

NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS

THURSDAY, 23 MARCH 2023 AT 10.00 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBER - THE GUILDHALL, PORTSMOUTH

Telephone enquiries to Allison Harper 023 9268 8014
Email: democratic@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

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

Membership

Councillor Darren Sanders (Cabinet Member)

Councillor Charlotte Gerada
Councillor George Madgwick

Councillor Daniel Wemyss

(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

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 recommendations). Email requests are accepted.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Declarations of Interest**

3 Council Housing Maintenance and Improvement and Housing IT Business Software 2023/2024 (Pages 5 - 52)

Purpose of Report

The revised 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 Housing Investment Programme capital budgets together with the proposed programmes for 2024/2025 to 2028/2029 were approved by the City Council on 28th February 2023^[1].

The Council Housing Repairs & Maintenance revenue Budgets for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 were approved at the Housing and Preventing Homelessness Cabinet Decision meeting on 2nd February 2023^[2].

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the spending proposed for the next financial year for revenue and capital funded maintenance and improvement programmes for the City Council's retained housing stock together with Housing IT Business Software. To seek approval to incur expenditure in respect of the capital schemes and rolling programmes and to show how the budgets have been allocated on an area office basis.

The report will also update the Cabinet Member on the year end position on the delivery of the 2022/23 Repairs & Maintenance capital programme, the forecast spend against the approved budget and to highlight any future issues.

Recommendations

- 1. That the allocation of finance for the funding of the Revenue Budgets for repairs and maintenance of dwellings listed in Appendix A be noted.**
- 2. That the allocation of capital budgets listed in Appendix B and Appendix C for 2023/2024 be agreed and the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services be authorised to seek approval from the Director of Finance and Resources (Section 151 Officer) under Financial Rules, Section B11, to proceed with schemes within the sums allocated.**
- 3. That the Cabinet Member notes the year end position and progress of the 2022/23 Repairs and Maintenance budget plan and capital spend.**

^[1] [Revenue Capital Budget 2023 24 Report February 2023 24 Cabinet.pdf \(portsmouth.gov.uk\)](#)

^[2] [Agenda for Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness on Thursday, 2nd February, 2023, 10.00 am Portsmouth City Council](#)

4 Updated Safeguarding Policy for the Play, Youth and Community Services (PYC) (Pages 53 - 80)

Purpose of Report

To seek approval for the implementation of the updated Safeguarding Policy for the Play and Youth and Community Services operated by Housing, Neighbourhood and Building (HNB) Services.

Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness approves the policy attached and marked as Appendix A.

5 Update on Housing Revenue Account Asset Management Strategy (Pages 81 - 134)

Purpose of Report

The report was requested by Councillor Darren Sanders, Cabinet Member and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Preventing Homelessness.

The purpose of this report is for information only and provides the Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness with an update on the Portsmouth City Council Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Asset Management Strategy (AMS)

6 Private Rental Sector Mediation Pilot for Portsmouth (Pages 135 - 156)

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to present a summary of the performance of the Private Rental Sector mediation service pilot.

The report provides several measures of performance of the service including the number of referrals and the outcomes from cases for the pilot mediation scheme to date. The report also sets out the cost of the scheme to date.

Recommendations

- 1. That the Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness notes the information in this report regarding the demand for the mediation service and the outcomes of the cases that have gone through the system.**
- 2. That the Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness agrees to end the Pilot scheme on 31st March 2023.**
- 3. That the Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness reviews the situation if there is a need for this service in the future and demand supports it.**

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Public health guidance for staff and the public due to Winter coughs, colds and viruses, including Covid-19

- Following the government announcement 'Living with Covid-19' made on 21 February 2022 and the end of universal free testing from 1 April 2022, attendees are no longer required to undertake any asymptomatic/ lateral flow test within 48 hours of the meeting; however, we still encourage attendees to follow the public health 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 any boosters they are eligible for.
- If unwell we encourage you not to attend the meeting but to stay at home. Updated government guidance from 1 April 2022 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 2022, anyone with a positive Covid-19 test result is still being advised to follow this guidance for five days, which is the period when you are most infectious.
- We encourage those attendees with an underlying health condition 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 protects us from coughs, colds and winter viruses, including Covid-19.
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