

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 18th May, 2022  
at 11.00 am – Guildhall,  
Southampton and then the  
Council Chamber, Civic Centre  
following the Extraordinary  
Council Meeting at 2.00pm

## **This meeting is open to the public**

### **Members of the Council**

The Mayor – Chair

The Sheriff – Vice-chair

Leader of the Council

Members of the Council (See overleaf)

### **Contacts**

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<b>WARD</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>	<b>WARD</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR</b>
<b>Bargate</b>	Bogle Noon Dr Paffey	<b>Millbrook</b>	G Galton Moulton Furnell
<b>Bassett</b>	Hannides L Harris Blackman	<b>Peartree</b>	Houghton J Payne Keogh
<b>Bevois</b>	Rayment Denness Kataria	<b>Portswood</b>	Cooper Mitchell Savage
<b>Bitterne</b>	Magee Prior Streets	<b>Redbridge</b>	Guest McEwing Spicer
<b>Bitterne Park</b>	Fuller White A Bunday	<b>Shirley</b>	Coombs Kaur Winning
<b>Coxford</b>	D Galton Professor Margetts Renyard	<b>Sholing</b>	J Baillie Guthrie Vaughan
<b>Freemantle</b>	Leggett Shields Windle	<b>Swaythling</b>	M Bunday Fielker Vassiliou
<b>Harefield</b>	P Baillie Fitzhenry Laurent	<b>Woolston</b>	W Payne Stead Blatchford

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

### **Role of the Council**

The Council comprises all 48 Councillors. The Council normally meets six times a year including the annual meeting, at which the 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 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 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 to silent whilst in the meeting.

Southampton: Corporate Plan 2020-2025 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.

<b>Proposed dates of meetings</b>	
<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
20 <sup>th</sup> July	22nd February (Budget)
14th September	15th March
16th November	17th May (AGM)

### **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 16.

### **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  
Director, Legal and Business Services  
Civic Centre, Southampton, SO14 7LY

Tuesday, 10 May 2022

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the COUNCIL to be held on WEDNESDAY, 18TH MAY, 2022 in the GUILDHALL, SOUTHAMPTON AT 11.00AM at which meeting the business set out in items 1 and 2 are proposed to be transacted, and in the COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC CENTRE in the afternoon FOLLOWING THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING at 2:00pm when the following business set out in items 3 onwards are proposed to be transacted:-

**1 ELECTION OF A MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

**2 ELECTION OF A SHERIFF FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

**3 APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies.

**4 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 12)**

To authorise the signing of the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, attached.

**5 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND LEADER**

Matters especially brought forward by the Mayor and the Leader.

**6 ELECTION OF THE LEADER**

To elect a Leader of the Council for the ensuing year. Following the election the Leader will announce membership of the Cabinet.

**7 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION (Pages 13 - 18)**

Report of Executive Director: Legal & Business Services setting out the Annual Review of the Council's Constitution.

**8 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES**

A Appointment of Members

The Leader to move that, subject to alterations as may from time to time be made by the Council, the necessary Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies and external organisations be appointed by the Council with the number and allocation of seats to political groups as set out in a schedule to be tabled at the meeting.

B Appointment of Chair

To appoint the Chair to each of the Committees and Sub-Committees appointed by the Council.

**9 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

To approve the following dates for meetings of the Council in the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

20<sup>th</sup> July 2022

14<sup>th</sup> September 2022

16<sup>th</sup> November 2022

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 (Budget)

15<sup>th</sup> March 2023

17<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (AGM)

**10 DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

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

**11 EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT** (Pages 19 - 22)

The Executive Business Report of the Leader for Full Council in May 2022.

**12 MOTIONS**

**13 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.

**14 SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2022** (Pages 23 - 26)

Report of the Returning Officer detailing the results of the 2022 City Council Elections.

**15 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY: ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22** (Pages 27 - 42)

Report of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee detailing the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22 in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

**16 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY: SUMMARY OF CALL-IN ACTIVITY** (Pages 43 - 48)

Report of the Executive Director - Legal and Business Services, providing the Council with a summary of the use of the Call-in procedure since the previous update in July 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Ivory', with a horizontal line underneath.

Richard Ivory  
Director of Legal and Business Services



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## SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23 MARCH 2022

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#### Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Houghton  
The Sheriff, Councillor Rayment  
Councillors J Baillie, P Baillie, Bell, Bogle, Bunday, Coombs, Cooper,  
Denness (min no's 61-66 and 68-75) Fielker, Fitzhenry, Fuller, D Galton,  
G Galton, S Galton (min no's 61-73(b)), Guest, Guthrie, Hammond,  
Hannides, Kataria, Kaur, Laurent, Leggett, Magee, McEwing, Mitchell,  
Moulton (min no's 61-73(b)), Noon, Dr Paffey, J Payne, W Payne, Prior,  
Renyard, Savage, Shields, Spicer, Stead, Streets, Vaughan (min no's 61-  
71), White and Windle

#### 61. APOLOGIES

It was noted that apologies had been received from Councillors Harwood, Vassiliou, B Harris, L Harris and Margetts.

#### 62. MINUTES

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021, Special and Extraordinary meetings held 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and Budget Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

#### 63. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND LEADER

##### (i) Last meeting of the Municipal Year

Members this is the last meeting of the Municipal Year. I thank all members of the Council for their hard work and contributions made during this past year in sometimes unusual circumstances.

We are aware that Councillor Chaloner has resigned and there is currently a vacancy in the Shirley Ward and the by-election for this will form part of the May Local Elections. Some Councillors are not seeking re-election Councillors, Hammond and Beryl Harris, we thank them for their service to their communities and wish them well.

Goodbye to James Strachan, Stephanie Ramsey and welcome Adam Wilkinson. Members, some of you may be aware James Strachan is leaving the authority to take up the role of Chief Executive at Eastleigh Borough Council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his contributions and wish him well in his new role.

In addition, Stephanie Ramsey is retiring from her role as Director of Quality and Integration representing both the CCG and City Council. Stephanie has been part of both organisations for a very long time, and I would like to take the opportunity to wish her a very happy retirement. In addition to the Mayor and other Members of the Council, the Sheriff, Councillor Rayment paid tribute to

Stephanie Ramsey and wished to place on record her thanks for Stephanie's contributions to the City and wished her a long and happy retirement.

Welcome to Adam Wilkinson who has taken up the role of Interim Executive Director Growth following the departure of Kate Martin.

(ii) Ukraine and Southampton Local Response

The Mayor paid tribute to all those in the Ukraine and Southampton's Local Response to the situation and noted there was a motion regarding this issue later in today's meeting.

(iii) City of Culture Final Four

The Leader announced that Southampton City of Culture 2025 bid had made the final four and the winner would be announced in May.

64. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Council received and noted the following deputations:-

- (i) Mr and Mrs Black- Misuse of Fireworks and Impact on Animals
- (ii) Mr Hodge – E Scooters
- (iii) Pat Usher, Rebecca Ruddick and Claire Ballinger – Safer Bus Stops
- (iv) Katherine Barbour – Insulation in Homes
- (v) Lindsi Bluemel – High Rate of Cyclist Deaths in the City
- (vi) Christell Blunden – Southampton City National Parks Project

The Council received and debated the following Petition which under the Council's Procedure Rules was a qualifying petition which must be debated at Council having triggered the threshold of 1500 verified signatures.

- (i) Southampton City Council implement both the proposed anti-motorcycle installation in the 13 strategic "hot spots" as well as a commitment to tidy and repair the pathways that interconnect the Estates, allowing resident to enjoy the paths designed for walkers and active travel by both young and old.

Note: In responding to the Petition Councillor Moulton recommended that a Task and Finish Group be appointed immediately with representation from Community Safety Team, Police, Highways and Ward Councillors to look at the issues and potential funding opportunities from the Community Fund.

65. PAY POLICY 2022-2023

Report of the Leader of the Council recommending approval of the Pay Policy 2022-2023.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the Pay Policy statement for 2022-2023 be approved;
- (ii) That the continued implementation of the Living Wage Foundation increase as the minimum hourly rate for NJC evaluated posts from 1st April 2021 onwards be noted; and

- (iii) To note that the cost-of-living award for 2021 as part of the pay agreement for NJC evaluated roles and Chief Officer and Chief Executive pay have been agreed; implementation of this is delegated to the Service Director HR and OD to be applied. Negotiations for the 2022 pay award are underway; the budget proposals for 2022 included an indicative uplift of up to 2.5%, for indicative costings an average figure of 1.5% has been applied across all pay points.

66. UPDATE ON THE SOLENT FREEPORT BUSINESS CASE PROPOSALS AND ANY ASSOCIATED IMPLICATIONS FOR MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

Report of the Cabinet Member for Growth seeking decision on the Solent Freeport proposals, support for the submission of the full business case and implications for the Council's medium term financial plan.

Council noted the following updated figures to paragraph 16 and 17 of the report since it had been published:-

- Total UK jobs – **56,000** vs. *Revised*, draft FBC total UK jobs – **32,600**
- Solent jobs (OBC / Council Report) – **28,400** vs. *Revised*, draft FBC Solent jobs – **16,000**
- Solent GVA has been revised downwards from **£2 billion** (OBC / Council report) vs. **£1 billion** in the draft FBC.

In order to receive additional confidential information regarding the freeport debate the Mayor moved in accordance with Categories 3 (financial and business affairs), and 7A (obligation of confidentiality) of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules, as contained in the Council's Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for this to be provided. It was not in the public interest to disclose this information as it contained confidential and commercially sensitive information.

Council noted that Appendix 1 of the report had been removed since publication as it was out of date.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) Council supports and endorses the strategic submission of the Full Business Case (FBC), in April 2022, as a Board Member and partner of Solent Freeport Consortium Limited, as part of National Freeport Programme Application process the final agreement of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in relation to retained Business Rates and membership on the proposed Freeport Investment Committee.
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Acting Chief Executive to make any minor amendments to the FBC, MOU and associated documents and submit as appropriate after consultation with the Leader of the Council, Executive Director for Finance and Commercialisation and Service Director Legal and Business Operations.

67. CONNECTED SOUTHAMPTON TRANSPORT STRATEGY (LTP4) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2022-2025

Report of the Cabinet Member for Growth seeking approval of the Connected Southampton Transport Strategy (LTP4) Implementation Plan 2022-2025.

**RESOLVED:** That the Connected Southampton Transport Strategy (LTP) Implementation Plan 2022 – 2025 be approved.

NOTE: Councillor Denness declared a personal and pecuniary interest and left the meeting for consideration of this item.

68. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGY 2022-2027

Report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care noting Cabinet approval of the Children and Young People's Strategy 2022-2027 and seeking approval from Council for the Youth Justice Strategic Plan which formed part of the overall strategy and required Council approval.

**RESOLVED:** that the Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2022-2027 be approved.

69. ANNUAL CORPORATE PARENTING REPORT

Report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care seeking approval of the Annual Corporate Parenting Report for September 2020 – August 2021.

**RESOLVED:** That the Annual Corporate Parenting report for September 2020 – August 2021 be adopted.

70. SAFE CITY STRATEGY 2022-27

Report of the Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and Heritage seeking approval of the Safe City Strategy 2022-2027.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) To adopt the Safe City Strategy 2022-2027; and
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Executive Director Communities, Culture and Homes, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and Heritage, to make minor changes to the Safe City Strategy 2022-27 during its period of effect.

71. SIGN-UP TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITY DECLARATION ON HEALTHY WEIGHT

Report of the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care seeking sign up to the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That plans for Southampton City Council to sign-up to the Healthy Weight Declaration (HWD) be approved; and
- (ii) That opportunities for Council leaders to promote the HWD ambitions to leaders of other sectors and organisations in the wider system be identified.

72. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted setting out the details of the business undertaken by the Executive.

The Leader and the Cabinet made statements and responded to questions.

The following questions were submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.1:-

1. Refugees

Question from Councillor Bogle to Councillor Fitzhenry

Can the Leader clarify how Southampton City Council is preparing to support refugees from the Ukraine war?

Answer

Settled Community Support – Our stronger communities team are working with local groups and settled communities to support them, as well as working with the police to monitor and respond to fears about increasing hate crime, Our Future Communities group brings together many of our community, voluntary and faith sector organisations to support information sharing and as we move forward, this group will also support the city's welcome for refugees who are housed under the sponsorship scheme announced by government last week.

Our education team is supporting the distribution of packs to schools to help them with the emotional welfare of children and reviewing school placement availability to be able to accommodate children swiftly when they arrive in the city.

An internal working group of officers from across the Council is meeting regularly and has extended this to key partners such as health and police. As far as we can, with limited information we are planning in partnership to support both host families and refugees to access the help they will need. We expect to have a role in ensuring the safeguarding of families who arrive, linking them to health and other agencies such as the DWP. We understand that we may also have a role in distributing the £350 per month payment that has been promised for host families, but the detail at the time of writing is very limited.

Donations for refugees – the Council opened up St Mary’s leisure centre to assist the Polish Social club manage their donations in the short term and have agreed with the owners of Toys R Us to undertake work to the site to allow the Polish Social Club to move their operation to this much larger more suitable site.

Refugee Support – the Government have announced two schemes and we await further detail on the sponsorship scheme to be able to plan effectively.

- Ukraine Family Scheme - The Ukraine Family Scheme allows family members of British nationals, UK settled persons and certain others to come to or stay in the UK. Ukraine Scheme Guidance ([publishing.service.gov.uk](https://publishing.service.gov.uk))
- Local Sponsorship Scheme for Ukraine - This is for Ukrainian Nationals who do not have family in the UK. Homes for Ukraine – Homes for Ukraine – Local Sponsorship Scheme for Ukraine ([campaign.gov.uk](https://campaign.gov.uk)) and Homes for Ukraine scheme: frequently asked questions - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))

## 2. Police Numbers

Question from Councillor Shields to Councillor Vassiliou

What action has the Cabinet Member with responsibility for crime and city safety taken to ensure the 150 additional police officers for the city promised by the Police and Crime Commissioner last year are in place?

Answer

The Leader, Deputy Leader and I have met with the PCC on a number of occasions, both collectively and individually, to highlight the importance of getting more Police Officers in Southampton. At every opportunity we lobby her to ensure we get the highest numbers possible for our City and we will continue to do so.

I am pleased to see that Police numbers have already risen and new police stations are being provided for in the East and West of the City.

I have written to the PCC to clarify the latest position with respect to police numbers and the recruitment plan.

## 3. Crime

Question from Councillor Shields to Councillor Vassiliou

Can the Cabinet Member with responsibility for crime and city safety advise what explanation has been received from the Police and Crime Commissioner as to why last year Freemantle Ward experienced the highest reported crime rate in the City outside of the two city centre wards of Bargate and Bevois? What action has he taken and what does he propose to do to address this?

Answer

In January 2022 the Safe City partnership provided the annual strategic assessment to the over view and scrutiny committee, and the Safe City Partnership Strategy is here today for Council endorsement. Within both of these reports it is acknowledged that reported crime in 2020/21 – the last set of data that is available – was significantly skewed by the changes to how our society operated and was policed, due to repeated

coronavirus lockdowns as was discussed in some detail at the committee meeting in January.

I have had many discussions with the PCC about crime across Southampton and I am aware that issues such as increases in domestic abuse and domestic flagged crimes, up 35% in Freemantle, and hate crime reporting up 126% in Freemantle, these were also experienced elsewhere in the city, and therefore it is important to have a strategic as well as targeted response to enable change. And whilst at one level it is disappointing to see these increases, I am also encouraged that the victims of these crimes have felt able to come forward to report them as we want to enable the victims of hate crime and domestic abuse to feel safe and to access the support that is on offer, and both of these areas will continue to be features of our future Safe City work with the aim to make our city both objectively and subjectively safer.

#### 4. Outdoor Sports Centre

Question from Councillor Renyard to Councillor Hannides

Can the cabinet member confirm that safety concerns will be addressed in the redevelopment of the Outdoor Sports Centre?

Answer

The improvement plan for the Outdoor Sports Centre will lead to a significant increase in participation across the centre, both during the day and in the evenings. This increase in numbers across the site will result in an increased level of supervision not only by staff but also members of the public. There will also be an increase in lighting and the route to new car parking will be well lit. There is also an increase in the number of facilities, that will also be lit, generally lifting the lighting levels during opening hours. The design of the buildings has given consideration to guidance and advice available from Secure by Design. There is also CCTV on site.

The management contractor will be encouraged to continue to work in partnership with the police to seek to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

#### 5. Rent Arrears

Question from Councillor Mitchell to Councillor Vassiliou

Does the Cabinet Member anticipate a potential uptick in housing rent arrears in the coming months?

Answer

In 2020 following the first lockdown, a decision was taken by the Council to pause all debt collection activity across the council, which unfortunately did result in an increase in rent arrears. I am pleased to say that housing rent arrears decreased between December 2021 and February 2022 and we now have several initiatives that are being put into place to continue this trend over the coming months. This includes offering another day for monthly direct debit payers, a campaign to increase payment by standing orders and assessing whether we can increase payments via APAs (alternative payment arrangements) and aligning resources within the team to create extra capacity to support tenants and negotiate sustainable payment plans to prevent future debt. Clearly the impact of rising costs for all will be kept under review, however, the decision to freeze council rents and service charges, will help mitigate this.

I am confident that with this range of initiatives in place we will continue to be able to support our residents to prioritise their rent payments in the coming months.

## 6. Post 16 Education

Question from Councillor Paffey to Councillor J Baillie

Could the Cabinet Member please update Council on plans for the sustainability of post-16 education in the city?

Answer

The key factor impacting on the long term plans for post-16 education in Southampton is the report commissioned by the ESFA/DfE by Deloitte which has looked at a range of options including merging City College with one or more other FE institutions along with a rationalisation of sixth form college provision in the City. The report is seriously delayed, but is anticipated to be made public by Easter, although there is no guarantee of this. It is anticipated that any recommendations coming from the report will be fully funded, as currently two of the three colleges are in receipt of emergency government funding.

In the meantime, while the evidence for the report was being gathered, both Itchen and Richard Taunton Colleges have been inspected by Ofsted and graded as Good. This might have an impact on some of the recommendations in the report.

## 7. Bedford Place

Question from Councillor Noon to Councillor Moulton

Following the considerable and wide support from residents in and around the Polygon area as well as the many visitors to Bedford Place, will the Cabinet member honour public opinion by including a question regarding pedestrianisation of Bedford Place in the upcoming public consultation about the future of this area?

Answer

The Administration are seeking consensus and common ground. The Bedford Place Working Group has worked hard to come forward with proposals which achieve broad support rather than divide opinion. The Bedford Place working group proposals have been unanimously put forward – representing residents, day time businesses and night time businesses. There is no consensus for closing Bedford Place to traffic. More than 50% of businesses object to it. The latest consultation run last summer was the same as the one run prior to May (the results of which have been sent to Cllr Noon) and broadly returned the same results from businesses but with a larger turn out. Whilst a minority of business favoured permanent closure of Bedford Place, the majority did not.

Representatives from residents of Canton Street do not support the closure of Bedford Place. Closure of Bedford Place (day time or evening) therefore will not form part of the proposals for consultation. Instead the proposals include measures to slow traffic, supporting the new 20mph limit, include greening, pavement widening and improvements to the public realm and additional space for outdoor dining. The proposals are to permanently pedestrianise Carlton Place and Lower Banister St, including a new square which might be used for small markets.

I think the proposals are superb and tremendously exciting. The Administration has made a substantial financial commitment of £1.2M in last month's budget. Initial



feedback I have received has been extremely supportive. I hope all councillors will back proposals which the community have brought forward and support the common ground consensus scheme which they have worked very hard to draw up.

#### 8. Devolution Deal

Question from Councillor Shields to Councillor Fitzhenry

When might the citizens of Southampton and elected members expect to be consulted on potentially far-reaching plans currently being drawn up by Hampshire County Council for a number of devolution 'asks' of Central Government as part of a Hampshire County Council-brokered pan Hampshire 'county deal'?

Answer

The City Council has engaged positively with the process initiated by Hampshire County Council and was disappointed that the Government chose not to progress a devolution deal for our area as one of the first 'county deals'. However, we remain positive about the potential of devolution to boost the city's economy and expand local democratic control. While we do not think a Government devolution deal for Hampshire or the Solent is imminent, we continue to work with partners, including also Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, on ideas for a range of options and will back the best deal for Southampton. As there is currently no deal on the table for our area, a consultation with residents would be premature, but consultation is a core part of the devolution process and any deal and associated governance changes will be subject to a full public consultation in the city. Any deal will require to be approved by Full Council and therefore, when we have some indication from Government of what a deal for our area might look like, there will be a series of Member briefings prior to the Council vote. Our best estimate is that this is unlikely before early 2023. In the meantime, officers will periodically brief Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet on the latest discussions

#### 73. MOTIONS

(a) Councillor S Galton moved and Councillor Mitchell seconded

Southampton National Park City Project

"The Southampton National Park City Project (SNCP) is a grassroots community initiative that seeks to create more spaces that are safe to play in and where nature can flourish – a city where people, culture and nature work together.

It is affiliated to the National Park City Foundation, a global movement that aims to create 25 National Park Cities (NPCs) by 2025.

Council fully supports the Southampton National Park City Project and its aim of achieving National Park City status for Southampton by 2025 and endorses Cabinet signing the Charter on behalf of Southampton City Council. Additionally, where practical and feasible, the Council will assist SNCP as they pursue their objectives."

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED CARRIED

(b) Councillor Fielker moved and Councillor Mitchell seconded

#### Cost of Living Crisis

“This council recognises that Southampton residents are in the midst of one of the highest cost of living crisis in 60 years, exacerbated by rising fuel costs made worse by a global oil and gas crisis.

This Council acknowledges that freezing council tax and rents for one year provides a small measure of relief to eligible households but will not themselves prevent people from having to make stark choices.

This Council notes that the SO: Linked contract has made it easier for people to get the support they need, but also notes that there remains a squeeze on many people’s incomes while energy, food, and housing costs continue to rise.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. continue to use available resources to support Southampton residents in times of hardship.
2. call on government to commit to immediate action beyond the proposed £150 advance (for some council taxpayers) whilst considering the longer-term consequences.
3. write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer requesting that the Government takes further steps, including to:
  - a) Cut VAT on gas and electric to 0%
  - b) Scrap the proposed National Insurance increase
  - c) Restore the £20 Universal Credit uplift
  - d) Properly fund Council to continue payments from the Household Support Fund beyond the 31<sup>st</sup> March to support those most in need
  - e) Implement a one-off windfall tax on energy companies’ record profits to reduce the burden on bill payers.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED LOST.

(c) Councillor Fitzhenry moved and Councillor Paffey seconded.

#### Ukraine Refugees

“This council deplores the recent Russian invasion of Ukraine, accompanied by the terrible loss of life and horrendous destruction of Ukraine’s infrastructure.

Council commends the work of voluntary organisations and individuals in Southampton who are collecting and sending vital relief materials to support Ukrainian refugees.

Council resolves to follow the government's lead by refusing to engage with any individual, organisation or activity that might support or fund Putin's war.

Southampton City Council stands with the people of Ukraine and as a City of Sanctuary we will work with government to support refugees and their family members in the city."

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED CARRIED.

NOTE: The Mayor also agreed to write to the Mayor of Mariupol indicating the City of Southampton stands with them and invite opportunity to work with them when peace reigns.

74. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES OR THE MAYOR

It was noted that no requests for Questions from Members to the Chairs of Committees or the Mayor had been received.

75. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

It was noted that there were no appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Other Bodies.

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# Agenda Item 7

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE FULL COUNCIL
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	25 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022 (GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE) 18 <sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022 (COUNCIL)
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	SERVICE DIRECTOR: LEGAL & BUSINESS OPERATIONS & MONITORING OFFICER

<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Title</b>	Acting Chief Executive	
	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Mike Harris</b>	Tel: 023 8083 2882
	<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:Mike.harris@southampton.gov.uk">Mike.harris@southampton.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Title</b>	Service Director: Legal & Business Operations	
	<b>Name:</b>	Richard Ivory	Tel: 023 8083 2794
	<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:Richard.ivory@southampton.gov.uk">Richard.ivory@southampton.gov.uk</a>	

<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	
N/A	
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>	
This report sets out the annual review of the Constitution. This will be considered and initially discussed by Governance Committee on 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022. The recommendations to both the Governance Committee and Council are included below.	
As ever, the Constitution is a document that changes regularly and, therefore, further revisions may be proposed prior to or at Council.	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>	
<u>Governance Committee</u>	
	(i) To consider and recommend the changes to the Constitution to Council for adoption.
<u>Council</u>	
	(ii) To agree the minor changes to the Constitution and associated arrangements as set out in this report;
	(iii) To authorise the Service Director: Legal & Business Operations to finalise the arrangements as approved by Full Council and make any further consequential or minor changes arising from the decision;
	(iv) To approve the City Council's Constitution, as amended, including the Officer Scheme of Delegation, for the Municipal Year 2022-23.
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
1.	It is appropriate as a core tenet of good governance for the Council to keep its Constitution under regular review and to amend it, both to reflect experience

	and changing circumstances. No additions to the comprehensive Officer Scheme of Delegation are proposed.
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>	
2.	The Council has previously resolved to review its Constitution annually. Therefore, it is appropriate that this report is considered by Members. There are a range of recommendations set out within the report, none of which are substantial changes. Members have a range of options about various changes not least of which is to amend or reject some or all of them.
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
<u>Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs)</u>	
3.	Minor changes are proposed to the CPRs as indicated below. Additional wording is proposed to the exemption section to require a contract award notice is published for all approved exemptions that fall within the High Value Transaction Procedure. This will clarify that all approved exemptions above £25k will be required to have a notice published on the web via Contracts Finder/Find A Tender.
4.	Amendment of wording to make clear that the Medium Value Transaction Procedure and the Low Value Transaction Procedure threshold values will remain exclusive of VAT. This will clarify the application of the Public Procurement (Agreement on Government Procurement) (Threshold) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 and PPN 10/21 – Thresholds and Inclusion of VAT in respect of the CPRs and make the assessment of Contract Value at this value clearer for users.
5.	Amendment of wording to make clear that in respect of procurements with a Contract Value of or in excess of the PCR Thresholds, the value must now be calculated inclusive of VAT. This is to apply the Public Procurement (Agreement on Government Procurement) (Threshold) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 and PPN 10/21 – Thresholds and Inclusion of VAT to PCR Procedure procurements.
6.	Updates to the following PCR Thresholds to reflect legislative threshold changes applicable between 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022 and 31st December 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works Contracts £5,336,937</li> <li>• Supply and Service Contracts £213,477</li> </ul> This is to reflect changes to legislative thresholds which are amended every two years in line with the Public Procurement (Agreement on Government Procurement) (Threshold) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 and PPN 10/21 – Thresholds and Inclusion of VAT.
7.	Update to the Concession Contract Procedure to include reflect legislative threshold changes which increase the relevant threshold to £5,336,937. This is to reflect changes to legislative thresholds which are amended every two years in line with the Public Procurement (Agreement on Government Procurement) (Threshold) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 and PPN 10/21 – Thresholds and Inclusion of VAT.
8.	Addition of wording to provide clarity that Rule 15.7 applies when a variation to a contract is not explicit within the terms and conditions of the contract. To clarify that Executive Directors can approve variations and extensions where

	they are envisaged under the contract and the approach for approving them when this is not the case.
<u>Health &amp; Wellbeing Board</u>	
9.	As members will be aware Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) were established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to act as a forum in which key leaders from the local health and care system could work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population. HWB have limited formal powers; these being to deliver a joint strategic needs assessment and a health and wellbeing strategy. They are constituted as a partnership forum rather than an executive decision-making body. Southampton's HWB is accountable to Cabinet.
10.	<p><i>Membership</i></p> <p>The Board's current voting membership is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elected member lead for Health &amp; Social Care (Chair) – Cllr Ivan White</li> <li>• Clinical Director for Southampton (representative of Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group) – Dr Sarah Young (Deputy Chair)</li> <li>• Opposition member lead for Health &amp; Social Care – Cllr Lorna Fielker</li> <li>• Three additional Councillors appointed by Council under the rule of proportionality – Cllr Peter Baillie, Cllr Terry Streets, Cllr Robert Stead</li> <li>• Executive Director Wellbeing (Children &amp; Learning) – Rob Henderson</li> <li>• Executive Director Wellbeing (Adults &amp; Health) – Guy Van Dichele</li> <li>• Director of Public Health – Dr Debbie Chase</li> <li>• Healthwatch representative – Rob Kurn</li> </ul>
11.	The Board previously also included a voting representative from NHS England (Dr Shahed Ahmed), but this membership responsibility has recently been discharged to CCGs, so the Board has reduced in number by one, and there is now only one representative from a health organisation (Dr Young). In addition, the Chief Medical Officer at University Hospital Southampton and the Council's Clinical Director for Quality and Integration receive Board papers and regularly join as invited guests.
12.	At its meeting of 18 January 2022, the Board reviewed its membership and discussed whether or not to expand it to include representatives from additional health and wellbeing organisations. Members noted that it was important to ensure the right expertise was available to the Board when needed. However, it was recognised that retaining a smaller Board may enable it to remain more agile. When considering the addition of members to represent organisations from the wider health and wellbeing sector it was also felt that it may not be the most efficient use of representatives' limited time to join every meeting of the Board.
13.	Members instead proposed that individual expertise and representation be sought on a per case basis. Individuals could be invited to contribute to and attend HWB meetings according to need.
14.	However, the Board's current small membership may put its meetings at risk of not being quorate. The quorum required is for at least one Councillor, one member of Healthwatch and one representative from health to be present. It may be sensible to invite Healthwatch to either appoint an additional member

	<p>or to nominate a deputy who could attend if needed. The number of members from the health sector could also be increased to include representatives who could add value, vision and skills in areas of crucial importance to the HWB, for example in children and young people and in mental health. The contributions of the Chief Medical Officer at University Hospital Southampton and the Council's Clinical Director for Quality and Integration could also be formalised by inviting them to join as full Board members. Amendments to the HWB terms of reference must be approved by Council.</p>
15.	<p>It is was therefore resolved by HWB to recommend to Council that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For agenda items requiring additional expertise, the Chair, in discussion with the relevant Executive Directors, invite contributions from and attendance of additional individuals on a per case basis</li> <li>• The HWB terms of reference are amended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ to remove the seat previously allocated to NHS England; and</li> <li>○ to include additional members with a focus on strategic system working <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ a local mental health clinician</li> <li>▪ a local community paediatrician; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ to include deputy HSIOW CCG and Healthwatch representatives; and</li> </ul> <p>to formalise as full voting members the inclusion of the Chief Medical Officer at University Hospital Southampton and the SCC Clinical Director for Quality and Integration.</p> </li></ul>
16.	<p>The Southampton Health and Wellbeing Board voting membership would therefore comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elected member lead for Health &amp; Social Care (Chair);</li> <li>• Clinical Director for Southampton (representative of Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group), or nominated deputy;</li> <li>• Opposition member lead for Health &amp; Social Care;</li> <li>• Three additional councillors appointed by Council under the rule of proportionality;</li> <li>• Executive Director Wellbeing (Children &amp; Learning);</li> <li>• Executive Director Wellbeing (Adults &amp; Health);</li> <li>• Director of Public Health;</li> <li>• Healthwatch representative, or nominated deputy;</li> <li>• Local mental health clinician;</li> <li>• Local community paediatrician;</li> <li>• Chief Medical Officer at University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust;</li> <li>• SCC Clinical Director for Quality and Integration.</li> </ul> <p>The quorum will comprise at least one Councillor, one member of Healthwatch and one representative from health (to include HSIOW CCG, a mental health clinician, a community paediatrician, and University Hospital Southampton).</p>



<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
	None
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
	None
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
	An up to date Constitution is a requirement under the Local Government Act 2000
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
	None
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
	None
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
	None

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	None
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	<a href="#">Link to tracked changes Constitution - Constitutional Review 2022</a>

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

1.	None
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Other Background Documents</b>	
<b>Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>	
<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>
1.	None

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<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	COUNCIL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> May 2022		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>Author</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Romilly Beard Policy & Strategy Manager	Tel: 023 8083 3310
	<b>E-mail:</b>	romilly.beard@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>Director</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Guy Van Dichele Director for Wellbeing (Health and Adults)	Tel: 023 8254 5688
	<b>E-mail:</b>	guy.vandichele@southampton.gov.uk	

<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	
None.	
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>	
This report outlines the Executive Business conducted since July 2021.	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>	
(i)	That the report be noted.
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
1.	This report is presented in accordance with Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>	
2.	Not applicable.
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
3.	This report outlines the activity of the Executive and activities to progress the priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan (2021-2025) since 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022.
	<b>Communities, Culture and Heritage</b>
	We're delighted that through an unprecedented city-wide and regional collaboration, Southampton has been shortlisted to the final four to become the next UK City of Culture in 2025, alongside Bradford, Durham and Wrexham. This is a major achievement from a record breaking 20 cities who first entered the competition in 2021. As part of our City of Culture preparations, we continue to invest in our cultural heritage. For example, the £6 million Heritage Assets Repair Programme is already underway, with improvements being made to Weigh House and Westgate Town Walls and later this year we will ensure further access improvements in some of our medieval vaults.
	As the Ukraine crisis continues, Southampton has stepped up to make sure Ukrainians arriving in the city are fully supported and have access to the help they need. We have set up a Welcome Hub at the Central Library, which opened on Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> of April. This Hub provides a safe space, and face to face support to Ukrainians who have fled the war in Ukraine and to any Southampton residents who are hosting Ukrainians under the Homes for Ukraine and Ukraine Family Schemes. We have also set up the former Toys 'R' Us warehouse as a central point for residents to give donations and Southampton residents have kindly provided many donations already. With the Southampton Polish Club, we are helping to send valuable items to Ukrainians near the border of Page 9

	<b>Our Greener City</b>
	<p>In Southampton, we have been working hard to develop, and ensure easy access, to green space for our residents. We have successfully planted 70 trees in Riverside Park and 25 wildflower meadows ahead of our target. We have also completed the new landscape works at Janaway and Pettinger Gardens St. Deny's. We are currently working on the £550,000 Townhill Village Green project in establishing new multi-functional green spaces with mosaics, outdoor gyms, play areas and living crib walls, which will be completed by the end of May. With £45,000 provided by Environment Agency and our £20,000 contribution, we are also working alongside Shoreburs greenway friends to make major improvements at Miller's Pond. We aim to include the voices of our residents in the development of our green city and therefore, I am proud to announce that our public consultation on the Green Grid, undertaken with Green City Team, received over 5000 contributions to this important work.</p>
	<p>I am excited to share that we have teamed up with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to create a "Wilder Southampton" and deliver nature and environmental projects across the city. We will increase biodiversity, improve people's health and wellbeing and reduce pressure on the natural environment. The Southampton Wilder Communities project team will work with Council's City Services team and continue to deliver schemes across our city's parks and open spaces. We will work to initiate community-led projects, host events, create environment campaigns and provide tools and resources so our residents can engage with nature. Moreover, we are working towards our effort to achieve net zero by 2030 and have already fitted solar panels, LED lighting and new control systems onto seven of the Council's buildings. This is not only contributing to tackling climate change but will also save the council £138,000 a year.</p>
	<b>Growth</b>
	<p>I am proud to announce that the Strategic Planning team have once again successfully secured funding from the Digital Planning Team at DLUHC. We will use this funding to build on our work of using digital tools to improve public engagement, encouraging all our residents to have their say about important issues, such as our new Local Plan, Southampton City Vision. This team have also secured a further £125,000 (on top of the 100,000 secured last year) which will enable us to invest in 3D modelling of the city centre and key local centres. This will help people to understand what new developments will look like in the proposed setting, particularly as we look to increase densities and actively encourage taller buildings in order to meet our challenging housing target.</p>
	<p>I was delighted to attend a successful trip representing Business South and Southampton City Council at the leading real estate market, Le Marché International des Professionnels de L'immobilier, (MIPIM) in March in Cannes, France. This four-day event enabled us to discover new opportunities for Southampton and meet key international stakeholders. We consolidated existing relationships with developers and representatives of businesses already working in Southampton. We also made new contacts with developers, investors and businesses who want to know more about the opportunities to work with the Council to deliver game-changing development within Southampton.</p>
	<b>Wellbeing</b>
	<p>I am delighted to share that Southampton has been awarded a further 3 years of funding from the Department of Education as part of its national Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme, following a hugely successful pilot year</p>

	in 2021. They offered 3000 spaces for these eligible families to get involved in various activities such as skiing, swimming, computer coding, arts and crafts, sports, cooking and nutritional education. With this funding, our education and learning team will be able to continue to offer city wide holiday provision and nutritious food for all school aged pupils eligible for Free School Meals.
	It brings me pleasure to highlight that we have six new part time staff joining the Sensory Team, enabling the team to work with services to further develop practitioners' understanding of sensory loss, the impact this has on people's lives and what they can do to help. The Sensory team aim to work with key services, such as the Learning Disabilities Team and Solent Neuro Rehab and enhance existing relationships within the Community Independence Service and Southern Sight. Moreover, this team are providing excellent training to three new full-time nurses at the Eye Hospital who will be providing psychological support for people to help them cope with sight loss, and this will enable nurses to provide early referrals to Southampton Sight to ensure eligible people gain valuable support.
	<b>A Council that works with and for you</b>
	I am proud to announce that the installation work of CCTV cameras has begun and aims to enhance safety in our streets, especially in anti-social hotspots. The Council completed a comprehensive review of the CCTV cameras that exist within the city to help inform where additional CCTV would be of most benefit. As a result, it has been agreed that certain locations, such as Broad Green/Cossack Green, Cumbrian Way and Daisy Dip play area will benefit from additional cameras. The installation of the CCTV cameras is funded through £100,000 granted in the 2021 mid-year budget and a further £160,000 agreed as part of the 2022/23 budget setting to help combat anti-social behaviour and deter crime.
	The Big City Clean-up is on track for completion in June. We have successfully pared with the city's Business Improvement District (BID) Go! to help clean up Southampton City's streets. This has involved hot washing, removal of some high-level graffiti and a deep clean of pavements including gum removal, targeting certain areas such as Portswood, Lordshill and Shirley. With Go!, and funding from the Welcome Back Fund, we have successfully created a clean and more attractive city. Moreover, we will continue to ensure clean streets and have agreed new service level agreements with Go!, which will bring £400,000 income over the next 5 years for additional cleaning staff.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
	None.
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
	None.
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
	As defined in the report appropriate to each section.
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
	None.
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
	None.

<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
	None.

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	None

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

1.	None
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**Equality Impact Assessment**

<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.</b>	No
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**Data Protection Impact Assessment**

<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.</b>	No
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**Other Background Documents**

**Other Background documents available for inspection at:**

<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>
1.	None.

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	COUNCIL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2022		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	18 MAY 2022		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	THE RETURNING OFFICER		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Title</b>	Acting Chief Executive	
	<b>Name:</b>	Mike Harris	Tel: 023 8083 2882
	<b>E-mail</b>	mike.harris@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Title</b>	Elections Manager	
	<b>Name:</b>	Mike Hickman	Tel: 023 8083 3954
	<b>E-mail</b>	mike.hickman@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
Report of the Returning Officer detailing the results of the Southampton City Council elections on Thursday 5 May 2022			
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>			
	(i)	To note the results of the Southampton City Council elections on Thursday 5 May 2022	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	<b>To officially record the results of the Southampton City Council elections on Thursday 5 May 2022</b>		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	Not applicable		
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>			
3.	Election of city councillors for all 16 wards in the city. There was one vacancy in each ward and the following candidates were duly elected:		
	<b>Ward</b>	<b>City Councillor</b>	<b>Party</b>
	Bargate	Sarah Jane BOGLE	Labour
	Bassett	Richard BLACKMAN	Liberal Democrat
	Bevois	Toqeer Ahmed KATARIA	Labour
	Bitterne	Terry Michael STREETS	Conservative
	Bitterne Park	Anthony Wyatt BUNDAY	Labour & Co-operative
	Coxford	Matthew RENYARD	Labour
	Freemantle	Stephen John LEGGETT	Labour
	Harefield	Valerie LAURENT	Conservative

	Millbrook	David FURNELL	Labour
	Peartree	Eamonn Francis KEOGH	Labour
	Portswood	Lisa MITCHELL	Labour
	Redbridge	Catherine Lipton MCEWING	Labour
	Shirley	Hannah Katherine Amy COOMBS Alexander WINNING	Labour Labour
	Sholing	Marley George GUTHRIE	Conservative
	Swaythling	Lorna Eileen Lydia FIELKER	Labour
	Woolston	Susan Jane BLATCHFORD	Labour
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>			
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>			
4.	Not applicable		
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>			
5.	Not applicable		
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>			
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>			
6.	Not applicable		
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>			
7.	Not applicable		
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>			
8.	Not applicable		
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>			
9.	Not applicable		
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>		<b>No</b>	
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>		All	
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>			
<b>Appendices</b>			
1.	None		
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>			
1.	None		
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>			
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.</b>			<b>No</b>
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>			



<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Other Background Documents</b>		
<b>Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>		
<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>	
1.	Declaration of Result of Poll for each of the 16 wards	Not applicable

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<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	COUNCIL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY: ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	18 MAY 2022		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	COUNCILLOR FIELKER - CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2021/22		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Scrutiny Manager	
	<b>Name:</b>	Mark Pirnie	<b>Tel:</b> 023 8083 3886
	<b>E-mail:</b>	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) is required to submit a report summarising scrutiny activity over the past twelve months to Full Council each year. The document, attached at Appendix 1, is therefore submitted for information in accordance with paragraph 2.2.7 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules within the Council's constitution.</p>			
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>			
	(i)	That the report be noted.	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	The report is submitted for information in line with the requirements of the constitution		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	None, since the production of this report is a requirement set out in the Council's constitution.		
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>			
3.	The Council's overview and scrutiny procedure rules require an annual report to be made to Council on the overview and scrutiny function. Attached at Appendix 1 is the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report covering the 2021/22 municipal year. It aims to provide a succinct summary of the main scrutiny activities and inquiries undertaken during the course of the year.		
4.	The 2021/22 Chairs of the OSMC, Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (HOSP), Children and Families Scrutiny Panel (CFSP) and the Accessible Southampton Scrutiny Inquiry Panel have been consulted on the contents of the report.		
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>			
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>			
5.	None		

<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
6.	None
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
8.	None
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
9.	None directly as a result of this report
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
10.	None directly as a result of this report
<b>KEY DECISION</b>	No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	None directly as a result of this report
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>	
1.	None
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
<b>Other Background Documents - Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>	
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

# SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

# OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22



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# Chair's Introduction

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## **Councillor Fielker**

### **Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee – (OSMC) 2021/22**

This year has seen a return to in person scrutiny meetings, quickly followed by a return to virtual meetings and finally the establishment of hybrid meetings. In whatever format the meetings have taken place this year has been a challenging one for the Council's scrutiny function.

The Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel has understandably focused on the impact of the pandemic on health outcomes and services, alongside championing the role of the Place (Southampton) in the development of the new Integrated Care System.

The Children and Families Scrutiny Panel has been scrutinising the transformation of Children's Services and Learning whilst continuing to analyse monthly performance data to ensure that service providers are held to account for the outcomes they are delivering.

Over six meetings the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel conducted an extensive inquiry into the accessibility of Southampton with the final report scheduled to be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and Cabinet in June 2022.

This year the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee has repeatedly locked horns with the Executive over its approach to decision making. Scrutiny is an essential part of ensuring that local government remains transparent, accountable and open, resulting in improved policies, services and public confidence. The ability of scrutiny to undertake this role effectively is dependent on the Executive following agreed processes that have been respected by various administrations over the years.

At the start of the municipal year a number of key decisions proceeded straight to Council without touching the forward plan or a Cabinet agenda. This resulted in scrutiny being bypassed altogether, and with it the opportunity for the Committee to engage the public in key decisions. Following these events, a request was made to the Leader to commit to the open and transparent decision making that has served this Council well and is expected from our residents.

In addition, the Executive have taken a number of decisions without the availability of the information required to make an informed assessment of the options available. Taking decisions that are informed by evidence is a fundamental ingredient in good decision making. The absence of such information resulted in the call-in of three decisions in 2021/222, the highest recorded in a year. A number of these could have been avoided if due process had been followed and I therefore welcome proposals for external oversight of the Council's governance processes to address these concerns.

I am grateful to members of the various scrutiny panels for their dedication and input throughout the year. I am also grateful to all the local groups, national organisations and individuals who have attended meetings, made presentations and provided evidence, and to council officers and Cabinet Members for their attendance. A special thanks must also be given to IT and Democratic Services for their proactive and flexible approach ensuring that, once again, we were able to undertake a full programme of scrutiny meetings.

# The Purpose and Functions of Overview & Scrutiny

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## Decision making context

The Full Council of 48 councillors approves the policy framework which sets out the key policies and programmes for the main services provided by the Council. In February each year Council meets to set the Council Tax for the following year.

The Executive make decisions relating to services provided by the Council, except for those matters which are reserved for decision by full Council, and planning and licensing matters which are dealt with by specialist regulatory panels. The Executive is made up of a Leader, elected by Council, and their appointed Cabinet Members.

The Scrutiny function helps to inform the decision making process and improve the way the Council works. Scrutineers assess what impact the Executive's policies and plans will have on the city and its residents.

Scrutiny is a process for:

- Holding the Cabinet, chief officers and senior members of staff to account for the discharge of its functions by examining, challenging and, if necessary, requesting changes to executive decisions made but not yet implemented.
- Scrutinising and reviewing policies and practices within a cross-service remit, assisting in the development of such policies and practices and scrutinising policy outcomes – e.g. the implementation of strategic priorities.
- Reviewing decisions and policies made by the Executive and considering whether they are right for the city.
- Assessing the council's performance against its planned targets and monitoring critical success factors.
- Reviewing the work of other partnerships and public sector organisations in the city, particularly the Safe City Partnership and health providers and commissioners.
- Championing issues of local concern to residents and contributing to policy development and service improvement.

## Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC)

The OSMC is a parent committee that manages the overview and scrutiny process and meets on a monthly basis. The membership of the OSMC is appointed for the municipal year at the Annual Council meeting in May.

There are a number of Scrutiny Panels that support the work of the Executive and the council as a whole. The Scrutiny Inquiry Panel carries out a work programme of scrutiny inquiries approved by the OSMC. These arrangements allow citizens to have a greater say in council matters by holding public inquiries into matters of local concern. These member led inquiries lead to reports and recommendations which advise the Executive and the council as a whole on its policies, budget and service delivery.

In addition the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel undertakes the statutory scrutiny of health and adult social care agencies in Southampton, and the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel scrutinises services for children and families in the city, including education.

The OSMC also monitors the decisions of the Executive and can 'Call-In' a decision which has been made by the Executive but not yet implemented. This enables them to consider whether the decision is appropriate.

## Councillor Call for Action

Enables all councillors to refer single ward issues, or 'local government matters', to the OSMC.

## Scrutiny Panels 2021/22

- Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel
- Children and Families Scrutiny Panel
- Accessible Southampton Scrutiny Inquiry Panel



# Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

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**Councillor Fielker**

**Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) - 2021/22**

## **Committee Members (March 2022)**

Councillor Savage (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Chaloner

Councillor Cooper

Councillor Fuller

Councillor Guthrie

Councillor Kaur

Councillor Stead

Councillor Vaughan

## **Appointed Members – Church Representatives    Parent Governors**

Mrs Catherine Hobbs

Mr Rob Sanders

Mrs Nicola Brown

Mr Francis Otieno

In 2021/22 there were more meetings of the Committee than usual, the meetings were often longer than previous years and many were particularly lively, reflecting the issues being considered. In response to public interest and Covid regulations the thirteen meetings were also held in a variety of settings, including two meetings in the Guildhall.

## **The use of Call-In**

As identified in the introduction to this report the Committee called in three decisions in 2021/22, contributing to the high number of meetings this municipal year. As Chair I understand that the impact of the call-in procedure diminishes with repeated use but I stand by my decisions and can justify each employment of the process.

In September the decision to dispose of land at Lime Street Retail site for the development of new premises for Hope School was called in. The Committee did not oppose the principles behind the decision but expressed concerns that the data required to evidence the demand for an increase in primary school places in the city had not been undertaken in advance of the decision being taken by Cabinet, and therefore the Executive could not fully understand the potential impact of a new two form entry school on existing primary schools in the city.

In November the Committee called in the proposal to offer long leasehold tenants on Northern Above Bar the opportunity to extend their lease or purchase the freehold. The rationale for this decision was to encourage the Administration to follow the usual process for property disposals of waiting for the S.123 best consideration report before taking a report to Cabinet thereby reducing the potential financial risk to the Council.

Through Hope School and Northern Above Bar a pattern emerged of an Administration making decisions without key information being available. I recognise that the Executive's role is to make decisions but the decisions should be informed by evidence.

The final call-in was the decision to close St Mary's Leisure Centre. Reflecting the community support for the asset the Committee recommended that Cabinet find a partner to keep the leisure centre open for community use.



## City Development

On a number of occasions, the Committee invited the Cabinet Member to attend a meeting to discuss milestones for the major developments in the city. Leisure World, Toys R Us and Starboard Way all featured on OSMC agendas in 2021/22. The Committee welcomed progress being made moving these projects closer to fruition but continued to advocate for the inclusion of affordable housing units in the planned city centre developments alongside a cohesive vision for the schemes that comprise the Mayflower Quarter development.

## Transport Initiatives

Southampton's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) was considered at the October 2021 meeting. The BSIP is the first phase towards the Council establishing an Enhanced Partnership with the local bus operators. It sets out the aspiration for buses and how Southampton will look to bid for a share of the national funding.

The Committee questioned the ambition within the plan to improve journey times, increase patronage, and make buses a more attractive travel option. Unfortunately, in April the Council were informed that Southampton was not one of the 40% of authorities which submitted plans that would benefit from funding allocated by the Government in the initial phase.



The Integrated Transport and Highways Capital Programme was discussed in November. Of particular interest was the decision to include up to £250k to be spent on Lordswood Close, an unadopted road. As the Council has no legal responsibility towards unadopted roads the Committee sought to understand why the Administration were proposing the utilisation of stretched resources on improving roads in Southampton that the Council is under no obligation to maintain or repair.

## Looking ahead

Firstly, I would like to thank the Leader for attending so many meetings of the Committee this year. He willingly stood in for Cabinet colleagues who, with regularity, offered their apologies and were not in attendance to discuss with the Committee items in their portfolio.

Moving forward I would like to see the publication of performance indicators that would enable the OSMC to hold the Executive to account for the delivery of objectives outlined in the Corporate Plan. Despite repeated requests the Executive have not published any Council wide performance data in 2021/22 that can be scrutinised. This reflects badly on the Council.

This lack of transparency is also behind my next request which is to have fewer items that require discussion in private session of the Committee due to being identified as confidential. Whilst I recognise it is appropriate that certain items are considered in private, on a number of occasions reports could have been drafted in such a way as to allow for public debate in open session without the need to exclude the public.

Thankfully, when discussing issues such as the reopening of Bedford Place to traffic, Hope School and St Mary's Leisure Centre, the public have been in attendance in significant numbers at scrutiny meetings and have been able to engage in the decision-making process. Such occasions continue to demonstrate the relevance of scrutiny and it remains a vital ingredient in local democracy that must be supported and valued.

# Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel



**Councillor Prior**

**Chair of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 2021/22**

**Panel Members (March 2022)**

Councillor Bogle (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Guest

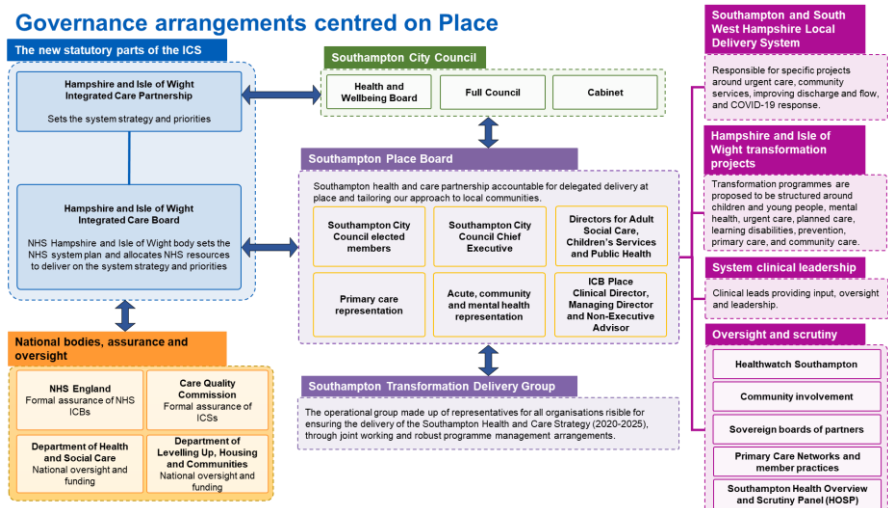
Councillor Professor Margetts  
Councillor Stead

The growing pressure on health and care services in Southampton, alongside consideration of the emerging Integrated Care System provided the main focus for the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel in 2021/22.

**Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care System (ICS)**

Developments regarding the Integrated Care System, the statutory arrangement which brings together local authorities, providers and commissioners of NHS services and other local partners to plan and improve health and care services to meet the needs of their population, were considered at four of the six HOSP meetings in 2021/22.

The Panel recognise that benefits can be achieved by working at scale, and that the delivery of certain services is best undertaken on a Hampshire and Isle of Wight level, but remain unequivocal in their support for the majority of decisions to be made and finances to be held at a ‘place’ level, which in our area will be Southampton.



Reassurances have been provided regarding the primacy of local, place-based decision making and accountability. The Panel will however continue to advocate for a strong Southampton voice in decisions that impact on the health of our residents and will maintain oversight of ICS developments moving forward.

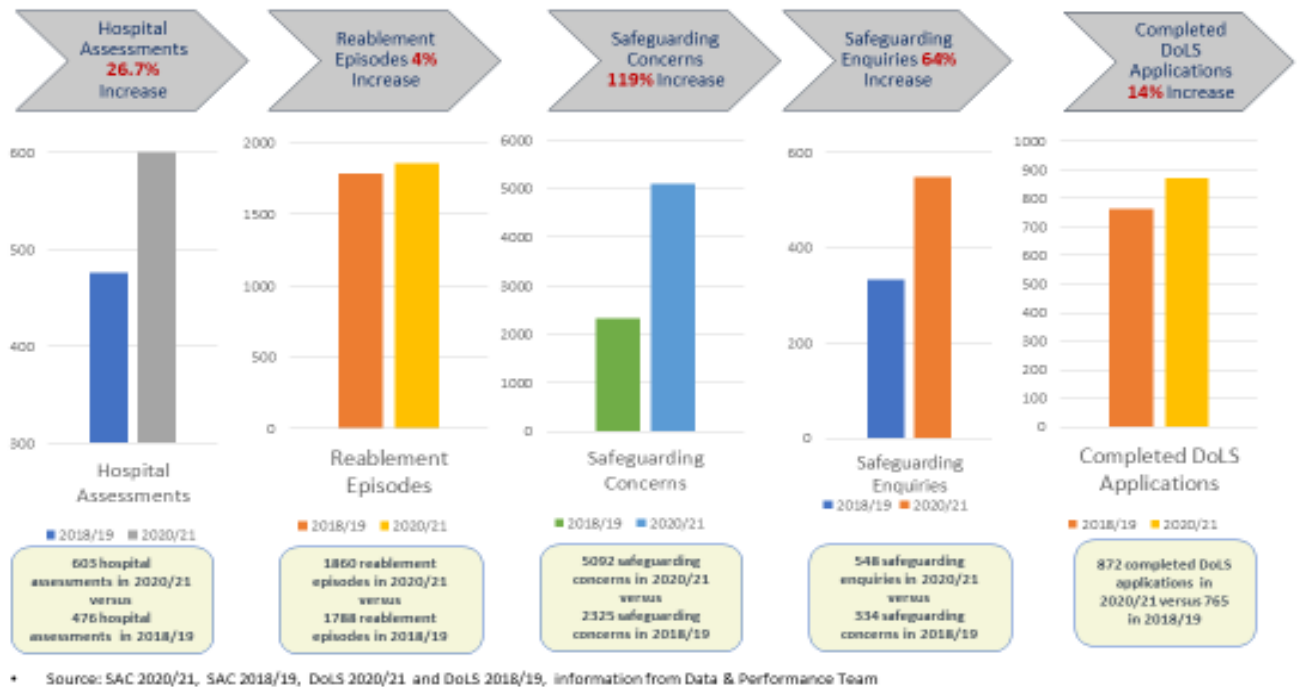
**Pressure on the NHS and Adult Social Care**

In 2021/22 local NHS services saw a marked increase in non-COVID-19 related demand for care. Visits to the Emergency Department at UHS were significantly higher than normal, mental health services were exceptionally busy and in primary care GP practices continued to work hard to safely deliver care to the population of Southampton despite increasing demand for their services.

Pressure on health services were exacerbated by high staff absence rates impacted by sickness or self-isolation related to Covid-19, as well as workforce shortages impacting on the delivery of services across social care, acute, community, metal health and primary care services.

The Panel discussed with system leads the steps that were being taken to relieve the pressure on the NHS and reduce growing waiting lists. A key challenge remains improving patient flow safely by discharging patients out of hospital in a timely way.

With regards to adult social care demand is routinely exceeding local supply and the average length of time required to arrange a new care home placement or package of home care has trebled in the last 6 months. Care providers in Southampton reported significant challenges recruiting and retaining staff, and staff absence due to sickness and/or self-isolation and Covid-19 outbreaks also had an adverse impact on access to the supply of care services. To mitigate the challenges targeted support has been provided to home care providers but, as identified below, the system is struggling to manage the increased need and demand across all areas.



### Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

This year the Panel took the opportunity to discuss with the Trust’s Chief Executive the findings from two independent reports into the performance of Southern Health. In December the HOSP considered “Right First Time”, published by NHS England and Improvement. The report examined the progress that the Trust had made since the tragic deaths of five people who were in the care of Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust in the period 2011-2015, as well as looking at steps required for the Trust to achieve the “Gold Standard” and to “Get it right first time, every time”.

This was followed by consideration of the Trust’s CQC inspection report in April. Disappointingly the Trust’s overall rating was reduced to requires improvement from good. The CQC found evidence of progress and good practice however, the inspectors also highlighted the challenges that teams have faced due to staffing pressures and in delivering services during the pandemic.

### Key issues for 2022/23

I anticipate a busy year for the HOSP in 2022/23. Information is beginning to emerge on the impact of the pandemic on health outcomes and this will need to be analysed alongside forthcoming proposals to address the widening health inequalities in our city.

The planned development of the RSH and Western Hospital sites should commence next year and the Panel will be keen to scrutinise progress. In addition, the system pressures and the structural reforms that have already been referenced remain pressing and, due to their importance in achieving the objectives contained within the Southampton Health and Care Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, require effective oversight by elected members.

# Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

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**Councillor Guthrie**

**Chair of the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel – 2021/22**

**Panel Members (March 2022)**

Councillor Paffey (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Bell

Councillor Laurent  
Councillor Mitchell

**Appointed Members – Parent Governors**

Mrs Nicola Brown  
Mr Francis Otieno

**Church Representatives**

Mrs Catherine Hobbs  
Mr Rob Sanders

Since the last Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report a huge amount has happened as services supporting children and learning across the city lay the foundations for significant improvements in practice. Scrutinising this improvement journey has been a focus of the Panel this year.

To enable the Panel to have oversight of service transformation, as well as responding to areas of concern or risk, the Panel meetings were themed in 2021/22. However, to provide context for the various agenda items, the Panel continue to use performance data to scrutinise children’s services in Southampton. This detailed analysis of monthly data remains pivotal to holding services to account for the outcomes experienced by vulnerable children and young people across the city.

## Unregulated Placements

At the inaugural meeting of the year the Panel considered the findings from Ofsted’s focused visit in May 2021. A number of strengths were identified by Ofsted but the Inspectors identified two areas for priority action: effective and rigorous senior management oversight of children in care who are placed in unregistered settings, at home with their parents or with connected carers in emergency circumstances and effective management oversight of services to care leavers.



Ofsted’s concern about unregulated placements mirrored the conclusion reached by the Panel when considering the wider issue of placement sufficiency at the March 2021 meeting. The Panel requested an audit of the use of unregulated placements to be undertaken by Children’s Services and Learning. This audit was scrutinised by the Panel alongside the Ofsted focused visit report. A priority action plan is now in place to address this issue, including more robust management oversight and scrutiny of these placements.

## Post 16 provision, participation and NEETs

At meetings in September 2021 and March 2022 the Panel considered issues relating to educational attainment and attendance. The Panel expressed concerns about the future of Post 16 education provision in the city and re-iterated their support for a city-wide solution to address the long-standing challenges in the sector that are detrimental to outcomes across the city.

The impact of the pandemic on NEET figures in Southampton resulted in the Panel recommending that officers liaise with comparable local authorities to identify how they were able to reduce NEET levels during the pandemic. A discussion with colleagues at Bristol City Council resulted in Southampton adopting their approach with the establishment of a new ‘Learning Hub’ with the aim of strengthening the offer for young people by bringing providers and practitioners together. The Panel will monitor progress in reducing the level of NEETs moving forward.

Children being educated outside of a school setting was an issue frequently discussed by the Panel in 2021/22. As with most local authorities the number of children being educated at home has risen since the start of the pandemic. The Panel welcomed the additional steps that the Council has introduced to address safeguarding concerns but recognise the importance of the forthcoming legislation if the Council are to be given the powers required to allay the concerns raised by the Panel and nationally by the Children's Commissioner.

### **Health – Care experienced children**

In November 2021 the Panel invited representatives from Solent NHS Trust to attend a meeting to discuss Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), with a specific focus on support for our care experienced children and young people.

Demand for CAMHS continues to rise in Southampton with referrals from April to June 2021 87% higher than the corresponding period in 2019. Due to the increasing demand waiting times for initial assessments are increasing, with an average wait of 15 weeks (November 2021). The Panel welcomed the enhanced provision of mental health support to schools and are aware that the CAMHS strategic plan was refreshed in 2021 but, alongside wider issues with regards to health assessments for care experienced children, the Panel emphasised the importance of improving access to mental health and wellbeing services for young people in Southampton.

### **Service Transformation**

To address performance challenges, Children's Services have been undergoing a substantial re-design this year underpinned by enhanced quality assurance processes. Initiatives include:

- The launch of the Destination 22 service transformation programme
- The launch of 'Making the Difference' practice framework and workforce academy
- The launch of a new case management system – Care Director
- Review of the local threshold document
- Creation of a Children and Young People's Strategy, supported by eight underpinning strategic plans
- UNICEF welcoming Southampton to the Child Friendly Cities and Communities programme

In their scrutiny of these initiatives the Panel have expressed their support for the service transformation and recognise that the collective will to improve is backed up by robust actions and programmes. However, whilst it may be unreasonable to expect performance to improve in the short-term, outcomes remain inconsistent and there is much more to do before the Panel can be confident in the quality of the services that children in Southampton receive.

The service transformation is building the foundations upon which improved outcomes can be built but substantial challenges remain, particularly the creation of a permanent workforce to provide consistency of care and relationships. This will be essential for the service to make the required advances during 2022/23.

### **Looking ahead**

With a full complement of senior managers and leaders now in place, I am hopeful that we are beginning to turn the curve. With line of sight visits proposed enabling Panel members to undertake site visits and attend meetings with officers in the Children's Services department, there is an expectation that the Scrutiny Panel will be in a position to notice and celebrate the improvements whilst continuing to call out actions and performance that have a negative impact on outcomes for children and young people in the city.

# Scrutiny Inquiry Panel

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**Councillor Vaughan**

**Chair of the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel – 2021/22**

**Panel Members (March 2022)**

Councillor Rayment (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Coombs

Councillor Guest  
Councillor Streets

Over 1 in 5 people in the UK are disabled. That is over 14 million people in the UK living with a disability. It is a number that has continued to rise as people are living longer and treatments and technology in healthcare improve.

Spectrum Centre for Independent Living estimate the number of disabled people living in Southampton to be approximately 37,500. This includes people with physical, sensory, intellectual, psychological, emotional, age related and hidden impairments.

The National Disability Strategy identifies that disabled people’s aspirations for their lives are no different from non-disabled people’s aspirations. However, the strategy recognises that disabled people’s everyday experience is very different from non-disabled people.

**Every day, many disabled people:**

- wake up in a home that is not adapted to their needs
- rely on an unpredictable transport network to get out and about
- navigate inaccessible and inflexible workplaces or education settings
- use unresponsive and fragmented public services that do not meet their needs
- feel excluded from leisure opportunities and socialising
- find themselves barred from exercising rights due to accessibility challenges.

Accessibility is key to inclusive cities. If cities are planned and designed poorly disabled people are further excluded. This exclusion means fewer opportunities for education, employment and involvement in community life. By tackling barriers and building inclusive cities it can enable disabled people, and those with access issues, to access services and contribute fully to public life.

Given the above, and the understanding that making cities accessible can also enable them to benefit from the spending power of disabled people and their household, estimated to be worth £274 billion per year in the UK, the OSMC recommended that an inquiry focusing on improving the accessibility of Southampton be undertaken by the Scrutiny Inquiry Panel.

**Consultation**

The Scrutiny Inquiry Panel undertook the inquiry over 5 evidence gathering meetings. At the start of each meeting the Panel received a presentation summarising feedback from an Accessible Southampton focus group meeting attended by disabled people.

In addition to hearing from disabled people, the Panel received information from a wide variety of organisations. This included Spectrum CIL, AccessAble, Liverpool City Council, Cheshire West and Chester Council, Derby City Council, Rose Road Association, Go! Southampton, SO:Let’s Connect, transport operators in Southampton, Southern Health as well as officers from Southampton City Council.

## Findings and conclusions

Information presented to the Inquiry Panel identified that:

- Whilst recognising that Southampton is more accessible than many cities, and that improvements have been made, Southampton is not, following the definition of an accessible city adopted by the EU Access City Scheme, a city where all people can live in it and use all things and services without problems.
- Cities such as Chester, Liverpool and Derby have shown what can be achieved when a city prioritises accessibility and develops a culture that helps to facilitate this. Southampton has the opportunity to learn from the good practice identified and use this to inform and guide plans for improving accessibility in Southampton.
- To make citywide changes to accessibility requires a culture of continuous improvement, leadership and engagement with disabled people. It is critical to understand and listen to the needs of our community, to reflect on their perceptions of accessibility and to co-create solutions that bring meaningful changes.
- A number of timely developments mean that this is an opportune moment to make the leap forward this city requires to become more accessible. The most significant of these being the refresh of the Local Plan and the opportunity it presents to commit to making accessibility and inclusion central to future development in Southampton.
- Improving accessibility helps all residents and visitors, not just older and disabled people, and can deliver significant environmental, economic and social benefits.
- GO! Southampton have recently outlined their ambition for Southampton to be an inclusive city that is accessible and welcoming to all. As a City Council we have a moral, financial and legal obligation to disabled people in Southampton, now and in the future, to work with them, and others, to make this ambition a reality.

*“Improved accessibility brings not only reassurance and the necessary support to those who struggle with accessibility, but lasting economic and social benefits to the city” – Cllr Angela Claydon, Lord Mayor of Chester, 2017 EU Access City Award winner*

## Recommendations

The final report contains 24 recommendations in total which, if implemented, the Panel believe will improve the accessibility of Southampton.

The recommendations reflect key issues presented during the inquiry relating to:

- The accessibility of Southampton’s built environment
- The accessibility of Southampton’s public transport and related infrastructure
- The accessibility of Southampton’s information and communication
- The accessibility of Southampton’s public facilities and services
- The ownership and culture of accessibility.

## Cabinet

The inquiry report is scheduled to be presented to Cabinet in June 2022. A formal response from the Executive to the recommendations is expected to be considered by Cabinet in the summer.

A draft final report of the Inquiry Panel can be accessed here:

[Accessible Southampton Scrutiny Inquiry - \(southampton.gov.uk\)](https://www.southampton.gov.uk/inquiry)



# Getting Involved

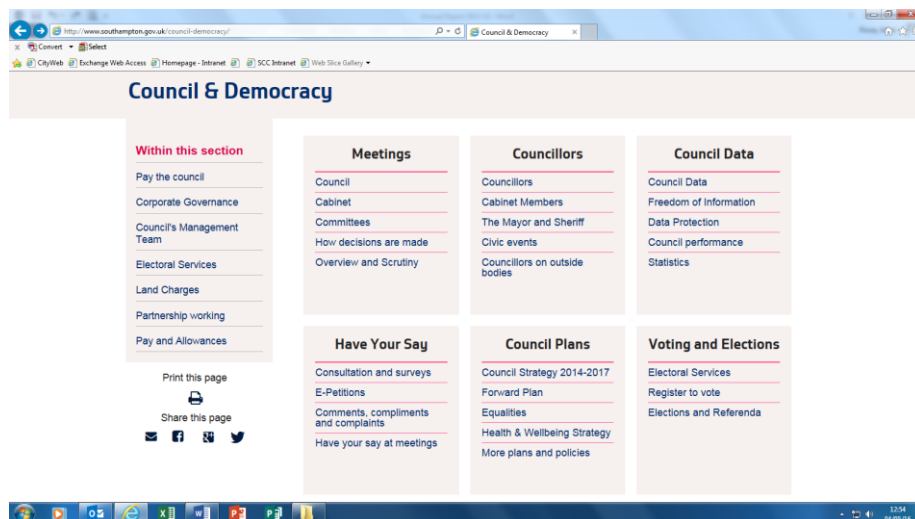
## How can I get involved?

There are a number of ways in which the public and interested organisations can get involved.

- **Attend a meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee or a Scrutiny Panel.** All scrutiny meetings are held in public and anyone is welcome to attend to listen to proceedings. Meetings are currently usually held in the Civic Centre. Only on rare occasions, when certain types of confidential information is being discussed, are members of the public not allowed to attend. All scrutiny meetings are also live streamed on the Council's website.
- Raise issues with your Councillor and request Overview and Scrutiny to consider as part of **Councillor Call for Action.**
- Give your feedback to inquiry meetings as part of evidence gathering.

Details of forthcoming scrutiny meetings, agendas, reports and minutes can be obtained from the City Council's website at:

[Scrutiny at Southampton](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/council-democracy/)



## Providing written evidence

Scrutiny inquiries can consider written evidence and members of the public, community groups, or other key stakeholders can write in to bring evidence to the attention of Inquiry Panel members. Inevitably, scrutiny inquiries have only a limited amount of time so they may not be able to hear oral testimony from all interested people.

Written evidence provides an alternative way to receive evidence from key stakeholders, policy makers, service providers, service users and community groups. Written evidence may put forward a particular perspective of the issue being considered, or may highlight evidence to help the investigation. It can also put forward questions for witnesses which may be taken up by members of the Panel during the discussion.

**Address:** Democratic Services – Municipal, Floor 1, Civic Centre

**Email:** [mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk)

**Telephone:** 023 8083 3886

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<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	COUNCIL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY: SUMMARY OF CALL-IN ACTIVITY		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	18 MAY 2022		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - LEGAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Legal and Business Services</b>	
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
This report provides the Council with a summary of the use of the Call-in procedure since the previous update in July 2021.			
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>			
	(i)	That the report be noted.	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	The Council's Constitution requires the use of Call-in to be reported to Council.		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	Not applicable.		
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>			
3.	Three executive decisions have been called-in since the previous update to Council on 21 July 2021. The details of the Call-ins, and the outcomes resulting from the Call-In meetings, are summarised in this report.		
	<b>Called-in Decision CAB 21/22 32353 – Land at the corner of Lime Street / Evans Street: Proposed disposal of site for school use</b>		
4.	<b>Reasons given for the Call-in:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of consultation with key stakeholders</li> <li>• Lack of detail within the decision making report relating to the demand for the proposed two-form entry school and the potential impact of the decision on neighbouring schools.</li> </ul>		
	<b>Recommendations from the Call-in meeting</b>		

5.	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee considered the item at a meeting on 22 September 2021. Following the discussion the Committee resolved that Cabinet reconsider the called in decision at the next decision meeting.</p> <p>The following recommendations were made to be addressed by Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) That Cabinet postpone the decision on the sale of land to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government whilst it gathers and analyses the data required to evidence the demand for an increase in primary school places in the city.</li> <li>(ii) If analysis identifies that the evidence is not available to support the increase in demand for primary school places in the city, that Cabinet postpone the decision on the sale of land to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to negotiate an agreement, as a condition of sale, that the school significantly contributes to meeting the Special Educational Needs within the city.</li> </ul> <p>If Cabinet is not minded to postpone the decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Cabinet work to reach a binding agreement between Hope School governors and Southampton City Council that commits the new school to meaningfully contribute to meeting the need for additional SEND provision in the city.</li> <li>(ii) That Cabinet report back to this Committee on the meaningful support which will be provided to mitigate the negative impact the expansion of Hope School to a two form of entry school is forecast to have on the wider primary school community in Southampton.</li> <li>(iii) That Cabinet commits to meaningfully consult and engage with stakeholders when making decisions and that these consultations are reflected in the decision-making reports presented to Cabinet and Council and the pre-decision briefing papers considered by scrutiny committees.</li> </ul>
	<b>Cabinet response</b>
6.	At the 22 September 2021 meeting Cabinet confirmed their decision taken on 13 September 2021 and rejected the recommendations above except for the final two recommendations which were accepted.
	<b>Called-in Decision CAB 21/22 32527– Northern Above Bar Properties</b>
7.	<p><b>Reason given for the Call-in:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet have taken a decision without the availability of the information required to make an informed assessment of the options available.</li> </ul>
	<b>Recommendations from the Call-in meeting</b>
8.	At the 9 November 2021 meeting the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee considered the item. The Committee resolved that Cabinet reconsider the called in decision at the next decision meeting.

	<p>The following recommendations were made to be addressed by Cabinet:</p> <p>(i) That Cabinet do not proceed with the decision agreed at 18 October 2021 meeting and that the future of 176 to 202 Above Bar Street is considered within the wider property portfolio review being undertaken by Eddison's.</p> <p>If Cabinet is not minded to postpone the decision:</p> <p>(i) That Cabinet seeks a full appraisal of the site, 176 to 202 Above Bar Street, to include, in addition to the Section 123 best consideration report, consideration of how the site fits with the economic growth and development ambitions of the city, and that Cabinet use this information to inform their decision.</p> <p>If Cabinet is not minded to authorise a full appraisal of the site:</p> <p>(i) That, on receipt of the Section 123 best consideration report, the Executive return to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to discuss the Administration's intentions with regards to 176-202 Northern Above Bar Properties.</p> <p>(ii) That the Cabinet Member for Finance and Capital Assets provides the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee with an explanation of the comments he made at the 14 October 2021 meeting of the Committee relating to the marketing of properties on Northern Above Bar (176-202) when subsequent enquiries have revealed that this has not happened.</p>
	<b>Cabinet response</b>
9.	At the 15 November 2021 meeting Cabinet confirmed their decision taken on 18 October 2021 and rejected the recommendations above except for the final recommendation which was accepted.
	<b>Called-in Decision CAB 21/22 33197 – St Mary's Leisure Centre</b>
10.	<p><b>Reasons given for the Call-in:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet have not given due consideration to the response to the consultation</li> <li>• Suitable alternatives have not been identified to St Mary's Leisure Centre for the community to utilise</li> <li>• There is a lack of clarity with regards to the future usage of St Mary's Leisure Centre and how any capital receipt would be utilised to benefit the local community.</li> </ul>
	<b>Recommendations from the Call-in meeting</b>
11.	<p>At the 10 March 2022 meeting the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee resolved that Cabinet reconsider the called in decision at the next decision meeting.</p> <p>The following recommendations were made to be addressed by Cabinet at 14 March 2022 meeting:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Cabinet do not proceed with the decision agreed at 21 February 2022 meeting to close St Marys Leisure Centre and that Cabinet seek to find a partner to keep it open for community use.</li> </ul> <p>If the Administration is not minded to accept this recommendation it is recommended that:</p> <p>A. The Administration honours the Leader’s commitment to the community and restricts the sale of the building solely for affordable housing or community use.</p> <p>If the Administration is not minded to accept this recommendation, or is unable to meet this commitment, it is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcome of the Best Value consideration report which determines the viability of restricting disposal of the site for residential use, as outlined in recommendation two of the Cabinet report, is reported back to this Committee at the appropriate time.</li> </ul> <p>B. The Administration honours the Leader’s commitment to the community that all or some of the capital receipt raised is re-invested in the local community, that the community are meaningfully involved in determining how the money is spent, and, that the Administration report back to this Committee at the appropriate time on how this has been achieved. The Committee have expressed support for initiatives that promote the health and wellbeing of the local community.</p> <p>If the Administration is not minded to accept this recommendation it is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The criteria for determining the level of capital receipt to be re-invested in the local community is provided to the Committee.</li> <li>• The Administration report back to this Committee at an appropriate time outlining how it has utilised the capital receipt to benefit the local community.</li> </ul> <p>C. That a public meeting is held within the community to enable answers to be provided to the questions that still remain unanswered, specifically those relating to how the capital receipt will be spent and how they will be involved in determining the need in the community.</p>
	<b>Cabinet response</b>
12.	Cabinet rejected all of the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee at their 14 March 2022 meeting.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
13.	None.
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
14.	None.
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	

<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>		
15.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.	
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>		
16.	None	
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>		
17.	None.	
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>		
18.	None	
<b>KEY DECISION</b>		No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>		None directly as a result of this report
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>		
<b>Appendices</b>		
1.	None	
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>		
1.	None	
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?		No
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?		No
<b>Other Background Documents</b>		
<b>Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>		
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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