

## Portsmouth City Council Scrutiny Scoping Document

<b>Scrutiny Panel</b>	Economic Development, Culture and Leisure
<b>Topic</b>	Management of Empty PCC Commercial Properties to ensure maximum income generation.
<b>Purpose of enquiry inc. potential outcomes.</b>  (The remit to be clear and concise as this statement forms the backbone of the enquiry)	<p>To investigate the management of PCC Empty Commercial Properties with the objective of considering ways to bring the Internal Audit Report back into the 'assurance' category from 'limited assurance' and to ensure maximum income generation for the council.</p> <p>To investigate the national picture to ascertain whether this is a wider issue and to identify any success stories where similar properties have been let to see if there are any innovative ideas or best practices that could be learnt.</p> <p>A resulting report to Cabinet will detail these finding, along with any associated recommendations to hopefully encourage the occupancy of the identified properties that are the subject of the review.</p>
<b>Reason for enquiry</b>	<p>Two subsequent years of Internal Audit Progress Reports provided to the Governance &amp; Audits &amp; Standards (GAS) committee had highlighted 2 areas of limited assurance under the 'Commercial Rents - Director of Regeneration (now Director of Economy, Transport &amp; Planning).</p> <p><a href="#">Internal Audit Progress Report 19 July 2023</a>  <a href="#">Internal audit report 1 July 2024</a></p> <p>The review would particularly consider the larger properties/units across the city that have been laid dormant for a long period of time.</p> <p>These issues would fall under Economic Development which is within the remit of this panel.</p>
<b>Enquiry format</b>	One report to be provided by the relevant service/s with a follow up meeting to discuss the findings.
<b>Corporate Priority linked to</b>	A City with a Thriving Economy Encourage Economic Development
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s)</b>	Cllr Steve Pitt Culture, Regeneration & Economic Development

Relevant officers	Tom Southall
Consultees & stakeholders	
Start Date	September 2024
Target Completion Date	February 2025