
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
18 MAY 2016

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor McEwing
The Sheriff, Councillor L Harris
Councillors J Baillie, P Baillie, Barnes-Andrews, Mrs Blatchford, Bogle, Burke, Chaloner, Claisse, Coombs, Denness, Fitzhenry, Fuller, Furnell, Hammond, Hannides (items 1-7 and 12 onwards only), B Harris, Hecks, Houghton, Inglis, Jordan, Kaur, Keogh (items 8 - 13 and 17 and 19 only), Laurent, Letts, Lewzey, Mintoff, Morrell, Moulton, Murphy, Noon, O'Neill, Dr Paffey, Painton, Parnell, Payne, Pope (item 8 onwards), Rayment, Savage, Shields, Taggart, D Thomas, T Thomas, Vassiliou, Whitbread, White and Wilkinson

1. CITY OF SOUTHAMPTON AWARD

FORMER COUNCILLOR NORRIS IN THE CHAIR

RESOLVED upon the motion of the Mayor (Former Councillor Norris) and seconded by the Sheriff (Councillor McEwing), that the City of Southampton Award be presented to Jane Higgins.

2. ELECTION OF A MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

RESOLVED upon the motion of Councillor Rayment, and seconded by Councillor B Harris, that Councillor McEwing be elected to the Office of 794th Mayor of Southampton and Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.

The Mayor (Councillor McEwing) then made and subscribed to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR McEWING) IN THE CHAIR

3. MAYOR'S CHARITIES

The Mayor announced that she would be supporting as her charities, Two Saints, Wayne Howard Trust and St Mary's Titanic Window Fund.

4. ELECTION OF A SHERIFF FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

RESOLVED upon the motion of Councillor Hannides and seconded by Councillor Letts, that Councillor L Harris be appointed the 579th Sheriff of the City of Southampton and Vice-Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.

The Sheriff (Councillor L Harris) then made and subscribed to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

5. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR

RESOLVED upon the motion of Councillor Moulton and seconded by Councillor Kaur, that the Council places on record its appreciation for the distinguished manner in which Former Councillor Norris had discharged the duties of the Mayor of the City during the period of her term of office.

6. SOUTHAMPTON BUSINESS SUCCESS

RESOLVED that the Southampton Business Success Award be presented to Southampton Solent University.

7. FORMER COUNCILLORS

RESOLVED that former Councillors Daunt, Galton, Jeffery, Lloyd, Norris, Tucker and Spicer be thanked for their service to the City during their period in office.

**AT THE RECONVENED MEETING OF THE SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE ON 18th MAY, 2016**

8. APOLOGIES

It was noted that no apologies for absence had been received.

9. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 16th March, 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

(i) **Welcome to New Members**

The Mayor thanked all Members for their support in electing her as Mayor and welcomed to the meeting all those councillors who were attending their first meeting together with those who had successfully defended their seats.

(ii) **Employee of the Year Awards**

The Leader presented the following awards:

Employee of the Year Awards:

- Janet Chapman - School Crossing Patrol Officer;
- Carole Holden – Cleaner; and
- Ali Kershaw - Business Support Officer.

Manager of the Year:

- Tina McIntyre - Project Coordinator.

Team of the Year:

- Hospital Discharge Team.

(iii) Training

The Mayor reminded Members of a number of training sessions that had been arranged and encouraged both new and existing Councillors to attend.

(iv) Social Media

For the benefit of new Members, the Mayor referred to the wi-fi that was available in the Council Chamber and that the use of mobile electronic devices could therefore be used in the Chamber and in Committee Meetings.

The Mayor urged Members to use their good sense and behave with courtesy, particularly in not tweeting messages which would otherwise be in breach of the Council's rules or the law. For example, tweeting material discussed in confidential session would be a serious breach.

The Mayor also informed Members that the fine for mobile phones ringing had been increased and the Mayor's charity would now request £25 be paid.

(v) Courtesy in the Chamber

The Mayor referred to the need for meetings to run efficiently and effectively, and asked Members to keep in mind throughout the year the basic courtesies that needed to be adhered to both in timeliness in arriving at the meeting and listening carefully to the arguments.

The Mayor further requested that for the benefit of the public, Members remain in the seat allocated, or if they wished to move, they give notice of their intention prior to the next meeting so that the copies displayed in the public could be amended.

11. ELECTION OF THE LEADER

The nomination of Councillor Letts was moved and seconded.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE IT WAS:

RESOLVED that Councillor Letts be elected as Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

Following his election as Leader, Councillor Letts informed the Council of his Cabinet and their Portfolio responsibilities.

Education and Skills – Councillor Dr Paffey

Health and Sustainable Living – Councillor Shields

Finance - Councillor Chaloner

Communities, Culture and Leisure – Councillor Kaur

Transformation Projects - Councillor Hammond

Deputy Leader (Internal) and Environment and Transport – Councillor Rayment

Deputy Leader (External) and Housing and Adult Care – Councillor Payne

Children’s Social Care – Councillor Lewzey

The Leader then informed Members of the content of each of the Portfolios and announced that these would be incorporated into the scheme of Executive Delegation in the Constitution.

12. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

With the consent of the meeting, Councillor Barnes-Andrews, Chair of the Governance Committee, altered and moved the report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance detailing the annual review of the Council’s Constitution and Councillor Letts seconded:

Add additional recommendation (iv)

“that Financial Procedure Rules be amended to exempt real property transactions from the value thresholds determining the level of decision making, and that Article 12 of the Constitution be amended to exclude property transactions from the definition of ‘significant budgetary impact’ that determines whether or not a matter be treated as a Key Decision”.

Amendment moved by Councillor Moulton and seconded by Councillor Fitzhenry:

“Aldermen

- Strike out requirement for Alderman to submit notice of their intention to speak
- Strike out limit of 15 minutes total speaking time during a meeting.
- Leave proposed limit of 5 minutes per item.

Increasing Involvement of the public

- Council asks that the Governance Committee considers further how to appropriately strengthen public engagement at council meetings, asking for them to seek views of Members and to report back to Full Council in September with any proposed changes.

Confidentiality rules

- Council asks that the Governance Committee considers how best to ensure that confidential items and information given to officers and members is not disclosed to the public and to consider further appropriate sanctions that might be put in place where a breach of confidentiality occurs and that it considers the measures taken to investigate any alleged breach of confidentiality. Governance to report back to Full Council in September with any proposed changes.

Use of Council Resources

- That during a period of purdah, that Members of the council not be allowed to issue council funded bulk letter mailings to residents / voters.

Key Decisions and Property

- All Members should be advised of Key property decisions and Group Leaders, Chair and Vice Chair of OSMC be sent a formal briefing note ahead of any key property decision”.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE ALTERATION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BARNES-ANDREWS WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR MOULTON WAS DECLARED LOST

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the changes to the Constitution and associated arrangements as set out in the report be approved;
- (ii) that the Service Director: Legal & Governance be authorised to finalise the arrangements as approved by Full Council and make any further consequential or minor changes arising from the decision of Council;
- (iii) that the City Council’s Constitution, as amended be approved, including the Officer Scheme of Delegation for the municipal year 2016/17; and
- (iv) that Financial Procedure Rules be amended to exempt real property transactions from the value thresholds determining the level of decision making, and that Article 12 of the Constitution be amended to exclude property transactions from the definition of ‘significant budgetary impact’ that determines whether or not a matter be treated as a Key Decision.

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

RESOLVED that subject to certain decisions that may from time to time be made by the Council, the following Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies be appointed with the allocation of seats to political groups shown therein and they be delegated authority to act within their Terms of Reference:

Political Group	Seats on Council	%
Labour	25	52.08
Conservative	19	39.58
Councillors Against Cuts	3	6.25
Independent	1	2.08

Committees	Labour	Conservative	Councillors Against Cuts	No. of Seats
Overview and Scrutiny Management (10)	Cllr Furnell Cllr Whitbread Cllr Murphy Cllr Savage 4	Cllr Fitzhenry Cllr Fuller Cllr Hannides Cllr Moulton 4	Cllr Morrell Cllr T. Thomas 2	10
Planning and Rights of Way (7)	Cllr Denness Cllr Coombs Cllr Mintoff Cllr Barnes-Andrews 4	Cllr Claisse Cllr L Harris Cllr Hecks 3	0	7
Employment and Appeals Panel (7)	Cllr Burke Cllr Taggart Cllr Noon Cllr Whitbread 4	Cllr B Harris Cllr White Cllr Wilkinson 3	0	7
Chief Officer Employment Panel (6)	Cllr Letts Cllr Payne Cllr Rayment 3	Cllr Fitzhenry Cllr Hannides Cllr Moulton 3	0	6
Licensing Committee (10) (Min 10 – max 13)	Cllr Furnell Cllr Mrs Blatchford Cllr Jordan Cllr Bogle Cllr Lewzey 5	Cllr B. Harris Cllr Painton Cllr Parnell Cllr J. Baillie 4	Cllr D. Thomas 1	10
Governance Committee (7)	Cllr Barnes-Andrews Cllr Jordan Cllr Keogh Cllr Noon 4	Cllr Parnell Cllr Inglis Cllr O'Neill 3	0	7
Sub-Committees	Labour	Conservative	Councillors Against Cuts	No. of Seats
Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (7)	Cllr Bogle Cllr Mintoff Cllr Noon Cllr Savage 4	Cllr Houghton Cllr P. Baillie Cllr White 3	0	7
Scrutiny Panel (7)	4	3	0	7
Children's and Families Scrutiny Panel (7)	Cllr Keogh Cllr Taggart Cllr Murphy Cllr Burke 4	Cllr Laurent Cllr Painton Cllr O'Neill 3	0	7

Licensing General Sub-Committee (5) (Membership must come from membership of Licensing Committee)	Cllr Furnell Cllr Mrs Blatchford Cllr Jordan 3	Cllr Painton Cllr Parnell 2	0	5
Standards Sub-Committee (3)	2	1	0	3
Standards Appeal Sub-Committee (3)	2	1	0	3
TOTAL	43	33	3	79

2. Appointment to Committees/Sub-Committees and other bodies NOT subject to political proportionality and therefore not included in the above calculations.

Sub-Committee	Labour	Conservative	Councillors Against Cuts	No. of Seats
Licensing and Gambling Sub-Committee (3) (Any 3 Members drawn from the Licensing Committee membership on rotation basis)				3

Other bodies	Labour	Conservative	Councillors Against Cuts	No. of Seats
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (3)	Cllr Mintoff Cllr Coombs 2	Cllr Fuller 1	0	3
South East Employers (3 + 3 Deputies)	Cllr Whitbread (Deputy) 1+1 Deputy	Cllr O'Neill Cllr Parnell (Deputy) 1+1 Deputy	1+1 Deputy	3 + 3
Local Democracy and Accountability Network for Councillors (2)	0	Cllr Parnell 1	1	2

Partnership for Urban South Hampshire – Overview and Scrutiny Committee (1)	0	Cllr Moulton 1	0	1
Hampshire Police and Crime Panel (1) <i>(Overall proportionality is calculated across the County. This may require a change in appointment)</i>	1	Cllr Rayment 0	0	1
Health and Well-Being Board	<p>Council determines the number of places allocated to Elected Members on the Board. The decision as to who to appoint is an Executive Function. Council is requested to determine the membership of the Board as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Elected Members of Southampton City Council • Statutory Director for Public Health (Interim Director) • Statutory Director for Adult (Interim Service Director, Housing, Adults and Communities) • Statutory Director Children’s Services (Service Director, Children’s and Families Services) • Representative of the Clinical Commissioning Group • Representative of Healthwatch • Representative of NHS Commissioning Board’s Wessex Area Team 			
Chipperfield Trust	All 48 Members to be appointed to Chipperfield Trust			
<u>Committee</u>		<u>Chair</u>		
Overview and Scrutiny Management		Councillor Fitzhenry		
Planning and Rights of Way Panel		Councillor Denness		
Employment and Appeals Panel		Cllr Noon		
Chief Officer Employment Panel		Councillor Letts		
Licensing Committee		Councillor Mrs Blatchford		
Governance Committee		Cllr Barnes-Andrews		
Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel		Cllr Bogle		
Scrutiny Panel		Appoint as and when needed		
Licensing General Sub-Committee		Cllr Mrs Blatchford		
Licensing and Gambling Sub-Committee		Appoint as and when needed		
Standards Sub-Committee		Appoint as and when needed		
Standards Appeal Sub-Committee		Appoint as and when needed		
Children’s and Families Scrutiny Panel		Cllr Keogh		

14. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

The Council approved the following dates for meetings of the Council in the 2016/17 Municipal Year:

20 July 2016

21 September 2016

16 November 2016

15 February 2017 (Budget)

15 March 2017

17 May 2017

15. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

It was noted that no requests for deputations, petitions or public questions had been received.

16. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

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 then submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.1

1. City Wide Estate Regeneration

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Payne

Can the Cabinet Member outline the Executive's plans for City wide estate regeneration over the next 2-4 years?

Answer

I am pleased to report that planning consent was granted for the regeneration of Townhill Park on 3rd May. Demolition of the site of Phase 1A and most of Phase 1B is now well underway and officers are well advanced with plans to start on site on Phase 1A later this year. It is intended to bring a paper to Cabinet in July seeking approval to appoint the development agent and contractor and to progress the Compulsory Purchase Order to secure possession of the last remaining leasehold flat.

We are also in detailed discussions regarding phase 1B with a proposed development partner and funder. A programme for the delivery of the remaining phases will be included in the Cabinet report.

At Millbrook and Maybush the first Phase at Woodside Lodge and Wimpson Lane is also progressing well and a detailed planning application will be lodged this summer and a paper will be brought to Cabinet in August seeking approval to appoint the contractor.

Following the appointment of a new Project Manager for Millbrook & Maybush we intend to bring forward detailed proposals.

The regeneration of Erskine Court in Lordshill is nearing completion, and is due to provide 54 council homes when it opens this summer. The properties will be 'extra care' flats and this will be the first purpose-built extra care scheme delivered by the council and the aim is to deliver more of these.

2. Estate Regeneration

Question from Councillor P. Baillie to Councillor Payne

Why has Estate Regeneration been such an abject failure during the last four years?

Answer

It hasn't.

3. Estate Regeneration Projects

Question from Councillor P. Baillie to Councillor Payne

Please list all of the current Estate Regeneration projects being led by Southampton Council which involves building homes, together with their approved council funding level, and with the expected completion date?

Answer

Townhill Park – A paper seeking an approved budget and approval for the appointment of a contractor for Phase 1A will be brought to Cabinet in July. It is intended that Phase 1A will be complete by Spring 2018

Woodside & Wimpson – A paper seeking an approved budget and approval for the appointment of a contractor will be brought to Cabinet in August. It is intended that this project will be on site in early 2017 and complete by Autumn 2018.

4. Townhill Park Estate Regeneration

Question from Councillor P. Baillie to Councillor Payne

When may we expect an apology to the residents of Harefield and Bitterne Park for the (at least) four year delay to the Townhill Park Estate Regeneration Project because of your party's political dogma?

Answer

The alleged four-year delay is nonsense and nobody's ever asked for an apology except for Cllr P Baillie in this question.

5. Housing Associations – Townhill Park Regeneration Scheme

Question from Councillor Fuller to Councillor Payne

Has the Cabinet Member for Housing now met with Housing Associations to discuss their potential involvement in the Townhill Park Estate Regeneration scheme?

Answer

I have met our partner housing associations several times, and discussed regeneration at those meetings. More recently, the Head of Capital Assets has met with some of the same associations and further meetings with the portfolio holder will be arranged as required.

6. Bitterne Precinct

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Letts

Can the Cabinet Member update us on the vision for Bitterne Precinct?

Answer

We are keen to see the precinct play its part in a successful Bitterne district centre. We will be re-surfacing the precinct to provide an improved quality of public realm. In addition we have procured a new market operator to provide additional footfall to support local traders.

7. Guildhall Square

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Letts

Can the Cabinet Member outline the vision for the future usage of Guildhall Square?

Answer

We want Guildhall Square and the immediate environment, to become a vibrant city centre destination and gain a reputation for being a hub of cultural activities and events.

It has hosted many successful events while it has been undergoing redevelopment such as Sky Ride, the ABP Half Marathon 10k, Music in the City, Rainbow Run, The Nuffield Playing Fields, Commonwealth Games and more. These events have attracted thousands of visitors to the area. Working with local businesses, event organisers and other stakeholders, we can deliver a diverse events programme

8. Blacklisting

Question from Councillor Pope to Councillor Letts

What investigations have you launched at the City's current and former construction sites, including but not limited to: (i) the Sea City Museum (Constructor: Kier), (ii) the former Ordnance Survey site in Redbridge ward (both Taylor Wimpey and Kier sections), and (iii) on Watermark West Quay (SRM – Sir Robert McAlpine) and what policies have you put in place since November 2015, including but not limited to employment and skills plans and Section 106 agreements, to ensure that blacklisting is not conducted on the City's construction sites, including but not limited to the above sites?

Answer

We have no plans to launch investigations into historic projects. I was pleased to see an out of court settlement had been reached recently.

We are working with the procurement team to use contractor selection processes to address concerns about blacklisting, and to ensure future selection and development of frameworks secures appropriate reassurances and commitments about the practice of blacklisting.

We will introduce requirements within our employment and skills plans, that also secures appropriate reassurances and commitments about the practice of blacklisting.

9. Council Land

Question from Councillor Pope to Councillor Letts

Would you say it was (a) legal, (b) ethical to sell Council land to a firm registered in a well-known tax haven, especially when the vast majority of local residents do not wish for that land to be sold? If you do say that the answer to either (a) and/or (b) is yes, please give reasons.

Answer

It is the duty of the Council to get best value for any disposal of land it makes. I am content that the proposal to dispose of the land delivers on this duty.

I would also add that the development of employment land here and at other sites in the City is essential if we are to maintain the low levels of unemployment that we currently have.

If the Member thinks that the Council has acted unlawfully he is of course at liberty to launch a Judicial Review.

The registration of companies in non UK jurisdictions is a matter for national government and I am happy to bring your concerns to the attention of the cities MP's.

10. Forecast Overspends

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Chaloner

Can the Cabinet Member advise on the current level of forecast overspends in this year's budget?

Answer

As is standard practice, the authority does not undertake any financial forecasting in April, (Month 1) of the financial year. This is due to a number of factors:

1. Staff are closing down the previous year's accounts
2. There is not sufficient in year expenditure to enable an accurate forecast to be obtained
3. There is still a high number of creditor payments from the previous year outstanding.

Indicative positions will be calculated at the end of May (Month 2), and a full monitoring report will be compiled at the end of June (Month 3 or Quarter 1) to be presented at Cabinet in August.

Based on 2015/16 outturn (which will be reported to Council in July) the areas of concern are:

Children's Social Services where we have increased funding by £7 in 2016/17

Adult Social Care where we have increased funding by £5M in 2016/17

Waste Collection and Disposal, where we have not at this stage increased funding in this area as Finance and the service area are working together to try to find ways to bring this area back to within its financial envelope.

Both Transformation and Finance are working with the all the above areas to help reduce costs and deliver savings that have been identified within these areas, to ensure the Service Areas deliver within budget.

A more complete picture will be presented to Cabinet at Quarter 1.

11. Low Emission Zone

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Rayment

Can the Cabinet Member advise on the review of the 4 year plan to deliver a low emission zone and confirm we are on track?

Answer

DEFRA published the [UK Air Quality Plan](#) in December 2015. The document identifies Southampton as one of five cities which will be required to implement a mandatory Clean Air Zone (CAZ) no later than 2020. This will introduce penalty charges for the most polluting HGV's, buses and taxis. A national framework and legislation to facilitate this are expected in 2016. Government have allocated funding to support those Local Authority's affected. Southampton City Council's Scientific Service are working closely with colleagues in DEFRA to develop the framework and Southampton's own implementation plan. DEFRA's project plan is illustrated below:

2016

Q1

- Join Unit established

Q2

- Scoping studies underway

Q2/3

- Consultation on CAZ framework and legislation

Q4

- CAZ framework finalised

2017

Q2/3

- CAZ legislation in place and introduction by LAs mandated

 Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

2017

- Local consultation on CAZ proposals
- CAZ details finalised

2018/19

- Infrastructure procurement/installation
- Communications/awareness raising

By end 2019

- Clean Air Zones, and other measures necessary, in place in 5 cities

2020

- London ULEZ commences

Although Clean Air Zone's will be characterised by the introduction of penalty charges DEFRA are keen to ensure that they are the focus of additional measures. SCC is currently finalising its CAZ Implementation Plan which includes additional actions to complement and support the penalty charging. We are currently in discussion with DEFRA to declare our CAZ as early as 2017. Access restrictions and penalty charging would follow in 2019 as per DEFRA's timetable. This is likely to be the first CAZ introduced in the UK and will assist in delivering our mandatory requirements at the earliest opportunity and possibly ahead of DEFRA's own timetable.

12. Weekly Bin Collection

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Rayment

Can the Cabinet Member confirm the Executive will keep the weekly bin collection and keep the service run by the Council?

Answer

We have no plans to outsource the service. The administration will look at this issue later in the year, at the present time our policy remains unchanged. Everything will be kept under review in the light of our transformation programme.

13. Public Space Protection Orders

Question from Councillor Fuller to Councillor Payne

Following Cabinet approval for Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) in March, what is the timescale for implementing the PSPOs?

Answer

Begging and street drinking are complex issues and the Public Spaces Protection Order provides additional powers to the Police tackling these activities.

Discouraging members of the public from giving money directly to people begging in the City forms part of the solution. The Council has produced posters to educate the public and to encourage those who wish to make donations to

give directly to charities which are active in the City (i.e. the Society of St James and Two Saints). Posters are currently on display around the City. Enforcement of the PSPO will be preceded by work to engage with people who are street drinking or begging. This will involve the Police and the Community Safety Team advising individuals that continuing to drink in the street or beg is likely to lead to a fixed penalty notice being issued. People will also be encouraged to the support services which are available. The Neighbourhood Police teams will then start to enforce the requirements of the Order during the early part of the summer.

14. Woodmill

Question from Councillor Inglis to Councillor Rayment

As there has been a long outstanding problem at Woodmill and Bitterne Park residents suffer the consequential traffic issues, would it not have been an opportune time to use the temporary lights during current road repairs to have run a trial at almost zero cost. If not why?

Answer

The temporary traffic lights in Woodmill Lane were only for a few days while kerbing works were carried out and would not have allowed any meaningful traffic data to be gathered. It takes several days for traffic to settle down when changes are made. There is a closure of Woodmill Lane planned for 31st May and 1st June for surfacing, and again the duration is insufficient to fully assess how drivers would react in a permanent situation.

We continue to work with Townhill Park Residents' Association and other interested parties to see if any permanent solution is possible to improve the situation at Woodmill Lane. We have commissioned a technical report to establish the likelihood of any long term benefits of permanent signals given the close proximity of the other (also congested) river crossings.

It is anticipated that the early findings of this investigation will be available in June/July.

15. Mental Health Services

Question from Councillor White to Councillor Shields

Following the damning CQC report on Southern Health what steps is the Cabinet member taking to ensure that residents of the City are receiving high quality care mental health services.

Answer

Since the BBC's reporting of the leaked Mazars report into the Deaths of Patients at Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust (April 2011 – March 2015) in December 2015, I have kept the situation at Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust under close review.

I maintain regular contact with Southampton City CCG (which commissions the vast majority of NHS mental health and learning disability services for Southampton patients) and I have also ensured that issues relating to safe patient care are addressed by the Southampton Local Safeguarding Adults Board.

I discuss any developments that may affect the quality and safety of the care of Southampton residents using services provided by Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust with the City Council's nominated representative to its Council of Governors and with the chair of the Council's Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel.

The most recent Care Quality Commission report into concerns about the care provided by Southern Health has precipitated appointment by the regulatory authorities of Tim Smart as the new Chair for a fixed term period following the resignation of the previous chair, Michael Petter.

Last week I was copied into a letter from Tim Smart to local stakeholders dated 9 May 2016 and I very much welcome his commitment to bringing greater focus to the Trust Board, to accelerating improvement actions and to assuring the regulators that issues are being resolved with some pace and urgency. I am further reassured that Tim Smart expects by the end of the month to have a very clear view of ways in which the Trust needs to improve.

I will ensure that the City's Health & Wellbeing Board is fully engaged in developing plans for improved local mental health and learning disability services in Southampton.

17. MOTIONS

European Union

Councillor Letts moved and Councillor Barnes-Andrews seconded:

"On the balance of the arguments this Council believes it is in the interests of the City of Southampton for the UK to remain a member of the European Union".

Stewart Dunn, Chief Executive, Hampshire Chamber of Commerce was in attendance and with the consent of the Mayor presented the arguments both for and against the motion.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion be approved.

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

1. Political Whip

Question from Councillor Pope to the Mayor:

Will you be following the Labour Whip if you use your casting vote?

Would you say that it is appropriate for a party politician, instead of someone who is not controlled by a party political whip, to chair Full Council and if you do not deem it

appropriate, will you join me in amending the Constitution today to that effect, by addressing the above issues?

Answer

Thank you most kindly, Councillor Pope for thinking of me in my Mayoral year, for considering my sense of fair play and justice. When you join a club of any description you agree to the Terms and Conditions and follow their rules, regardless if you agree with them or not.

As Mayor, I will be following the 300 odd year tradition and in response to your question – Yes and no, and I won't be breaking that tradition.

19. SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL AND POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR HAMPSHIRE ELECTIONS 2016

The report of the Returning Officer detailing the results of the Southampton City Council and Police and Crime Commissioner elections on 5 May 2016 was noted.

20. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

The report of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee detailing the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee Annual Report 2015/16 in accordance with the Council's Constitution was noted.

21. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY: SUMMARY OF CALL IN ACTIVITY

The report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance detailing the use of the call-in procedure since last reported to Council in September 2015 was noted.