



Herbert Warehouse
The Docks
Gloucester
GL1 2EQ

Wednesday, 4 September 2013

TO EACH MEMBER OF GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the **CITY OF GLOUCESTER** to be held at the Civic Suite, North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP on **Thursday, 12th September 2013** at **19:00** hours for the purpose of transacting the following business:

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **MINUTES (Pages 1 - 16)**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 July 2013.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive from Members, declarations of the existence of any disclosable pecuniary, or non-pecuniary, interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda item. Please see Agenda Notes.

4. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)**

The opportunity is given to members of the public to put questions to Cabinet Members or Committee Chairs provided that a question does not relate to:

- Matters which are the subject of current or pending legal proceedings or
- Matters relating to employees or former employees of the Council or comments in respect of individual Council Officers.

5. **PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)**

A period not exceeding three minutes is allowed for the presentation of a petition or

deputation provided that no such petition is in relation to:

- Matters relating to individual Council Officers, or
- Matters relating to current or pending legal proceedings.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS (COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2(VII))**

To receive announcements from:

- a) The Mayor
- b) Leader of the Council
- c) Members of the Cabinet
- d) Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- e) Chief Executive

ISSUES FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL

7. **SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES**

To waive Council Procedure Rules to allow the relevant officers to address the Council in respect of items 8, 9, 10 and 11 on the agenda.

8. **JOINT CORE STRATEGY (Pages 17 - 170)**

To receive the report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture on the strategic plan being prepared to provide a framework for development in Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury to 2031.

Appendix 1 is not contained within the hard copy agenda pack. Members are reminded to bring their copy along with them.

Please note that an update will be circulated at the meeting informing Members of the decisions taken at Planning Policy Sub-Committee on 4 September 2013.

9. **GLOUCESTER CITY PLANNING ENFORCEMENT PLAN (Pages 171 - 196)**

To receive the report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture on the revised Planning Enforcement Plan.

10. **SCRAP METAL DEALERS' ACT 2013 (Pages 197 - 204)**

To receive the report of the Chair of Licensing and Enforcement Committee on the new legislation covering scrap metal dealers and motor salvage operators and the changes proposed to the role of the Licensing and Enforcement Committee, the Licensing and Enforcement Sub-Committees and Officers within the Council's scheme of delegated functions.

11. **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - PAJU, SOUTH KOREA (Pages 205 - 210)**

To receive the report of the Chief Executive on the progress on the agreement of a Memorandum of Understanding with Paju in South Korea.

12. **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS (COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12) (Pages 211 - 216)**

a) Written questions to Cabinet Members.

Written questions and answers. Only one supplementary question is allowed per question.

b) Leader and Cabinet Members' Question Time (45 minutes).

Any member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or any Cabinet Member any question without prior notice, upon:

- Any matter relating to the Council's administration.
- Any matter relating to any report of the Cabinet appearing on the Council's summons.
- A matter coming within their portfolio of responsibilities.

Only one supplementary question is allowed per question.

c) Questions to Chairs of Meetings (15 Minutes).

MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

13. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

(1) MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WILSON

This Council notes the request from 'Local Works' to consider submitting the following proposal to the government under the Sustainable Communities Act:

'That the Secretary of State gives Local Authorities the power to introduce a local levy of 8.5% of the rate on large retail outlets in their area with a rateable annual value not less than £500,000 and requires that the revenue from this levy be retained by the Local Authority in order to be used to improve local communities in their areas by promoting local economic activity, local services and facilities, social and community wellbeing and environmental protection.'

This Council notes that if this power was acquired it would present the opportunity to raise further revenue for the benefit of local communities, should the Council wish to use it and that this Council would only levy an 8.5% charge on large retail units based outside the city centre.

This Council resolves to prepare a proposal to submit to the government under the Sustainable Communities Act and to work together with Local Works to gain support for the proposal from other councils in the region and across the country.

(2) MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HAIGH AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HOBBS

This Council notes that since April 1 this year housing benefit claimants deemed to have a spare bedroom have had to pay a 'bedroom tax' . Payment of this element of the rent is leading to an increase of tenants in arrears, debt including the use of unscrupulous payday lenders and calls upon the foodbank.

This Council further notes that:-

- The majority of housing benefit claimants are in work.
- Rents on smaller properties in the private rented sector are often higher than rents in the social rented sector leading to an increase to the housing benefit bill.
- There is a shortage of suitable properties so those who want to move may not be able to.

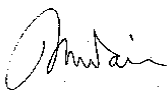
This Council requests that the Cabinet member for Housing investigates the impact of the first 6 months bedroom tax on housing benefit claimants and brings a report to Council detailing the number of tenants in arrears, the numbers seeking to move to smaller properties, the demand on agencies offering legal and debt advice and the impact on the work of the Council's Housing team. It should also consider what further actions could be taken by the Council to assist claimants who are struggling to pay and look at examples of what is being done by other Councils and housing providers in England to mitigate the effects of the charge.

(3) MOVED BY COUNCILLOR SMITH, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HAIGH

This Council wishes to join the other 92 Councils who have signed up to Shelter's 'Evict Rogue Landlords' campaign.

This Council requests that an investigation is carried out to determine if there are rogue landlords in our communities, and if so, a report to come back to a future Council, within the next 9 months, detailing the action taken against them and any future work needed to eradicate rogue landlords from Gloucester.

Yours sincerely



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Julian Wain
Chief Executive

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The duties to register, disclose and not to participate in respect of any matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest are set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.

Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined in the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 as follows –

<u>Interest</u>	<u>Prescribed description</u>
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within the previous 12 months (up to and including the date of notification of the interest) in respect of any expenses incurred by you 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.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (or a body in which you or they have a beneficial interest) and the Council (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the Council's area. For this purpose "land" includes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you, your spouse, civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the Council's area for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) – (a) the landlord is the Council; and (b) the tenant is a body in which you, your spouse or civil partner or a person you are living with as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where – (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the Council's area and

(b) either –

- i. The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
- ii. 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 or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

For this purpose, “securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

NOTE: the requirements in respect of the registration and disclosure of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and withdrawing from participating in respect of any matter where you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest apply to your interests and those of your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner where you are aware of their interest.

Access to Information

Agendas and reports can be viewed on the Gloucester City Council website: www.gloucester.gov.uk and are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

For further details and enquiries about this meeting please contact Penny Williams, 01452 396125, penny.williams@gloucester.gov.uk .

For general enquiries about Gloucester City Council’s meetings please contact Democratic Services, 01452 396126, democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk.

If you, or someone you know cannot understand English and need help with this information, or if you would like a large print, Braille, or audio version of this information please call 01452 396396.

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions:

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building; gather at the assembly point in the car park and await further instructions;
- Do not re-enter the building until told by a member of staff or the fire brigade that it is safe to do so.