



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL



Agenda & minutes

Full Council meeting of
Tuesday, 12 December 2023

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Portsmouth City Council

AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL will be held in the Council Chamber - The Guildhall **at 2.10pm or the conclusion of the Extraordinary Meeting if later** 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:-

Agenda

- 1 Declaration of Members' Interests**
- 2 To approve as a correct record the Minutes of 14 November 2023**
(Pages 9 - 22)
- 3 Apologies for absence**
- 4 To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor may desire to lay before the Council**
- 5 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 (james.harris@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) by 12 noon of the working day before the meeting (so Monday 11 December 2023 for this meeting), and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendations). Email requests are accepted.
- 6 Questions from the Public under Standing Order 25.**
- 7 Appointments**
- 8 Urgent Business - To receive and consider any urgent and important business from Members of the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order No 26.**
- 9 Treasury Management Mid-Year Review 2023/24** (Pages 23 - 36)

To receive and consider the attached report and noting recommendation from Cabinet held on 28 November 2023. The report has also been considered by the Governance & Audit and Standards Committee.
- 10 Exclusion of Press & Public**

“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 report(s) contain 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 item is shown below.

Members of the public may make representation as to why the item should be held in open session. A statement of the Council’s response to representations received will be given at the meeting so that this can be taken into account when members decide whether or not to deal with the item under exempt business.

(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 invited to return their exempt documentation to the Senior Local Democracy Officer at the conclusion of the meeting for shredding).

Item 11 Housing Revenue Account Residential Stock Portfolio Acquisition Appendices 1, 4 & 7	Paragraph 3
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11 Housing Revenue Account Residential Stock Portfolio Acquisition
(Pages 37 - 78)

To receive and consider the attached report and recommendation from Cabinet held on 28 November 2023.

Please note that Appendices 1, 4 and 7 (circulated within the separate exempt annex to this agenda) contain exempt information as specified under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended):

'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).'

12 Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan: Partial Update –Proposed Submission Plan (Pages 79 - 90)

To receive and consider the attached report and recommendation from Cabinet held on 28 November 2023.

13 Unauthorised Encampments (Pages 91 - 106)

To receive and consider the attached report and noting recommendation from Cabinet held on 28 November 2023.

This item arose from a Notice of Motion agreed by Council on 18 July 2023.

14 Tipner West & Horsea Island East Regeneration (Pages 107 - 124)

To receive and consider the attached report and noting recommendation from the special meeting of the Cabinet held on 4 December 2023.

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.

15 Notices of Motion

(a) Ceasefire in Gaza

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Abdul Kadir

As a City Council we support a lasting peace and a two-state solution in Israel and Palestine. In the face of the horrific violence of recent weeks, we are clear that a lasting peace is the only way to guarantee the dignity and security which both Palestinians and Israelis deserve.

Hamas' terrorist attacks on October 7th shocked the world. We condemn them and the taking of hostages, unequivocally. Hamas cannot, for the security of Israelis nor the future of Palestinians, be allowed to continue in charge of Gaza.

Right now we have a disaster. Charities and NGOs working on the ground in Gaza have reported how devastating a humanitarian catastrophe we are facing. Thousands of innocent civilians have already been killed, including thousands of children. The humanitarian crisis just seems to get worse. Essential supplies like water, food, medicine and fuel still remain in very short supply or totally cut off from Gaza. And many people are still held hostage, including children. The risk of regional escalation remains a significant threat.

Over two months since Hamas' atrocities, it is increasingly clear that a military solution to eliminate Hamas is not possible. Nor is it tenable for Israel to reoccupy Gaza.

Only a sustained political and diplomatic solution will resolve this conflict and deliver a lasting peace. We urgently need movement towards that solution now. The answer is via an immediate bilateral ceasefire. Whilst the recent truce is to be welcomed, a temporary freezing of the conflict is not acceptable. It leaves Hamas in place in Gaza.

Freezing the conflict doesn't look to the future and will do nothing to bring about that long term security nor guarantee the return of the

remaining hostages.

A ceasefire cannot be an end in itself, even though it is very clearly needed now to stop the bloodshed and trauma for Palestinians and Israelis. It is temporary by its very definition; it is a step towards peace. It is contingent upon both parties sticking to it. If one party breaks the ceasefire, a military option remains on the table.

We are not naive about the difficulties involved in getting to this position. It may require a cessation in hostilities, as has already been called for, to create the basis for a ceasefire. We welcome any progress, however small, towards this goal. Nor will it be easy to rid Gaza of Hamas.

Maximum pressure now needs to be applied on all parties, with tough conditions carefully monitored and verified. That will require a huge and sustained effort from the international community and the UN, with a particular role to be played by Arab neighbours.

This City Council calls for an end to this conflict, and to the killing of thousands of innocent civilians, while ensuring that we do not return to how things were before October 7th. Movement towards a political solution, putting us back on the path to two states, is needed more than ever.

This Council also sends its warmest wishes to our sister city of Haifa in Israel and acknowledges the tragic personal losses suffered by her residents.

The Council also notes that Haifa is in many ways a beacon of hope for a future of peaceful Jewish and Arab co-existence and we hope its residents are spared any further suffering as a result of the current conflict.

(b) **Avoid an Increase in Council Tax Next Financial Year**

Proposed by Councillor Matthew Atkins
Seconded by Councillor Ryan Brent

This council calls on the Administration to prepare a budget for the next financial year that makes a serious effort to avoid raising council tax.

To this end we call on the Cabinet to publish and consider at least one serious budget proposal before the Full Council Meeting at which the budget is considered that either avoids a raise in Council Tax entirely or raises council tax by at least a full percentage point less than the maximum allowed without a referendum.

(c) **Southern Water**

Proposed by Councillor Leo Madden
Seconded by Councillor Jason Fazackarley

Council notes that Southern Water has advanced plans to increase domestic water bills by at least 55% in order to fund its environmental cleanup programme and shareholder payouts.

Customers in the area covered by Southern Water should not be penalised because of Southern Water's long-term mismanagement and incompetence.

Council asserts that Southern Water should be properly investing in its network to eliminate sewage discharges rather than expecting customers to bear the responsibility of shareholders.

Southern Water has a long history of "misreporting" its performance and being fined not only by Ofwat but by courts for polluting our waters.

Council calls on all group leaders to sign a joint letter to the Secretary of State for the Environment and to the Chief Executive of Southern Water demanding a freeze on the proposed increase in customers' bills and asks our local MPs to do likewise.

(d) **Recycling of Domestic Waste**

Proposed by Councillor Graham Heaney
Seconded by Councillor George Fielding

The most recent data published by DEFRA on local authority recycling rates (2021/22) show that Portsmouth is 325th out of 343 local authorities rated for the percentage of household waste that is recycled. The figures show Portsmouth recycles 27.1% of its household waste.

We welcome the introduction and extension of food waste collection but despite this it is estimated that the recycling rate for 2022/23 will be 27.9%.

Council notes that in future household waste recycling plans will need to take account of recent government announcements about how increases in recycling can be achieved.

Residents support the recycling of waste but the level of improvement in the recycling rate in Portsmouth has been limited so far.

Therefore, Council requests that the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services develop a plan, including specific measures, and an estimated timescale, to increase the rate of recycling of household waste collected in Portsmouth.

16 Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17.
(Pages 125 - 128)

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 Senior Local Democracy Officer at James.Harris@portsmouthcc.gov.uk.

Civic Offices
Guildhall Square
PORTSMOUTH
4 December 2023