



**Notification to all Members of the council
of decisions by the Cabinet**

Issued by Democratic Services

Wednesday 7 February 2024

The details set out below will be published in the next Members' Information Service, but in the meantime are notified to all Councillors in accordance with Rule 15(a) of the Policy and Review Panels Procedure Rules

The following decisions have been taken by the Cabinet (or individual Cabinet members) and will be implemented unless the call-in procedure is activated. Rule 15 of the Policy and Review Procedure Rules requires a call-in notice to be signed by any 5 members of the Council. The call-in request must be made to democratic@portsmouthcc.gov.uk and must be made by not later than 5 pm on Wednesday 14 February 2024.

If you want to know more about a proposal, please contact the officer indicated. You can also see the report(s) on the Council's web site at www.portsmouth.gov.uk

	WARD	DECISION	OFFICER CONTACT
		Cabinet Decision Meeting - 6 February 2024 The Cabinet has made the following decisions:-	Anna Martyn - Tel 023 9283 4870 Democratic@portsmouthcc.gov.uk
4	All wards	Portsmouth Cemeteries Delivery Plan DECISIONS: 1. Approved that the Cemeteries Delivery Plan is distributed to key user groups for consultation. 2. Agreed that the Delivery Plan will be reviewed following receipt of any responses and brought back to Cabinet at a future date for adoption.	Mark Woolnough, Built Environment & Recreation Manager
5	All wards	Parks and Open Spaces Strategy DECISION: Formally adopted the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.	Adrian Rozier, Parks Development Manager
6	All wards	Community Inclusion Grants	Lee Todd, Head of

	WARD	DECISION	OFFICER CONTACT
		<p>DECISION:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the report which is for information only and is not subject to call-in.</p>	Marketing, Communications & Engagement
7	All wards	<p>UK Shared Prosperity Fund Year 2 Interim Report</p> <p>DECISION:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the report which is for information only and is subject to call-in.</p>	Jane Lamer, Head of Economic Development & Skills
8	All wards	<p>Supporting residents with the cost of living</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approved the plan to deliver cost of living support to residents through the service delivery outlined in Appendix 1, subject to the Council budget-setting process and any announcement from Government on HSF or other funding for local authorities to provide cost of living support. 2. Delegated to the Director of Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services, the implementation of the plan and adjustments to the plan and spend, in the event that other funding sources become available, in agreement with the Leader and S.151 officer. 3. Asked the Tackling Poverty Coordinator to continue to work with partner agencies and residents to ensure we have a joined up, partnership approach to cost of living support, making best use of resources across the statutory, voluntary and community sectors. 4. Noted the Leader's letters sent to the Secretaries of State at the Department for Work and Pensions and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities shown in Appendix 2, and agrees to continue to lobby Government for additional funding for Local Authorities, to enable us to provide more comprehensive local welfare provision and support to residents affected by the ongoing cost of living crisis. 5. Placed on record their thanks for the cross-directorate working group which has supported the implementation of the delivery of the Household Support Fund in 2023/24 and produced a plan to sustain a package of cost of living support throughout 2024/25. 6. Also placed on record a note of special thanks to 	Mark Sage, Tackling Poverty Co-ordinator

	WARD	DECISION	OFFICER CONTACT
		<p>the teams across the Council who have delivered support to residents affected by the cost of living crisis, and to the Council's Tackling Poverty Coordinator and the Household Support Fund delivery team who have administered the HSF in 2023/24. The setting up of a delivery team, designing application processes to deliver the grant to households throughout the city in the same financial year the grant was received is noted as exemplary work.</p>	
9	All wards	<p>Council Tax Support Fund</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreed that where funds remain available after making reductions as outlined in the core scheme's provisions, that Portsmouth City Council apply the discount as described within the core scheme to those chargepayers who become eligible for LCTS in respect of the 2023/24 financial year between 03 March 2023 and 31 March 2024. Any award will be calculated in the same way as those residents that received support from the core scheme within their 2023/24 annual bill. This will, in effect, treat all new recipients of LCTS in the same way as those that were receiving LCTS when annual council tax bills were prepared. 2. Agreed that should it become apparent that funding will be remaining above what is required for the activity detailed in 2.1, the Council will use its discretion to further support vulnerable households in receipt of LCTS where hardship has been identified through the council tax recovery process. 3. Approved the proposed policy accompanying the report. 	Chris Ward, Director of Finance and Resources
10	All wards	<p>Council Tax Premiums on Second Homes and Empty Properties</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommended that Full Council resolves to implement a 100% premium for second homes which will be effective from 01 April 2025, the earliest opportunity for the Council to introduce this change. 2. Further recommended that Full Council resolves 	Chris Ward, Director of Finance and Resources

	WARD	DECISION	OFFICER CONTACT
		to implement a 100% premium for properties that have been empty and unfurnished for a period between 1 and 5 years. This will change to current policy of charging a 100% premium where a property is empty and unfurnished for period between 2 and 5 years.	
11	All wards	<p>Portsmouth City Council Budget and Council Tax 2024/2025 and Medium Term Budget Forecast 2025/2026 to 2027/2028</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <p>Cabinet recommended to Council that the recommendations set out in section 3 of the report be approved.</p>	Chris Ward, Director of Finance and Resources
12	All wards	<p>Integration of LEP Functions into Upper Tier Local Authorities</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted that subject to meeting certain conditions (see paragraph 3.3) the Government is looking to integrate a number of existing LEP functions into UTLAs. 2. Noted that to meet the conditions, and to maintain a focus on the Solent area, Portsmouth City Council (PCC) will need to work with Southampton City Council and the Isle of Wight Council to take on these functions through the creation of a new joint UTLA Board. 3. Agreed that, subject to the three Solent UTLA area being recognised by the Government as an area for LEP integration, with appropriate due diligence, PCC should become a Member of Solent Partners (SP), a company limited by guarantee, that is a successor body to the Solent LEP, to help drive economic growth in the sub-region. This agreement to be conditional on Isle of Wight Council and Southampton City similarly agreeing to become Members of Solent Partners. 4. Agreed that PCC should not appoint a Director to the Board of Solent Partners to ensure that there is no conflict of interest with the wider governance needed for the new LEP integration arrangements. PCC will seek appropriate requirements, within the articles of Solent Partners, to ensure representatives of the three Solent ULTAs are entitled to observe board 	Paddy May, Corporate Strategy Manager

	WARD	DECISION	OFFICER CONTACT
		<p>meetings.</p> <p>5. Noted the proposed draft governance structure attached as Appendix 1 that shows how PCC should work with partners to achieve our economic growth ambitions which will need to be outlined in an updated Solent 2050 Strategy.</p> <p>6. Agreed that subject to the agreement of SCC and IOWC, PCC is confirmed as the Accountable Body for Solent Partners.</p> <p>7. Agreed that PCC, as the accountable body, agrees that any existing LEP funding, disaggregated to the three Solent UTLAs can be pooled (subject to the agreement of Isle of Wight Council and Southampton City Council), for the benefit of economic growth of the region.</p> <p>8. Agreed that PCC, as one of the three UTLAs, will work with partners to develop an agreement on how Solent Partners will deliver economic growth for the functional economic area.</p> <p>9. Agreed that delegated authority be jointly given to the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director of Finance and S151 officer, to agree the final details of the transfer of LEP functions to the UTLAs including future governance arrangements.</p> <p>10. Agreed that PCC should seek to support the creation of a Solent Economic Partnership, inviting adjacent Districts and Boroughs, Hampshire County Council, and other key public sector stakeholders, to enable Local Authorities leaders and leaders within the business community to have a regular opportunity to discuss and support economic growth in the region.</p> <p>11. Noted the intention to agree disaggregation of assets held by the LEP to the Accountable Body on behalf of the Upper Tier Local Authorities (subject to the agreement of the three Solent unitary UTLAs).</p>	
13	St Jude, Eastney & Craneswater Hilsea, Copnor, Baffins, Milton	<p>Southsea and North Portsea Island Coastal Schemes updates</p> <p>DECISION:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the report which is for information only and is not subject to call-in.</p>	Guy Mason, Project Director

	WARD	DECISION	OFFICER CONTACT
14	All wards	Corporate Parenting Strategy 2023-2026 DECISION: Agreed that Portsmouth City Council adopt the Corporate Parenting Strategy.	Mark Jowett, Head of Children We Care For