

Public Document Pack

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Thursday, 14th March, 2024
at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Conference Room 3, Civic Centre,
Southampton

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Councillor Blackman (Chair)
Councillor Moulton (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Every
Councillor Y Frampton
Councillor Galton
Councillor Lambert
Councillor Dr Paffey
Councillor Leggett
Councillor Quadir

Appointed Members

Catherine Hobbs, Roman Catholic Church
Rob Sanders, Church of England
Vacant, Primary Parent Governor

Contacts

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Scrutiny Manager
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PUBLIC INFORMATION

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee holds the Executive to account, exercises the call-in process, and sets and monitors standards for scrutiny. It formulates a programme of scrutiny inquiries and appoints Scrutiny Panels to undertake them. Members of the Executive cannot serve on this Committee.

Role of Overview and Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny includes the following three functions:

- Holding the Executive to account by questioning and evaluating the Executive's actions, both before and after decisions taken.
- Developing and reviewing Council policies, including the Policy Framework and Budget Strategy.
- Making reports and recommendations on any aspect of Council business and other matters that affect the City and its citizens.

Overview and Scrutiny can ask the Executive to reconsider a decision, but they do not have the power to change the decision themselves.

Southampton: Corporate Plan 2022-2030 sets out the four key outcomes:

- **Strong Foundations for Life**.- For people to access and maximise opportunities to truly thrive, Southampton will focus on ensuring residents of all ages and backgrounds have strong foundations for life.
- **A proud and resilient city** - Southampton's greatest assets are our people. Enriched lives lead to thriving communities, which in turn create places where people want to live, work and study.
- **A prosperous city** - Southampton will focus on growing our local economy and bringing investment into our city.
- **A successful, sustainable organisation** - The successful delivery of the outcomes in this plan will be rooted in the culture of our organisation and becoming an effective and efficient council.

Procedure / Public Representations

At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may address the meeting on any report included on the agenda in which they have a relevant interest. Any member of the public wishing to address the meeting should advise the Democratic Support Officer (DSO) whose contact details are on the front sheet of the agenda.

Access is available for disabled people.

Please contact the Democratic Support Officer who will help to make any necessary arrangements.

Fire Procedure: -

In the event of a fire or other emergency a continuous alarm will sound, and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take.

Mobile Telephones: - Please switch your mobile telephones to silent whilst in the meeting

Use of Social Media: - The Council supports the video or audio recording of meetings open to the public, for either live or subsequent broadcast. However, if, in the Chair's opinion, a person filming or recording a meeting or taking photographs is interrupting proceedings or causing a disturbance, under the Council's Standing Orders the person can be ordered to stop their activity, or to leave the meeting. By entering the meeting room, you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and or/training purposes. The meeting may be recorded by the press or members of the public. Any person or organisation filming, recording, or broadcasting any meeting of the Council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them doing so. Details of the Council's Guidance on the recording of meetings is available on the Council's website.

Smoking Policy: - The Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings.

Dates of Meetings for the Municipal Year:

2023	2024
10 August	11 January
14 September	01 February
12 October	07 March
9 November	11 April
14 December	

CONDUCT OF MEETING

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The general role and terms of reference for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, together with those for all Scrutiny Panels, are set out in Part 2 (Article 6) of the Council’s Constitution, and their particular roles are set out in Part 4 (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – paragraph 5) of the Constitution.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

QUORUM

The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 4.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members’ Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any “Disclosable Pecuniary Interest” or “Other Interest” they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

(i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

(ii) Sponsorship:

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

(iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which the you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.

- (iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.
- (v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.
- (vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.
- (vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:
- a) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or
 - b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an, 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

- Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature
- Any body directed to charitable purposes
- Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

Principles of Decision Making

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good;
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

To note any changes in membership of the Panel made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

2 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

NOTE: Members are reminded that, where applicable, they must complete the appropriate form recording details of any such interests and hand it to the Democratic Support Officer.

3 DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any prior participation in any decision taken by a Committee, Sub-Committee, or Panel of the Council on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

4 DECLARATION OF PARTY POLITICAL WHIP

Members are invited to declare the application of any party political whip on any matter on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

5 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)

(Pages 1 - 4)

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings held on 1st February, 2024 and to deal with any matters arising, attached.

7 HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES (Pages 5 - 6)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Committee to discuss the disruption to household waste services, and the action being taken to address the situation, with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport and invited officers.

8 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM

The Chair to move that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the confidential appendices to the following Item.

Attached as Appendix 2 is a briefing paper on the Asset Development and Disposal Programme due to be considered by Cabinet on 19th March. The Forward Plan of Executive Decisions from 19th March 2024 identifies that appendices attached to the Cabinet report on the Asset Development and Disposal Programme contain information exempt from general publication based on Category 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding the information)) of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. In applying the public interest test this information has been deemed exempt from the publication due to commercial sensitivity. It is not considered to be in the public interest to disclose this information as it would reveal information which would put the Council at a commercial disadvantage.

9 FORWARD PLAN (Pages 7 - 20)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive.

10 MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE (Pages 21 - 24)

Report of the Scrutiny Manager enabling the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.

Wednesday, 6 March 2024

Director – Legal and Governance

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2024

Present: Councillors Blackman (Chair), Moulton (Vice-Chair), Evely, Galton, Dr Paffey, Quadir, Leggett and Webb
Appointed Members:

Apologies: Councillors Y Frampton, Greenhalgh and Lambert
Appointed Members: Rob Sanders

Also in attendance: Councillor Fielker – Leader of the Council
Councillor Keogh – Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

48. **APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

It was noted that following receipt of the temporary resignation of Councillors Greenhalgh and Y Frampton from the Committee, the Monitoring Officer, acting under delegated powers, had appointed Councillors Leggett and Webb to replace them for the purposes of this meeting. Apologies were noted from Councillor Lambert and Appointed Member Rob Sanders.

49. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

RESOLVED that the minutes for the Committee meeting held on 11th January, 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

50. **FORWARD PLAN - FUTURE DELIVERY OF TOWNHILL PARK PLOTS 2, 9 AND 10**

The Committee considered the report of the Scrutiny Manager which enabled the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive.

FUTURE DELIVERY OF TOWNHILL PARK PLOTS 2, 9 AND 10

The Committee considered the briefing paper attached to this item detailing the forthcoming Cabinet decision regarding the future delivery of Townhill Park Plots 2, 9 and 10.

Councillor Fielker, Leader of the Council, Tina Dyer-Slade Head of Corporate Estates and Assets and Sue Jones, Interim Estate Regeneration Manager were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Executive made every effort to avoid the loss of any Right to Buy receipts and kept the Committee updated on upcoming deadlines and plans in train for the use of the receipts.
- (ii) That opportunities were explored by the Executive to deliver upon the historic commitment made by the Council to prioritise housing within the affordable housing schemes proposed for plots 2,9 and 10, to those who were decanted from Townhill Park.
- (iii) That the Executive reflects on the resources involved in undertaking further options appraisals for Plot 10, and, if the resources required were considered to be significant, the option of adding Plot 10 to the Affordable Housing Framework was approved at the earliest opportunity.

51. **CALL-IN OF EXECUTIVE DECISION CAB 23/24 43623 - PORTSWOOD BROADWAY NEXT STEPS**

The Committee considered the report of the Scrutiny Manager detailing the call-in of Executive Decision CAB 23/24 43623 – Portswood Broadway Next Steps.

Councillor Keogh, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Wade Holmes, Service Manager, Integrated Transport, Pete Boustred Head of Transport and Planning, Prof. Roger Brown, Mr Crispin Jameson, Mrs Jane Jameson, Mrs Karen Edwards, Mr Paul Beard, Mr Alistair Cook and Mrs Lorraine Barter were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

The Committee discussed the reasons for requisition of Call-in of the decision in accordance with the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules 12.5.1, namely:

1. Lack of adequate consideration, and misrepresentation of the findings from the consultation undertaken by the Council.
2. Information that would help to inform the decision relating to current pollution levels and bus delays caused by traffic on Portswood Broadway has not been provided.
3. Concern with regards to disabled access to Portswood Broadway, particularly the chemist.
4. Concern that changes to the proposals agreed at Cabinet limit the ability to deliver the objectives set for the Portswood Broadway Project.
5. Lack of clarity in respect of the timetable for the trial and subsequent next steps, and the success criteria to be employed for the bus gate trial.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE

RESOLVED

- (i) to advise the Executive that the Scrutiny Committee does not recommend that the decision be reconsidered and that it can therefore be implemented without delay.

- (ii) That the co-design process planned for Portswood Broadway includes a specific focus on mitigating the concerns raised by residents about disabled access to local amenities.
- (iii) That the issue returns to the Committee at the conclusion of the trial bus gate to enable the Committee to review the results and to consider the effectiveness of the proposed Active Travel Zone.

52. **MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE**

The Committee noted the report of the Scrutiny Manager which enabled the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.

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Agenda Item 7

DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES		
DATE OF DECISION:	14 MARCH 2024		
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
	E-mail	Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	
BRIEF SUMMARY	
Following consideration of the impact that the disruption to household waste collection services in Southampton is having on residents in the city, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) has requested that the Committee consider the issue at the 14 March 2024 meeting.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
(i)	That the Committee discuss the disruption to household waste services, and the action being taken to address the situation, with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport and invited officers.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	To enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss with the Executive the ongoing disruption to household waste collection services in Southampton.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	To not discuss with the Executive the disruption to household waste collection services in Southampton. This was rejected due to the impact the disruption to household waste collection services is having on residents of the city.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	Following changes to working practices, household waste collection services have experienced significant disruption in Southampton.
4.	The Council is working to resolve the current situation, clear backlogs and excess waste.
5.	The Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, and senior officers have been invited to attend the meeting. The Committee are requested to discuss

	the disruption to household waste services, and the action being taken to address the situation, with the Cabinet Member and invited officers.	
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS		
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>		
6.	None directly as a result of this report.	
<u>Property/Other</u>		
7.	None directly as a result of this report.	
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS		
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>		
8.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.	
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>		
9.	None directly as a result of this report.	
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS		
10.	None directly as a result of this report.	
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS		
11.	None directly as a result of this report.	
KEY DECISION		No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:		None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>		
Appendices		
1.	None	
Documents In Members' Rooms		
1.	None	
Equality Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?		No
Data Protection Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?		No
Other Background Documents		
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None	

Agenda Item 9

DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	FORWARD PLAN		
DATE OF DECISION:	14 MARCH 2024		
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
	E-mail	Mel.creighton@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
<p>Attached as Appendix 2 is a briefing paper on the Asset Development and Disposal Programme due to be considered by Cabinet on 19th March. The Forward Plan of Executive Decisions from 19th March 2024 identifies that appendices attached to the Cabinet report on the Asset Development and Disposal Programme contain information exempt from general publication based on Category 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding the information)) of paragraph 10.4 of the Council’s Access to Information Procedure Rules. In applying the public interest test this information has been deemed exempt from the publication due to commercial sensitivity. It is not considered to be in the public interest to disclose this information as it would reveal information which would put the Council at a commercial disadvantage.</p>			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
<p>This item enables the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) to examine the content of the Forward Plan and to discuss issues of interest or concern with the Executive to ensure that forthcoming decisions made by the Executive benefit local residents.</p>			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Committee discuss the items listed in paragraph 3 of the report to highlight any matters which Members feel should be taken into account by the Executive when reaching a decision.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To enable Members to identify any matters which they feel Cabinet should take into account when reaching a decision.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			

3.	The Council's Forward Plan for Executive Decisions from 19 March 2024 has been published. The following issues were identified for discussion with the Decision Maker:	
	Portfolio	Decision
	Economic Development	Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Integration into the Solent Unitary Authorities
	Economic Development	Asset Development and Disposal Programme (ADDP)
4.	Briefing papers responding to the items identified by members of the Committee are appended to this report. Members are invited to use the papers to explore the issues with the decision maker.	
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS		
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>		
5.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.	
<u>Property/Other</u>		
6.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.	
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS		
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>		
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.	
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>		
8.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.	
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS		
9.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.	
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS		
10.	The details for the items identified in paragraph 3 are set out in the Executive decision making report issued prior to the decision being taken.	
KEY DECISION		No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:		None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>		
Appendices		
1.	Briefing Paper - Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Integration into the Solent Unitary Authorities.	

2.	Briefing Paper - Asset Development and Disposal Programme (ADDP)	
Documents In Members' Rooms		
1.	None	
Equality Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?		Identified in Executive report
Data Protection Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?		Identified in Executive report
Other Background Documents		
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)	
1.	None	

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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: SOLENT LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP INTEGRATION INTO THE SOLENT UNITARY LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DATE: 14 MARCH 2024

RECIPIENT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

1. The Government will no longer fund Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) with core funding from April 2024. The Government now expects LEP functions to be exercised by upper-tier local authorities (UTLAs) where they are not already delivered by a combined authority in areas with agreed devolution deals.
2. This paper outlines the background information regarding the integration of LEP functions and the implications of this for upper-tier local authorities (UTLAs). This will set out the steps that Southampton City Council (SCC) has taken so far and will outline a potential future approach in managing the LEP integration process.
3. Southampton City Council (SCC) is working with the Isle of Wight Council (IWC) and Portsmouth City Council (PCC) to jointly take on these integrated LEP functions and deal with the changes that result from this new approach.
4. The joint UTLA Board was proposed by the three unitary UTLAs in the integration plan submitted to Government on the 30 November 2023, with our proposals for taking this forward.
5. PCC's and the IWC's Cabinets approved a series of recommendations on 6 February and 8 February 2024, respectively, with SCC's position being considered at the Cabinet meeting on 19 March 2024. If approved, all three partner Councils will have mirrored and approved similar recommendations before the Government's transitional date of 1 April 2024, after which the integration of LEP functions into local democratic institutions will be formalised, subject to the approval by Government of the submitted integration plan.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

Context

6. Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) are non-statutory bodies that were created to promote economic growth and job creation. They are business-led partnerships with additional representatives from local authorities, as well as academic and voluntary institutions. Thirty-eight LEPs were established across the Country in 2010-11 and the Southampton area is part of the Solent LEP functional economic area (FEA).

BRIEFING PAPER

7. On 4 August 2023, the Government issued a letter which confirmed their support for UTLAs and combined authorities to take on the functions currently delivered by LEPS. The Government have been clear that they will no longer fund LEPS with core funding from April 2024. This stated that *'Where not already delivered by a combined authority, or in areas where a devolution deal is not yet agreed, the Government expects these functions to be exercised by upper tier local authorities, working in collaboration with other upper tier local authorities over functional economic areas (FEA) as appropriate.'*
8. The Government guidance also states that the geography for integration of functions should either be a whole County area or an FEA with a resident population of at least 500,000 (and for some functions at least 22,000 businesses).
9. From this, the Government requested that UTLAs submit an integration plan by 30 November 2023 for the integration of LEP functions. The three Solent UTLAs and Hampshire County Council (HCC) submitted separate integration plans, with HCC's plan covering parts of two LEP areas – Enterprise M3 and the districts and boroughs within the Solent FEA sub-region.
10. In parallel to the integration process, there is a need to consider the proportional disaggregation and transfer of existing assets from the Solent LEP to the UTLAs. Assets will most likely be disaggregated, between the HCC geography and the three Solent UTLAs. PCC acts as the accountable body for the Solent LEP and has responsibility for managing the disaggregation of assets.
11. Government guidance states: 'Management and transfer of any LEP assets should be agreed locally between the LEP and its Accountable Body, in line with any pre-existing arrangements and in accordance with any legal requirements. Where there are no existing arrangements, the Government expects that any reserves and assets built up using public funds will remain within the public domain (i.e. transferred to the relevant local authority or authorities).'
12. It has been proposed that any uncommitted funding should be pooled and held by PCC as the accountable body for the joint UTLA Board. Any residual funding, once split with HCC, will be to support economic development of the sub-region and will be subject to further agreement between the three unitary UTLAs. *(It should be noted that the Solent LEP's Board have made several commitments to support sub-regional initiatives such as [Maritime UK Solent](#) and the [Solent Cluster](#) as private sector-led initiatives.)*
13. Upper-tier local authorities will be responsible for some functions that were previously carried out by the Solent LEP. These functions are:
 - **Business representation** and to 'create or continue to engage with an Economic Growth Board (or similar) made up of local business leaders and relevant representative bodies to (a) provide the view of local businesses as part of regional decision making and (b) work with local leaders to create a broad economic strategy for the area'.
 - **Strategic economic planning** - areas will be expected to produce, or continue to update, economic strategies to support local decision-making, building on the plans currently developed and overseen by LEPS.

BRIEFING PAPER

- **Responsibility for the delivery of government programmes where directed.**
Currently these programmes would be the Growth Hubs and the Career Hubs.

The approach of the three Solent UTLAs

14. To account for the clear functioning economic area across the Solent sub-region, which has been recognised by Government through the creation of the Solent LEP and the Solent Freeport, SCC, PCC, and the IWC are proposing to work together, in partnership, to bring about the integration of the LEP functions on a core Solent geography that comprises the three unitary authorities, whilst also seeking to sustain long-held relationships with neighbouring authorities.
15. The three unitary authorities working together meet the thresholds required by the Government and therefore submitted an integration plan, based on the core geography and with a wider partnership structure to sustain the wider functional economic geography, including our neighbouring districts and boroughs.
16. Assuming this approach is supported by the Government, there will need to be strong and positive working relationships with HCC who will be operating in the wider Solent area for the parts of the Solent LEP area that comprises the districts and boroughs.

The approach of the Solent LEP and the relationship with Hampshire County Council

17. In response to the envisaged changes to their operating environment, the Solent LEP decided to set up a new company limited by guarantee called [Solent Partners](#). The Solent LEP board decided that Solent Partners could be a legacy partnership body to the Solent LEP, supporting the delivery of the functions and providing a degree of continuity in a time of transition.
18. Whilst Solent Partners can enable the delivery of LEP functions across the Solent area, it will be the UTLAs that will be held accountable for the delivery of the functions and economic growth in the sub-region. The three Solent UTLAs have suggested that the existing partnership arrangements with HCC, our neighbouring districts, and boroughs, through the Partnership for South Hampshire, should be sustained, not least to support ongoing strategic economic planning.
19. HCC has been clear that Hampshire's integration proposals are based on the existing county geography, including the Solent districts and boroughs. In addition, HCC does not support Solent Partners, as a legacy body, citing democratic accountability as an issue.

The LEP Integration Plan and potential governance

20. In the submission of the Integration Plan to the Government on 30 November, the Council, in agreement with PCC, the IWC, and the Solent LEP, set out the potential governance and the partnership vehicles for the implementation of the new, devolved responsibilities and functions.

Joint Upper-Tier Local Authority (UTLA) Board

BRIEFING PAPER

21. To enable joint-working between the three unitary authorities and to secure a degree of separation from Solent Partners, there is a need to set up a commissioning body that comprises of the three unitary authorities. A joint UTLA Board has been established in shadow form, which includes the Leaders and Chief Executives of the three unitary authorities.
22. The Board will commission and hold any delivery partners, to account for delivery of the programmes and functions assigned to them to support the economic growth agenda across the three unitary authority areas. The Board will also own the sub-regional economic strategy – which is currently Solent 2050.
23. The terms of reference for the board would need to be set so that the limit of the influence is on the areas of joint work so that the sovereignty of individual authorities is recognised.
24. With the proposal that the Leader and Chief Executive are on this Board it would not be appropriate for the Councils to have a director on the board of Solent Partners, to ensure that no conflict of interests arise and with wider governance requirements for the integration arrangements. Despite this, an ownership model has been proposed with the three Solent UTLAs becoming Members of Solent Partners, if appropriate.

Solent Economic Growth Partnership

25. Alongside the joint UTLA Board there is the potential to set up a Solent Economic Partnership. This would cover the wider Solent geography, including the districts and boroughs within the Solent sub-region (FEA) that will be invited to be part of this partnership. It would comprise Leaders and Chief Executives and will enable discussion on strategic economic planning, to ensure that there is alignment. Other key stakeholders, such as Solent Transport and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner could also be included in this Partnership. However, the partnership can only be constituted if there is a desire from HCC, districts, and boroughs, to be part of this arrangement. The UTLAs, including HCC, might also consider joint commissioning across the two geographies.

Solent Partners

26. Solent Partners has been set up to support the ongoing delivery of economic development across the Solent sub-region. Solent Partners might be well placed to create, provide, and administer a Business Representative Board, as a legacy of the Solent LEP Board, to work alongside the new Solent Economic Growth Partnership. The extent of the delivery role of Solent Partners has yet to be fully determined, in consideration of the Public Procurement Regulations. Solent Partners may be well placed to manage functions such as Solent Growth Hub (business support function), and private sector-led initiatives such as Maritime UK Solent, although perhaps less so the Solent Careers Hub.

Current Barriers

27. The Government has not yet formally indicated that they accept the integration plan from either the collective three unitary authorities, or separately, from HCC. It is anticipated that the integration geographies will be confirmed this month, a month later than expected. Work to set up the integration vehicles listed above is ongoing, as described

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in our integration plan. However, confirmation of the three Solent UTLA integration geography is critical.

28. The new joint UTLA Board and Solent Economic Partnership is yet to be convened and fully constituted. The Board has been established in a shadow form to agreed terms of reference, potentially including the following responsibilities: to manage the integration process, the devolved responsibilities, any disaggregated legacy funding, any new transition funding, and future commissioning.
29. With HCC and the three UTLAs submitting separate integration plans, funds will need to be disaggregated across the current Solent LEP geography, being split between HCC and the three Solent UTLAs. This process is being managed by PCC as the accountable body of the Solent LEP and will require a degree of consensus.
30. It is becoming increasingly likely that Solent Partners will need to operate across a revised delivery geography of the three Solent UTLAs and not across the existing Solent LEP FEA.

RESOURCES/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Resources

31. Officers from each unitary authority have been committed to working together to see through the proposals for integrating LEP functions into local authorities. This is also supported by the Leaders and Chief Executives of each unitary authority.
32. Increasingly the three Solent UTLAs and the resource provided by partners, specifically Solent Partners will need to become more integrated.
33. One of the issues that is outstanding at the time of writing this report is what to do with existing LEP assets and resources and the associated implications on Solent LEP employees.
34. Government guidance is clear that any reserves and assets built up using public funds will remain within the public domain. All Solent LEP employees are employed by PCC and there may be Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment (TUPE) that will need to be considered depending on the ongoing disaggregation discussions with HCC.

Policy

35. If the proposed integration plan from the three unitary authorities is accepted by the government, this will mark a drastic shift in regional policy. This will be an acknowledgement that the region covered by the three Solent UTLAs marks its own functional economic area. In turn, this will mean that the Solent 2050 Strategy will have to be re-considered in consideration of any new regional policy position. This acknowledgement of the smaller Solent region will encourage further joint-working and collaboration between the three unitary authorities.

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36. Growth that benefits local people is a key strategic objective of Southampton City Council's Corporate Plan. Economic growth is the central motivation for integrating LEP functions into UTLAs. Providing business representation across the UTLAs, delivering strategic economic planning, and continuing the delivery of government programmes such as the Growth Hub and Career Hub will support the Council's ambitions to support local businesses, and to provide more job opportunities and further investment in Southampton.

Financial

37. Acting as the Accountable Body for the Solent LEP, PCC has an important role in agreeing to the disaggregation of the Solent LEP assets. As part of this process, PCC has been working with the Solent LEP and the UTLAs, including HCC, to agree a disaggregation methodology, in line with the Government guidance.

38. The Government will provide some revenue funding to local and combined authorities in 2024/25 to support them in delivering the functions currently delivered by LEPs.

Legal

39. S.1 Localism Act 2011 (the 'General Power of Competence') permits a Council to do anything to support the delivery of its functions providing not otherwise prohibited by statute. The proposals within this report are authorised by virtue of s.1. The arrangements and status of the proposed Board will be determined in accordance with the Local Government Acts. The formal status of the Board will, in due course, be confirmed in the respective Council's Constitutions.

OPTIONS and TIMESCALES:

40. If approved by the Government, the three unitary authorities will be expected to subsume the devolved responsibilities on 1 April 2024.

41. As established partners the three UTLAs will work together to bring about the integration of the LEP functions across the three unitary authorities.

42. The following options have all been considered and rejected in favour of our submitting an Integration Plan to Government across the geography of the three Solent UTLAs and in recognition of existing sub-regional partnerships:

- The option to do nothing has been rejected on the basis that the Government is proposing to devolve the core functions and responsibilities of the LEPs to upper-tier local authorities or combined authorities.
- The option of SCC to act unilaterally was rejected on the basis that the new arrangements will be devolved to the sub-region, and it is a requirement for UTLAs to act in partnership or to at least collaborate on delivery across sub-regions.
- That the new arrangements be formed on a county-wide basis of Hampshire and the UTLAs of SCC, PCC and IWC. This option was not supported by the three UTLAs as in their view it ignores the clear FEA across the Solent sub-region which has consistently been recognised by Government.

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RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

43. The governance arrangements detailed in this report are based on a model where the three Solent UTLAs act in partnership on the joint UTLA Board and act to share risk management.
44. To mitigate risk the accountable body (PCC) have commissioned external legal advice, in consideration of commissioning. Further legal advice may be sought in determining the most appropriate relationship with external delivery partners.

Appendices/Supporting Information: None

Further Information Available From:	Name:	Nawaz Khan – Head of Economic Development and Regeneration
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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: ASSET DEVELOPMENT AND DISPOSAL PROGRAMME
DATE: 14 MARCH 2024
RECIPIENT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

At a meeting on 19 March 2024 Cabinet will consider a report of the Cabinet Member for Economic Development on the Asset Development and Disposal Programme (ADDP). The Cabinet report and exempt appendices will be published on 11 March 2024.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

1. The Cabinet report on an Asset Development and Disposal Programme (ADDP) will be published on 11 March 2024. The ADDP is a programme for the managed disposal and development of Council assets.

RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL/RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS:

2. Details will be set out in the Executive decision making report published on 11 March 2024 - [Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday, 19th March, 2024, 4.30 pm | Southampton City Council](#).

Appendices/Supporting Information:

3. Details will be set out in the Executive decision making report published on 11 March 2024 - [Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday, 19th March, 2024, 4.30 pm | Southampton City Council](#).

Further Information Available From:	Name:	Gaetana Wiseman – Head of Service Support
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DECISION-MAKER:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE		
DATE OF DECISION:	14 MARCH 2024		
REPORT OF:	SCRUTINY MANAGER		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director – Corporate Services	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 3528
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Author:	Title	Scrutiny Manager	
	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
N/A			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
This item enables the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings.			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Committee considers the responses from the Executive to recommendations from previous meetings and provides feedback.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To assist the Committee in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	Appendix 1 of the report sets out the recommendations made to the Executive at previous meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC). It also contains a summary of action taken by the Executive in response to the recommendations.		
4.	The progress status for each recommendation is indicated and if the OSMC confirms acceptance of the items marked as completed they will be removed from the list. In cases where action on the recommendation is outstanding or the Committee does not accept the matter has been adequately completed, it will be kept on the list and reported back to the next meeting. It will remain on the list until such time as the Committee accepts the recommendation as completed. Rejected recommendations will only be removed from the list after being reported to the OSMC.		

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
5.	None.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
6.	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
8.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
9.	None.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
10.	None
KEY DECISION	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations – 14 March 2024
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
Other Background Documents Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee: Holding the Executive to Account

Scrutiny Monitoring – 14 March 2024

Date	Portfolio	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
01/02/24	Leader	The future of Townhill Park plots 2,9 &10	1) That the Executive makes every effort to avoid the loss of any Right to Buy receipts and keeps the Committee updated on upcoming deadlines and plans in train for the use of the receipts.	Agreed	
			2) That opportunities are explored by the Executive to deliver upon the historic commitment made by the Council to prioritise housing within the affordable housing schemes proposed for plots 2,9 and 10, to those who were decanted from Townhill Park.	Agreed	
			3) That the Executive reflects on the resources involved in undertaking further options appraisals for Plot 10, and, if the resources required are considered to be significant, the option of adding Plot 10 to the Affordable Housing Framework is approved at the earliest opportunity.	<p>A high level review of the delivery of Plot 10 will be carried out, rather than detailed design work so that a decision can be made on the quickest delivery method of new homes on Plot 10.</p> <p>We will seek Cabinet approval for the Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Executive Director of Wellbeing and Housing, together with the Leader to make a decision on plot 10 rather than come back to Cabinet for a decision. This will allow for a speedier decision to be made either way.</p>	
01/02/24	Environment & Transport	Portswood Broadway Next Steps – Call in	1) That the co-design process planned for Portswood Broadway includes a specific focus on mitigating the concerns raised by residents about disabled access to local amenities.	Agreed	

Date	Portfolio	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status
			2) That the issue returns to the Committee at the conclusion of the trial bus gate to enable the OSMC to review the results and to consider the effectiveness of the proposed Active Travel Zone.	Agreed	
13/02/24	Finance & Change	Financial position of the Council	1) That officers promptly share DLUHC feedback relating to the request for Exceptional Financial Support with Group Leaders and the OSMC.		
			2) That officer budget proposals for 2024/25 that have been rejected by Cabinet are provided to the Committee.		