

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, 20th March, 2024
at 2.00 pm

Council Chamber - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

Members of the Council

The Lord Mayor – Chair

The Sheriff – Vice-chair

Leader of the Council

Members of the Council (See overleaf)

Contacts

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WARD	COUNCILLOR	WARD	COUNCILLOR
Banister & Polygon	Every Leggett Windle	Peartree	Houghton Keogh Letts
Bargate	Bogle Noon Dr. Paffey	Portswood	Barbour Finn Savage
Bassett	Blackman Chapman Wood	Redbridge	Goodfellow McEwing Whitbread
Bevois	Denness Kataria Rayment	Shirley	Kaur Quadir Winning
Bitterne Park	Barnes-Andrews T Bunday Webb	Sholing	J Baillie Beaurain Powell-Vaughan
Coxford	Greenhalgh McCreanor Renyard	Swaythling	M Bunday Fielker Mrs Mintoff
Freemantle	Kenny Lambert Shields	Thornhill	Allen A Frampton Y Frampton
Harefield	Laurent P Baillie Fitzhenry	Woolston	Mrs Blatchford Payne Ugwoeme
Millbrook	Cox Galton Moulton		

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Role of the Council

The Council comprises all 51 Councillors. The Council normally meets six times a year including the annual meeting, at which the Lord Mayor and the Council Leader are elected and committees and sub-committees are appointed, and the budget meeting, at which the Council Tax is set for the following year.

The Council approves the policy framework, which is a series of plans and strategies recommended by the Executive, which set out the key policies and programmes for the main services provided by the Council. It receives a summary report of decisions made by the Executive, and reports on specific issues raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. The Council also considers questions and motions submitted by Council Members on matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which affect the City.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Questions:- People who live or work in the City may ask questions of the Lord Mayor, Chairs of Committees and Members of the Executive. (See the Council's Constitution ref Part 4 Council Procedure Rules 10.8)

Petitions:- At a meeting of the Council any Member or member of the public may present a petition which is submitted in accordance with the Council's scheme for handling petitions. Petitions containing more than 1,500 signatures (qualifying) will be debated at a Council meeting. (See the Council's Constitution ref Part 4 Council Procedure Rules 10.1)

Representations:- At the discretion of the Lord Mayor, members of the public may address the Council 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.

Deputations:- A deputation of up to three people can apply to address the Council. A deputation may include the presentation of a petition. (See the Council's Constitution ref Part 4 Council Procedure Rules 10.7)

MEETING INFORMATION

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.

Mobile Telephones – Please switch your mobile telephones or other IT to silent whilst in the meeting.

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

- Communities, culture & homes - Celebrating the diversity of cultures within Southampton; enhancing our cultural and historical offer and using these to help transform our communities.
- Green City - Providing a sustainable, clean, healthy and safe environment for everyone. Nurturing green spaces and embracing our waterfront.
- Place shaping - Delivering a city for future generations. Using data, insight and vision to meet the current and future needs of the city.
- Wellbeing - Start well, live well, age well, die well; working with other partners and other services to make sure that customers get the right help at the right time

Access – Access is available for disabled people. Please contact the Council Administrator who will help to make any necessary arrangements

Smoking policy – The Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings

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.

Proposed dates of meetings	
2023	2024
17 May (AGM)	21 February (Budget)
19 July	20 March
20 September	
15 November	

CONDUCT OF MEETING

FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The functions of the Council are set out in Article 4 of Part 2 of the Constitution

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The meeting is governed by the Council 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 17.

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 body to which they have been appointed or nominated by Southampton City Council

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.

Richard Ivory, Solicitor
Director of Governance, Legal and HR
Civic Centre, Southampton, SO14 7LY

Tuesday, 12 March 2024

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the COUNCIL to be held on WEDNESDAY, 20TH MARCH, 2024 in the COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC CENTRE at 2:00pm when the following business is proposed to be transacted:-

1 APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies.

2 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 30)

To authorise the signing of the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 15th November 2023, 3rd January 2024, 21st February 2024 and 6th March 2024 attached.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LORD MAYOR AND LEADER

Matters especially brought forward by the Lord Mayor and the Leader.

4 DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To receive any requests for Deputations, Presentation of Petitions or Public Questions.

5 EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

Verbal Report of the Leader of the Council.

6 MOTIONS

(a) Moved by Councillor Fielker

This council notes that in the lead up to a General Election the Household Support Fund has been extended for an additional six months, the lateness of the notification announcement and that guidance was not provided at the same time.

This council also notes that the Household Support Fund provides hardship support for the poorest households in Southampton who are most impacted by the cost-of-living crisis and that a failure to continue the fund after October or replace it with a more permanent crisis support system would lead to a surge in families unable to meet basic living costs in the winter.

This council resolves to write to the Leaders of the three largest political parties to ask that if they are in government following the election they commit to:

- continuing to provide support to those most in need through hardship funds

delivered by local authorities

- that funds are distributed to local authorities based on need
- that local authorities, who understand the needs of their communities best, are able to make local decisions on how those funds are distributed.

that a multi-year commitment is made to enable local authorities to enable them to plan distribution in an efficient manner

(b) Moved by Councillor Barbour, seconded by Councillor Wood

This motion recognises the River Itchen as one of the natural assets of our City and calls on the Council to ensure that commerce can thrive and that the balance between private and public access to the waterfront is maintained and improved.

The banks of the River Itchen have been used for centuries for commerce. In recent years sites have been built on for residential flats. With the decarbonisation of electric production transportation now produces a greater percentage of CO2 than any other sector. Transportation by sea only produces 1% of the CO2 compared to by lorry for a given distance per tonne. There are businesses in Northam that currently use bulk transportation by water of scrap for recycling importing aggregate and cement for concrete production. This is carbon efficient transport and should be supported. There are limited locations around the UK where shipping and use of wharfs is possible. Southampton is one of these few precious locations. Shipping of materials also requires multiple locations around Britain to thrive. If we want this to remain a possibility for future generations we need to prevent the building of flats on these sites as once built the land and wharves effectively becomes unavailable for commerce. To reduce climate change we will need to make difficult choices. But we should not be jeopardising long term strategy, not only for Southampton, but the country as a whole.

For the wellbeing of the citizens access to the waterfront needs to be maintained and improved as its benefits for mental and physical health are well described. The Council needs to aspire to 40% of the waterfront being accessible by the public as an initial goal in the next 10 years with 50% as the goal by 2050.

Council therefore resolves to urgently explore revising the adopted Local Plan to add appropriate planning restraints

- to residential development on locations suitable for sea transportation commerce. This will prevent splitting up the sites and putting out of reach for future waterfront use these limited locations
- to maintain waterfront access, and where sites are being redeveloped, make it a planning restraint that public access to waterfront is included.

(c) Moved by Councillor P Baillie

Southampton Council has just passed a budget for 24/25 balanced only by a loan of £40M from the government.

This financial disaster was one of this Labour Council's own making and was entirely preventable.

The recovery plan assumes the underlying £40M structural deficit for 25/26 is solved within the next seven months.

This council has no confidence whatsoever in the current administration's ability to procure the required savings and transformation in that timescale – the failure of which

will cause even more financial misery on the people of Southampton.

This council calls upon the Labour administration to apologise now to the people of Southampton for their past, current and future financial failures.

7 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES OR THE MAYOR

To consider any question of which notice has been given under Council Procedure Rule 11.2.

8 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

To deal with any appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees or other bodies as required.

9 SOLENT LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP INTEGRATION INTO THE SOLENT UNITARY AUTHORITIES □ (Pages 31 - 48)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Economic Development detailing the transfer of Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) core function to Local Authorities.

10 CORPORATE PLAN 2024 □ (Pages 49 - 66)

Report of the Leader of the Council seeking approval of the new Corporate Plan.

11 PAY POLICY 2024-2025 (Pages 67 - 84)

Report of the Interim Chief Executive seeking approval of the Pay Policy for 2024-2025.

12 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - EXEMPT PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM (IF NEEDED)

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 exempt appendices to the following Item.

Appendix 1, 2, 3 and 4 of this report contains information deemed to be 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.

13 ASSET DEVELOPMENT AND DISPOSAL PROGRAMME (ADDP) □
(Pages 85 - 116)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Economic Development for the disposal and development of assets.

NOTE: There will be prayers by Fr. Anthony Chiatu Njingo in the Mayor's Reception Room at 1.45 pm for Members of the Council and Officers who wish to attend.



Richard Ivory
Director – Governance, Legal and HR