



NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET (EXTRAORDINARY MEETING)

WEDNESDAY, 8 JANUARY 2025 AT 6.00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBER - THE GUILDHALL, PORTSMOUTH

Telephone enquiries to Democratic Services - 023 9283 4870

Email: Democratic@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Membership

Councillor Steve Pitt (Chair), Councillor Dave Ashmore (Cabinet Member), Councillor Chris Attwell (Cabinet Member), Councillor Kimberly Barrett (Cabinet Member), Councillor Peter Candlish (Cabinet Member), Councillor Suzy Horton (Cabinet Member), Councillor Lee Hunt (Cabinet Member), Councillor Hugh Mason (Cabinet Member) and Councillor Matthew Winnington (Cabinet Member)
Councillor Darren Sanders (Vice-Chair)

(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 for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interests
- 3 Hampshire & The Solent Devolution Agreement and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) (Pages 3 - 12)

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Cabinet for a letter to be submitted proposing that Portsmouth City Council should actively seek to be part of a Hampshire & The Solent Devolution Agreement with a Directly Elected Mayor as part of the Devolution Priority Programme (DPP) and that the Leader and Chief Executive should be given delegated authority to negotiate and provisionally agree matters related to devolution and priority

options for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended:

- a) To agree that Portsmouth City Council should seek to be a part of the Hampshire & The Solent Devolution Agreement thereby avoiding a Ministerial direction for what a devolved area will look like.
- b) Assuming recommendation a) is agreed, that Portsmouth City Council, alongside our partner upper tier authorities in Hampshire & The Solent, should seek to be part of the national Devolution Priority Programme (DPP) and submit a letter to Government to this effect.
- c) To note that in agreeing recommendations a) and b), and subject to the Government agreeing that Hampshire and the Solent should be part of the DPP, that Portsmouth will be asked to submit outline proposals for LGR in March 2025 and final proposals in the Autumn (rather than final proposals in May 2025).
- d) To give delegated authority to the Leader and to the Chief Executive to negotiate and take forward devolution and LGR discussions with other authorities and with The Government.
- e) To agree that further papers will come to Cabinet (and Council where appropriate) about progress in these policy areas.

30 December 2024