City of Portsmouth
MEMBERS' INFORMATION SERVICE

NO 39 **DATE: FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER 2010**

The Members' Information Service produced in the Customer, Community & Democratic Services Unit by Joanne Wildsmith has been prepared in three parts -

Part 1 - Decisions by the Cabinet and individual Cabinet Members, subject to Councillors' right to have the matter called in for scrutiny.

Part 2 - Proposals from Managers which they would like to implement subject to Councillors' right to have the matter referred to the relevant Cabinet Member or Regulatory Committee; and

Part 3 - Items of general information and news.

Part 1 - Decisions by the Cabinet

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 Panels 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 JOANNE WILDSMITH (Democratic Support Officer) and must be received by not later than 5 pm on the date shown in the item.

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

	WARD	DECISION	OFFICER CONTACT
1		**Cabinet Member for Education Decision Meeting – 24 September** The Cabinet Member has made the following decisions:- **Provisional End of Key Stages 1, 2 and GCSE Results 2010** The Cabinet Member noted the overall performance as the results are provisional and will receive an updated report on final results and comparative performance when confirmed data are available in early 2011. **Schools' Balances 31st March 2010** (1) The Cabinet Member noted the proposed use of balances outlined in appendices 1 and 2. (2) The Cabinet Member approved the proposed claw back of excessive uncommitted balances of £45,156 as outlined in paragraph 4.6, as directed by Department for Education. (3) The Local Authority will continue to monitor the level of school balances and challenges all schools with high balances to ensure that resources are being targeted at key issues within the school. **Budget Monitoring report for the First Quarter 2010/11** The Cabinet Member noted the report. **NB: Call in date – Monday 4 October**	**Vicki Plytas** **Customer, Community & Democratic Services** **Tel: 9283 4058**
2		**Cabinet Member for Children's Services Decision Meeting – 27 September 2010** The Cabinet Member has made the following decisions:- **Budget Monitoring report for the First Quarter 2010/11** The Cabinet Member accepted the recommendation that the Head of Safeguarding in consultation with the Children's Services Portfolio Holder prepares an action plan to be considered by Cabinet not later than 8 November 2010 outlining how the 2010/11 forecast outturn or 2011/12 budget might be reduced to alleviate the adverse variances currently being forecast within this portfolio subject to statutory obligations placed on the Local Authority.	**Vicki Plytas** **Customer, Community & Democratic Services** **Tel: 9283 4058**

	Contd/…	**Recruitment & Retention Strategy** The strategy was accepted by the Cabinet Member and will form the basis for CSC recruitment and retention activity. **Fostering Services – Statement of Purpose** The Statement of Purpose for Portsmouth City Council Fostering Service as a clear demonstration of the aims and objectives of the service and as a mechanism to ensure high standards of service delivery was approved by the Cabinet Member. **NB: Call in date – Wednesday 6 October**	
3		**Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety's Decision Meeting - 29 September 2010** Councillor Eleanor Scott made the following decisions: • **Speaking Out Survey 3** The Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety noted the findings of the report and agreed the re-configuration of the Racial Awareness Service into a casework service with a broader hate crime remit to enable an independent casework response to homophobic crime in Portsmouth. • **Stray Dog Service – Managing Sponsorships, Grants and Donations** The "Stray Dog Service – Approval matrix for sponsorships, grants and donations" in section 3.3 of the report was approved and it was agreed that an 'earmarked' reserve should be created. This reserve to hold any in year surplus of donations and expenditure from the reserve to follow the corporate rules on expenditure from reserves. **NB: Call in date – Friday 8 October**	**Karen Martin** **Customer, Community & Democratic Services** **Tel: 9283 4052**

Part 2 - Proposals from Managers for Implementation

The following proposals have been brought forward. The Managers indicated will exercise their powers to approve the proposal unless a Councillor requests the item be referred for decision to the relevant Cabinet Member or Regulatory Committee. **Your request must be made to JOANNE WILDSMITH (Democratic Support Officer) and must be received by not later than 5 pm on Friday 8 October 2010 . An email or handwritten letter will suffice.**

If you want to know more about a proposal, please contact the Officer indicated.

PORTFOLIO: RESOURCES **FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER 2010**

	WARD	SUBJECT AND PROPOSAL	OFFICER CONTACT
4		**Caen Foundation Grant – Miltoncross School** **Proposal:** that a grant of £90 be approved, as outlined below. An application for a grant from the Caen Foundation has been received for Miltoncross School to represent Portsmouth at the Caen International Fair taking place from 12 to 14 November 2010. A party of 6 children and 2 adults will attend at the invitation of the Mayor of Caen. Subject to all the terms of the foundation, a grant of £90 is supported by the Resources portfolio holder.	**Peter Smith-Parkyn Customer, Community & Democratic Services Tel: 9268 8361**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

The Head of Planning Services will exercise his powers to determine the following applications in accordance with the proposed decision for each application unless a Councillor requests the application be referred for decision to Committee.

Your request should be made to the **Head of Planning Services** by telephoning **Julie Watson** (☎023 9283 4826 or 023 9283 4339 answerphone) and must be received by not later than **5 pm** on **Friday 8 October 2010**. You can also make contact by letter or by e-mail to - planningreps@portsmouthcc.gov.uk **-** If you wish to know more about a particular application, please contact the Case Officer indicated.

Item No	Application No Ward	Location Description of Development	Planning Officer's Comments	Application Type Case Officer Proposed Decision
5	10/00781/LBC St Thomas	**13 High Street Old Portsmouth Hampshire** Installation of replacement window to rear elevation	One letter of representation has been received. The objections relate to: a) the softwood will only cover the UPVC frame leaving the replacement glass which is not in the same decorative style as that of the original window; b) the new glazing is not in keeping with the fenestration or architectural style of the surrounding listed buildings including the courtyard which provides the main entrance to No13a High Street, and; c) the remedial work is unfeasible as it would overlap the front of the adjoining property. The application seeks Listed Building Consent for the installation of a UPVC window which is to be fitted with a painted softwood surround, subcill and glazing bead following the removal of a timber window with patterned obscure glass within a post war flat roofed extension to the Listed Building and linking Nos 13 and 13a High Street. It is considered that the replacement window with softwood surround and glazing bead is acceptable. It is acknowledged that the window has thicker glazing bars and contemporary obscure glazing. However, given that this part of the building is a post war addition it is not considered that the special architectural or historic interest of the building is unacceptably compromised by the replacement of this window.	Jonathan McDermott Tel: 023 9284 1470 **Conditional Consent**
6	10/00847/HOU Drayton & Farlington	**8 Old Manor Way Portsmouth Hampshire** Construction of detached garage fronting Kinross Crescent (to replace existing)	Objection is raised by a local resident who is concerned that the garage will be used in connection with the applicant's business. Reference is made to the parking of commercial vehicles on neighbouring roads most days and weekends. The imposition of a condition restricting the use of the garage to ancillary domestic use would address this objection.	Keith Oliver Tel: 023 9283 4007 **Conditional Permission**

Item No	Application No Ward	Location Description of Development	Planning Officer's Comments	Application Type Case Officer Proposed Decision
7	10/00807/ADV Milton	**The Thatched House Milton Locks Southsea** Display of 1 illuminated post sign, 3 illuminated fascia signs, 1 non illuminated menu box and 2 non illuminated vinyl signs	One letter has been received from a resident of Longshore Way objecting on the grounds that the signage is already displayed and is dominating the heritage area. The objector also comments that the signs cannot be seen from the road. The applicant seeks retrospective consent for the display of 1 illuminated post sign, 3 illuminated fascia signs and 3 non-illuminated signs within the car parking areas and around/attached to the building. The display of an illuminated panel attached to the north elevation of the building has been deleted from this application and will be removed. The signage for the most part replaces previous on-site features and are not considered to detract from either the appearance of the building or the wider surrounding area which incorporates the Milton Locks Conservation Area. None of the proposed signs would adversely affect public safety.	Nicola Frampton Tel: 023 9283 4305 **Conditional Permission**

Part 3 - Information and News Items

FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER 2010

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
8		**The Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel – 28 September** The Panel met to sign off the review into "Protection of Vulnerable Children.	**Anna Martyn** **Customer, Community & Democratic Services** **Tel: 9268 8360**
9		**Hampshire Police Authority Meeting 29 September 2010 at Portsmouth Guildhall** Cllr David Stephen Butler, The PCC appointed Member of the HPA, attended the meeting on behalf of the City Council and submits this report. The annual photograph of the Authority with the senior Hampshire Constabulary members was taken before the meeting, which was held in the Council Chamber. Agenda items included the Chief Constable's Report, the appointment of a new member for Southampton City Council, Policing in the 21st Century: Reconnecting Police and People, Independent Custody Visiting Scheme, Force Business Plan, Anti-Social Behaviour Campaign, and Single Equality Scheme. The Lord Mayor a previous member of the HPA and her Consort welcomed their members and the afternoon was spent visiting the Safer Portsmouth Partnership offices in the Civic Offices followed by visits by members to local police stations.	**Hampshire Police Authority** **Tel: 01962 871595**
10		**Update on the Information, Advice and Guidance Centre** The Information, Advice and Guidance Centre has now seen over 2000 people since opening in February. Over 22 services now deliver in partnership in the centre helping people overcome the barriers to employment and education in the city. Some of our new services in the centre include the police community officers drop in service, first aid courses and health and safety courses (both have 3 year certificate) for migrant workers and local health awareness courses. We are running a large employer event on October the 8th in partnership with Job Centre Plus and Highbury College. The aim is to reach the long term unemployed in the city and particularly focus on the young people in or leaving the future job program in the city this will give opportunity to engage with employers with live vacancies also the national apprenticeship scheme and Christmas job vacancies with Royal Mail, Boots, Argos etc	**Julie Paffett** **Department for Regeneration & Business** **Tel: 07852 442968**

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
11		**Employment Committee – Tuesday 5 October 12.15, Conference Room A, Civic Offices** At this meeting, the Committee will consider reports on • Employee Opinion survey results • Sickness absence quarterly report	**Lin Chaplen Customer, Community & Democratic Services Tel: 9283 4053**
12		**New Cycle Racks** On the basis of request and need we have been installing a quota of bike racks across the city every year. Over the coming months, new racks may be appearing in some wards or in a few cases, racks that already exist will be replaced. We will be using the type of racks that encourage the safe locking of cycles and help prevent cycle theft. The racks comply with the design and location guidance. Local businesses that may be affected have been informed. Site visits have been conducted at all locations and further visits will be conducted prior to installation to mark the exact location of where the racks will go. A copy of the location list can be obtained by contacting Jayne Rodgers on 023 9283 4590 or jayne.rodgers@portsmouthcc.gov.uk. Funding for the cycle racks is contained within existing budgets.	**Jayne Rodgers Transport & Street Management Tel: 9283 4590**
13		**Governance & Audit Committee – 30 September 2010** At this meeting, the Committee: • Received the **external audit progress report** to September 2010 • Received the **Annual Governance Report 2009/10** from the District Auditor. This gave an unqualified audit opinion, indicated that the financial statements were free from material error and that there is a satisfactory internal control environment within the City Council. The District Auditor is also satisfied that the City Council had satisfactory arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources (the Value for Money assessment). Some issues were highlighted which will be addressed in the agreed action plan. Having considered the Annual Governance Report, the Committee authorised the Financial Statements 2009/10 for issue; noted the adjustments made to the draft accounts; decided that no adjustments should be made in the 2009/10 financial statements for the items listed in Supplement 3 to the report (having heard the comments of the Section 151 Officer about them); requested the Accountancy Manager to report to the next meeting to give an	**Lin Chaplen Customer, Community & Democratic Engagement Tel: 9283 4053**

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
	Contd/…	update in relation to these outstanding items; noted the control weaknesses identified in Supplement 4 to the report and instructed the officers to address them; authorised the Chair to sign the Letter of Representation on its behalf; and approved the action plan set out in Supplement 7. The Committee thanked the District Auditor for her positive report, and thanked and congratulated the Accountancy Manager and the Financial team for their hard work in completing the audit with such good results. • Noted the Government's intention to disband the **Audit Commission** and the possible implications for the City Council. The Chair undertook to make representations to Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, on concerns expressed about what will replace the Audit Commission and the need to ensure the independence and objectiveness of the audit process. • Noted the quarter 1 **Performance Management update for 2010/11**. The committee welcomed the new format of the report and noted that the data would be refined and become more meaningful, and hence be more action focused, in Quarter 2 and subsequent reports. • Noted the **Treasury Management Monitoring** report for the first quarter of 2010/11 (which had also been submitted to Cabinet). • Authorised the Chair to sign off the **final accounts of Southsea Town Council**. The balances of the town council will not revert to the City Council, but will be distributed in accordance with decisions of the Town Council prior to its disbandment. • Noted the **Audit Performance Status** report to 27 August for the Audit Plan 2010/11. The Audit Plan is on target for completion although the number of unplanned audit days is higher than the forecast. The committee discussed a critical exception in exempt session and asked for a report to the next meeting from the S151 Officer on lessons learned. • Noted a report setting out the progress in **improving the procurement process** and ensuring the council receives value for money. The Committee has set a target to reduce the value of non-compliant expenditure to 5% by 31 March 2011, and was advised that it is expected that this target will be achieved. • Noted the inspection report from the Office of Surveillance Commissioners about the use of the **Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000** within the City Council (which is rare), and the applications authorised from February 2009 to August 2010. The Monitoring Officer has been approved as the senior responsible officer as defined in the Code, and the Governance & Audit Committee as the elected member committee to receive reports as defined in the Code. The revised RIPA policy has been approved. • Noted the annual **Anti-fraud and Investigations update**, and the update on progress in the implementation of the anti-fraud and corruption action plan.	

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
14		**Cabinet – 11 October** At the Cabinet meeting on Monday 11 October at 1pm in the Executive Meeting Room the following items are due to be considered: • PUSH Business Plan • Reorganisation of Education, Children & Young People Services • Somerstown Phase 2 PFI Outline Business Case (with exempt appendices) • Commercial Port Dredging (with exempt appendices)	**Joanne Wildsmith Customer, Community & Democratic Services Tel: 9283 4057**
15		**Local Government Association – LGA Alerts – Information sent to Local Authorities for week commencing Monday 29 September 2010** Each week the LGA sends 'LG alerts' information sheets to member authorities. The full text of all LG alerts are available to local authorities on LGAnet – the Local Government Association internet service at http://www.lga.gov.uk **LOCAL GOVERNMENT GROUP EVENTS** **Different, better, less: making the most of adult social care resources** This conference on 6 December 2010 at Local Government House, London, will bring together leading figures in finance and adult social care to look at the funding reality facing the sector, and how the significant financial pressures it faces can be overcome. LG Group Alert Reference: 112/10 **Smith Square Debates – Autumn series** We are pleased to announce that the LGA's Autumn series of Smith Square debates will begin on 12 October 2010. These free evening events will take place at Local Government House, Smith Square, London and will begin at 6pm. LG Group Alert Reference: 113/10 **Better services for children and young people at lower cost: personalisation across the children's world conference** This interactive conference being held at Holiday Inn Bloomsbury, London, on Thursday 25 November 2010, is organised by the Local Government Group in partnership with OPM, In Control and Action for Children. The conference sets out current understanding and experience of how self-directed support and personal budgets are being implemented and developed across the children's world in specialist, targeted and universal services to support early intervention and prevention. LG Group Alert Reference: 114/10	**Local Government Association (LGA) Email: info@lga.gov.uk Tel: 020 7664 3131** www.lga.gov.uk