery Plan**

Our Strategic Delivery Plan is outlined in full in Appendix One; stating the outcomes we are seeking to achieve, the actions we have identified to do that, and the impact we believe this will have.

Ultimately, we want to ensure the number of children entering the youth justice system decreases, that the number of those who do enter it and then reoffend is reduced and that our successes in achieving a reduction in custodial remands and sentences are maintained.

We also want to do this through creating effective and sustainable change, both systemic and individual, to secure the most positive outcomes possible for children and families, and the wider community, in Portsmouth.

Signed on behalf of the Portsmouth YOT Partnership Management Board by Statutory Core Members as follows:

**Portsmouth** District Commander. Hampshire Constabulary

Children. Director **Families** Education Services, Portsmouth City Council

Deputy Director, Children & Families Services. Portsmouth City Council

Head Southampton, Portsmouth & Isle of Wight, National Probation Service, **HMPPS** 

Assistant Director. Commissioning Performance, Children and Education Services.

and

Portsmouth City Council

# age 73

### Appendix One: Portsmouth Youth Justice Strategic Delivery Plan

	Re	ducing First Time Entrants		
Outcome	Actions	<u>Impact</u>	<u>Owner</u>	By when?
Early Identification	Increase identification of SLCN amongst children, recognising this as a critical driver of vulnerability to offending.	Children with SLCN are identified, assessed and offered support at the earliest opportunity	HOS Inclusion	April 2023
	Increase workforce awareness of identification of, and responses to, criminogenic need, including expanding use of RASBO (linking to EH and PSCO role)	More children with identified offending risk within caseload for targeted early help	HOS Early Help and Prevention	April 2022
	Ensure MASH pathways identify criminogenic risk and refer on appropriately through clear pathways.	More children at risk of offending given timely, appropriate, targeted support	MASH Service Leader	Sept 2021
	Establish FTE profile	FTE profile is better understood to inform responses;	Strategic Intelligence	Sept 2021
	Establish systems through MATs for identifying cohorts who may be at risk (e.g. via Childrens Insights Team)	more children identified and considered for earlier help;	Manager	Sept 2022
Preventative Pathways	Increase number of schools where Playful, Accepting, Curious and Empathetic (PACE) and restorative approaches are in place.	Better engagement by young people in schools; fewer exclusions	PEP Inclusion Manager	April 2022
	Work in partnership with SEMH Special School and Alternative Provision to reduce exclusions and increase family support.	Increased attendance and reduced exclusions in 'at risk' groups	Assistant Director, Children and Education Services	Sept 2022
	Develop coherent/clear youth crime prevention offer with VCS and confirm pathways for these to be accessed.	Pathway for access to activities is clear for young people at risk of offending, and easily accessible	HOS Harm and Exploitation and VRU	April 2022
	Ensure violent crime prevention initiatives are offered within Schools and pathways are in place to secure additional support for children and families, when needed.	Actions are taken via schools to support prevention of serious youth violence in line with the work of the VRU	HOS Harm and Exploitation and VRU	Sept 2022
	Hold monthly Multi-Agency Scrutiny Audits Feb-Aug 2021 to explore offence types and possible pathways.	FTE cases are scrutinised for reflective learning to inform future pathways (including Diversion)	HOS Harm and Exploitation and VRU	Sept 2021
Effective Diversion	Enhance threshold application and revise Triage delivery to align with MASH.	Families are contacted promptly, with an early help or social care support offer.	MASH/YOT Service Leaders	Sept 2021
	Inform local innovation via peer/cross-Force review of PYOT/Hants area Triage decision making for FTEs	Additional perspectives sought to inform Portsmouth approach	Hants Constabulary YOT Inspector	Sept 2021
	Identify, develop and share evidence-based interventions to tackle criminogenic for early help services (e.g. Youth Endowment Fund, Early Intervention Foundation, Big Initiative and Youth Justice Effective Practice Hub)	Early Help Family Support Workers, Social Workers and school pastoral staff have a good tool box of interventions to draw from and deliver when young people are at risk of offending	HOS Prevention and Early Help	April 2022
	Establish Point Of Arrest (point of entry) Youth Diversion Scheme and arrangements for local delivery	Diversion scheme in place; fewer children entering the youth justice system	Hants Constabulary, with 4YOT Chairs	April 2022

		Reducing Reoffending		
Outcome	Actions	<u>Impact</u>	Owner	<u>Timescale</u>
Swift and appropriate	Maximise 'windows of opportunity' outside YJS processes - not waiting for formal YJ process.	Earlier support offered to reduce risk reoffending.	MASH Service Leader	Sept 2021
responses	Embed and expand 'Preventing Offending' Champions Network across the City to support timely and effective responses to criminogenic needs/risks.	Wider spread understanding and sharing of effective practice around prevention of, and responses to, offending.	YOT Service Leader	April 2022
	Revise Triage processes in YOT to enhance pre-Panel assessment, including Voice Of The Child.	Better informed decision making, with child at the centre of practice	YOT Service Leader	Sept 2021
	Improve offence to outcome timeliness through partnership approach.	Interventions are more meaningful for young people and have greater impact as a result.	Board Chair	April 2023
Strong, coordinated	Ensure clear Lead Professional allocation and whole family planning is in place, drawing on adult service expertise.	Intervention is more effective leading to reduced reoffending	YOT Service Leader	April 2023
whole family support and challenge.	Adopt 'Staying Close' Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATH) planning approach for children who have offended	Young people more engaged in their own plans; greater effectiveness and efficacy in outcome planning	YOT Service Leader	April 2022
	Enhance work with Parents/Carers/Families within YOT, through clear pathways and joint working	Parents and families are supported alongside their child	YOT Service Leader	Sept 2022
	Develop work on SLCN to support earlier identification and assessment of support needs at Court.	SLCN needs are understood, and approaches offered in YOT to support delivery of effective interventions	YOT Service Leader	April 2022
	Identify options to support this outcome within the overall partnership resource through shared assessments, planning, interventions and workforce development.	Opportunities are identified for progression	All Board members	April 2022
Maximise resourcing to support	Develop Reoffending Profile through use of data from YOT and partnership services, including Reoffending Toolkit (e.g. +/-5 cohort)	Reoffending profile is better understood to inform responses, within a wider context	Strategic Intelligence Manager	Sept 2021
targeted planning.	Develop the YOT offer for children who re-offend, based on that profile and stakeholder feedback, and inform wider partnership approaches.	Future delivery is informed by an understanding of key trends and issues	HoS Harm and Exploitation and VRU and YOT Service Leader	April 2023
	Align cross-agency plans and ensure their effectiveness is regularly reviewed against shared aims.	Systems and processes ensure that plans for individual children are always aligned	HOS for LAC, HoS for Assessment & Intervention,	April 2022
	Co-ordinate Exit/Step Up/Step Down plans across all agencies to ensure these take account of criminogenic need.	Preventing offending consistently features where needed in CSC and EH plans	HoS for Prevention and Early Help.	April 2022
	Align work with wider exploitation, safeguarding and 'at risk' approaches (e.g. PACE and transition planning)	Work with young people who offend reflects best practice in wider safeguarding including exploitation	HoS Harm and Exploitation and VRU and YOT Service	April 2022
	Develop City wide responses to SYV via YJB SYV checklist and work of VRU	Clear plan in place for tackling serious violence	Leader	April 2022

		Reducing Custody		
Outcome	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Impact</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Timescale</u>
Preventative targeting	Develop Custody Cohort Profile through use of data from YOT and partnership services	Custody Cohort is better understood to inform partnership responses	Strategic Intelligence Manager	April 2022
	Utilise custody cohort profile to strengthen early identification and support targeted preventative interventions (link to VRU).	Key risk factors are understood, and responded to, prior to custodial remand or sentence being imposed	YOT Service Leader	Sept 2022
	Enhance interventions available across the City to reduce the incidence of repeat and most serious offences	Timely, early and preventative responses support reduction in repeat offending and SYV	HoS Harm and Exploitation and VRU, and YOT Service Leader	Sept 2022
Remand/Sentence Reduction	Establish Remand Reduction Strategy (inc PACE beds).	Options are understood, and readily applied	HoS for LAC, YOT Service Leader	Sept 2021
	Develop partnership response strategies for those at risk of custodial remand and/or sentencing.	Proportionate, preventative responses support reduction in use of custody	YOT Service Leader	April 2022
	Ensure robust bail packages are supported through partnership working.	Viable and robust alternatives to custody are offered	YOT Service Leader	Sept 2021
Early constructive Resettlement	Revise and embed EH, CSC and YOT Joint Working Protocol specifically in relation to RILAA/YDA remands	Required processes are understood and effectively applied	HoS for LAC, SQT Service Leader, YOT Service Leader	Sept 2021
	Embed Constructive Resettlement within YOT Practice (including use of Resettlement Checklist to inform work with partners in key areas e.g. accommodation, education and health, inc SEND)	Resettlement support needs are identified at the earliest opportunity to support transitions, pro-social identity and successful sentence completion.	YOT Service Leader	April 2022
	Develop understanding of Constructive Resettlement practice across key areas of the partnership workforce.	Resettlement support needs are understood across key partnership organisations.	YOT Service Leader	Sept 2022
	Actively seek stakeholder feedback and reflect on 'lived experiences' to inform and improve practice in this area.	Stakeholder's views are sought, responded to and support ongoing work in this area	YOT Service Leader	April 2022
	Enhance strategic oversight of service delivery in the Secure Estate to support effective monitoring (and escalation if required)	PYOT Board have improved 'line of sight' in to the Secure Estate, and challenge practice where necessary to support constructive resettlement	Board Chair	April 2022

This Delivery Plan will be monitored via the YOT Partnership Management Board and progress against objectives reviewed at 6 monthly intervals.

We will review our progress at the end of 2021-22 to identify any new objectives required and refresh this plan in full at the end of 2022-23.

This page is intentionally left blank

## Agenda Item 10



## QUESTIONS FOR THE CABINET OR CHAIR UNDER STANDING ORDER NO 17.

#### ORDINARY CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 9 NOVEMBER 2021

#### **QUESTION NO 1**

FROM: COUNCILLOR SCOTT PAYTER-HARRIS

TO REPLY: CABINET MEMBER FOR TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION

COUNCILLOR LYNNE STAGG

Can the cabinet member update the council with regards to the usage of bus lanes by private hire vehicles?

