

Annex.i. ATZ Survey Communications between HRAHonSec, Councillors and Officers

Annex.ii. Information from Councillors

Annex.iii. HRA Crime WhatsApp group for Highfield

Annex.iv. Avenue Campus PA to fell mature trees advice from Tree Officer

Annex.v. Digital Communications

Prof. Roger Brown will chair the meeting.

(There will be a short Reserved Business for committee members only after the main meeting)

1. Welcome:
2. Apologies:
3. Declarations of interest:
4. Minutes, 10 December 2025 Committee Meeting
5. Matters Arising, not covered elsewhere
 - a. Brookvale ATZ Survey update -
 - i. HRA Questions for Ward Councillors (**attachment**)
 - ii. Communications between HRAHonSec, Councillors and Officers (Annex.i.)
 - b. Highfield House Hotel update – Community Key Information Network (KINS) updates from Portswood Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) on the anti-immigration protests outside the Highfield House Hotel are received once a week, sometimes pre but mostly post the events. They continue to be posted on the News page of the HRA website: <https://www.highfieldresidents.org.uk/news/> (NJ)
 - c. Chair's various letters to Cllr Winning
6. Information Reports from Councillors (Annex.ii.)
 - a. Councillor Barbour:
 - b. Councillor Savage: *Apologies on holiday*
 - c. Councillor Finn:
7. University
 - a. Sonia Cottrell Students Union Chief Executive Officer
 - b. Padi Bedi – *Apologies - no update on Avenue Campus PBSA*
8. HRA@50 – Programme update (BC - See report of event 1 in the Enews (2)).
February: Afternoon Tea; March: Active month – parkwalk / parkrun / volunteer; April: Urban Sketchers Workshop (Cate Monroe); May: Highfield History Guided Walk / Talk with Godfrey Collyer (2)
9. HRA Crime WhatsApp group for Highfield- NJ (Annex.iii)
10. Planning
 - a. Avenue Campus PA to fell trees (See Annex.iv)
11. Reports
 - a. Finance (MB) – income/expenditure for the last period
 - b. Membership (NM) - Current; 346; paid in January 22; did not renew in January 14; no new members
 - c. Digital Communications Report – NJ (Annex.v)
12. A.O.B.
 - a. HMOs on Brookvale Road – HRA member

Reserved Business for Committee Members will be held after the main meeting

Annex.i. Communications between HRAHonSec, Councillors and Officers 2-7 February 2026

To: Councillor Blackman Chair Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Copies to: Councillor Winning Council Leader and Transport

Portswood Ward Councillors

Swaythling Ward Councillors

Stephen Haynes Executive Director of Growth and Prosperity

Pete Boustred Head of transport and Planning

Wade Holmes

Prof. Roger Brown

ATZ Consultation - HRAHonSec Initial communication on the first day of the Survey (with thanks to Karen Edwards)

To the above:

Hello

HRA members are continuing to contact HRA (me) to seek clarification on issues around the survey which are not clear in any text before they respond.

- In question 3 (Other Measures I think) only one option can be selected e.g. you can't select raised table and speed cushions. Could these two measures not work well together or is this about affordability?
- Where does anyone obtain a paper copy of the survey if they don't use a digital method?
- Since cycling has been a significant safety concern why are there no questions about cycling provision?
- If a Modal Filter is the most popular option, would a modal Filter also have to be placed on Russell Place?
- Would the unique identifier code identify an exact household or just a selected road?

That's all so far - Many thanks Barbara

HRAHonSec Further Communication Monday 2 February - Role of OSMC and the Brookvale

PORTSWOOD BROADWAY TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND SCHEME – REVIEW OF PILOT

2 February 2026

Hello Councillor Blackman,

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee of 18 September reviewed the Pilot Scheme for Portswood Broadway which was mainly funded by the Transforming Cities Fund.

I was present at that meeting as an online observer. Some important issues were covered and 6 points were resolved in moving forwards (see below).

It now seems that part of the Portswood Scheme is expected imminently with the publication of an on-line Consultation for the modification of traffic calming measures in the Highfield ATZ area, of which those on Brookvale Road are to be considered first. The consultation might be live as early as 3 Feb and will run for 3 weeks.

HRA has a Committee Meeting on 10 February and the ATZ Consultation will be an item on the agenda.

I would be grateful if you could confirm that the issues that were identified at the conclusion of the OSMC have now been assured and have been implemented.

If the Cabinet decided not to proceed with the recommendations, could you advise me on the alternative strategies that were adopted.

It is of particular concern that a new consultation is imminent when considering Resolution ii) reflecting concerns raised by residents about the inability to state 'none of the above' when consulted on scheme options, the Council reviews how it designs surveys and questionnaires. Can HRA members be assured that the Council has reviewed how it designs surveys and questions in time for this new consultation?

Has the 'more detailed report' requested in Resolution (iii) been completed, shared with the OSMC and is this in the public domain? If so please could you provide the reference?

At what point in this next step would, 'the proposed future TCF schemes for the Eastleigh to Southampton corridor [be] considered at the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee prior to determination by the decision maker (Ref: (vi))'? I have presumed that any modification to the Highfield ATZ would be part of a bigger picture and still part of the Eastleigh to Southampton Corridor. Is this correct?

I would be most grateful for your advice in these matters.

Sincerely,

Barbara Claridge
Mrs Barbara Claridge
HRA.HonSec@gmail.com

The Relevant Note:

**SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE
MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2025 (Extract pp. 13-14)**

PORTSWOOD BROADWAY TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND SCHEME – REVIEW OF PILOT

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director for Growth and Prosperity providing the Committee with an overview of the Portswood Broadway Transforming Cities Fund Pilot Scheme.

Councillor C Lambert – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transport;
Stephen Haynes – Executive Director, Growth & Prosperity;
Pete Bousted – Director, Transport & Planning;
Wade Holmes - Service Manager, Integrated Transport;

Claudia Murg and Professor R Brown were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Committee discussed a number of points including:

- The rationale for the ending of the bus-gate trial;
- The accuracy of the modelling used to inform the Portswood Broadway TCF scheme;
- The need for a more comprehensive analysis of the impact of the scheme;
- The process for determining how the remaining £3.2m will be allocated to deliver the objectives of the TCF programme along the Eastleigh to Southampton corridor;
- The importance of community engagement and support for schemes;
- How the design of future consultations should allow those responding to express their opinions on the schemes offered and whether or not they were happy with any of the consultation schemes;
- The lessons learnt from the pilot scheme; and
- The need for robust scrutiny of future TCF proposals for the Eastleigh to Portswood corridor.

RESOLVED that

- (i) moving forward, clear lessons are learnt from the Portswood Broadway Scheme, that will improve the Council's approach to communicating and engaging with local communities.
- (ii) reflecting concerns raised by residents about the inability to state 'none of the above' when consulted on scheme options, the Council reviews how it designs surveys and questionnaires.
- (iii) whilst recognising the data limitations as a result of the premature ending of the bus-gate pilot, to help inform future initiatives a more detailed report, to be shared with the Committee, is developed on the Portswood Broadway scheme.
- (iv) The following areas of additional focus were requested:
 - The impact on Portswood Broadway businesses
 - The impact on pollution and traffic flows
 - The impact on bus journey times
 - The impact on road safety
 - The impact of the Active Travel Zone
- (v) the principle of improving journey times for all transport modes is included within the criteria for determining future TCF schemes for the Eastleigh to Southampton corridor.
- (vi) the proposed future TCF schemes for the Eastleigh to Southampton corridor are considered at the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee prior to determination by the decision maker.
- (vii) the composition of the Steering Group is reviewed to reflect the extended geography of the programme along the Eastleigh to Southampton corridor.

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/g8429/Printed%20minutes%2018th-Sep-2025%202017.30%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Management%20Committee.pdf?T=1>

Replies

- 2 Feb Councillor Finn replied to say she had passed the information on to Officers
- 2 Feb Reply from Wade Holmes stating that he had reviewed the wording of the Consultation and the option, 'none of these' had been added to Q2
- 3 Feb Reply from Councillor Blackman thanking me for drawing it to my attention
- 4 Feb Further responses from Wade Holmes re further queries
- 6 Feb Further response from Greg Churcher re further queries
- 6 Feb copied in to reply to HRA member on Highfield Close re no letter
- 6 Feb full email reply from Councillor Blackman

This included an explanation of the role of the OSMC and the current situation and an attachment outlining the latest monitoring which had been submitted to OSMC members for the meeting on 22 January 2026 and specifically relating to the Portswood scheme.

Councillor Blackman had been unaware of the current consultation on Brookvale Road but said that he now understood that there were some problems with it i.e. the way the questions were formulated had not allowed for a full range of responses [As reported to him by HRAHonSec]. He felt it was important that consultations enabled all views to be expressed and for there to be confidence in them. He hoped they had been corrected.

He said he understood that the consultation on Brookvale Road was being used to shape thoughts on the future of the wider project. He added that he thought it was unlikely that any announcements would be made before the new municipal year begins later in May given the electoral calendar constraints.

He clarified that the OSMC's role was not one of continuous operational oversight. The Committee scrutinises and provides recommendations. He stressed that ongoing activities and operational decisions rest with the administration. Overall responsibility for transport policy was the responsibility of Councillor Alex Winning, the Council Leader.

Attachment – verbal report (HonSec)

Annex.ii Councillors' Reports

Councillor Barbour's Report

Follow up to letter to VC re Avenue Campus

Portswood Neighbourhood Plan

Community safety – work by council and ward councillors; Rights of Rivers meeting 9th March 2026

Councillor Savage's Report

Parks and Green Spaces investment.

I have been working with finance team regarding planned investment for improvements green spaces and play areas. To improve waste collection services, I have put in place a multi-million pound programme to replace Refuse Collection Vehicles over a multi year replacement programme, so that none of our vehicles will be older than the recommended 7 years. In addition other fleet vehicles for open spaces and housing maintenance will be similarly replaced, in order to improve service reliability and reduce high maintenance costs.

Food waste collections

Working with officers to ensure a smooth rollout of the scheme with info for members, the public, including press releases and media interviews

Property Level Flood Protection

Following discussions and meetings with members of the St Denys Flood Action Group, the Southern Region Flood and Coastal Committee (SRFCC) I am working with SCC flood officer on a plan for funding to support maintenance and improvements to the original pathfinder property adaptations. The project is being designed by residents to understand the failure points of previous designs and share good practice on testing and design/material improvements.

SW Rights of the River

The motion passed at full council last summer needs to be taken to further stages of community advocacy and environmental policy. Meetings with Rights of the Rivers Group and Friends of Itchen Estuary. The greater group of stakeholders is being now being included into Southern Water's Lower Itchen Steering Group and the terms of reference has been changed to reference Rights of the River and the plight of the endangered Wild Atlantic Salmon. Further, this week I have begun meeting with cross organisation members forming {project White Hart, to save the Salmon. This includes the police, EA, River Wardens, Angling Trust etc. This is a coalition of the willing, bringing about positive change to ensure the survival of the sub-species.

Utilita/Saints PV initiative

I continue to work with local partners on roll-out of locally generated power. I attended the switch-on of Southampton FC solar power installation at Saints training facility at Staplewood, Marchwood. This comprises 450 panels saving 33,000 kg of CO2 per year. I am obviously more enthusiastic about the prospect of PV on Saints stadium in St Mary's which is being considered as a next step. Close working with partners like these is essential and we are in talks with them regarding retro-fit PV on council properties.

Councillor Finn's Report

1. Residents in Highfield continue to contact me over a number of issues. This month the top ones have been road safety by Highfield juniors and infants, car parking restrictions, flooded roads, the ATZ consultation , trees and pavement problems. I also continue to try to get anti idling signage for Portswood school alongside Lorna Fielker.
2. Residents in Westwood Road have submitted a petition to ask that the Council use bus improvement money received to subsidize a bus to divert down Westwood rd. I took this from residents at Guardian Court though many others have signed it.

Winn Rd is getting the worst of its road holes fixed this month but it is also on the list for further work. I have passed on many resident complaints about this over the past two years and Balfour Beatty now accept things have got worse. The next one to sort is Shaftesbury Ave.

3. Wider issues

I was concerned to hear that Portswood was one of the areas mentioned as having higher numbers of cuckooing cases. This is when drug dealers take over the property of a usually vulnerable adult, by pretending to make friends. If you know or suspect any cases of this, please tell the police or Social Services.

I have attended all sorts of events and meetings that are Cabinet related. The Reducing Drugs Harm Partnership Board are discussing both recovery models and how the police can break supply lines, lots is going on around co-production in adult social care. The latest Director of Public Health's report is about Hope for Recovery from tobacco and alcohol addictions. It has some personal testimonies from residents that are courageous, deeply moving and prove that recovery is possible. I recommend that people read it.

Annex.iii.

HRA Crime information sharing WhatsApp Group

1. Reported incidents since the last HRA Committee Meeting of 20 January 2026 - (11+)

There have been 11+ reported incidents since the last HRA Committee Meeting on 20 January. This is an increase of 3 incidents when compared to the previous period.

(i) Incident in Portswood - (1+)

Violation of 20mph speed limit along Portswood Road to Lodge Road. Signs too high up (1+)

(ii) Incidents reported away from Portswood Broadway - (8)

Adult bike abandoned, presumed stolen, junction of Woodstock Drive and Crofton Close. Checking with police as bike theft in Highfield Lane 24/1/26 (1)

Person trying car doors, Donnington Grove. Picked up on ring doorbell (1)

Car doors being tried by 3 people, Royston Close/Donnington Grove. Caught on ring doorbell which woke neighbour up (1)

Van stolen from Holyrood Avenue (1)

2 people on a motorbike on Lovers' Walk, opposite Furzedown Road, were verbally abusive when told they shouldn't be there (1)

3 incidents of speeding motorbikes on The Common (3)

(iii) Incidents reported in the press/social media - (2)

Police descended on Portswood Euro Market for Council raid which included a Trading Standards Officer and a dog/dog handler. Illegal vapes, tobacco and other items were seized valued at circa £5,500. Daily Echo 27.1.26: <https://www.dAILYecho.co.uk/news/25800673.police-descend-southampton-shop---live/> (1)

Man breached Criminal Behaviour Order by entering Boots store in Portswood. According to PACT 8.1.26: CBOs can be placed on prolific offenders to stop them from going into a shop - "A breach is a criminal offence and courts are taking this very seriously". Daily Echo 22/1/26 <https://www.dAILYecho.co.uk/news/25782755.dock---8-cases-heard-southampton-magistrates-court/> (1)

All crime and anti-social behaviour incidents are listed here: <https://www.highfieldresidents.org.uk/crime-incidents/>

Nadine Johnson Digital Communications

Dear Mrs Claridge,

Thank you for your email.

I currently have three applications to determine for this site, this generally happens due to an application covering more than one active TPO, each TPO results in a separate application. **26/00006/TPO and 26/00010/TPO** – these two cover the bulk of the works applied for and are under '**The Southampton (Tauntons College) TPO 1994**'; the third application **26/00007/TPO** is for a single tree within an older TPO **The Southampton (Highfield) Tree Preservation Order 1954**. This is part of a wider 'area' TPO that also covers De Grouchy Lane and Crofton Close, and as it is an 'area' classification it only covers trees that were present on site when it was made (1954).

I appreciate that there is a very real concern from local residents regarding development of this site. I would like to try and reassure you that when I determine TPO applications I look at the value of the trees, their health and condition and the amenity value that they bring to the public. This is then weighed against the justification given in the application – if the amenity outweighs the justification this may result in a refusal. I hope that you can appreciate that there are a lot of complexities with tree related applications and that we must consider those fully.

To answer your questions:

There is no **deadline for public comments**, we have up to eight weeks to determine an application (as per the TPO regulations) and public comments can be received up until such time as we determine, there is no minimum period that must be allowed in law, for these comments. That said, it is unusual for us to determine applications right at the beginning of the 8 weeks (largely due to workloads) and we will always consider public comments when they are received.

Replacement trees – where an application is granted approval and trees are allowed to be removed, this will be accompanied by a planning condition that allows us to enforce the replanting of trees. Due to the nature of tree planting, certain times of year being better for establishment, we would usually set a timescale for this to coincide with the next available planting season, after the Permission notice period elapses. As an example: If I allowed a tree to be removed today (6th Feb 2026), the notice is valid for 1 year so the tree owner may remove that tree up to 1 year after the notice (Feb 2027). We must then allow a reasonable amount of time to plant a new tree so I may issue a replant date of 31st March 2027 or If I felt that was insufficient time, I may extend to the next planting season – the Autumn of 2027.

The **species** and specifics about sizes are included in the decision notice, if public comments were to include elements about this, we would consider but ultimately we will look at what has been removed, what the available space and soil conditions are and whether is appropriate to include non-native amenity trees or native, and more ecologically friendly species. Again, there are a lot of complexities involved.

Site visit – We will always undertake a site visit for applications. I was the Officer who determined the last tranche of applications on this site and it will be me again who does these. With regards Ash die back, you are correct that even though I refused the previous applications to fell some Ash, there were others on site that were impacted by it and were allowed to be removed. It can be a particularly aggressive disease and trees can succumb to it quickly. Please be assured that I will act on the evidence in front of me when I visit, and that I am not in favour of removing Ash simply for their susceptibility to a disease.

Tree groups (TG3, TG4, TG6, TG8). – These groups are covered by the third application **26/00010/TPO**, which was validated slightly later than the others (possibly due to missing information) as we will only validate once we are happy the applications are complete. I have looked briefly at these and can see that some of the work is to remove dead trees, which is exempt from decisions, **and** that not all of the trees in these groups are protected by the TPOs. I will of course assess under the same criteria as all my applications and where unprotected trees are the subject of work that we consider excessive or harmful to amenity, this may result in further TPOs being issued. If I take TG3 as an example:

TG3 Mixed Species Group - Fell dead standing Sycamore and hung up trees. Clear vegetation to enable detailed inspection of site boundary trees with residential gardens. Sever Ivy at ground level and strip to 2m and remove section. Re-inspect. Remove deadwood and trim branches overhanging car park.

Felling dead trees, removing dead wood and severing ivy are exemptions in law to the decision process so all I can assess are the branches overhanging the carpark, and if these trees are not protected I must decide if that work is harmful to the trees or the amenity to determine if a new TPO is justified. Knowing the site quite well, it is unlikely that this will be the case as the work is standard tree management in and around carparks.

I hope that my explanations have been clear but if you have any follow ups please come back to me. If members of the HRA would like to speak to me, I would be happy to have a site meeting if helpful, sometimes a half hour conversation can answer more questions than multiple back and forth emails, but I will leave that with you to decide.

Kind regards

Will Taylor

Arboricultural Manager
Environment Directorate

Annex.v. Digital Communications Report

Facebook/Website

There are now 1260 followers on the HRA Facebook page. An increase of 16 since the meeting of 20 January 2026.

Thank you to Ken, one other HRA Member and Barbara for photos, and also to Barbara for news items.

Local Businesses

In the Portswood Shopping Centre, The Broadway Pub, Farmfoods and Sue Ryder have continued the exodus and have all now closed.

eNews emailed to members

An eNews was emailed out on Tuesday 27 January and also on Wednesday 4 and Sunday 8 February 2026. The main items being:

- Advertising the Afternoon Tea on 14 February
- The ATZ Brookvale Road Modal Filter Survey
- The Planning Application to fell mature trees at Avenue Campus

*Nadine Johnson
Digital Communications*