

## **SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT PANEL**

(from 7 February 2014)

SMP

**Consideration of notice of motion referral from Full Council concerning Transparency and Openness (Filming of meetings) (Scrutiny Management Panel minute 5 refers)**

**RESOLVED that the Panel recommends to Council that**

- (1) the Scrutiny Management Panel welcomes the news that the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 received royal assent on 30 January 2014 and this will give rise to secondary legislation on specific details of how councils should allow the filming, recording and reporting of council meetings. It therefore asks that a working group of four councillors is established in approximate proportion to the groups, nominated by their groups to prepare a report on how the practicalities of this can be implemented as soon as possible by Portsmouth City Council, how the council's standing orders should be changed, consider any changes that need to be made to meeting rooms etc, any budget implications and anything else required;**
- (2) Scrutiny Management Panel notes that technology and the internet has moved very rapidly since the standing orders were last revised and asks that the working group considers how standing orders should be revised to take account of this. In the meantime it encourages chairs of meetings to allow the use of text communication devices to enable tweeting, blogging and texting etc by councillors and members of the public so long as it does not interfere with proceedings, while noting that such use under the current standing orders is at the chair's total discretion.**