



**Amended motion to therefore read as:**

Unacceptably high levels of Nitrates across the Solent has resulted in the inability of Portsmouth City Council to issue a single residential planning consent since 1st May 2019, which would add additional bedrooms. This was as the result of a decision taken by Natural England who are a statutory consultee on all planning applications.

This is seriously undermining the council's ability to meet the Delivery Test on new housing, which is set by Government.

As well as failing to meet critical housing targets, the time which needed to be taken to adopt a short term mitigation strategy, for the next three years was threatening the livelihoods of thousands of people across the city. This has been a serious issue and as such local people and businesses deserve a full explanation of the current position of the council.

Full council therefore notes that the Cabinet Member for Culture & City Development has written to all members of the city council providing a detailed explanation of what short term mitigation is being put in place.

The Council further notes that the backlog of applications caused by Natural England's position should be cleared within the next three months.