

# NOTICE OF MEETING

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## GOVERNANCE & AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 21 JANUARY 2022 AT 2.30 PM

## COUNCIL CHAMBER - THE GUILDHALL

Telephone enquiries to James Harris on 023 9260 6065

Email: james.harris@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

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

### 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. Around one in three people who are infected with COVID-19 have no symptoms so could be spreading the virus without knowing it. Asymptomatic testing – getting tested when you don't have symptoms - helps protect people most at risk by helping to drive down transmission rates. We strongly encourage you to take up the habit of regular asymptomatic testing to help prevent the spread of coronavirus to your colleagues and residents you work with.
  - We strongly recommend that attendees should be double vaccinated, and if eligible, have received a booster.
  - If symptomatic you must not attend and self-isolate following the stay at home guidance issued by UK Health Security Agency.
  - All attendees are required to wear a face covering while moving around within the Guildhall, and are recommended to continue wearing a face covering in the Council Chamber except when speaking.
  - Although not a requirement attendees are strongly encouraged 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
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## **Membership**

Councillor Leo Madden (Chair)  
Councillor Daniel Wemyss (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Stuart Brown  
Councillor Charlotte Gerada  
Councillor Lee Hunt  
Councillor John Smith

## **Standing Deputies**

Councillor Ryan Brent  
Councillor Lewis Gosling  
Councillor Graham Heaney  
Councillor Luke Stubbs  
Councillor Rob Wood

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

Please note that the agenda, minutes and non-exempt reports are available to view online on the Portsmouth City Council website: [www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)

**Deputations by members of the public may be made on any item where a decision is going to be taken. The request should be made in writing to the contact officer (above) by 12 noon of the working day before the meeting, and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendation/s). Email requests are accepted.**

## **AGENDA**

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Declarations of Members' Interests**
- 3 Minutes of Meeting held on 5 November 2021 (Pages 7 - 12)**

**RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2021 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

- 4 Portsmouth City Council Audit Results Report: Year ended 31 March 2021 (updated January 2022)**

Report to follow under separate cover.

Portsmouth City Council's Audit Results as updated January 2022 - for noting.

**5 Corporate Performance Report - Q2 2021/22 (Pages 13 - 56)**

To report any significant performance issues arising from Q2 2021-22 performance monitoring to the Governance and Audit and Standards committee and highlight areas for further action or analysis.

**RECOMMENDED that the Committee:-**

**(i) Note the report in the revised format; and**

**(ii) Agree if any further action is required in response to performance issues highlighted.**

**6 Internal Audit Performance Status Report to 10 January 2022 (Pages 57 - 72)**

The purpose of this report is to update the Governance and Audit and Standards Committee on the Internal Audit Performance for 2021/22 to 10 January 2022 against the Annual Audit Plan, highlight areas of concern and areas where assurance can be given on the internal control framework.

**Recommended that the Governance, Audit & Standards Committee notes:**

**(i) the Audit Performance and results for 2021/22 to 10 January 2022; and**

**(ii) the highlighted areas of concern in relation to audits completed from the 2021/22 Audit Plan, including follow up work performed.**

**7 Whistleblowing Annual Report and Policy (Pages 73 - 84)**

The purpose of the report is to update the committee on the nature and handling of any whistleblowing concerns which have been raised for the period January 2021 to December 2021.

In addition to this to confirm that, following the annual review of the whistleblowing policy, there are no current proposed changes.

**RECOMMENDED that Members of the Committee:**

**(i) Note this report and the attached Appendix A and consider whether any further action is required; and**

**(ii) Note the whistleblowing policy, Appendix B, where there are no proposed changes.**

**8 Treasury Management Monitoring Report for the Third Quarter of 2021/22**  
(Pages 85 - 94)

The purpose of the report is to inform members and the wider community of the Council's Treasury Management position, ie. its borrowing and cash investments at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and of the risks attached to that position.

Whilst the Council has a portfolio of investment properties and some equity shares which were acquired through the capital programme; these do not in themselves form part of the treasury management function.

**Recommendations**

**It is recommended that the following be noted:**

- (i) That the Council's Treasury Management activities have remained within the Treasury Management Policy 2021/22 in the period up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021; and**
- (ii) The actual Treasury Management indicators as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 set out in Appendix A.**

**9 Report to Governance & Audit & Standards Committee on complaints received into alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct by Members of the Council for the calendar year 2021** (Pages 95 - 98)

The purpose of the report is to update Members of the Committee in relation to complaints which have been progressed within the calendar year 2021 and which allege that Councillors may have breached the Code of Conduct.

**Recommendations**

- (i) It is recommended that Members of the Committee note the report.**
- (ii) It is recommended that Members of the Committee consider whether any further action is required by them.; and**
- (iii) It is recommended that Members of the Committee place on record their thanks to the Independent Persons.**

**All independent Persons have been contacted and provided the Monitoring Officer with feedback. The Monitoring Officer will comment at the meeting if relevant.**

## **10 Exclusion of Press & Public**

In view of the contents of the appendices to the following items (11 & 12) on the agenda, the committee is RECOMMENDED to adopt the following motion should it wish to discuss the details contained within the exempt appendices during the discussions on these items:

"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 on the grounds that the appendices to the report contains information defined as exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972" The public interest in maintaining the exemption must outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information. Under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) England Regulations 2012, regulation 5, the reasons for exemption of the listed appendices are shown below. (NB The exempt/confidential committee papers on the agenda will contain information which is commercially, legally or personally sensitive and should not be divulged to third parties.

Members are reminded of standing order restrictions on the disclosure of exempt information and are asked to dispose of exempt documentation as confidential waste at the conclusion of the meeting.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Exemption Para No.</b>
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<b>11. Property Investment Fund - Covid-19 Impact</b>	<b>3</b>
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(Exempt Appendix A) \*3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

<b>12. Procurement Management Information</b>	<b>3</b>
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(Exempt Appendices 1, 2 and 3) \*3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

## **11 Property Investment Fund - Covid-19 Impact (Pages 99 - 106)**

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the response and impact of the Covid- 19 pandemic on Portsmouth City Council's commercial property investments.

This report is for noting.

**12 Procurement Management Information (Pages 107 - 152)**

The purpose of this report is to provide evidence to allow the committee to evaluate the extent that Portsmouth City Council is producing contracts for goods, works and services in a legally compliant value for money basis.

The report is for noting.

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>