



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL



Agenda & minutes

Annual Council meeting of
Tuesday, 17 May 2022

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Portsmouth City Council

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL will be held at the **Main Auditorium, Ground Floor, Guildhall**, Portsmouth on Tuesday 17 May 2022 commencing at **10.00 am** and all Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend to consider and resolve upon the business detailed from agenda item 1 onwards:-

Information with regard to public access due to Covid precautions

- Following the government announcement 'Living with COVID-19' made on 21 February and the end of universal free testing from 1st April, attendees are no longer required to undertake an asymptomatic/ lateral flow test within 48 hours of the meeting however we still encourage attendees to follow the PH precautions we have followed over the last two years to protect themselves and others including vaccination and taking a lateral flow test should they wish.
 - We strongly recommend that attendees should be double vaccinated and have received a booster.
 - If symptomatic we encourage you not to attend the meeting but to stay at home. Updated government guidance from 1 April advises people with a respiratory infection, a high temperature and who feel unwell, to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature. From 1 April, anyone with a positive COVID-19 test result is being advised to follow this guidance for five days, which is the period when you are most infectious.
 - We encourage all attendees to wear a face covering while moving around crowded areas of the Guildhall.
 - Although not a legal requirement, attendees are strongly encouraged to keep a social distance and take opportunities to prevent the spread of infection by following the 'hands, face, space' and 'catch it, kill it, bin it' advice that also protects us from other winter viruses.
 - 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.
 - Those not participating in the meeting and wish to view proceedings are encouraged to do so remotely via the livestream link.
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Agenda

Items 1 (Election of Lord Mayor) and 2 (Appointment of Deputy Lord Mayor) will take place in the Main Auditorium.

- 1 To elect the Lord Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year**
- 2 To appoint the Deputy Lord Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year**

Note in respect of items 1 and 2 , in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, a member of the Executive may not be elected to the position of either Lord Mayor or Deputy Lord Mayor.

After item 2, The Council will then adjourn, re-commencing in the Council Chamber at 12.15pm (or shortly after the conclusion of Mayor Making if later) to deal with the remaining items on the agenda.

- 3 Declaration of Members' Interests**
- 4 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the ordinary Council held on 15 March 2022 (Pages 13 - 28)**
- 5 To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor may desire to lay before the Council, including apologies for absence**
- 6 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 16 May for this meeting), and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendations). Email requests are accepted.

7 Leader

To note that under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the current Leader of the City Council will remain in office until May 2023 unless

- a) they resign from the office;
- b) they are no longer a Councillor
- c) they are removed from office by resolution of the Council

Consequently, should any of the above apply, there will be a need to elect a Leader of the City Council, for a four-year term of office (or until the Leader's current term of office expires if earlier).

8 Cabinet - In accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, to receive details from the Leader of the Council regarding Cabinet members (including Deputy Leader) and portfolios for the ensuing Municipal Year

The Council will also receive details of the appointments from the Leader (as it is within their gift) for the Health and Wellbeing Board, applying the following criteria;

- Leader of the Council (or nominated representative)
- Portfolio holder responsible for Health & Social Care
- Portfolio holder responsible for Children's Services
- Leader of the largest opposition group (or nominated representative)

A named standing deputy may also be appointed for each position.

9 Proportional Representation on Panels and Committees

Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the City Council is required at each Annual Meeting to review the representation of different political groups, to determine the allocation of seats to different political groups for the forthcoming Municipal Year based on the Group Strengths on the Council and to appoint Members in accordance with the decisions of the Council as to allocation and according to the wishes of the groups as to the identities of the Members to be appointed.

The appointment of Members is dealt with separately under Item 10 below.

Proposed allocation of Seats for 2022/23 (Table 1) below

The representation of groups must be in accordance with the rules set out in the relevant legislation. Details of the proposed allocation of places on Panels and Committees are set out below -

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Groups	No of Cllrs	Total No of Cttee Seats	Licensing Committee (15 Members)	Planning Committee (10 Members)	7 committees and panels (see note) (6 Members each)	Scrutiny Management Panel (9 Members)
Liberal Democrats	17	31	6	4	17	4
Conservative	13	24	5	3	13	3

Labour	9	16	3	2	9	2
Portsmouth Independents Party	3	5	1	1	3	0
	42	76	15	10	42	9

Note: Group 5 contains the following: Governance & Audit & Standards; Employment; & Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and the 4 themed scrutiny panels

Principle 2 within Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires the majority of seats on Committees and Panels to be allocated to the group having the majority of seats on the City Council.

A group is defined in the regulations as comprising two or more persons.

2022/23 municipal appointments will be presented at the meeting.

RECOMMENDED (1) that the total number of seats on Committees and Panels be divided amongst the political groups and individual members as applicable in accordance with Table 1 above).

(2) that any other bodies subject to the political proportionality rules be appointed in accordance with proportions shown in Table 1.

10 To appoint Members to the following Committees and Panels for the 2022/23 Municipal Year:-

Scrutiny Management Panel	- 9 members
Planning Committee	- 10 members
Licensing Committee	- 15 members
Governance & Audit & Standards Committee	- 6 members
Employment Committee	- 6 members
Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members
Economic Development, Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members
Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members
Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members
Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members

11 To appoint Standing Deputies (three named Members for each Group on each Committee or Panel, five in respect of the Planning Committee)

12 To appoint the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees and the Scrutiny Management and Scrutiny Panels for the 2022/23 Municipal Year

13 Appointments

To appoint representatives, **who must be elected members**, to the following outside bodies. These appointments are reserved to the City Council in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

- (1) To appoint **1** member to serve on the **Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority** for the 2022/23 municipal year.

(In 2021/22 the appointee was Councillor Jason Fazackarley)

- (2) To appoint **1** member to serve on the **Police and Crime Panel (PCP)**. Plus a deputy. (Councillor Ashmore was the Council's representative in 2021/22 with Councillor Mellor as Deputy).

- (3) To appoint up to 4 members to serve on the Local Government Association General Assembly for the 2022/23 municipal year, who will be supported by the appropriate officers at the Annual Conference, and to specify which of the elected members will hold the voting rights.

Portsmouth City Council has 5 votes on the LGA, which are usually exercised by the party forming the City Council's political administration. Those having the right to vote should be identified.

In 2021/22 the representatives were Councillors Lee Mason, George Fielding, Gerald Vernon-Jackson and Suzy Horton, who each exercised one vote.

- (4) To appoint 6 members to serve on the Langstone Harbour Board who must be an elected member and in accordance with the political balance regulations.

For 2021/22, the representatives were; Councillors Graham Heaney, Lee Mason, Darren Sanders, Robert New, Jeanette Smith, and Kimberly Barrett standing deputies Hugh Mason and Matthew Atkins).

14 Other Appointments

7 members to the Twinning Advisory Group - in 2021/22 the chair was the Communities and Central Services Portfolio holder (Councillor Attwell), with the Lord Mayor (Frank Jonas) performing the deputy Chair role (the other 5 members in 2021/22 were Councillors Leo Madden, Linda Symes, Tom Coles, Jason Fazackarley and Lee Mason).

15 To receive and consider any urgent and important business in accordance with Standing Order No 26

Notices of Motion: Process Information

In accordance with Standing Orders, all Notices of Motions on the agenda will, subject to the 6 month rule, automatically be dealt with at this meeting, thereby dispensing with a three-minute presentation from the proposer and subsequent vote to enable its consideration.

16 Notices of Motion

(a) **Motion for the ocean and our coastal communities**

Proposed by Councillor Robert New
Seconded by Councillor Daniel Wemyss

Why is this declaration needed now?

The health of our ocean is inextricably linked with our climate and with human health, wellbeing and prosperity. A healthy ocean is fundamental in regulating the global climate system and is an essential ally in our fight against climate change. The ocean absorbs more than 90% of the excess heat in the climate system as well as absorbing around 20% of annual carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions generated by human activity.

However, decades of irresponsible marine exploitation and pollution have led to significant levels of degradation, and this together with the detrimental impacts of our changing climate on marine ecosystems has led to national and global recognition that the world ocean is in crisis. An unhealthy ocean does not absorb or store carbon as effectively as a healthy one, further worsening the impacts of the climate crisis.

The UK government's recent Marine Strategy assessment confirms that our marine environment is not healthy. An ocean in crisis is not only bad news for our climate, but also for our local fishing and tourism industries and for the health, wellbeing and prosperity of our coastal communities.

In Portsmouth like the rest of planet, we are witnessing the ocean crisis first-hand. Fish stocks continue to collapse from permitted and illegal overfishing and poor water quality is impacting seafood and safe bathing. Our beaches are covered in litter with each tide, much of it plastic, though this is just the tip of the iceberg of the amount of litter in our oceans. Marine microplastics have been found in all marine environments and in the bodies of many species, including humans and the species of fish we regularly eat.

Our residents are on the frontline of climate change and are being disproportionately impacted relative to inland communities. The impact of the climate crisis on the ocean is profound, from rising water temperatures and changes in ocean chemistry, to sea level rise and increased storminess, including in our local waters. This is changing what seafood is caught locally, accelerating the erosion of our coastline - increasing the risk to infrastructure and properties, and increasing the risk of flooding and storm damage.

Urgent action is needed to halt these devastating changes and recover the health of our ocean to enable it to deliver the full range of benefits, including climate regulation, carbon storage in coastal and marine habitats, coastal protection, a thriving local economy,

clean safe recreation and happy, healthy coastal communities. We must play our part in recovering the health of the ocean.

In Portsmouth, the ocean is at the heart of our heritage and economy. From the maritime and marine expertise around the Portsmouth Port, to the millions of visitors who come to the Portsmouth area to experience the sight, sound and feel of the ocean. The ocean can play a vital role in our economic recovery and we must strive to develop a sustainable and equitable blue economy that delivers both ocean recovery and local prosperity. We must ensure that ocean recovery is embedded in our relevant strategic decision-making, policymaking and budget-setting; as well as being considered in future strategies and plans, including those seeking to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents.

At present, not everyone has the opportunity or means to access and enjoy the ocean. Even within Portsmouth there are people of all ages who have never experienced the joy of our ocean. First-hand experience of the ocean is essential if people are to be motivated to play their part in protecting it, whether that is through disposing of their litter responsibly, recycling what they can or volunteering in ocean conservation with local organisations. Helping individuals develop their ocean literacy (understanding of the relationship between people and the ocean) is an essential part of this motion, as is individual and collective marine citizenship (promoting and demanding an ocean recovery through local, national and international policy changes).

Local authorities cannot solve the ocean crisis alone, but we can – and must – play our part.

This Council declares an urgent need for Ocean Recovery.

We recognise that we need ocean recovery to meet our net zero carbon targets, and we need net zero carbon to recover our ocean.

This Council pledges, through requesting Cabinet to:

1. Report to Full Council within 6 months on the actions and projects that will begin an ocean recovery in Portsmouth.
2. Consider ocean recovery in all strategic decisions, plans, budgets and approaches to decisions by the Council (particularly in planning, regeneration, skills and economic policy), aligning with climate change mitigation and adaptation requirements, and considering ocean-based solutions in our journey towards a carbon-neutral and climate-resilient future.
3. Promote closer working between the Portsmouth City Council and the Marine Organisation and embed strong links

between the Local Plan and the Portsmouth City Council Marine Plan to support ocean recovery.

4. Ensure that the Local Nature Recovery Strategy strives to support ocean recovery.
5. Work with partners locally and nationally to deliver increased sustainability in marine industries and develop a sustainable and equitable blue economy that delivers ocean recovery and local prosperity.
6. Grow ocean literacy and marine citizenship in Portsmouth, including ensuring all pupils are given the opportunity to experience the ocean first-hand before leaving primary school- striving to include home-schooled children - and promote equitable access to the ocean through physical and digital experiences for all residents.
7. Work with Highbury and Portsmouth Colleges to continue to embed marine, maritime and blue carbon training at the heart of training provision as well as with technical / apprenticeship training providers where appropriate.
8. Create an online portal of the Council website to update on ocean recovery progress, signpost to ocean literacy development opportunities, and marine citizenship pledges.
9. Write to the Government asking them to put the ocean into net recovery by 2030 by
 - a) Ensuring Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities and Natural England have the resources they need to effectively research and monitor our growing number of marine protected areas, and to set and enforce appropriate fishing levels that support local economies and deliver environmental sustainability.
 - b) Ensuring coastal communities have a meaningful say in the development of marine policy to ensure it delivers equitable and sustainable outcomes.
 - c) Appoint a dedicated Minister for Coastal Communities.
 - d) And by listening to marine scientific advice, including marine social science, to update the Marine Policy Statement and produce a national Ocean Recovery Strategy which will:

- i. Enable the recovery of marine ecosystems rather than managing degraded or altered habitats in their reduced state.
- ii. Consider levelling up, marine conservation, energy, industrial growth, flood and coastal erosion risk management, climate adaptation and fisheries policy holistically rather than as competing interests.
- iii. Develop a smarter approach to managing the health of the entire ocean that moves beyond Marine Protected Areas and enables links to be made across sectors towards sustainability.
- iv. Establish improved processes for understanding the benefits of ocean recovery, leaving no doubt the links between this and human lives, livelihoods, and wellbeing.
- v. Stop plastic pollution at source by strengthening the regulations around single-use plastics and set standards for microfibre-catching filters to ensure that all new domestic and commercial washing machines are fitted with a filter that captures a high percentage of microfibres produced in the wash cycle.

17 To approve the following dates for meetings of the Council during the 2022/23 municipal year to commence at 2pm unless otherwise indicated

19 July 2022	17 January 2023 (provisional)
11 October 2022	14 February 2023
8 November 2022	14 March 2023
6 December 2022	16 May 2023 (Annual) (10.00am)

To provisionally agree the following Council meeting dates for 2023/24

18 July 2023	16 January 2024 (provisional)
17 October 2023	13 February 2024
14 November 2023	19 March 2024
12 December 2023	14 May 2024 (Annual) (10am)

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 <https://livestream.com/accounts/14063785>

If any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting has access requirements, please notify the contact the Local Democracy Manager at Stewart.Aglan@portsmouthcc.gov.uk.

Civic Offices
Guildhall Square
PORTSMOUTH
9 May 2022