



# NOTICE OF MEETING

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## CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

THURSDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 5.00 PM

Telephone enquiries to Karen Martin, Tel: 023 9284 1704  
Email: karen.martin2@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

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

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## CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

Councillor Suzy Horton (Liberal Democrat)

### Group Spokespersons

Councillor Ryan Brent, Conservative  
Councillor Chris Dike, Portsmouth Independents Party  
Councillor George Fielding, Labour

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

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## AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declarations of Members' Interests
- 3 DSG Budget 2024-2025 (Pages 5 - 18)

### Purpose

To inform The Cabinet Member of the progress towards the initial determination of the schools budget (including individual schools budgets for 2024-25) and to seek the necessary approvals and endorsements required.

**RECOMMENDED - that the Cabinet Member:**

- a) Approves the determination of the Schools Budget for 2024-25 as set out in Appendix 1.
- b) Approves the proposal to use carry forward balances to fund the shortfall in 2024-25 and manage any potential financial pressures during the financial year.
- c) Approves the 2024-25 Element 3 Top-up values for Special Schools, Inclusion Centres, Alternative Provision Settings and Mainstream, Schools as set out in Appendix 2.
- d) Notes the decision by the Maintained School members of Schools Forum to approve the de-delegation of the Education functions related the Monitoring and Brokering grant for 2024-25 at £10.42 per pupil.

**4 Carers' Fees and Allowances Policy for Portsmouth Fostering Service (Pages 19 - 62)**

Purpose

To inform the Cabinet Member of the Carers' Fees and Allowances Policy for Portsmouth 2024-25 as seen in Appendix A, and to seek approval for the proposed financial increases to the Foster Carers Fees and Allowances.

**RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet Member:**

- a) Approves the proposal to change the payment structure and increase the Skills Fees for Foster Carers and related Allowances. It is proposed that that this updated policy takes effect from 7 April 2024.
- b) Agrees that delegated authority is with the Deputy Director, Children & Families (in conjunction with the Section 151 Officer) to approve an annual uplift to the standard fostering allowance in line with the national minimum guidance. This will include the following which are linked to the standard fostering allowance:
  - Birthday & Religious Festival Allowance;
  - Foster Carers Leave;
  - Family Link; and
  - Activities Allowance

**5 School Travel Assistance Policies (Pages 63 - 102)**

Purpose

To approve the updated Travel Assistance Policy for children of statutory school age (5-16) and the Travel Assistance Statement for post-16 learners for 2024/25.

**RECOMMENDED - that the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education agrees the attached Travel Assistance Policy for children of statutory school age (5-16) and the Travel Assistance Statement for post-16 learners for 2024/25.**

**6 Appointment to UTC Board (Pages 103 - 104)**

Purpose

To seek agreement to the appointment of Portsmouth City Council's Chief Executive, Natalie Brahma-Pearl, to the UTC Portsmouth as a member of the company.

**RECOMMENDED - that Natalie Brahma-Pearl, Portsmouth City Council's Chief Executive, be appointed by the Council to the UTC Portsmouth as a member of the company.**

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