

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at the Guildhall
Portsmouth on Tuesday, 28 February 2023 at 2.00 pm

Council Members Present

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor
Councillor Hugh Mason (in the Chair)

Councillors

Yinka Adeniran	Abdul Kadir
Dave Ashmore	Leo Madden
Matthew Atkins	George Madgwick
Chris Attwell	Lee Mason
Kimberly Barrett	Kirsty Mellor
Simon Boshier	Gemma New
Ryan Brent	Robert New
Stuart Brown	Terry Norton
Tom Coles	Scott Payter-Harris
Cal Corkery	Darren Sanders
Jason Fazackarley	Asghar Shah
George Fielding	Russell Simpson
Charlotte Gerada	John Smith
Lewis Gosling	Judith Smyth
Graham Heaney	Benedict Swann
Ian Holder	Linda Symes
Suzy Horton	Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE
Lee Hunt	Daniel Wemyss
Mark Jeffery	Matthew Winnington

1. Declaration of Members' Interests

Cllr Graham Heaney and Cllr Asghar Shah declared personal interests in minute 7, as they were affiliated with the Highbury Area Community Association. The association managed the Highbury Community Centre, which was proposed to receive funding for heat pump technology as part of the Conservative and 'all groups' budget amendments.

2. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2022

It was

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

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 6 December 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

These were agreed by assent.

2 28 February 2023

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

The Lord Mayor advised that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Brian Madgwick, Councillor Steve Pitt and Councillor Lynne Stagg.

The Lord Mayor thanked Councillor Cal Corkery for his service and leadership of the Labour Group and was joined in this by Councillor Charlotte Gerada and the Leader of the Council, who took the opportunity to say a few words to express their gratitude for Councillor Cal Corkery's service to the Labour Group and the council as a whole.

4. Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24.

The City Solicitor advised that no oral deputation requests had been made for this meeting.

5. Appointments

The Lord Mayor advised that there were no appointments to be made at this meeting.

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

The Lord Mayor advised that there was no urgent business to be transacted at this meeting.

7. Portsmouth City Council - Budget & Council Tax 2023/24 & Medium Term Budget Forecast 2024/25 to 2026/27

The Lord Mayor advised that the recommendations from the Cabinet meeting had previously been circulated and reminded councillors that the speaking time limit did not apply to group leaders on budget items.

The Lord Mayor then called Cabinet Minute 7, PCC Portsmouth City Council Budget & Council Tax 2023/2024 & Medium Term Budget Forecast 2024/25 to 2026/27.

This minute was opposed by Councillor Simon Boshier.

It was therefore

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

That the recommendations contained in Cabinet Minute 7, PCC Portsmouth City Council Budget & Council Tax 2023/2024 & Medium Term Budget Forecast 2024/25 to 2026/27 be approved.

The Lord Mayor invited the Leader of the Council, Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson, to speak to the Cabinet budget recommendations.

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson spoke on the administration's budget proposals and commended them to council. He placed on record his groups thanks to Chris Ward, Julian Pike and the finance team.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Simon Boshier
Seconded by Councillor Ryan Brent

That the recommendations set out in Appendix 1 attached to these minutes (Conservative budget amendment) be adopted.

Councillor Simon Boshier (Conservative Group Leader) then spoke to his group's proposed budget amendment and commended the amendment to Council. He placed on record his groups gratitude to all council staff and in particular the finance team in respect of the budget.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Charlotte Gerada
Seconded by Councillor Graham Heaney

That the recommendations set out in Appendix 2 attached to these minutes (Labour budget amendment) be adopted.

Councillor Charlotte Gerada (Labour Group Leader) then spoke to her group's proposed budget amendment and commended the amendment to Council. She thanked all council staff involved with the budget and also the other political groups for their work in compiling a cross party amendment that would be tabled later in the meeting.

Councillor George Madgwick spoke in support of cross party working and the resulting cross party amendment that would be tabled later in the meeting. He confirmed that the Portsmouth Independent Party Group did not wish to table any amendments.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Cal Corkery
Seconded by Councillor Kirsty Mellor

That the recommendations set out in Appendix 3 attached to these minutes (amendment in the name of Councillor Cal Corkery) be adopted.

Councillor Cal Corkery spoke to the amendment which he hoped all councillors would support and commended it to Council.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Darren Sanders
Seconded by Councillor Scott Payter-Harris

That the recommendations set out in Appendix 4 attached to these minutes (a cross party amendment in the name of Councillor Sanders) be adopted.

Councillor Darren Sanders spoke to the amendment, which was the first cross party budget amendment ever considered by the council and reflected comprises on all sides.

Following debate, the Lord Mayor called upon the Leader of the Council to sum up, which he duly did.

In closing, the Leader of the Council confirmed that he was happy to subsume the cross party amendment standing in the name of Councillor Darren Sanders into the Cabinet recommendations proposed by him and seconded by Councillor Suzy Horton at the beginning of the item. He did not wish to subsume the proposed amendments in the names of Councillor Simon Boshier, Councillor Charlotte Gerada or Councillor Cal Corkery.

The Lord Mayor reminded councillors that all votes on the budget would be recorded to comply the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014.

Council voted on the Conservative Group amendment, the Labour Group amendment and the amendment in the name of Councillor Cal Corkery in turn before voting on the substantive motion incorporating the subsumed cross party amendment in the name of Councillor Darren Sanders.

Upon the Conservative Group amendment standing in the name of Councillor Simon Boshier on the Portsmouth City Council Portsmouth City Council Budget & Council Tax 2023/2024 & Medium Term Budget Forecast 2024/25 to 2026/27 being put to the vote.

The following members voted in favour

Councillor Matthew Atkins	Councillor Simon Boshier
Councillor Ryan Brent	Councillor Lewis Gosling
Councillor Lee Mason	Councillor Gemma New
Councillor Robert New	Councillor Terry Norton
Councillor Scott Payter-Harris	Councillor Russel Simpson
Councillor John Smith	Councillor Benedict Swann
Councillor Linda Symes	Councillor Daniel Wemyss

The following members voted against

Councillor Yinka Adeniran	Councillor Dave Ashmore
Councillor Chris Attwell	Councillor Kimberly Barrett
Councillor Stuart Brown	Councillor Tom Coles
Councillor Cal Corkery	Councillor George Fielding

Councillor Charlotte Gerada	Councillor Graham Heaney
Councillor Ian Holder	Councillor Suzy Horton
Councillor Lee Hunt	Councillor Mark Jeffery
Councillor Abdul Kadir	Councillor Leo Madden
Councillor Kirsty Mellor	Councillor Darren Sanders
Councillor Asghar Shah	Councillor Judith Smyth
Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson	Councillor Matthew Winnington

The following members abstained from voting

Councillor Jason Fazackarley	Councillor George Madgwick
Councillor Hugh Mason	

The Conservative Group amendment was therefore declared **LOST**.

Upon the Labour Group amendment standing in the name of Councillor Charlotte Gerada on the Portsmouth City Council Budget & Council Tax 2023/2024 & Medium Term Budget Forecast 2024/25 to 2026/27 being put to the vote.

The following members voted in favour

Councillor Yinka Adeniran	Councillor Tom Coles
Councillor Cal Corkery	Councillor George Fielding
Councillor Charlotte Gerada	Councillor Graham Heaney
Councillor Asghar Shah	Councillor Judith Smyth

The following members voted against

Councillor Dave Ashmore	Councillor Matthew Atkins
Councillor Chris Attwell	Councillor Kimberly Barrett
Councillor Simon Boshier	Councillor Ryan Brent
Councillor Stuart Brown	Councillor Jason Fazackarley
Councillor Lewis Gosling	Councillor Ian Holder
Councillor Suzy Horton	Councillor Lee Hunt
Councillor Mark Jeffery	Councillor Abdul Kadir
Councillor Leo Madden	Councillor Lee Mason
Councillor Gemma New	Councillor Robert New
Councillor Terry Norton	Councillor Scott Payter-Harris
Councillor Darren Sanders	Councillor Russel Simpson
Councillor John Smith	Councillor Benedict Swann
Councillor Linda Symes	Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Councillor Daniel Wemyss	Councillor Matthew Winnington

The following members abstained from voting

Councillor George Madgwick	Councillor Hugh Mason
Councillor Kirsty Mellor	

The Labour Group amendment was therefore declared **LOST**.

Upon the amendment standing in the name of Councillor Cal Corkery on the Portsmouth City Council Budget & Council Tax 2023/2024 & Medium Term Budget Forecast 2024/25 to 2026/27 being put to the vote.

The following members voted in favour

Councillor Yinka Adeniran	Councillor Tom Coles
Councillor Cal Corkery	Councillor George Fielding
Councillor Charlotte Gerada	Councillor Graham Heaney
Councillor George Madgwick	Councillor Kirsty Mellor
Councillor Asghar Shah	Councillor Russell Simpson
Councillor Judith Smyth	

The following members voted against

Councillor Dave Ashmore	Councillor Chris Attwell
Councillor Kimberly Barrett	Councillor Simon Boshier
Councillor Ryan Brent	Councillor Stuart Brown
Councillor Jason Fazackarley	Councillor Lewis Gosling
Councillor Ian Holder	Councillor Suzy Horton
Councillor Lee Hunt	Councillor Mark Jeffery
Councillor Abdul Kadir	Councillor Leo Madden
Councillor Lee Mason	Councillor Gemma New
Councillor Terry Norton	Councillor Scott Payter-Harris
Councillor Darren Sanders	Councillor John Smith
Councillor Benedict Swann	Councillor Linda Symes
Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson	Councillor Matthew Winnington

The following members abstained from voting

Councillor Matthew Atkins	Councillor Hugh Mason
Councillor Robert New	Councillor Daniel Wemyss

The amendment in the name of Councillor Cal Corkery was therefore declared **LOST**

Upon the original recommendations in Cabinet minute 7 - PCC Portsmouth City Council Budget & Council Tax 2023/2024 & Medium Term Budget Forecast 2024/25 to 2026/27 with the subsumed amendment in the name of Councillor Darren Sanders being put to the vote.

The following members voted in favour

Councillor Yinka Adeniran	Councillor Dave Ashmore
Councillor Matthew Atkins	Councillor Chris Attwell
Councillor Kimberly Barrett	Councillor Simon Boshier
Councillor Ryan Brent	Councillor Tom Coles
Councillor Stuart Brown	Councillor Jason Fazackarley
Councillor Cal Corkery	Councillor Charlotte Gerada
Councillor George Fielding	Councillor Graham Heaney
Councillor Lewis Gosling	Councillor Suzy Horton

Councillor Ian Holder
 Councillor Lee Hunt
 Councillor Abdul Kadir
 Councillor George Madgwick
 Councillor Lee Mason
 Councillor Gemma New
 Councillor Terry Norton
 Councillor Darren Sanders
 Councillor Russell Simpson
 Councillor Judith Smyth
 Councillor Linda Symes
 Councillor Daniel Wemyss

Councillor Mark Jeffery
 Councillor Leo Madden
 Councillor Hugh Mason
 Councillor Kirsty Mellor
 Councillor Robert New
 Councillor Scott Payter-Harris
 Councillor Asghar Shah
 Councillor John Smith
 Councillor Benedict Swann
 Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
 Councillor Matthew Winnington

No members voted against and no members abstained from voting

The Cabinet recommendations in Cabinet minute 7, with the subsumed amendment in the name of Councillor Darren Sanders was therefore APPROVED and declared **CARRIED**.

It was therefore **RESOLVED**

(3.1) That the following be APPROVED in respect of the Council's Budget:

- 1) **The revised Revenue Estimates for the financial year 2022/23 and the Revenue Estimates for the financial year 2023/24 as set out in the General Fund Summary (Appendix A Amended) including the changes described below but noting that:**

The responsibility of the City Council is to approve the overall Budget and the associated cash limits of its Portfolios and Committees; it is not the responsibility of the City Council to approve individual savings or additions within those Portfolios/Committees, that responsibility is reserved for Cabinet Members. The budget savings and additions in the tables below are therefore indicative only.

i) Reductions to Revenue Estimates

Indicative Portfolio Savings Proposal	Impact on Level of Service & Service Outcomes	2023/24	2024/25 & Future Years
		£	£
Traffic & Transportation Portfolio			

Indicative Portfolio Savings Proposal	Impact on Level of Service & Service Outcomes	2023/24	2024/25 & Future Years
		£	£
Reinstate existing parking tariff structure and increase each hour by 10p e.g. 1 hour tariff increases by 10p, 2 hour tariff increases by 20p.	As per the recently adopted Transport Strategy (LTP 4), it is imperative that measures are taken to reduce reliance on the private car in order to promote air quality and reduce congestion within Portsmouth	6,000	6,000
Other Expenditure			
Transfer From Revenue Reserve For Capital	Reduction in funding for New Capital Investment proposals (Appendix D)	77,500	0
Total		83,500	6,000

ii) Additions to Revenue Estimates

Saving No.	Increases to Portfolio Cash Limits	2023/24	2024/25 & Future Years
			£
Communities & Central Services Portfolio			
New	A Cost of Living Hardship Fund for 1 Year to compliment the £3.8m Household Support Fund	77,500	0
New			
Traffic & Transportation Portfolio			
028	Remove - At District Centres; new 30 minute 70p tariff introduced, 1 Hour increased to £1.50 and all other tariffs increased by 20p	6,000	6,000
Total		83,500	6,000

- 2) **The Portfolio Cash Limits for the Revised Budget for 2022/23 and the Budget 2023/24 incorporating the savings amounts for each Portfolio and amounting to £2.0m as set out in Sections 7 and 11, respectively as amended by the following:**

Portfolio / Committee	2023/24 £	Future Years £
Communities & Central Services Portfolio Traffic & Transportation Other Expenditure	77,500 0 (77,500)	
Total	0	0

- 3) **To maintain the overall financial resilience of the Council, any underspendings arising at the year-end (outside of those made by Portfolios) be transferred either to Capital Resources to fund future Capital Programmes, the Covid Reserve, the MTRS Reserve or General Reserves with the level of each transfer to be determined by the S.151 Officer**
- 4) **Any variation to the Council's funding arising from the final Local Government Finance Settlement be accommodated by a transfer to or from General Reserves**
- 5) **The S.151 Officer be given delegated authority to make any necessary adjustments to Cash Limits within the overall approved Budget and Budget Forecasts**
- 6) **That the level of Council Tax be increased by 2.99% for general purposes in accordance with the referendum threshold¹¹ for 2023/24 announced by Government (as calculated in recommendation 3.4 (d))**
- 7) **That the level of Council Tax be increased by a further 2.0% beyond the referendum threshold (as calculated in recommendation 3.4 (d)) to take advantage of the flexibility offered by Government to implement a "Social Care Precept", and that in accordance with the conditions of that flexibility, the full amount of the associated sum generated of £1,805,400 is passported direct to Adult Social Care**
- 8) **That Revenue Contributions to Capital be made in 2022/23 in the sum of £0.75m in order to provide sufficient funding for the New Capital Investment proposals set out in Appendix D**
- 9) **Managers be authorised to incur routine expenditure against the Cash Limits for 2023/24 as set out in Section 11**

- 10) That no savings requirement for 2024/25 be set at this stage but that this is kept under review, pending any significant impact on the Council's future Forecast that may arise during 2023/24
- 11) That the S.151 Officer be given delegated authority to make transfers to and from reserves in order to ensure that they are maintained as necessary and in particular, adjusted when reserves are no longer required or need to be replenished
- 12) The minimum level of General Reserves as at 31 March 2024 be maintained at £10.0m to reflect the known and expected budget and financial risks to the Council
- 13) The Revised Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2027/28 attached as Appendix E and which includes all additions, deletions and amendments for slippage and re-phasing be amended by table iii) and iv) below and approved

iii) **Reductions to the Capital Programme (Appendices D & E)**

Scheme Deletions / Reductions		£
Culture, Leisure & Economic Development Portfolio		
Delete	Seafront Enhancements 'Festoon' Lighting Enhancement of the Seafront's lighting	45,000
Reduce	Renewal of Skate Ramps (Milton)	20,000
Leader Portfolio		
Reduce	Eastney Point Opportunity Area	10,000
Traffic & Transportation Portfolio		
Reduce	LTP 4	20,000
Reduce	Cycle Improvements in the City	25,000
Reduce	Verge Hardening Paulsgrove	15,000
Total		135,000

iv) **Additions to Capital Programme (Appendices D & E)**

Scheme Additions / Increases		£
Culture, Leisure & Economic Development Portfolio		
New	Gatcombe Park Play Area (further match funding from Hilsea Neighbourhood CIL)	7,500
New	College Park Play Equipment	10,000
New	Highbury Community Centre - Heat Pump Technology	5,000
Safety In The Community		
New	1 Mobile CCTV Camera Horsea Lane (further match funding from Hilsea Neighbourhood CIL)	5,000
New	Anchorage Park Protection (Dragons Teeth)	15,000
Traffic & Transportation		
New	Vehicle Activated Sign - Anchorage Road	15,000
Total		57,500

- 14) The S.151 Officer be given delegated authority to determine how each source of finance is used to fund the overall Capital Programme and to alter the overall mix of financing, as necessary, to maximise the flexibility of capital resources used and minimise the ongoing costs of borrowing to the Council
- 15) That the S.151 Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council be given delegated authority to release capital resources held back for any contingent items that might arise, and also for any match funding requirements that may be required of the City Council in order to secure additional external capital funding (e.g. bids for funding from Government or any other external source)
- 16) Subject to a satisfactory financial appraisal approved by the Director of Finance and Resources & S.151 Officer, the schemes described in Appendix D as amended by tables iii) and iv) above be reflected within the recommended Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2027/28
- 17) Subject to a satisfactory financial appraisal approved by the Director of Finance and Resources & S.151 Officer, that delegated authority to borrow up to £10m per year be granted in order that the Council can enter into transactions in an efficient

and timely fashion and avoid the risk of lost opportunities which may be of a time critical nature

18) The Prudential Indicators described set out in Appendix F be approved.

19) Members have had regard for the Statement of the S.151 Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 as set out in Section 16.

3.2 That the following be NOTED in respect of the Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme:

- 1) The Revenue Estimates 2023/24 as set out in Appendix A have been prepared on the basis of a 2.0% tax increase for the "Social Care Precept" (amounting to £1,805,400) and that this is passported to Adult Social Care in order to provide for otherwise unfunded budget pressures including the current underlying budget deficit, the cost of the National Living Wage and demographic pressures arising from a "living longer" population**
- 2) The decision on the amount at which to set the Adult Social Care precept will be critical for the Social Care and wider health system in the City; in the event that the additional flexibility of the "Social Care Precept" and associated 2.0% tax increase is not taken, then equivalent savings will need to be made in Adult Social Care in 2023/24**
- 3) In general, any reduction to the proposed increase in the level of Council Tax for 2023/24 will require equivalent offsetting savings to be made in order for the Budget 2023/24 to be approved. Each 1% reduction requires additional savings of £902,700 to be made**
- 4) The indicative savings proposals set out in Appendix C which are provided for the purpose of demonstrating to the Council that the Portfolio savings as recommended in paragraph 3.1 2) of the report are robust and deliverable**
- 5) The likely impact of savings as set out in Appendix C**
- 6) That the responsibility of the City Council is to approve the overall Budget and the associated cash limits of its Portfolios and Committees; it is not the responsibility of the City Council to approve any individual savings within those Portfolios / Committees**
- 7) That it is the responsibility of the individual Portfolio Holders (not Full Council) to approve the individual savings proposals and the Portfolio Holder can therefore, in response to any consultation, alter, amend or substitute any of the indicative savings proposal(s) set out in Appendix C with alternative proposal(s) amounting to the same value within their Portfolio**

- 8) **Managers will commence the implementation of the approved savings required and any necessary consultation process or notice process**
- 9) **The Revenue Forecast for 2024/25 to 2026/27 as set out in Section 12 and Appendix B**
- 10) **That at this stage the Council's Future Forecast for the 3 Year Period 2024/25 to 2026/27 is estimated to be in balance; this is the Council's "central base case scenario" but due to the uncertainty associated with inflation, unavoidable cost pressures that may arise (particularly in Care Services), business rate appeals arising from the 2023/24 revaluation and the forthcoming overhaul of Local Government Funding, this could vary by +/- £5m**
- 11) **The MTRS Reserve held to fund the upfront costs associated with Spend to Save Schemes, Invest to Save Schemes and redundancies will hold an uncommitted balance of £5.8m and will only be replenished in future from an approval to the transfer of any underspends, contributions from the Revenue Budget or transfers from other reserves which may no longer be required**
- 12) **The Council's share of the Council Tax element of the Collection Fund deficit for 2022/23 is estimated to be £618,996**
- 13) **The Council's share of the Business Rate element of the Collection Fund surplus for 2022/23 is estimated to be £2,984,906**
- 14) **The Retained Business Rate income^[2] for 2023/24 is based on the estimated Business Rate element of the Collection Fund surplus as at March 2023, the Non Domestic Rates poundage for 2023/24 and estimated rateable values for 2023/24 and has been determined at £64,303,198**
- 15) **That Cabinet Members, in consultation with the S.151 Officer, have authority to vary Capital Schemes and their associated funding within or across Portfolios in order to manage any potential overspending or funding shortfall or to respond to emerging priorities**
- 16) **That Cabinet Members, in consultation with the S.151 Officer, have authority to vire funding between Portfolios (both Revenue and Capital Budgets) in order to manage any potential overspending or funding shortfall or to respond to emerging priorities**
- 17) **The City Council note that Prudential Borrowing can only be used as a source of capital finance for Invest to Save Schemes.**

3.3 That the S.151 Officer has determined that the Council Tax base for the financial Year 2023/24 will be 57,480.6 [item T in the formula in Section 31 B(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”).]

3.4 That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the financial year 2023/24 in accordance with Section 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a)	£518,369,198	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
(b)	£423,591,161	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
(c)	£94,778,037	Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3.4 (a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3.4 (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Act.
(d)	£1,648.87	Being the amount at 3.4(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item 3.3 above (Item T), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

(e) Valuation Bands (Portsmouth City Council)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,099.25	1,282.45	1,465.66	1,648.87	2,015.29	2,381.70	2,748.12	3,297.74

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 3.4 (d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in Valuation Band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings in different valuation bands.

3.5 That it be noted that for the financial year 2023/24 the Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner is consulting upon the following amounts for the precept to be issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands (Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
167.64	195.58	223.52	251.46	307.34	363.22	419.10	502.92

3.6 That it be noted that for the financial year 2023/24 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority it is estimated that the following amounts for the precept issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands (Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Authority)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
53.62	62.56	71.49	80.43	98.30	116.18	134.05	160.86

3.7 That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3.4(e), 3.5 and 3.6 above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 31A, 31B and 34 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the financial year 2023/24 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands (Total Council Tax)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,320.51	1,540.59	1,760.67	1,980.76	2,420.93	2,861.10	3,301.27	3,961.52

3.8 The Council determines in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2023/24, which represents a 4.99% increase, is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC of the Act; and it be noted that:

- i) The 4.99% increase includes a 2.0% increase to support the delivery of Adult Social Care
- ii) As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority (the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire or the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Authority) that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2023/24 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

3.9 The S.151 Officer be given delegated authority to implement any variation to the overall level of Council Tax arising from the final notification of the Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority precepts.

^[1] Council Tax increases beyond the referendum threshold can only be implemented following a "Yes" vote in a local referendum

^[2] Includes Retained Business Rates £38,841,437, "Top Up" £6,284,998, a surplus on the Collection Fund of £2,984,906 plus S.31 Grants of £16,191,857 for compensation due to national Government business rate relief initiatives

8. Review of Political Proportionality on Committees and Panels

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Charlotte Gerada

That Full Council adopt the overall political balance and allocation of seats as set out in the Chief Executive's report with Cllr Cal Corkery reappointed as a non aligned independent member to the Employment Committee and the Scrutiny Management Panel and Cllr Kirsty Mellor reappointed as a non aligned independent member to the Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel and note:

- (i) That Cllr Kirsty Mellor has gifted her seat on the Licensing Committee to the Labour Group. The Labour Group already has three members appointed to this committee and consequently there is no change in membership of the Licensing Committee;
- (ii) That the appointment of Employment Committee Chair will be dealt with as a separate matter under this agenda item; and
- (iii) That the appointment of Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel Chair will be dealt with as a separate matter under this agenda item.

Following a vote, the proposal was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Full Council adopted the overall political balance and allocation of seats as set out in the Chief Executive's report with Cllr Cal Corkery reappointed as a non aligned independent member to the Employment Committee and the Scrutiny Management Panel and Cllr Kirsty Mellor reappointed as a non aligned independent member to the Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel.

Council NOTED that:

- (i) **Councillor Kirsty Mellor had gifted her seat on the Licensing Committee to the Labour Group. The Labour Group already had three members appointed to this committee and**

consequently there was no change in membership of the Licensing Committee;

- (ii) the appointment of Employment Committee Chair would be dealt with as a separate matter under this agenda item; and**
- (iii) the appointment of Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel Chair would be dealt with as a separate matter under this agenda item.**

The Lord Mayor invited nominations for the position of Employment Committee Chair.

It was

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

That Councillor Cal Corkery be appointed as Employment Committee Chair.

Following a vote the proposal was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor Cal Corkery be appointed as Employment Committee Chair.

The Lord Mayor invited nominations for the position of Health & Social Care Scrutiny Panel Chair.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Charlotte Gerada

That Councillor Kirsty Mellor be appointed as Chair of the Health & Social Care Scrutiny Panel.

Following a vote the proposal was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Councillor Kirsty Mellor be appointed as Chair of the Health & Social Care Scrutiny Panel.

9. Notices of Motion

10. Provision for Healthcare in Hilsea

It was

Proposed by Councillor Russell Simpson
Seconded by Councillor George Madgwick

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

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Scott Payter-Harris
Seconded by Councillor Daniel Wemyss

To amend paragraph one as below, so it reads:

'Hilsea is currently the only ward in Portsmouth without any form of GP provision as well as only one Pharmacy which has recently applied to ~~move to another ward~~ **merge with another branch in Kingston Road and thus close the current branch in Hilsea**. There are no hospitals, walk in centres, private doctors or NHS doctors within the ward. Elderly and the more vulnerable residents struggle to attend local healthcare provisions, and this effects the level of care they receive.'

Delete paragraph two and replace with the below so it reads:

'The Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework: 2019 to 2024 commits £2.592 billion each year to the sector. In September 2022, the Government announced a one-off £100 million investment into pharmacy for the remainder of the five year deal. The agreement also includes new and expanded services in community pharmacy. Full Council notes when market prices go up and pharmacies cannot purchase products at or below the Drug Tariff NHS reimbursement price, the Pharmaceutical Service Negotiating Committee can request the Department to reconsider the reimbursement price and set a concessionary price. Concessionary prices are established using real time data from suppliers to generate prices that are reflective of the overall market.'

Delete paragraph 3 and insert the below, so it reads:

'Full Council commends the recent success of the NHS dentist services opening up in Portsmouth and hopes to build on this success. Full Council would like to place on its record its thanks to the MP for Portsmouth North, MP for Portsmouth South and the Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care for their extensive work in this area.'

Delete paragraph 4 and insert the below so it reads:

'Full Council requests that the Health and Well-Being Board uses its extensive knowledge of the sector and works on a method to try to bring a GP surgery to Hilsea and ensure Pharmacy provision remains. Full Council notes the Health and Well-Being Board acknowledge the proposed merger of the Rowlands Pharmacy branch in London Road with Kingston Road and advises it creates a gap in provision. Full Council requests that the relevant spokespersons and ward councillors are updated by October 2023 on progress.'

Following debate, the proposer of the original motion, Councillor Russell Simpson did not agree to subsume the amendment put by Councillor Scott Payter-Harris into the motion.

Council voted on the amendment in the name of Councillor Scott Payter-Harris.

Following the vote the amendment was declared LOST.

Council voted on the original motion in the name of Councillor Russell Simpson.

Following the vote the motion was declared CARRIED.

It was therefore RESOLVED that:

Hilsea is currently the only ward in Portsmouth without any form of GP provision as well as only one Pharmacy which has recently applied to move to another ward. There are no hospitals, walk in centres, private doctors or NHS doctors within the ward. Elderly and the more vulnerable residents struggle to attend local healthcare provisions, and this effects the level of care they receive.

The Government has cut the budget for community pharmacies by £200m in 2017/18, and the new contract is not linked to inflation. By default, the Government is forcing pharmacies, including local ones, into possible bankruptcy and/or looking at alternative methods to stay in business.

Whilst appreciating that there is a local and national issue facing us in relation to the lack of GPs and Pharmacists, this shouldn't negate the fact that as a local authority we should strive for improvements for our residents as and where possible. Full Council commends the recent success of the NHS dentist services opening up in Portsmouth and hopes to build on this success.

Full Council condemns the actions of the Government in relation to cutting funds for local pharmacies. Full Council requests that the Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care works on a method to try to bring a GP surgery to Hilsea and a Pharmacy, if Hilsea loses it's only one in London Road, when possible in the future. To update relevant opposition spokespersons and ward councillors before July 2023 on progress.

11. Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17.

Two questions from members had been received under Standing Order No.17.

The first question was from Councillor George Madgwick.

"We, as a council, have still not got an appointed person on the Kings Theatre Trust. We were originally told in Quarter 3 of 2022 it would be a month delay, then three months delayed. We are now almost at the end of the municipal

year and we still don't have an appointment on the Kings Theatre Trust. Why is this?"

In the absence of the Cabinet Member a written response would be provided.

The second question was from Councillor George Madgwick.

" In Quarter 1 of 2022 Councillors for Paulsgrove proposed a CIL application for a one-way system in Beverston Road and Bromyard Crescent. In months preceding this, surveys were completed, and an official CIL bid went in later 2022. At the start of 2023 all councillors agreed to the CIL and the funds were drawn down. Since then, we have had nothing but excuses for delays to the completion of this. Residents are becoming frustrated. When does the department intend to complete the works that have been surveyed, agreed and funded for almost a year ago?

In the absence of the Cabinet Member a written response would be provided.

The meeting concluded at 4.23 pm.

.....
Lord Mayor