



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting: Monday, 30th January 2017 at 6.30 pm in Civic Suite, North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP

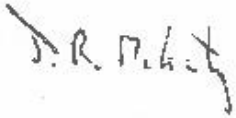
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| Membership: | Cllrs. Coole (Chair), Ryall (Vice-Chair), Pearsall (Spokesperson), Hilton, Lewis, Morgan, Wilson, Haigh, Dee, Hampson, H. Norman, Finnegan, Hawthorne, Melvin and Smith |
| Contact: | Rhys Howell Democratic Services Officer 01452 396126 rhys.howell@gloucester.gov.uk |

AGENDA

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| 1. | APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence. |
| 2. | 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. |
| 3. | MINUTES (Pages 7 - 14) To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 9 January 2017 |
| 4. | PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES) To receive any questions from members of the public provided that a question does not relate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) To receive any petitions and deputations provided that no such petition or deputation is in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matters relating to individual Council Officers, or • Matters relating to current or pending legal proceedings |

| 6. | <p>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME AND COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN (Pages 15 - 38)</p> <p>To receive the latest version of the Committee's work programme and the Council's Forward Plan.</p> | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------------|--|----|---|----|---|
| 7. | <p>PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY (Pages 39 - 98)</p> <p>To receive the report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy that proposes that the draft of the 'Gloucester Public Realm Strategy 2016' be approved for a six week period of public consultation</p> | | | | | | |
| 8. | <p>FESTIVAL AND EVENTS PROGRAMME</p> <p>To receive the report of the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure that proposes the 2017-18 Festival and Events Programme</p> <p>THIS ITEM HAS BEEN MARKED TO FOLLOW AND WILL BE CIRCULATED AS SOON AS IT HAS BECOME AVAILABLE.</p> | | | | | | |
| 9. | <p>EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>To resolve:-</p> <p>"That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the following item of business on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public are present during consideration of this item there will be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended".</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Agenda Item No.</th> <th>Description of Exempt Information</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>Paragraph 4: Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Agenda Item No. | Description of Exempt Information | 10 | Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information). | 11 | Paragraph 4: Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority |
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| 10. | <p>EXEMPT MINUTES (Pages 99 - 106)</p> <p>To approve as a correct record the exempt minutes of the meetings held on 28 November 2016 and 9 January 2017</p> | | | | | | |
| 11. | <p>"TOGETHER GLOUCESTER" RESTRUCTURE UPDATE (Pages 107 - 136)</p> <p>To receive a verbal report from the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources regarding the proposed organisational redesign.</p> | | | | | | |

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| 12. | DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 27 February 2017 at 6.30pm |



Jon McGinty
Managing Director

Date of Publication: Friday, 20 January 2017

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 Rhys Howell, 01452 396126, rhys.howell@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.

Recording of meetings

Please be aware that meetings may be recorded. There is no requirement for those wishing to record proceedings to notify the Council in advance; however, as a courtesy, anyone wishing to do so is advised to make the Chair aware before the meeting starts.

Any recording must take place in such a way as to ensure that the view of Councillors, Officers, the Public and Press is not obstructed. The use of flash photography and/or additional lighting will not be allowed unless this has been discussed and agreed in advance of the meeting.

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.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING : Monday, 9th January 2017

PRESENT : Cllrs. Coole (Chair), Ryall (Vice-Chair), Pearsall (Spokesperson), Hilton, Lewis, Morgan, Haigh, Dee, Hampson, H. Norman, Finnegan, Hawthorne, Melvin and Smith

Others in Attendance

Councillor Paul James, Leader of The Council and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy

Councillor Richard Cook, Cabinet Member for Environment

Wayne Best, Environmental Protection Services Manager

Lloyd Griffiths, Head of Neighbourhood Services

Philip Ardley, Asset Management Consultant

Rhys Howell, Democratic Services Officer

APOLOGIES : Cllr. Wilson

61. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

62. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to clarification that Councillor Hyman was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Hilton.

63. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were no questions from members of the public.

64. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

There were no petitions or deputations.

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65. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME AND COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

The Chair informed the Committee that due to a change to the Cabinet Forward Plan, the items originally scheduled for the Committee meeting on 9 January 2017 had been unavailable. He confirmed the Committee's intention to scrutinise these items when they became available.

The Chair proposed a special meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in order to fulfil the request from Council on the 1st December 2016 to receive an update on deployment of resources from the Community Safety Partnership and the Chief Constable of Gloucestershire Constabulary. The Committee agreed to this and that the Lead Members would arrange this for a suitable date.

The Chair proposed that the Festival and Events Programme for 2017-2018 be scrutinised at the following Committee meeting, as Members had previously expressed an interest in this matter.

66. FIXED PENALTY FINES FOR FLY-TIPPING OFFENCES

The Chair welcomed Councillor Cook (Cabinet Member for Environment) and Wayne Best (Environmental Protection Manager) to the meeting. Councillor Cook laid out the details of the proposed policy, which were to introduce a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) of £400, reduced to £300 if paid within 10 days, for the unauthorised deposit of waste or fly-tipping. He explained that fly-tipping was an increasing problem in Gloucester and that prosecuting offenders was both challenging and costly. He said that the FPN would help the Council meet residents' expectations of a clean City and that other alternatives had been deemed to be not as efficient as the FPN scheme.

Councillor Haigh welcomed this move by the Administration and drew attention to paragraph 3.10.2 of the report, which stated that a contributing factor to the problem of fly-tipping was the introduction of charges for the collection of garden waste and household items, and asked for comment on this. Councillor Cook stated that the majority of fly-tipped waste was trade waste and as such fly-tipped garden waste was not a large issue in the area.

Councillor Haigh asked if the Council had the resources to introduce and monitor FPN enforcement. Councillor Cook stated that resources would always be an issue but the policy should save money and time by reducing the need to prosecute fly-tippers.

Councillor Hampson asked for clarification of paragraph 6.2, which referred to investment in new technology to assist in the implementation of this policy, with regards to the type and cost of the new technology. Councillor Cook explained that the new technology was battery operated mobile cameras, which would be deployed in areas with a high level of fly-tipping. He said that due to their deployment in Matson Park, the cameras had recorded someone fly-tipping earlier that day. He explained that the cameras cost under £450 each and that any revenue generated would be invested in new cameras. Wayne Best provided

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further information regarding the cameras and advised that the footage was live streamed to a secure central server and could be accessed quickly when needed.

Councillor Ryall asked for clarification of the legal definition of fly-tipping. Wayne Best explained that the definition was subjective, but that the Council would prosecute someone for dumping 10 bags or more. He explained that the Council was taking legal advice about where to set the limits of the FPN but that this was still in discussion. Councillor Ryall enquired if there would be the opportunity for people to appeal the FPN. Wayne Best confirmed this would be possible but he expected there to be a low number of appeals.

Councillor Hilton stated that it would be necessary to define what fly-tipping was. He used the example of a bag which had been left for the waste collectors but had then been kicked down the street by another party. He also raised concerns regarding the use of cameras, with reference to the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) and the security of the recorded data and its transmission. Councillor Cook explained that the example provided by Councillor Hilton would not be seen as fly-tipping, as it would be a one off and also the level of waste would not be large enough to be covered by the FPN. He explained that when the cameras were in use signs would be placed nearby to make the public aware. He clarified that as the cameras were mobile, they would be periodically moved to new areas at risk of fly-tipping. Wayne Best explained that there was no intention to place the cameras for longer than 4 months at a time and that the software within the cameras could be configured to block out properties from view.

Councillor Finnegan asked how discreet the cameras were, as she was concerned about vandalism. Wayne Best explained that they could be hidden or openly displayed, depending on the area. He explained that the camera in Matson Park was concealed but in other areas they would be more openly displayed to deter fly-tipping.

Councillor Melvin stated that she thought this was a great initiative and that her preference was for a zero tolerance approach to fly-tipping. She enquired if it was possible to engage a third party to collect and enforce the FPN, with payment related to enforcement targets. Wayne Best stated that this had been looked at, as other council's did use this approach, but that it had not been deemed suitable for Gloucester at this time.

Councillor Hawthorne welcomed the policy but highlighted the discrepancy between the level of offences and the level of prosecutions for fly-tipping. He stated that he did not see that it had been made clear in the report that the FPN was designed to deter fly-tipping rather than generate income. He asked how this would be publicised to the community, as it would not be effective as a deterrent unless adequately promoted. Councillor Cook explained that previously the only approach open to the Council was to take fly-tippers to court and due to the weight of evidence and cost required, this was rarely done. He stated that the FPN could be enforced much more easily and as such should increase the level of prosecution. Wayne Best stated that there was ongoing work with the public to make them aware of the penalties for fly-tipping and to make them aware of the FPN.

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Councillor Haigh made two recommendations, to ensure there was democratic oversight of the implementation of the policy. These were:

1. That quarterly updates on the progress and effectiveness of the policy be received by the relevant Cabinet Member.
2. A further report, evaluating the effectiveness and impact of the policy be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 12 months.

The Committee approved both of these recommendations.

Councillor Morgan echoed Councillor Hawthorne's comments regarding the necessity to adequately publicise the policy and emphasised the need for it to be done in a cost effective manner. Councillor Cook agreed that people would need to be made aware but that they should already know that fly-tipping was an offence. He stated that signs were already in place regrading fly-tipping but not expressly stating about the FPN.

The Chair highlighted that social media could be utilised as a cost efficient way of disseminating information regarding the FPN. Councillor Melvin highlighted the need for accessible information on this matter, and that it be made available in multiple languages.

The Chair thanked Councillor Cook and Wayne Best for their presentation.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the report be noted**
- 2. That it be recommended to Cabinet that quarterly updates on the progress and effectiveness of the policy be received by the relevant Cabinet Member.**
- 3. That a further report, evaluating the effectiveness and impact of the policy be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 12 months.**

67. PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A REPLACEMENT WASTE CONTAINER CHARGING POLICY

The Chair welcomed Councillor Cook (Cabinet Member for Environment) and Lloyd Griffiths (Head of Neighbourhood Services), to share details of the proposal to introduce replacement waste container charges. Councillor Cook stated that in appendix 3, paragraph 2 of the report, there was a reference to food caddies which had been included in error. Councillor Cook explained that on average the Council spent £100,000 on replacement waste containers per year and much of the cost was due to damage caused by the public. He explained that the proposed charge would reduce the Council's annual spend on containers and also encourage residents to take greater care of their Council issued waste containers.

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Councillor Hilton enquired what the charge covered and after it was paid who owned the waste container. Lloyd Griffiths explained that it would cover the cost of administration, the cost of the physical container and delivery, if required. He said that the waste container would still be the property of Gloucester City Council.

Councillor Hilton queried the requirement for people to obtain a police crime number, in order to avoid the replacement waste container charge. He stated that this was not a productive use of police resources and that the Council should trust the public when they report waste containers missing or stolen.

Councillor Ryall asked if waste collection crews had to report any damage or loss of containers they caused. Lloyd Griffiths explained that collection crews had to record any damage on crew sheets. He explained that the turnover of waste containers was high and that the Council was aware that many of these weren't stolen but were repurposed by homeowners. He also stated that many other local authorities charged for replacement waste containers.

The Chair asked if a resident moved into a property and there was no waste container, would they be expected to pay the charge. Lloyd Griffiths stated that in that case, the container would not be charged for.

Councillor Haigh asked how a resident would be aware of the difference between their container being lost or being stolen, as once they had put it out for collection, the resident could not be expected to monitor it until collected. She was concerned that the charging of vulnerable people for replacement waste containers could cast a negative light on the Council. Lloyd Griffith explained that the purpose of the policy was foremost to promote responsible care of the Council issued waste containers.

Councillor Ryall asked if it was a reasonable expectation to rely on Amey to maintain records of container damage, given previous issues with the Amey contract. Councillor Cook stated that he had been made aware of issues surrounding Amey in the past but over the past 6 months large amounts of training had been given to Amey's employees and that performance had improved. He stated that he did not feel this would be an issue in the future.

Councillor Hawthorne asked if the Council had spoken with the police regarding the proposal to require a police crime number from residents and if the police had sufficient resources to address this. Lloyd Griffith said that the police had been spoken to and had expressed that they were not averse to the policy. He explained that he did not expect the police to investigate all reports of lost containers but that requiring the crime number would deter the public from incorrectly reporting waste containers as stolen. The Chair expressed that there was general concern from the Committee regarding the impact the requirement to obtain a police crime number would have upon police time and resources. Councillor Cook expressed the opinion that if a waste container had been stolen, it was a crime and as such it was fitting to contact the police. Councillor Hilton agreed that it was a crime but disagreed that the Council should be asking the police to prioritise their resources towards this matter. He suggested that if waste containers were marked with the corresponding house number before being issued, this would reduce both loss and theft of

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containers. Councillor Lewis expressed the opinion that this would not be a prudent use of Council resources.

Given the concerns expressed by the Committee, Lloyd Griffiths proposed that rather than requiring a police crime number, that residents be required to complete a web based form to report the loss of their container and to apply for a replacement container. Councillor Haigh welcomed the proposal but emphasised that provision would need to be put in place for the digitally disadvantaged. Lloyd Griffiths said that this flexibility could be built into the system and the Committee accepted this as a recommendation to be put forward to Cabinet.

Councillor Hampson asked for clarification of the lifespan of a waste container and for details of the criteria which would specify that a waste container had exceeded its lifespan. Councillor Cook said that a waste container would usually last between 10 and 15 years and that once the container was no longer usable as a waste container, it would be considered to have reached the end of its lifespan. Councillor Hampson asked how the difference between wear and tear and damage was defined. Lloyd Griffiths said that it was a case of common sense, and that each case would be treated on its own merit. He reiterated that the policy was not designed to generate income but to promote responsible waste container care. Councillor Hampson asked if Amey had the resources to check on a case by case basis. Lloyd Griffiths said that part of the waste collection crew's role was to perform inspections of containers as they emptied them.

Councillor Melvin asked for further detail regarding paragraph 5.3, which outlined the alternative option of levying a charge on developers. Lloyd Griffiths stated that although some local authorities had implemented this option, it was not thought to be a suitable option for Gloucester but it would continue to be discussed with the Council planners.

The Chair thanked Councillor Cook and Lloyd Griffiths for their presentation.

Resolved –

- 1. That the report be noted.**
- 2. That it be recommended to Cabinet that the requirement for residents to obtain a police crime number to qualify for a replacement waste container without charge be removed from the policy.**
- 3. That it be recommended to Cabinet that residents be required to complete a short web based form, or alternate method if appropriate to prove the theft or loss of their assigned waste container.**

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68. GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE - REVIEW OF CHARGES

The Chair welcomed Councillor Cook (Cabinet Member for Environment) and Lloyd Griffiths (Head of Neighbourhood Services) to present the report proposing an increase in charges related to garden waste collection.

Councillor Cook updated the Committee that the proposal was to increase the yearly charge from £36 a year to £42 a year in 2017/2018 and then to £44 a year in 2018/2019. He outlined that there would be concessionary pricing of £24 in 2017/2018 and of £26 in 2018/2019. He explained that the reason for the increase was that there had been no increase in the charge since the scheme was introduced in 2011 and that increasing the charge would assist the Council in off-setting the cost of its single biggest contract, the Streetcare contract. He also stated that should the popularity of the scheme continue to rise then additional resources would be needed to continue to deliver the service.

Councillor Lewis asked what effect ceasing to deliver the service altogether would have on staffing levels, costs and impact on landfill. Councillor Cook stated there was no intention to cease delivery of the service and that he couldn't comment on the effect on staffing were the scheme to stop, as Amey managed the staffing of the scheme.

Councillor Haigh stated that the scheme had originally been intended to be cost neutral and that the Cabinet had not made it clear with this report that the cost increase was to generate additional revenue. She referred to the increase in the charges as a discretionary tax. Councillor Cook disagreed with Councillor Haigh's comments and stated that he had looked into the matter prior to the meeting and that in no area had it stated that the scheme would remain cost neutral. He said he did not see it as a tax, as this was a service that the Council did not have to provide.

Councillor Hawthorne asked for clarification regarding paragraph 5.1 of the report, which he said suggested that the scheme could not be put on hiatus during winter due to the terms of the contract with Amey. Lloyd Griffiths explained that the scheme used crews paid for by the Streetcare Contract, and to remove the garden waste collection service for a part of the year would not meet the savings targets of the Council. Councillor Hawthorne clarified that he was not suggesting an either/or situation but asking if it would be possible to increase the cost, as well as reducing collections during the winter months. Councillor Morgan expressed the view that it would be difficult for Amey to decommission vehicles and staff for part of the year but that this would be for Amey to manage. He also stated that he didn't view a winter hiatus as wise, as it could lead to confusion for the public and many people used the service year round. Councillor Hampson said that some local authorities had reduced the service in the winter, due to reduction in use, so to do so would not be an unprecedented move. Councillor H. Norman said that many households used the service during January to dispose of Christmas trees, so a collection in January would be needed. Lloyd Griffiths said that if the scheme were to be suspended during the winter months, he expected there to be a corresponding reduction in scheme membership and as such this was not a current proposal.

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Councillor Hilton stated that when he had spoken to a previous Councillor, who was on the group which formulated the scheme, he had been informed that the scheme was not designed to make money. Councillor Hilton stated that in his opinion it was clear that the Administration were attempting to maximise revenue. He suggested that the Council should be promoting composting to residents rather than monetising garden waste collection. Councillor Cook reiterated that the scheme had not been formulated to be revenue neutral and that the contract with Amey cost £64 million a year and these costs needed to be ameliorated where possible and increasing the garden waste collection charge would help to achieve this.

Councillor Haigh stated that the report was not clear that the aims of the charge increase were to offset the costs of the Amey contract and that the aim should be stated in the report's resolutions. Councillor Cook highlighted that paragraph 8 of the report clearly stated that any surplus generated would contribute towards offsetting the contract cost.

The Chair thanked Councillor Cook and Lloyd Griffiths for their presentation.

RESOLVED- That the report be noted.

69. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the following item of business on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public are present during consideration of this items there will be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

70. KINGS QUARTER DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

This item was discussed in private session.

After the discussion was completed, the Chair thanked Councillor James and Philip Ardley for their presentation.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

71. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

30 January 2017 at 6.30pm

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours
Time of conclusion: 8.25 pm hours

Chair



Gloucester City Council

FORWARD PLAN FROM FEBRUARY 2017 TO JANUARY 2018

This Forward Plan contains details of all the matters which the Leader believes will be the subject of a Key Decision by the Cabinet or an individual Cabinet Member in the period covered by the Plan (the subsequent 12 months). A Key Decision is one that is:

- a decision in relation to a Cabinet function which results in the Local Authority incurring expenditure or making of a saving which is significant having regard to the budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- a decision that is likely to have a significant impact on two or more wards within the Local Authority; or
- a decision in relation to expenditure in excess of £100,000 or significant savings; or
- a decision in relation to any contract valued in excess of £500,000

A decision maker may only make a key decision in accordance with the requirements of the Cabinet Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Cabinet Members

| Portfolio | Name | Contact Details |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Leader and Regeneration & Economy (LRE) | Councillor Paul James | 6 Mainard Square, Longlevens, Gloucester GL2 0EU Tel: 396151 paul.james@gloucester.gov.uk |
| Deputy Leader and Communities & Neighbourhoods (C&N) | Councillor Jennie Watkins | 14 Topcliffe Street, Kingsway, Gloucester, GL2 2ES Tel: 07912450049 jennie.watkins@gloucester.gov.uk |
| Culture & Leisure (C&L) | Councillor Lise Noakes | 14 Middle Croft, Abbeymead, Gloucester GL4 4RL Tel: 01452 610702 lise.noakes@gloucester.gov.uk |
| Performance & Resources (P&R) | Councillor David Norman MBE | 50 Coltishall Close, Quedgeley, Gloucester GL2 4RQ Tel: 07970593780 david.norman@gloucester.gov.uk |
| Housing & Planning (H&P) | Councillor Colin Organ | 337 Stroud Road, Gloucester GL4 0BA Tel: 07767350003 colin.organ@gloucester.gov.uk |
| Environment (E) | Councillor Richard Cook | 101 Woodvale, Kingsway, Gloucester GL2 2BU Tel: 07889534944 richard.cook@gloucester.gov.uk |

The Forward Plan also includes Budget and Policy Framework items; these proposals are subject to a period of consultation and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the opportunity to respond in relation to the consultation process.

A Budgetary and Policy Framework item is an item to be approved by the full City Council and, following consultation, will form the budgetary and policy framework within which the Cabinet will make decisions.

For each decision included on the Plan the following information is provided:

- (a) the matter in respect of which a decision is to be made;
 - (b) where the decision maker is an individual, his/her name and title if any and, where the decision maker is a body, its name and details of membership;
 - (c) the date on which, or the period within which, the decision is to be made;
 - (d) if applicable, notice of any intention to make a decision in private and the reasons for doing so;
 - (e) a list of the documents submitted to the decision maker for consideration in relation to the matter in respect of which the decision is to be made;
 - (f) the procedure for requesting details of those documents (if any) as they become available
- (the documents referred to in (e) and (f) above and listed in the Forward Plan are available on request from the Council’s main offices at Herbert Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester GL1 2EQ. Contact the relevant Lead Officer for more information).

The Forward Plan is updated and published on Council’s website at least once a month.

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|-----|-------------------------------|--------|--|
| KEY | = Key Decision | CM KEY | = Individual Cabinet Member Key Decisions |
| NON | = Non-Key Decision | CM NON | = Individual Cabinet Member Non-Key Decision |
| BPF | = Budget and Policy Framework | | |

CONTACT:

For further detailed information regarding specific issues to be considered by the Cabinet/Individual Cabinet Member please contact the named contact officer for the item concerned. To make your views known on any of the items please also contact the Officer shown or the portfolio holder.

Copies of agendas and reports for meetings are available on the web site in advance of meetings.

For further details on the time of meetings and general information about the Plan please contact:

Atika Tarajiya, Democratic and Electoral Services Officer at 01452 396127 or send an email to atika.tarajiya@gloucester.gov.uk.

| SUBJECT (and summary of decision to be taken) | | PLANNED DATES | DECISION MAKER & PORTFOLIO | NOTICE OF PRIVATE BUSINESS (if applicable) | RELATED DOCUMENTS (available on request, subject to restrictions on disclosure) | LEAD OFFICER (to whom Representations should be made) |
|--|-----|---|----------------------------|---|--|---|
| FEBRUARY 2017 | | | | | | |
| Page 9 of 17 | NON | Public Realm Strategy <u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the Public Realm Strategy. <i>Wards affected: All Wards</i> | 8/02/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning | | Anthony Wilson, Head of Planning Tel: 01452 396830 anthony.wilson@gloucester.gov.uk |
| | OPF | Council Tax Setting 2017/18 <u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the resolutions relating to the setting of Council Tax for 2017/18. <i>Wards affected: All Wards</i> | 23/02/17 | Council Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |

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|-----|---|--------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| BPF | <p>Final Budget Proposals (including Money Plan and Capital Programme)</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the final Budget Proposals for 2017-18, including the Money Plan and Capital Programme.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | <p>8/02/17</p> <p>23/02/17</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Council Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources</p> | | | <p>Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk</p> |
| NON | <p>Festival and Events Programme</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the 2017-18 Festival and Events Programme.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | <p>8/02/17</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure</p> | | | <p>Jonathan Lund, Corporate Director jonathan.lund@gloucester.gov.uk</p> |

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|----------------|--|---------|--|--|--|--|
| NON | <p>Growing Gloucester's Visitor Economy Action Plan Annual Update 2016</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Members on the progress that has been made in achieving the Growing Gloucester's Visitor Economy Action Plan during 2016.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 8/02/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure | | | Lucy Chilton, Visitor Service Manager Tel: 01452 396570 lucy.chilton@gloucester.gov.uk |
| KEY Page 19 | <p>Blackfriars Site now occupied by Barbican Car Parks</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the intended sale of the Barbican Development Site</p> <p><i>Wards affected: Westgate</i></p> | 8/02/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy | | | Anthony Hodge, Head of Regeneration and Economic Development Tel: 01452 396034 anthony.hodge@gloucester.gov.uk |

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|----------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| KEY | <p>Blackfriars and Quayside development sites Equalisation</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the City Council to enter into an the equalisation agreement with the Gloucestershire County Council.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: Westgate</i></p> | 8/02/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy | | | Mark Foyn, Acting Asset Manager mark.foyn@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON Page 20 | <p>Risk Management Policy Statement and Strategy 2017-2020</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek endorsement for the Risk Management Policy Statement and Strategy 2017-2020.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 23/01/17 8/02/17 | Audit and Governance Committee Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Theresa Mortimer theresa.mortimer@gloucestershire.gov.uk |

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|---|---|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| <p>NON</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 21</p> | <p>Anti Fraud and Corruption Policy Statement and Strategy (including the Anti Bribery Policy and Anti Money Laundering Policy) 2017-2019 and the Confidential Reporting Procedure (Whistleblowing Policy).</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval and endorsement for the Anti Fraud and Corruption Policy Statement and Strategy (including the Anti Bribery Policy and Anti Money Laundering Policy) 2017-2019 and the Confidential Reporting Procedure (Whistleblowing Policy).</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | <p>23/01/17</p> <p>8/02/17</p> | <p>Audit and Governance Committee</p> <p>Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources</p> | | | <p>Theresa Mortimer theresa.mortimer@gloucestershire.gov.uk</p> |
| <p>MARCH 2017</p> | | | | | | |

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|-----|--|------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| NON | <p>Development of a Green Travel Policy</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> Annual update on initiatives in the Green Travel Plan</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 8/03/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Environment | | | Lloyd Griffiths, Head of Neighbourhood Services lloyd.griffiths@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON | <p>Pay Policy Statement 2017-18</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the annual Pay policy Statement 2017-18 in accordance with Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 23/03/17 | Council | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON | <p>Financial Monitoring Quarter 3 Report</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To receive an update on financial monitoring information for the third quarter 2016/17.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 6/03/17 8/03/17 | Overview and Scrutiny Committee Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |

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|-----|---|--------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| BPF | <p>Treasury Management Strategy</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the Treasury Management Strategy.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 13/03/17 23/03/17 | Audit and Governance Committee Council | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON | <p>Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) Six Monthly Report on use of RIPA Powers</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Cabinet on the use of RIPA powers.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 8/03/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON | <p>Proposal to introduce a discretionary HMO licensing scheme</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval to introduce a discretionary HMO licensing scheme.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 8/03/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning | | | Julie Wight, Private Sector Housing & Environmental Protection Team Service Manager Tel: 01452 396320 Julie.Wight@gloucester.gov.uk |

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|------------|---|----------------|--|--|--|---|
| <p>NON</p> | <p>Update on Voluntary and Community Sector</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Members on existing work in relation to the VCS and outline future plans to link physical with social regeneration to ensure that disadvantaged communities benefit from the opportunities of investment into regeneration and economic growth.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | <p>8/03/17</p> | <p>Cabinet Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods</p> | | | <p>Anne Brinkhoff, Corporate Director anne.brinkhoff@gloucester.gov.uk</p> |
| <p>NON</p> | <p>City Centre Action Plan Update</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To provide Members with an update of progress in respect of key measures and actions included in the City Centre Action Plan.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: Westgate</i></p> | <p>8/03/17</p> | <p>Cabinet Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy</p> | | | <p>Anthony Hodge, Head of Regeneration and Economic Development Tel: 01452 396034 anthony.hodge@gloucester.gov.uk</p> |

APRIL 2017- No meetings

| MAY 2017- No meetings | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|----------|---|--|--|--|
| JUNE 2017 | | | | | | |
| NON | <p>2016-17 Financial Outturn Report</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Cabinet on the Financial Outturn 2015-16.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 21/06/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON | <p>Treasury Management Six Monthly Update 2016/17</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Cabinet on treasury management activities.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 19/06/17 | Audit and Governance Committee | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| Page 25 | | 21/06/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | |
| JULY 2017 | | | | | | |

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|---------------------------------|---|----------|---|--|--|--|
| NON | <p>City Centre Investment Fund Allocations and Update</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Members on the progress towards the delivery of the City Centre Investment Fund.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: Westgate</i></p> | 19/07/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy | | | Anthony Hodge, Head of Regeneration and Economic Development Tel: 01452 396034 anthony.hodge@gloucester.gov.uk |
| AUGUST 2017- No meetings | | | | | | |
| SEPTEMBER 2017 | | | | | | |
| Page 26 NON | <p>Financial Monitoring Quarter 1 Report</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To receive an update on financial monitoring information for the first quarter 2017/18.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 13/09/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |

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|----------------------|--|----------|--|--|--|---|
| NON | <p>Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) Six Monthly Report on Use of RIPA Powers</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To receive an update on the six monthly report on the use of RIPA Powers.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 13/09/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| OCTOBER 2017 | | | | | | |
| NON Page 27 | <p>Armed Forces Community Covenant Update</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Cabinet on the work done by Gloucester City Council to support current and ex-service personnel as part of the Gloucestershire Armed Forces Community Covenant</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 11/10/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods | | | Edward Pomfret, Health, Partnerships & Engagement Service Manager edward.pomfret@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NOVEMBER 2017 | | | | | | |

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|----------------|---|---------|---|--|--|--|
| NON | <p>Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) - Review of Procedural Guide</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To request that Members review and update the Council's procedural guidance on RIPA.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 8/11/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON Page 28 | <p>Financial Monitoring Quarter 2 Report</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To receive an update on financial monitoring information for the second quarter 2017/18.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 8/11/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |

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|-----|---|-------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| NON | <p>Financial Monitoring Quarter 2 Report</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Cabinet on financial monitoring for quarter 2.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 6/12/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON | <p>Growing Gloucester's Visitor Economy</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To provide Cabinet with an update on the annual review of the Visitor Economy Strategy.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 6/12/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure | | | Lucy Chilton, Visitor Service Manager Tel: 01452 396570 lucy.chilton@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON | <p>Strategic Risk Register</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Members on the Council's Strategic Risk Register</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 20/11/17 6/12/17 | Audit and Governance Committee Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Stephanie Payne, Group Manager, Audit, Risk and Assurance Tel: 01452 396432 stephanie.payne@gloucester.gov.uk |

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|---------------------|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| NON | <p>Treasury Management Six Monthly Update 2016/17</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Cabinet on treasury management activities.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 6/12/17 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| NON | <p>Draft Budget Proposals (including Money Plan and Capital Programme)</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Cabinet on the draft budget proposals</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 27/11/17 6/12/17 | Overview and Scrutiny Committee Cabinet Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | | | Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk |
| JANUARY 2018 | | | | | | |
| NON | <p>Green Travel Plan Progress Report 2017 and Update</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> Annual update on initiatives in the Green Travel Plan</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 10/01/18 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Environment | | | Lloyd Griffiths, Head of Neighbourhood Services lloyd.griffiths@gloucester.gov.uk |

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|--|---|----------|--|---|--|--|
| NON | <p>Festivals and Events Programme</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for the 2018-19 Festival and Events Programme.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | 10/01/18 | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure | | | Jonathan Lund, Corporate Director jonathan.lund@gloucester.gov.uk |
| ITEMS DEFERRED- Dates to be confirmed | | | | | | |
| KEY | <p>St Oswalds Land Disposal</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To consider potential options for land disposal and acquisition at St Oswalds.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: Westgate</i></p> | | Cabinet Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy | The public are to be excluded from the Cabinet meeting during consideration of this report as it contains exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). | | Anthony Hodge, Head of Regeneration and Economic Development Tel: 01452 396034 anthony.hodge@gloucester.gov.uk |

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| KEY | <p>Commercial Property Investment Strategy</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval for Gloucester City Councils Commercial Property Investment strategy.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | | <p>Council</p> <p>Cabinet Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy</p> | | | <p>Anthony Hodge, Head of Regeneration and Economic Development, Jon Topping, Head of Finance Tel: 01452 396034 anthony.hodge@gloucester.gov.uk, Tel: 01452 396242 jon.topping@gloucester.gov.uk</p> |
| NON | <p>Air Quality Management Areas</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval to review the air quality management areas within the City.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | | <p>Cabinet Cabinet Member for Environment</p> | | | <p>Wayne Best, Environmental Protection Service Manager wayne.best@gloucester.gov.uk</p> |
| KEY | <p>Housing Development Company</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To seek approval to establish a housing development company.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | | <p>Cabinet Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy</p> | | | <p>Jon McGinty, Managing Director jon.mcginty@gloucester.gov.uk</p> |

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| NON | <p>Energy Savings Projects</p> <p><u>Summary of decision:</u> To update Cabinet on the City Council Energy Costs and Reduction Projects.</p> <p><i>Wards affected: All Wards</i></p> | | <p>Cabinet Cabinet Member for Environment</p> | | | <p>Wayne Best, Environmental Protection Service Manager wayne.best@gloucester.gov.uk</p> |
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**Gloucester City Council
Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme
Updated 18 January 2017**

| Item | Format | Lead Member (if applicable)/Lead Officer | Comments |
|--|----------------|---|--|
| | | | |
| 30 JANUARY 2017 | | | |
| Public Realm Strategy | Written Report | Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning | Requested by Councillor Haigh and agreed by Chair, VC and Spokesperson |
| Festival and Events Program | Written Report | Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure | |
| Together Gloucester Consultation | Verbal Report | Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | |
| | | | |
| 27 FEBRUARY 2017 | | | |
| Quarter 3 Financial Monitoring | Written report | Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| Review of Safe and Attractive Streets Policy after 6 months' implementation | Written report | Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods | Requested by Councillor Hilton and agreed by Chair and Spokesperson |
| Monitoring of Task and Finish Group recommendations on Improvements to Private Sector Rented Housing | Written report | Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning | |
| | | | |
| 12 JUNE 2017 | | | |
| Annual report of the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny | Written report | N/A | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| Quarter 4 Financial Monitoring | Written report | Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |

| Item | Format | Lead Member (if applicable)/Lead Officer | Comments |
|--|-------------------------|---|--|
| Green Travel Plan Progress Report | Written report | Cabinet Member for Environment | Requested by Councillor Haigh and agreed by Chair, VC and Spokesperson |
| Monitoring of Task and Finish Group recommendations on Employment and Skills | Written report | Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy | |
| | | | |
| 10 July 2017 | | | |
| Amey annual performance monitoring | Report and Presentation | Cabinet Member for Environment | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| Civica annual performance reports for Revenues and Benefits and IT | Report and Presentation | Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| | | | |
| 4 September 2017 | | | |
| Quarter 1 Financial Monitoring | Written Report | Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| | | | |
| 2 October 2017 | | | |
| GCC Annual Performance Monitoring | Written Report | Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| Aspire annual performance monitoring | Written Report | Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| | | | |
| 30 October 2017 | | | |
| | | | |
| 27 November 2017 | | | |
| Marketing Gloucester Performance Monitoring | Written Report | Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| Aspire Annual Performance Monitoring | Written report | Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |

| Item | Format | Lead Member (if applicable)/Lead Officer | Comments |
|---|----------------|---|---|
| Quarter 2 Financial Monitoring | Written report | Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| | | | |
| 4 December 2017 | | | |
| BUDGET MEETING – NO OTHER ITEMS | | | Part of Committee's Rolling programme of work |
| | | | |
| 8 January 2018 | | | |
| | | | |
| 29 January 2018 | | | |
| | | | |
| No Current Date for Item | | | |
| Housing Development Company | Written Report | Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy | Slipped from January 2017 |
| Independent Remuneration Panel Scrutiny | | | Required for 2018 Panel Review, Motioned by Council 1/12/16 |
| Update on Deployment of Resources from Community Safety Partnership and the Chief Constable | Verbal Report | | Requested by Council 1/12/16 and agreed by Chair |

NOTE: The work programme is agreed by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Spokesperson of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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|-------------------------|--|---|
| Meeting: | Overview and Scrutiny Cabinet | Date: 30 January 2017 8 February 2017 |
| Subject: | Gloucester Public Realm Strategy 2016 – Public Consultation Draft | |
| Report Of: | Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy | |
| Wards Affected: | All | |
| Key Decision: | No | Budget/Policy Framework: No |
| Contact Officer: | Matt Haslam - Urban Design Officer | |
| | Email: matt.haslam@gloucester.gov.uk | Tel: 396847 |
| Appendices: | 1. Gloucester Public Realm Strategy 2016 - Public Consultation Draft | |

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The Public Realm Strategy will be used to support the regeneration of the City and will form part of the evidence base for the City Plan in due course. This document will be also be used in the Development Management process to ensure schemes are of a high quality and preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the historic environment. This report seeks agreement to allow the document to progress to a 6 week period of public consultation prior to recommendation of adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to **NOTE** the report and to provide any recommendations it considers necessary to Cabinet.
- 2.2 Cabinet is asked to **RESOLVE** that the ‘Gloucester Public Realm Strategy 2016 - Public Consultation Draft’ be approved for a six week period of public consultation.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 The public realm within Gloucester has developed and changed over the 1900 years since the founding of the original Roman settlement, and continues to change as part of the various regeneration and redevelopment projects within the City.
- 3.2 There have been a series of significant public realm projects completed in recent times. The Gloucester Quays retail outlet opened in 2009 and part of that development saw the provision of very high-quality areas of new public realm. The

Linkages project (the route from Gloucester Quays to the City Centre) saw the redevelopment of the public realm along the eastern side of Victoria Dock and the area around Kimbrose Triangle, Commercial Road and Southgate Street, during 2010. An area of approximately 16,200 metres sq. was covered by these two projects, which have raised the overall level of public realm quality considerably.

- 3.3 Proposals for other significant public realm projects are being developed, including for the open spaces within the Bakers Quay mixed use development, Orchard Square (part of the Docks area), the new bus station, and within the Cathedral Precincts (Project Pilgrim). There are also emerging plans for other strategic sites, including the former Gloucester Prison and the adjacent Greater Blackfriars area.
- 3.4 Much of the existing older public realm within the Gate Streets and other parts of the wider City Centre, dates back to the early to mid 1990s, which is now around 25 years old. The emergence of the recent public realm projects has highlighted the dated nature of some of the existing public realm provision within the City Centre, but also the need to provide guidance for new public realm proposals as they emerge. It is important to support the emerging public realm projects with specific guidance on appropriate materials, areas for improvement and broad design principles.
- 3.5 Results from an informal furniture audit, carried out as part of the initial research stages of the Public Realm Strategy, led to the identification of various issues within the Gate Streets and other surrounding streets.
- 3.6 An internal consultation process has been undertaken, comments were received from 14 internal consultees, from departments including Planning and Planning Policy, Neighbourhood Management, Conservation and Heritage, Archaeology, Landscape and Trees, and Graphic Design. Specific meetings were arranged with a number of the consultees to get more detailed comments. The vast majority of comments made by consultees were incorporated into the Public Consultation Draft document.
- 3.7 The main alterations to the document following the internal consultation included the following items.
 - A reduction in the overall length of the document to make it more concise;
 - An executive summary at the start of the document was inserted to allow people to get a quick impression of the content of the full document;
 - Many of the context photos within the document were removed, to improve legibility and to create a more positive tone;
 - The main plans which illustrate the key principles and information within the document have been made clearer; and
 - The palette of materials proposed for the three main categories of spaces was finalised.
- 3.8 A further alteration has been made to the document to focus more on the principles and broader design guidelines, by removing references to specific projects which are to be included within an internal project plan.
- 3.9 As improvements are made to historic and strategically significant areas within the City Centre, the Public Realm Strategy will act as a guide to future redevelopment projects.

- 3.10 Once the document is finalised following public consultation, it is intended that a summary leaflet will also be produced to provide an accessible overview of the document and the principles within it.

4.0 Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Considerations

- 4.1 The aim of the document is for members of the public, consultants and developers to use the guide to assist with informing the design of public realm within the City Centre as part of any development management or strategic project. This guidance will ensure that schemes are well considered and meet the City Council's requirements leading to a better quality environment.

5.0 Alternative Options Considered

- 5.1 Failure to recommend these documents for public consultation would result in the City Council not providing a positive and pro-active approach to regeneration within City. This positive approach is also recommended with the National Planning Policy Framework and would also form part of the evidence base for the forthcoming City Plan. The work will also feed into the City Plan development control policies.

6.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 6.1 A resolution is requested to allow the Public Realm Strategy to go out for a period of public consultation. The document will be used to support the regeneration of the city centre and will form part of the evidence base for the City Plan in due course. A further report will be submitted for the documents to be recommended for adoption as Supplementary Planning Documents, this will enable these to be used in the Development Management process to ensure schemes are of a high quality and preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the historic environment.

7.0 Future Work and Conclusions

- 7.1 During the six week consultation, the draft strategy will be available on the Council's website, at libraries and at Council offices. Letters and email notifications will be sent to a range of statutory and general consultees as well as contacts registered on the Local Plan database.
- 7.2 Following Cabinet Briefing and Cabinet, the Public Realm Strategy will progress to a six week period of public consultation. The comments and feedback received during the period of public consultation will be considered and where necessary, changes will be made to the documents.
- 7.3 Following this, the document will return to Members for approval to adopt as a Supplementary Planning Document which will form part of the City Plan evidence base. In due course, the Strategy will form a basis of the development management policies within the City Plan.

8.0 Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications of significance associated with the public consultation period.
- 8.2 The progression of wider public realm improvements within the City Centre would require a significant financial commitment that would need to be carefully assessed and programmed within the Council's overall budget. As with all capital projects any public realm improvement project would be required to identify sources of funding to enable the project to be delivered.
- 8.3 The draft strategy document sets out various paving materials and items of furniture to be used for each of the identified main categories of spaces. These materials are intended to be indicative and represent a guide to the quality standard which is suitable. There is a cost implication for the higher quality materials, such as natural sandstone or granite, but there is also an element of cost saving over the lifetime of the scheme due to the increased robustness of these materials.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

9.0 Legal Implications

- 9.1 Following the initial period of public consultation, the Public Realm Strategy will gain a level of weight within the planning process, and become a material consideration in planning terms. The document can then be used to guide the design and implementation of public realm within the City, to enable the Council to promote high standards of design leading to a better quality environment.

(One Legal have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

10.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

- 10.1 A low risk has been identified as a result of this report. This low risk involves the possibility of the Public Realm Strategy not being adopted as an SPD and therefore the quality of public realm within the City being adversely affected.
- 10.2 The main opportunity is to achieve higher standards of public realm if the document is adopted as planning and design guidance.

11.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA):

- 11.1 The aim of the Public Realm Strategy is for members of the public, consultants, developers and City Council Officers to use the guide to assist with informing the design of the public realm within the city as part of any development management scheme. This guidance will ensure that schemes are well considered and meet the City Council's requirements leading to a better quality environment. The Strategy also considers and sets out guidelines for the on-going maintenance and reinstatement of public realm.

11.2 The PIA Screening Stage was completed and did not identify any potential or actual negative impact, therefore a full PIA was not required.

12.0 Other Corporate Implications

Community Safety

12.1 There are a number of recommendations and issues identified in the Public Realm Strategy which could have implications for community safety, were these recommendations not put into practice. However, the process of carrying out the public consultation on the Public Realm Strategy has no community safety implications.

Sustainability

12.2 The Public Realm Strategy supports the process of achieving sustainable development and will contribute to the improvement of the City Centre for both residents and visitors to Gloucester. The document when adopted would ensure proposals have a positive impact on the environment of Gloucester.

Staffing & Trade Union

12.3 No impacts.

Background Documents: None

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GLOUCESTER
PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY
2017



Published by:



Herbert Warehouse
The Docks
Gloucester GL1 2EQ
01452 396847

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Executive Summary

The public realm belongs to everyone, it is part of our everyday lives and it is where we move and meet on a daily basis. It is the places we pass through on our journeys and the spaces we use for outdoor activities and social interaction.

Public realm shapes the image of the places we inhabit, it creates identity and distinctiveness and influences how others see us. Public realm comprises the streets, squares, parks, green spaces and other outdoor places that require

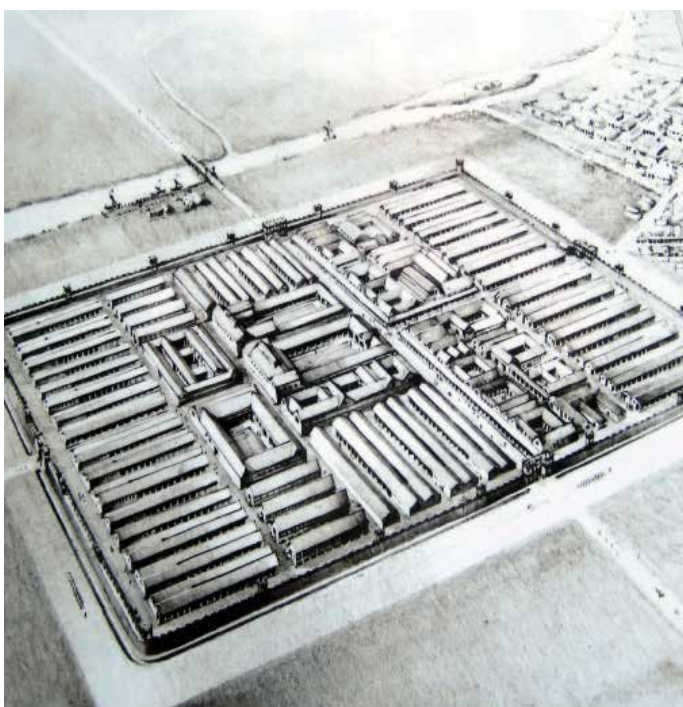
no key to access them and are available, without charge for everyone to use.

The Gloucester Public Realm Strategy sets out a number of guiding principles which should be used to improve the public realm within the city centre. The strategy should be used not just when designing major redevelopment sites, but also in the day-to-day maintenance of the existing public realm within the city centre.

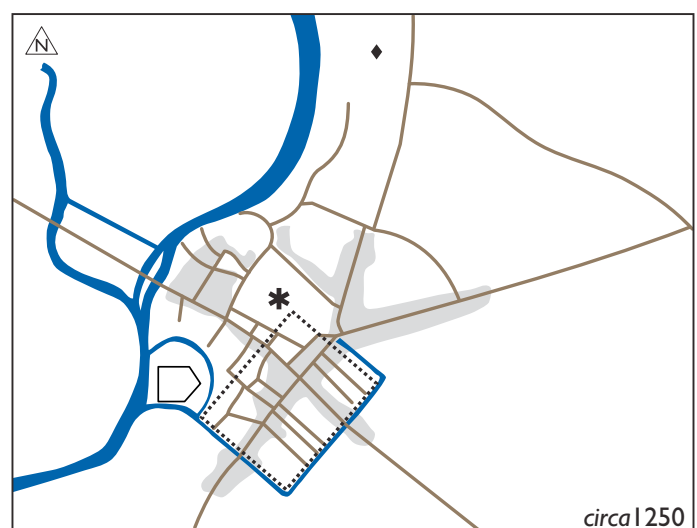
The fundamental structure of the historic core of Gloucester has remained almost intact since the original Roman settlement was established around 90AD (over 1900 years ago). The principal routes within

the core of the city, including the Gate Streets and connected streets, provide much of the historic character found in the centre. The Cathedral and the areas surrounding it provide some of the highest quality architecture in the

city. The later addition of the Docks and Quays, which was made possible by the opening of the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal in 1827, provides another focus for tourism and identity for the city.






Drawing by Phil Moss (1st Century Gloucester)

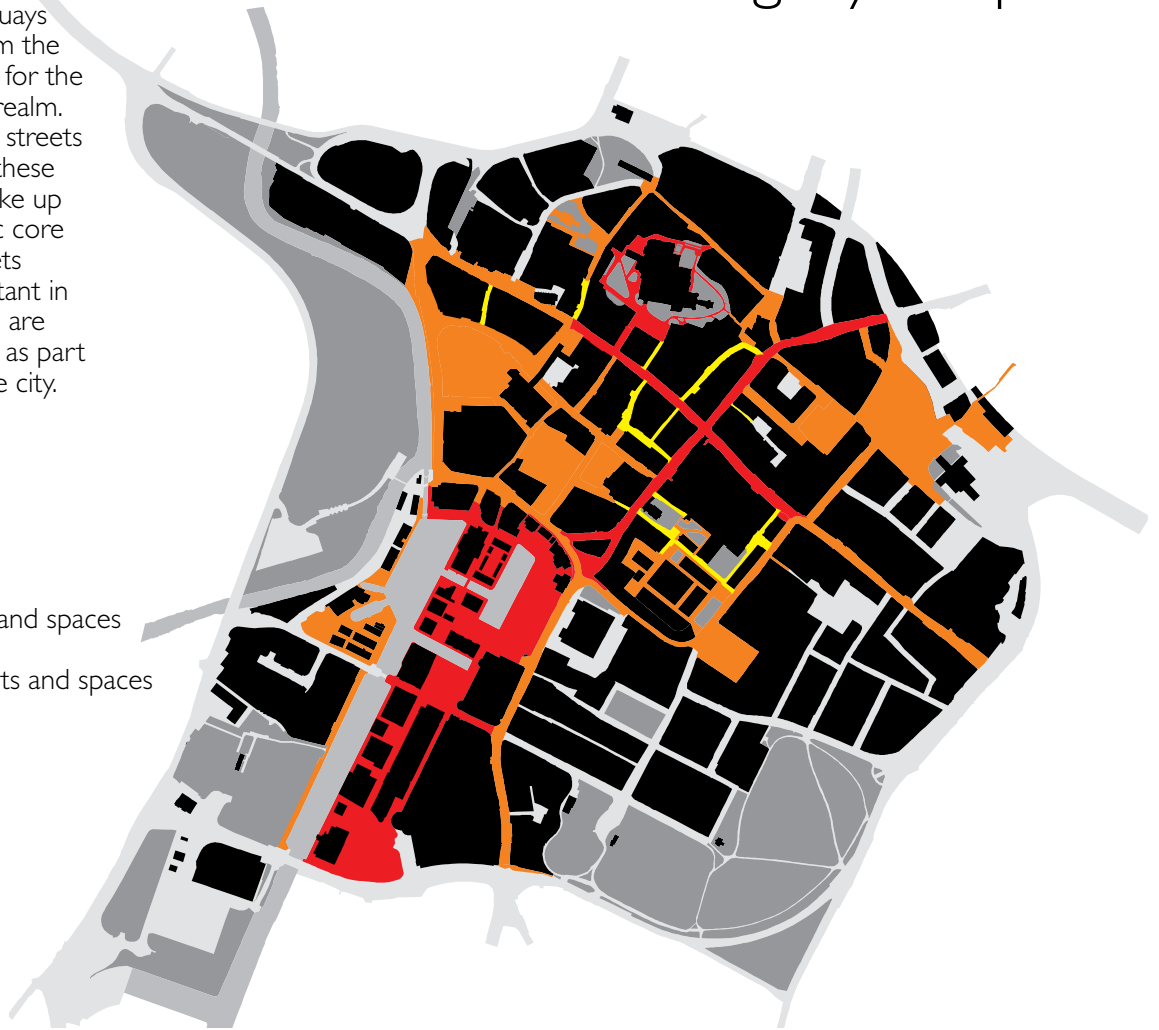


- Known occupied areas
- Aquaduct
- Roman Colonia
- Priority
- ✱ Cathedral
- Manor

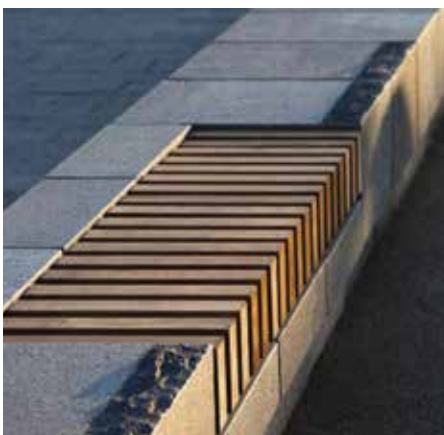
Category of spaces

The Cathedral and its precincts, the Gate Streets and the Docks and Quays areas, combine to form the most important focus for the highest quality public realm. A series of secondary streets and spaces surround these primary areas and make up the rest of the historic core of the city. These streets and spaces are important in their own right and all are considered important as part of the character of the city.

-  Lanes
-  Primary streets and spaces
-  Secondary streets and spaces



High quality materials are required to create areas which people want to live in and experience everyday, and which visitors to Gloucester will appreciate and which will help to support the city's economy and prosperity.



Public realm examples

I. Introduction

The public realm belongs to everyone, it is part of our everyday lives and it is where we move and meet on a daily basis. It is the places we pass through on our journeys and the spaces we use for outdoor activities and social interaction.

Public realm shapes the image of the places we inhabit, it creates identity and distinctiveness and influences how others see us. Public realm comprises the streets, squares, parks, green spaces and other outdoor places that require no key to access them and are available, without charge for everyone to use.



1.1 High quality public realm should not be considered a 'desirable' element of regeneration: it must be an essential ingredient. The quality of our public realm is vital if we are to be successful in creating environments that people want to live and work in.

1.2 Good quality public realm is not just an aesthetic issue concerned with making places look good. There are fundamental financial, crime, health and civic pride elements involved, all of which contribute to the quality of life experienced by residents and visitors to Gloucester.

'Places and streets that have stood the test of time are those where traffic and other activities have been integrated successfully, and where buildings and spaces, and the needs of people, not just of their vehicles, shape the area.' (Manual for Streets, Department for Transport, 2007)

1.3 The Council supports innovative and attractive development within Gloucestershire. The NPPF states that developments should establish a strong sense of place, using streetscapes to create attractive and comfortable places to live, work and visit. (Para 2.5, p.16)

1.4 In recent years, Gloucester has begun to regenerate, with high-quality new developments including the Gloucester Quays, Docks public realm improvements, new developments within the Docks area, the Linkages project which transformed the Southgate Street and Kimbrose Triangle areas, the Greyfriars housing development and numerous smaller projects.

1.5 Regeneration is continuing and redevelopments including the Kings Quarter, the former Gloucester Prison site and the Greater Blackfriars area all have the potential to make significant contributions to the quality of the city centre. The public realm within and surrounding these major development sites will play a key role in creating high-quality areas which improve the lives of residents and visitors to Gloucester.

1.6 This Public Realm Strategy ('the strategy') sets out a number of guiding principles which should be used to improve the public realm within the

city centre. The strategy should be used not just when designing major redevelopment sites, but also in the day-to-day maintenance of the existing public realm within the city centre.

1.7 It is intended that further detailed design work will be carried out in areas identified by the strategy as needing improvement and that the design principles identified in this strategy guide this future work.

1.8 There are already many positive aspects to Gloucester's public realm and many opportunities for significant improvements. The linked public realms of the Quays, Docks and Kimbrose Triangle/Southgate Street have set the level of quality to a high standard which should be the benchmark for future public realm schemes.

Strategy objectives:

To develop a coherent and high quality approach to the public realm within the city centre, based on reducing clutter and providing high quality materials

Develop principles which will enhance the safety and security of people using Gloucester's public realm

To improve the appearance of the Gate Streets and historic areas and improve the setting of heritage assets

To reduce the amount of clutter and rationalise or combine street furniture

Improve the legibility of Gloucester city centre through the use of a coordinated palette of materials, clear signage and street furniture

To develop and set out a range of public realm principles, upon which further detailed public realm schemes will be based

To recognise the needs of all groups who use the city centre and to develop clear design principles based on these needs

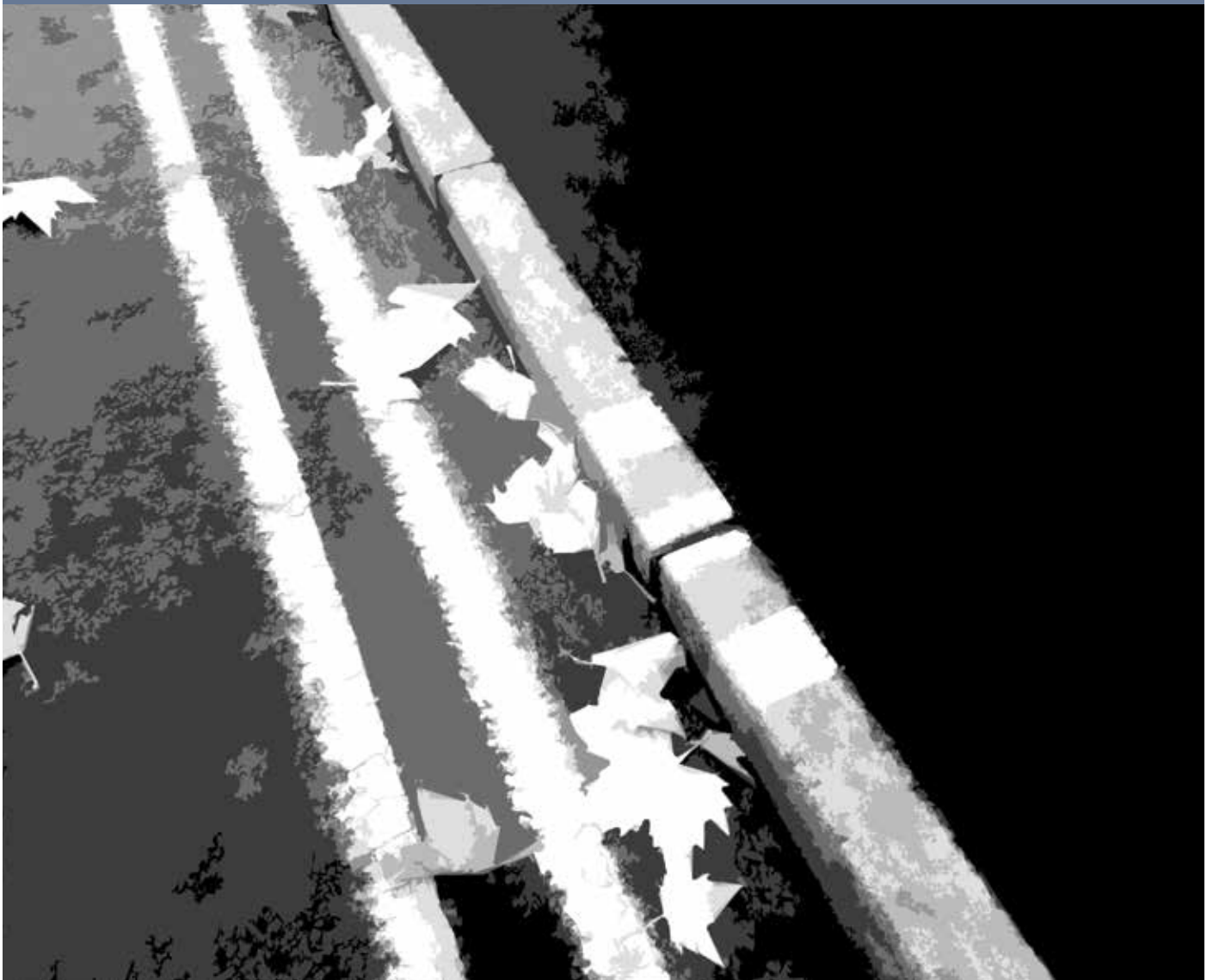
To enhance the connections between major land uses and areas of activity.



Clapham Old Town, existing and proposed images.
Project design by Urban Movement http://www.urbanmovement.co.uk/clapham-ot_projects_urd.html

2. Policy background & context

The creation of areas of high-quality public realm is supported by national and local planning policy and guidance, which has informed the content of the strategy.



2.1 National policy & guidance

2.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) came into effect on 27th March 2012 and sets out the Government's approach towards planning and sustainable development. The document sets out how the planning system should facilitate sustainable development, by contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, and by contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment.

2.1.2 The NPPF highlights the importance of creating a good quality built environment, ensuring the vitality of town centres, promoting sustainable transport, promoting healthy communities, and conserving and enhancing the historic environment.

2.1.3 Part 7 of the NPPF sets out how development should take available opportunities to improve the character and quality of an area and the way it functions. It supports good design and good quality streets and spaces.

2.1.4 The National Planning Practice Guidance sets out how the policies in the NPPF are to be implemented and contains numerous relevant notes on the need to promote high quality design, including areas of public realm.

'Successful streets are those where traffic and other activities have been integrated successfully, and where buildings and spaces, and the needs of people, not just of their vehicles, shape the area.'

In many cases shortcomings in street design reflect the rigid application of highway engineering standards in terms of road hierarchies, junction separation distances, sight lines and turning radii for service vehicles. The result is often a sense of sprawl and formlessness and development which contradicts some of the key principles of urban design.

Imaginative and context-specific design that does not rely on conventional standards can achieve high levels of safety and amenity. Each street should be considered as unique – understand its location, character and eccentricities.

Designs should relate to these local characteristics, not to something built elsewhere.' (NPPG, Paragraph 042)

2.1.5 One of the primary objectives of the Public Realm Strategy is to reduce unnecessary clutter within the public realm. Paragraph 042 of the National Planning Practice Guidance states the following:

'Every element of the street scene contributes to the identity of the place, including for example lighting, railings, litter bins, paving, fountains and street furniture. These should be well designed and sensitively placed.'

Unnecessary clutter and physical constraints such as parking bollards and road humps should be avoided. Street clutter is a blight, as the excessive or insensitive use of traffic signs and other street furniture has a negative impact on the success of the street as a place.'

The removal of unnecessary street clutter can, in itself, make pavements clearer and more spacious for pedestrians, including the disabled, and improve visibility and sight lines for road users. Street signs should be periodically audited with a view to identifying and removing unnecessary signs.' (NPPG, Paragraph 042)

2.1.6 National policy is clear that good design is a fundamental part of the planning process.

'Good quality design is an integral part of sustainable development. The National Planning Policy Framework recognises that design quality matters and that planning should drive up standards across all forms of development. As a core planning principle, plan-makers and decision takers should always seek to secure high quality design.'

Achieving good design is about creating places, buildings, or spaces that work well for everyone, look good, last well, and will adapt to the needs of future generations.

'Development should seek to promote character in townscape and landscape by responding to and reinforcing locally distinctive patterns of development, local man-made and natural heritage and culture, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation.'

The successful integration of all forms of new development with their surrounding context is an important design objective, irrespective of whether a site lies on the urban fringe or at the heart of a town centre.' (NPPG, Paragraph 007).

2.1.7 Manual for Streets 1 (DfT March 2007) and Manual for Streets 2 (DfT September 2010), are the primary Highways policy guides and support the creation of quality streets.

2.1.8 The 2007 CABE document 'Paved with Gold: The Real Value of Good Street Design', in particular sets out various key aspects for the design of quality streets.

- Dropped kerbs, tactile paving and colour contrast
- Smooth, clean, well-drained surfaces
- High-quality materials, high standards of maintenance, including pavements wide enough to accommodate all users with no pinch points
- Potential obstructions placed out of the way and enough crossing points in the right places
- Traffic levels not excessive
- Good lighting and a sense of security with no graffiti or litter; with no signs of anti-social behaviour
- Signage, landmarks and good sightlines with public spaces along the street resulting in a street that is a pleasant place to be.

2.2 Local policy and guidance

2.2.1 There are a number of important local policies relating to the design of the public realm. 'Manual for Gloucestershire Streets' (Gloucestershire County Council, June 2013) sets out the various technical and design standards relating to roads and streets within the county.

2.2.2 'Gloucestershire County Council Enhanced Materials Policy' (October 2010) sets out the types of materials which are acceptable to ensure safety and ease of maintenance, but which are of a higher quality than the standard range of highways materials, such as tarmac.

This allows enhanced and often more locally distinctive materials to be used within adopted highways, with commuted sums generally being collected to allow for future maintenance over the 'whole life' of an area's materials.

2.2.3 The 4th Edition of Manual for Gloucestershire Streets (April 2016), sets out a range of criteria and guidance on the design of Highways areas.

2.2.4 The Joint Core Strategy (November 2014) is at the Submission stage of its development and is now a material consideration in determining planning applications and guiding the design of developments within its boundary.

2.2.5 Policy SD5 (Design requirements) within the emerging JCS sets out policies relating to the design of public realm. Table SD5b sets out specific design principles, including the design of public realm.

2.2.6 The Gloucester City Council 'Second Stage Deposit Local Plan 2002' provides policy guidance on design issues, including proposals for landscaping, the appearance of developments, the impact of

developments on the character and quality of an area and the need to reinforce local distinctiveness. The emerging Draft City Plan will replace the 2002 Local Plan and has specific policies on public realm quality and design.

2.2.7 The City Centre Conservation Area Appraisal has a number of policies relating to public realm and this document should be considered during the development of any public realm project within the city centre.

2.2.8 It is intended that the strategy will form part of the emerging Gloucester City Plan, and be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document.

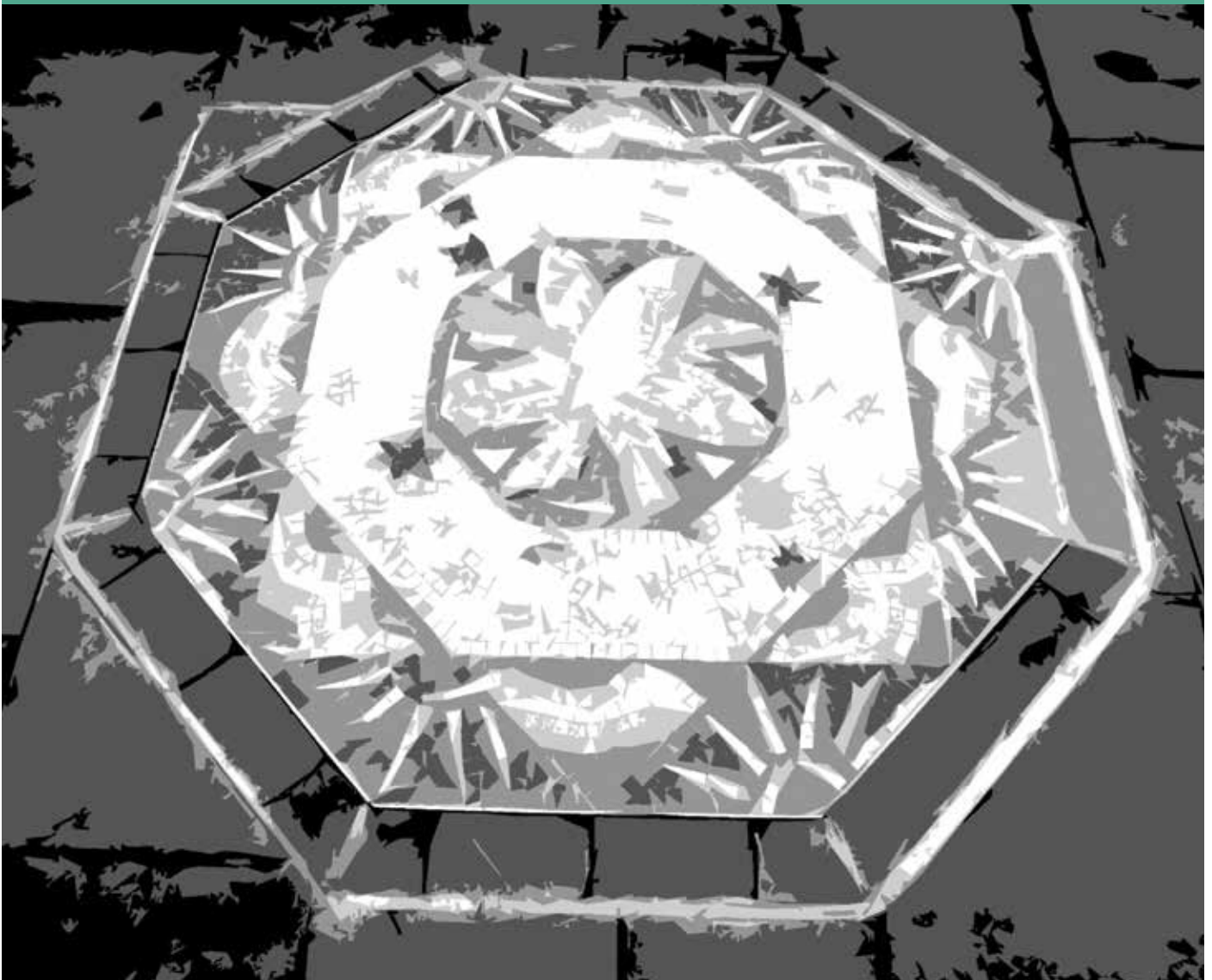
Table SD5a

Hierarchy of Transport Modes

| | |
|---------|--|
| Highest | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pedestrians and people with mobility difficulties 2. Cyclists 3. Public transport and social/community services 4. Access by commercial vehicles 5. Ultra-low emission vehicles |
| Lowest | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Other motorised vehicles |

3. Public realm analysis and strategy area

In order to be able to propose appropriate improvements to Gloucester's public spaces, it is first essential to analyse and understand the way in which the public realm in Gloucester is formed and used, what the character of the place is and what the positive and negative aspects of the existing public realm include.



3.1 Public Realm Strategy area

3.1.1 The focus for the strategy is the centre of Gloucester, including the historic core, areas around the train and bus stations, the Docks, and the Gate Streets. A plan showing the extent of the area is below.

This general area includes some of the most important historic sites in the city, as well as the main areas of employment and activity.

3.1.2 This central area also holds the most important redevelopment sites within Gloucester and will have a significant impact on the overall character and perception of the city. The central area also forms the anchor of the sequence of spaces from the Gate Streets, via the Docks, to Gloucester Quays.

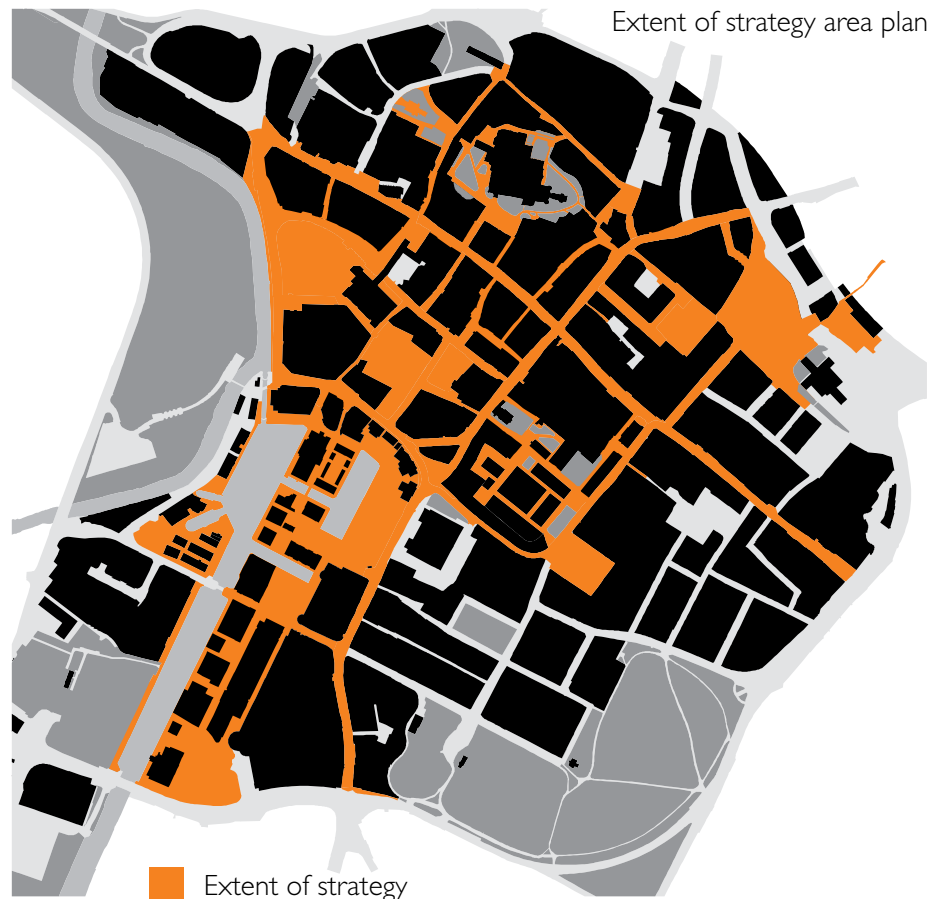
3.1.3 Further public realm recommendations and strategies are encouraged for areas outside of the central core of the city but the recommendations contained in this strategy are specific to the central area.

3.2 Historic development pattern

3.2.1 The area chosen for the focus of the strategy also relates to the historic development pattern of the city, dating back to the establishment of the original Roman city of Glevum in the late 90's AD.

3.2.2 The Roman City at Gloucester (Glevum) was established on the site of the fort around 90AD and the city walls follow exactly the layout of the earlier fortress. The fundamental principles of Gloucester's layout were established at this time, and many elements remain, over 1900 years after they were established.

3.2.3 Very little is known about the development of Gloucester immediately after the Roman period (between 410 and 700AD) and the city may have been wholly or partly abandoned during this period. But by the 8th and 9th centuries Gloucester was certainly re-established as a settlement and by the end of 10th century was an important town and fortress.



3.2.4 Following the Norman conquest the City Centre underwent a number of quite profound changes. St Peters Abbey obtained lands outside the walls – extending the Abbey Precinct to Pitt Street in the north and St Mary's Street in the West. In doing so the north-west corner of the Roman walls was removed entirely.

3.2.5 In the south west of the city the construction of a Norman' castle was followed swiftly by the creation of a large stone castle on the site of what is now the prison. For much of the medieval period the area around the castle was kept empty, hence the name 'Bearland'.

3.3 Character areas

3.3.1 There are a number of distinct character areas within the strategy area, notably formed through the distinct areas of the Cathedral and its precincts, the clear pattern and fairly continuous character of the central Gate Streets, the King's Quarter area which includes the train and bus station sites.

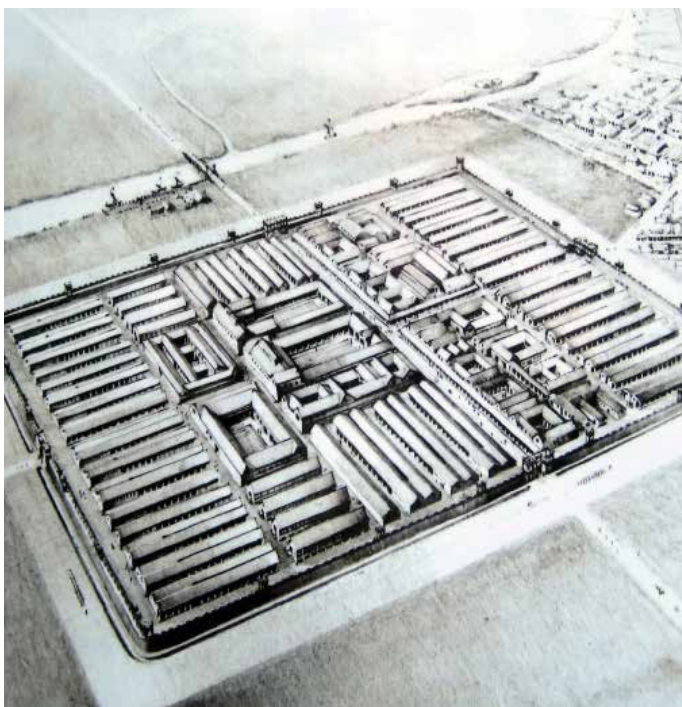
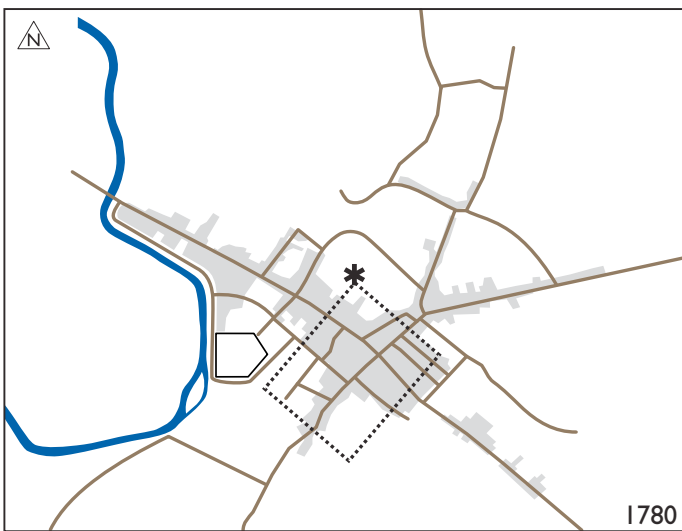
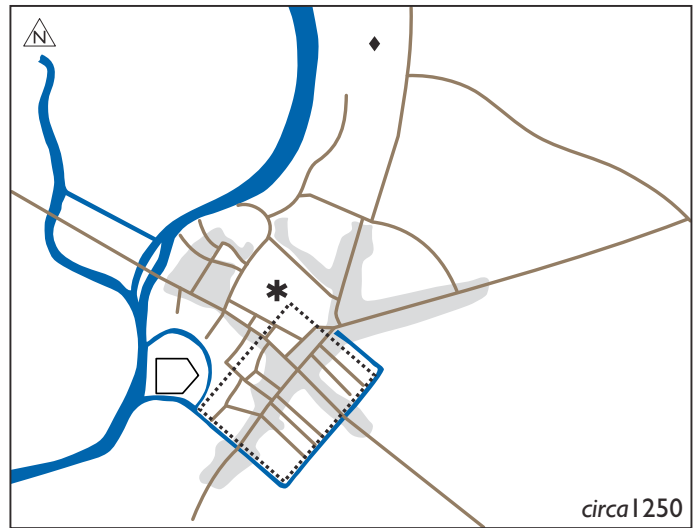
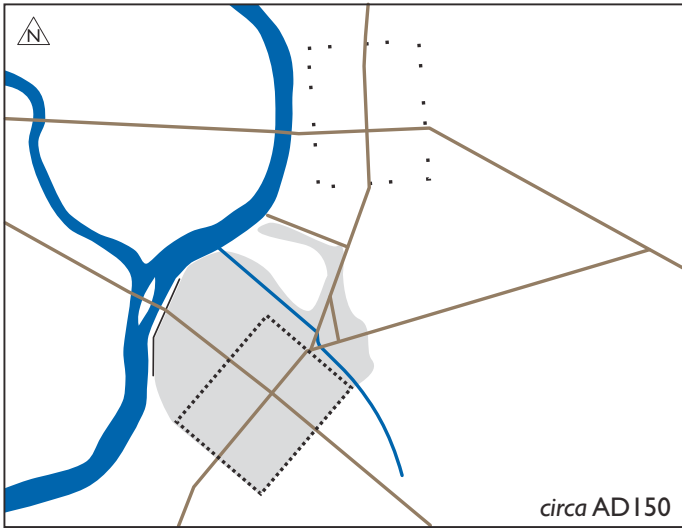
The Greater Blackfriars area is also included, which lies between the Westgate Street / Southgate Street boundary and the Docks (including the former prison site) and the Greyfriars area.

3.3.2 Areas which lie just outside the strategy area include the Docks, Quays, the Spa, Park area and St. Oswald's Park. Detailed public realm proposals which follow the general principles set out in this strategy could be extended into these areas.

3.3.3 The distinctions between character areas can be used as the basis for proposing variations in overall and detailed public realm treatments, including types of materials and carriageway widths.

This response to the local context is an important aspect of developing a style for new public realm projects which enhances and builds on the positive and distinctive aspects of the city centre.

Historic maps



Drawing by Phil Moss (1st Century Gloucester)

- Known occupied areas
- Roman Colonia
- Cathedral
- Aquaduct
- Priory
- Manor

Key Arrival Points and Car Parks



KEY ARRIVAL POINTS

- 1 Railway Station
- 2 Bus Station
- 3 Bus Stops
- 4 The Quays
- 5 Gloucestershire Royal Hospital
- 6 Asda
- 7 Go Outdoors



CAR PARKS

- 8 Southgate Moorings
- 9 Blackfriars (Barbican)
- 10 Blackfriars (Ladybellegate)
- 11 Longsmith
- 12 Westgate
- 13 Hare Lane
- 14 King's Walk
- 15 Eastgate
- 16 Train Station
- 17 Bruton Way
- 18 Hampden Way
- 19 St. Michael's Square

3.4 Arrival points

3.4.1 Arrival points into the centre of Gloucester are one of the key project areas for any regeneration or public realm improvement programme or strategy, given that these are the places which provide access into the central area and also where people will get their important first impressions of Gloucester, particularly important for visitors and for resident's daily experiences.

3.4.2 Providing efficient, appealing and highly legible arrival points, particularly regarding the major transport nodes such as train or bus stations, is one of the more important ways that any urban area can improve the overall experience of a place, for residents and visitors alike.

3.4.3 The importance placed on each transport type within this strategy broadly aligns with the following sequence, with the most important at the top. This is set out within Policy SD5 (Table SD5a - Hierarchy of Transport Modes), of the Joint Core Strategy.

1. Pedestrians and people with mobility difficulties
2. Cyclists
3. Public transport and social/community services
4. Access by commercial vehicles
5. Ultra-low emission vehicles
6. Other motorised vehicles

3.4.4 A significant proportion of the strategy area is at least partly pedestrianised and the safety and ease of movement of pedestrians should be one of the key principles.

3.4.5 The map opposite shows the various arrival points which are located either within the strategy area or which directly border the area. These are described below.

3.4.6 Train station

Located just within the eastern boundary of the strategy area, the train station provides local, regional and national connections, and is on the mainline to London. At present, the quality of the train station and its immediate surroundings is poor, with a limited physical connection across Bruton Way (the A430), towards the bus station and city centre, and an overall appearance which is cluttered

and negative. There is significant potential to create a welcoming and high quality arrival point.

3.4.7 Bus station

The existing bus station falls within the Kings Quarter redevelopment area and provides a strategic public transport link on a local and national level. The quality of the bus station is limited in terms of its appearance and functioning.

The form of the development creates an illegible link towards the city centre and the internal spaces are not overlooked by surrounding development, leading to significant security issues. A clear link between the train station, bus station and city centre is lacking at present. There are however, plans to provide a new bus station which will greatly improve the functioning and appearance of the area.

3.4.8 Car parks

The various city centre car parks form Gloucester's main non-public transport arrival points. The main public car parks are as follows.

1. Southgate Moorings
2. Blackfriars (Barbican)
3. Blackfriars (Ladybellegate Street)
4. Longsmith Street
5. Westgate Street
6. Hare Lane
7. Kingswalk Shopping Centre (off Station Road)
8. Eastgate Centre (off Brunswick Road)
9. Train Station
10. Bruton Way
11. Hampden Way car parks
12. St. Michael's Square

3.4.9 The quality and style of the car parks varies a great deal, with some being surface level areas and others being 1960's and 70's multi-storey structures. In general, the quality of the car park corresponds to its age, with most of the car parks being decades old.

3.4.10 Bus stops

The main city centre bus stops are located along Clarence Street and Lower Eastgate Street. Both of these streets have circulation issues with poor materials existing in many places. The central location of the bus stops does however, provide easy and direct access to the key city centre attractions.

3.5 Land use and activity hotspots

3.5.1 Areas of concentrated retail, office and leisure uses generally create the most significant activity levels, in the most concentrated spaces. Residential areas tend to generate high activity levels, but only at peak times of the day and in a more dispersed pattern, over wider areas.

3.5.2 Due to this trend, central areas which contain high concentrations of retail uses, such as a number of the areas within the strategy boundary, are some of the most concentrated in terms of numbers of people who use those areas, both in terms of shopping activity and as employment sites.

3.5.3 People are also drawn to areas of historic interest, such as the Gate Streets, Cathedral and the Docks. There are also numerous other tourist sites, mainly centred on the historic Gate Streets, with the Gloucester Quays Outlet centre also being a draw for visitors and residents alike..

3.5.4 The following are the major land uses within the city centre which have a direct impact on areas of public realm.

1. Eastgate Shopping Centre
2. Kingswalk Shopping Centre
3. Bus station & train station
4. GLI, Asda, Go Outdoors
5. Gloucestershire Royal Hospital
6. The Quays Shopping Centre
7. Wilkinson, Sainsbury's and Debenhams
8. Gloucester Rugby Club (Kingsholm)

3.5.5 The major land uses generate the varying activity levels which are experienced within the city centre. Areas of more concentrated activity are linked to the major land uses. Improvement projects in, around and between the activity hotspot areas will therefore make the most difference to people's experience of the centre of Gloucester and have the most impact on raising the perceived quality of the city centre.

3.5.6 The main city centre activity hotspots have been identified and this is presented in the plan opposite.

Land Use and Activity hotspots



LAND USES

- 1 Eastgate
- 2 King's Walk
- 3 Railway Station
- 4 Bus Station
- 5 GLI
- 6 Asda
- 7 Go Outdoors
- 8 Gloucestershire Royal Hospital
- 9 The Quays
- 10 Debenhams, Sainsbury's and Wilkinson
- 11 Kingsholm RFC



ACTIVITY HOTSPOTS

- 12 Railway to Bus Station
- 13 King's Square
- 14 Clarence Street
- 15 Boots Corner
- 16 Eastgate Street entrance to Eastgate Shopping Centre
- 17a&b Greyfriars Housing sites
- 18 Southgate Street entrance to Eastgate Shopping Centre
- 19 The Cross
- 20 Cathedral and Shire Hall
- 21 Area connecting Debenhams, Sainsbury's and Wilkinson
- 22 Bruton Way / Northgate Street junction
- 23 The Quays
- 24 The Docks
- 25 Kingsholm RFC

3.6 Connections

3.6.1 One of the main functions of the public realm within the centre of Gloucester is to provide routes between important destinations. Identifying and enhancing these connections between major land use and activity nodes is one of the key aspects of the strategy. The routes between activity areas not only provide access, but are also places in themselves, the quality of which is important in how the city centre is perceived and used.

3.6.2 Before the details and approaches to the design of these connections is established, it is necessary to identify the character and quality of each connection. The following is a list of strategic connections through the centre of Gloucester:

1) The Docks, via Kimbrose Triangle to the Southgate Street entrance of the Eastgate Shopping Centre and the Cross.

This route was identified as 'linkages route 1' within the LDA Design document 'Gloucester – Public Realm Links' (July, 2008).

This was one of four routes set out as in need of improvement, with the aim being greater connections between The Quays development and the city centre. The completion of the final section of this route to the Cross is a significant strategic goal.

2) Train and bus station, via Kings Square to Gate Streets.

This route is possibly the most significant within the centre, but is also dependent on the redevelopment of the train and bus stations, as well as the Kings Quarter area.

This route connects the most important historic areas of the centre, with the most significant redevelopment site and the largest activity generators. This should be considered the most strategically important connection within the centre.

3) Train and bus station, via Clarence Street, to the Kings Walk and Eastgate shopping centres. This route connects the primary arrival points with the primary activity nodes within the centre.

4) Lower Eastgate Street (GLI, Asda, Go Outdoors), via Eastgate Street shops, to Kingswalk and Eastgate shopping Centres. This route takes in major retail land uses at each end (including the GLI leisure centre), with a collection of smaller shopping units between. The quality of this link at present is poor and a public realm improvement scheme along this route would have a significant impact.

5) The Docks, via Bearland and Westgate Street, to the Cathedral. This route connects Gloucester's two most significant historic tourist attractions. This route was identified as 'route 2' under the LDA design Public Realm Links document, and also has the significant aspect of having two of Gloucester's most important redevelopment sites along its length, in the former prison site and Blackfriars.

6) The via sacra. This route, established in the 1960's, connects numerous historic tourist attractions within the city centre. This is the most popular Civic Trust tourist trail and broadly follows parts of the Roman walls. Sections 4.11 (priority public realm schemes) and 6.10 (Public Realm Strategy principles) explain this route in greater detail, along with design proposals.

7) Lower Westgate Street car park, via the cathedral to the Cross. This is one of the most significant historic connections and includes Westgate Street which holds the highest number of listed buildings of any street in Gloucester.

Connections



- 1 The Quays to the Cross
- 2 Railway Station to the Cross
- 3 Railway Station via Clarence Street to King's Walk and Eastgate Street shops
- 4 Lower Eastgate Street to King's Walk and Eastgate Centre
- 5 The Docks to the Cathedral
- 6 The Docks via the Prison to the Cathedral
- 7 Via Sacra
- 8 Westgate Street car park to the Cathedral and the Cross

3.7 Existing hard landscaping materials

3.7.1 A wide range of materials exists within the city centre, in varying states of repair. The Gloucester Quays Outlet and linkages project, including the public realm works around the Docks and Southgate Street, have all raised the quality of public areas within the city centre. Simple palettes of robust paving materials, combined with modern and simple street furniture have set a high standard.

3.7.2 The Gate Streets public realm dates back to the early 90's and is around 25 years old. While the overall style of the public realm is dated, there are more pressing practical

issues which need addressing, such as paving materials needing replacement and the need to invest in high quality public realm to match or exceed that developed by competing edge of centre destinations, notably the Gloucester Quays Outlet.

3.7.3 There are a number of key central areas of public realm which should be highlighted, which form a useful comparison to the character and quality of the Gate Streets.

These are as follows.

- Gloucester Quays Outlet and Llanthony Road
- Orchard Square (proposed)
- Docks public realm
- Southgate Street Linkages

- Cathedral (Project Pilgrim) public realm improvements (proposed)

3.7.4 The map below shows the sequence of spaces which these major public realm projects create and the large area which has (or is proposed to be) enhanced. The area between the Docks and Cathedral (including the Gate Streets, Kings Quarter and Blackfriars) form an obvious and important next step in the regeneration of the city centre, both in terms of connecting areas but also in terms of creating better places for people to live in and experience.

3.7.5 There are various materials which have been installed and proposed, generally including natural

Public Realm Projects



materials, with granite (mixed colours), Forest of Dean sandstone and Yorkstone (slabs and pavers) being the primary hard surfacing materials. Resin bound gravel and coloured tarmac appear in specific areas to meet certain functions, such as highways areas through the Southgate scheme. Street furniture incorporates a blend of grey metal, treated hardwood timber and stone.

3.7.6 A balance must be struck between the appearance of a palette of materials, their robustness and finally the overall cost.

3.7.7 The Gate Streets at present incorporate a combination of protected pavement areas of York Stone slabs to the sides of the streets, with smaller clay setts in a herringbone pattern around the middle areas (upper Westgate and Eastgate Streets), or a higher quality stone sett pattern (upper Southgate and Northgate Streets) which are more robust and allow for vehicle movements. A strip of clay or stone setts in stretcher bonds are laid between the edges and middle sections.

3.7.8 One of the positive distinctive features are the outlines of previously existing buildings, laid in black engineering brick, which are set into the paving at various points along Westgate and Eastgate Streets.

Gloucester Quays Outlet and Llanthony Road





Southgate Street / Commercial Road Linkages





Cathedral (Project Pilgrim) public realm improvements (proposed)



3.8 Street furniture and public realm audit

3.8.1 The previous section identified the various materials within each particular character area and the following section brings these points together and sets out why there is a pressing need for change within the central area.

3.8.2 Character analysis of the public realm includes taking into account every aspect of what gives a place its unique identity or character. This includes the buildings which define the areas accessible to members of the public, but in terms of the elements which are directly relevant to this strategy, it is the character and quality of the spaces between buildings which can be altered and improved.

3.8.3 Features within the public realm include items of furniture, such as benches, bollards and light columns, landscaping features, such as grassed areas and hard paving, as well as elements which aid the legibility of a place, such as signage. Highways features are also a key aspect of any area accessible to the public, with the function of each space needing to consider the movement of pedestrians, all types of vehicles and cyclists.

3.8.4 The street furniture within the public realm has a significant impact on both the functioning and appearance of a place. Too little provision can lead to a lack of basic facilities, including bike hoops, bins and seating, while an over provision can easily lead to the significant issue of street clutter, which has a visually negative impact. Street furniture is also generally provided by either Gloucester City Council or Gloucestershire County Council, which therefore means a level of control and the ability to adapt to changing requirements over large areas.

3.8.5 Before a range of new street furniture can be decided upon, the existing provision must first be analysed and considered, and conclusions be reached on the appropriateness and suitability of the furniture. Any detailed public realm scheme will have to consider if items need to be replaced, and if so, how much this would cost.

3.8.6 The process of analysing the street furniture through an audit also aids the wider analysis of the strategy area with significant implications for how the city centre operates and the way it responds to people's daily needs.

3.8.7 In considering these various points, a public realm strategy street furniture audit was carried out between July and September 2014, which identified over 340 items within the public realm, through the use of OS mapping, photographic records and state of repair evidence.

3.8.8 There were a number of key findings identified through the audit process, as follows.

1. A large variety of the same types of street furniture were identified, including at least 5 different types of bins, displaying varying colours, shapes and branding.
2. The use of a range of materials was evident, with stainless steel, painted steel, cast iron, timber and stone all being used in various places, with no overall theme.
3. The application of colours was variable, with a number of contrasting themes used, including a dark blue, black, natural timber and stainless steel.
4. The overall condition of much of the street furniture was no better than average, with much of it being dirty. Much of the furniture was identified as being rusty, with peeling paint and limited function. Numerous Westgate Street bins showed clear signs of significant base and main body rusting, with some missing doors.
5. The newly installed street furniture along Southgate Street was of a higher quality overall than existing city centre furniture but the bins were identified as being not fit for purpose and in need of replacement.
6. The signage and map panels both along the route from the Docks to the centre, and around the centre itself, are badly in need of replacement or repair. Each type suffers from damage, rusting and loss of graphics.

7. Clutter was identified as a clear issue, made even more obvious by the comparatively minimal use of furniture within the linkages scheme design. The worst areas included some of the more important locations, including the entrances to the Kingswalk and Eastgate shopping centres, and the transition points around the sites of the original city gates.

8. A number of items were not properly positioned and in some cases had been knocked by vehicles and bent over time, including bollards, signs and tree surrounds. Numbers of hanging basket holders were missing completely.

9. There was evidence of both legal and illegal signage and fly posting, which had the effect of reducing the quality of the public realm and adding to the sense of clutter.

10. The use of tarmac as a temporary or permanent paving material replacement was seen in numerous locations. This was particularly obvious around the Kimbrose Triangle / Southgate Street area where black tarmac has been used to replace coloured tarmac and high quality stone paving.

11. An oversupply of bollards was identified within the Gate Streets, which contributed to the sense of clutter.

4. Public Realm Strategy principles

In order to be able to propose appropriate improvements to Gloucester's public spaces, it is first essential to analyse and understand the way in which the public realm in Gloucester is formed and used, what the character of the place is and what the positive and negative aspects of the existing public realm include.

The following section sets out the guiding principles for the design of the public realm within Gloucester city centre.





A range of well finished drain covers



4.1 Main design principles

4.1.1 Public realm schemes within the city centre must be designed to a high standard and should be guided by the following principles.

- Create a city centre which is legible and clearly defined, based on the three distinct categories of spaces
- Low design speeds for vehicles should be established throughout the central area, to provide a safer and more pedestrian focussed environment. This is particularly important within the areas where vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians come into contact
- Streets and spaces should be designed to maximise the pedestrian domain, while also providing an environment that is pleasant to use for various activities, including walking, socialising, shopping or just sitting, and which continue to be safe and accessible at night
- Materials used within public realm projects must be high quality and suitable for the character of the area in which they are placed
- The palette of materials must be elegant and visually appealing, and should enhance the character of each area. Materials should respect the fabric of the historic streets, reinforce local identity and will be selected from a limited palette to ensure design continuity
- Materials must be robust and able to withstand a variety of uses, from heavy goods vehicles to cyclists and pedestrians, depending on the character and function of each space
- Public realm schemes must be designed with low maintenance principles, including easy and straightforward periodic maintenance
- Proposals for landscaped areas and street furniture should form a coherent palette with a clearly defined overall theme
- Any street furniture proposed must function well, be robust and visually appealing, but also compliment other elements within the public realm.

- The siting and amount of street furniture will be designed with the aim of reducing visual clutter, while also providing sufficient furniture to accommodate people's needs and to allow the proper functioning of the public realm
- Designs should accommodate the needs of people with disabilities that may affect mobility, sensory or cognitive impairment
- The design of spaces should be flexible enough to accommodate various uses both now and in the future, including shifting land uses and activity areas
- The design of paved areas close to the built form should emphasise and identify special places and buildings within the public realm such as the entrance to feature buildings, sitting areas and terraces of restaurants / cafes
- Where ground manholes and inspection chambers exist, recess tray covers (inset covers) should be used where the paving material into which they are installed is used to cover the trays, so that there is less of a visual impact.

4.2.3 It is critical to the success of any public realm project, including the strategy itself, that Gloucestershire County Council is involved in the process and supportive of the public realm strategy principles. The public realm within the strategy area must be designed and installed to a high standard, using high quality materials, which are robust and which provide for low maintenance over time.

4.2.4 It is critical that both the overall appearance of the public realm and the issues of robustness and maintenance are considered together during the design process.

4.2 Gloucestershire Highways

4.2.1 Much of the public realm within the strategy's area falls within the responsibility of Gloucestershire County Council. The majority of the streets and spaces which are not classified as Public Open Space (POS) are classified as highways and must be able to provide suitable environments for the full range of vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians.

4.2.2 There is clear guidance set out for street design at various levels, including within Manual for Streets 1 (DfT March 2007) and Manual for Streets 2 (DfT September 2010), Manual for Gloucestershire Streets 4th Edition (April 2016) and Gloucestershire County Council Enhanced Materials Policy (October 2010).

Category of spaces



■ Lanes ■ Primary streets and spaces ■ Secondary streets and spaces

4.3 Category of spaces

4.3.1 The analysis section of the strategy highlighted the way in which the historic development pattern through the Roman and Medieval periods still forms a significant part of the present city centre. The existing land uses and activity patterns also contribute to an overall model for applying any future public realm schemes.

4.3.2 There are three general categories of spaces which stand out through the analysis of the city centre and which will be used as the basis for public realm guidance.

- Lanes
- Primary streets and spaces
- Secondary streets and spaces

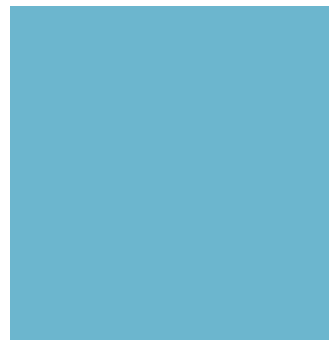
4.3.3 Each category has its own character and function and applying different treatments to each type of public realm will enhance each type's distinctive character and build a clear and legible series of spaces within the city centre.

4.4 Lanes

4.4.1 The lanes category forms the finest grain of public realm within the city centre. The majority of the lanes are well maintained and consist of good quality paving and detailing. This existing character and quality should be maintained and where necessary enhanced, following the existing style.

4.4.2 The following principles should be used to guide future public realm works projects within the lanes areas.

- A very simple materials range, limited to no more than two types
- Wall to wall paving with buildings up to the edge of paving
- Large format and smooth surface paving slabs
- Generally a central drainage channel
- Although largely traffic free, paving must be able to cope with occasional emergency vehicle use
- Keep surfaces free of clutter with very limited use of posts, lighting columns and bollards. Lighting should be fitted to buildings where possible
- Areas of surviving historic surfacing should be retained as part of any scheme
- Obstructions around narrow sections of lanes, in particular by entrances, should be moved to allow less restricted movement
- Retain existing mosaics at head of each lane.



4.5 Primary streets and spaces

4.5.1 The primary streets and spaces category is formed from the most important historic character areas within the city centre, including the Quays and Docks, the Gate Streets and the Cathedral Precincts. These distinct areas contain some of the most important spaces in the city, which have a significant impact on the perception and identity of the city itself.

4.5.2 Part of the character and quality of the Quays and Docks area is indicated in section 3.7 'Existing hard landscaping materials'. A significant part of the Quays and Docks public realm has either already been uplifted, or detailed plans drawn up. Likewise, the area around the Cathedral is due to undergo significant improvements over the next 5 years, in line with the quality and range of materials set out in this section. As such, the focus for this strategy is the Gate Streets public realm.

4.5.3 A series of bollards generally forms the edge to a fairly narrow pavement line closest to each side of the streets, where York Stone paving slabs are used to distinguish these areas from the more common central areas. No kerbs are present within the upper areas of the Gate Streets, closest to the Cross, with bollards and street furniture forming boundary lines.

4.5.4 The newly completed public realm works along the southern end of Southgate Street and Commercial Road have set a high quality standard which should generally be continued into the remaining Gate Street areas.

4.5.5 This public realm uses a combination of high quality, locally sourced natural Forest of Dean sandstone, with buff coloured tarmac to the main carriageway (where it exists), with smaller natural stone setts used in sections, depending on use. Darker edging stone provides a contrasting band separating the carriageway and the pavement, with a flat surface across the majority of the public realm, except in small kerbed sections around the junction with Southgate Street, which relates to the bus stops.

4.5.6 The following principles should be used to guide future public realm projects within the Gate Streets, building on many of the standards established in the Southgate Street and Docks projects.

- A more varied range of landscaping and street furniture to respond to the character, use and activity of each area while still forming a simple and coherent palette of materials
- Reduce clutter by simplifying landscaping and street furniture
- The focus of movement within the Gate Streets and Primary streets and spaces, should be on pedestrians, with vehicles able to access the areas but restricted to specific times of day
- Reverse the existing movement proportions within the public realm by greatly widening the pavement areas nearest the building line and reducing the carriageways. This would immediately shift the focus of the Gate Streets towards pedestrians while also protecting the cellars of historic buildings which line the Gate Streets
- Remove all non-essential street markings
- Create a series of distinct 'places' at street intersections, so that lengths of continuous, unbroken carriageway are reduced
- Loading / parking bays to be defined by small setts, which are consistent with the treatment in the Southgate Street public realm
- Use street furniture, including benches, planters/trees, light columns and bins, as a way of defining and reinforcing the edge of the main pedestrian pavements, rather than long lines of bollards
- Set out paving in a staggered pattern, in the direction of most common movement, with straight joins across the narrowest dimensions of a space.
- Higher quality Forest of Dean stone within protected pavement areas to the sides of the street,

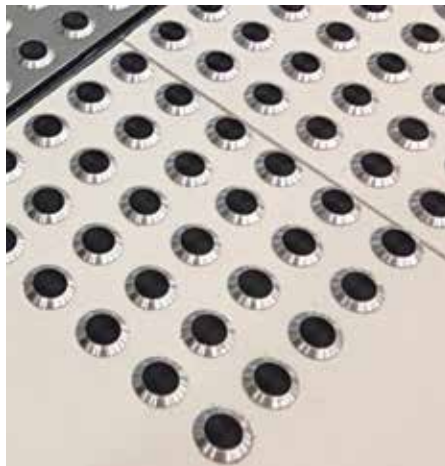
with pavers in Highway areas, with a strong edging stone between two main materials

- Granite setts or recon setts to Highways only for Upper Gate Streets, but tarmac acceptable beyond historic 'Gates'
- Much more flexibility in non-vehicle areas for higher quality paving
- Where tactile paving is required on either side of a controlled crossing over a Highway, simple metal studs should be specified, rather than single colour standard tactile slabs. Coloured metal studs can be used where greater colour contrast is required with the surrounding paving.

4.5.7 Consider the introduction of kerbs in carefully considered and limited locations, in combination with general widening of pedestrian-priority spaces.

- Kerb heights should be set to the minimum necessary to provide tactile guidance, whilst encouraging informal pedestrian crossing, such as a 40-60mm level
- Kerbs would help define street areas
- Allow some distinction of areas for visually impaired people
- Add some interest and variety to the street scene
- Provide a notional plinth upon which the various historic buildings would sit
- Provide some protection for pedestrians from vehicles
- Define a channel along which water could be drained
- Help to protect historic cellars to the fronts of properties.

Primary streets and spaces (proposed materials)



4.6 Secondary streets and spaces

4.6.1 The routes and spaces which surround the historic Gate Streets and lanes form the outer layer of public realm within the city centre and have important strategic and functional roles. These peripheral routes provide the access into the core of the centre and serve all of the major arrival points, including the bus and train stations, as well as the city centre car parks.

4.6.2 While the focus of these routes is the movement of the full range of transport types, the existing provision is heavily weighted towards vehicles of all sorts, in terms of the design of the roads and their appearance. One of the main principles of the Public Realm Strategy is to move away from standard vehicle focussed roads and towards streets which serve all types of transport types in a more balanced way.

4.6.3 The term 'streets' refers to something different from 'roads'. Roads are often interpreted or understood as routes that give precedence to motor vehicles over pedestrians and cyclists, and therefore prioritise movement over place.

4.6.4 Streets still allow movement, but they seek to provide more of a balance between pedestrian, cycle and motor vehicle movement. They also have a sense of place, in that they are locally distinctive, high quality, and they encourage social activity. This strategy promotes a move away from routes that act as roads and encourages routes that function as streets.

4.6.5 The edge of centre streets should act as a transition between the pedestrian-focussed Gate Streets and the more standard highway roads, which make up the majority of routes within the wider city.

4.6.6 Creating streets and public realm which respond to the local context is important to consider. Manual for Gloucestershire Streets (MfGS) states that, 'the NPPF and MfS place great emphasis on the benefits derived from good design and the effective context appraisal, relating a new development to the existing infrastructure. It is recommended that this process is conducted at the earliest possible

opportunity'. It is a requirement that all new public realm schemes which affect these edge of centre streets are designed taking into account the local context. The following principles should be followed.



Existing Secondary Street context



Secondary Street materials



Cairnhill pre-cast kerb, dark grey/black

- Downgrading of The Quay / Commercial Road / Southgate Street to 20 mph. This is an important strategic aspiration, as it will lead to safer streets and allow the public realm to function better for a wider range of people and transport types.
- Formal crossing points delineated with tactile paving should be positioned as close to junctions as possible, to allow pedestrians to follow desire lines along the street.
- Pedestrian crossing points across edge of centre streets are an important consideration in providing safe and easy movement. Ramped pedestrian crossings which use the same pavement material across the top, allow level access across street, which is particularly important for people with disabilities and for the movement of buggies and pushchairs
- Tactile paving must be provided on both sides of every crossing point, to make partially sighted people aware that a crossing exists. Simple metal studs should be specified, rather than single colour standard tactile slabs. Coloured metal studs can be used where greater colour contrast is required with the surrounding paving, such as either side of a controlled crossing.
- Reducing road speeds for vehicles is important to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety and to create appealing environments. This can be achieved by providing tight turning radii at junctions, providing rumble strips at crossing points and entrances to different street types (particularly into the Gate Streets) and reducing junction widths.
- An overall reduction in the width of highway space and an increase in pavement widths would help to re-balance the focus of the secondary streets away from vehicles and more towards pedestrians and cyclists. Streets which function well for all modes of transport should be the key objective.



Drivesett Tegula block paving, Pennant Grey



Tarmac, dark grey



Conservation smooth flag pavers



Forest of Dean sandstone

4.7 Summary of proposed materials

4.7.1 The following graphical matrix shows a summary of the proposed materials for the different categories of spaces. These materials are presented as a guide, with a range of specific materials available. Principles set out in sections 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 should be followed when specifying materials.

| | Lanes | Primary streets and spaces | Secondary streets and spaces | |
|--|---|--|---|----------------|
| |  |  Granite pavers - mixed greys |  Tarmac - dark grey | Highways |
| |  |  Porphyry natural stone sets |  Drivesett Tegula block paving - Pennant Grey | Unloading bays |
| |  |  Granite pavers - light grey |  Conservation Smooth Flag pavers | Channels |
| |  |  Granite blocks - dark grey/black |  Caimhill pre-cast - dark grey/black | Kerbs |
| |  |  Forest of Dean sandstone |  Forest of Dean sandstone | Pavements |
| |  |  Forest of Dean sandstone |  | Crossings |

4.8 Precedent projects

4.8.1 The recently established public realm schemes within the Quays, Docks and Southgate Street offer high quality local precedents which should be used to guide future public realm schemes within the city centre. Other suggested references are set out in this section.



Clapham Old Town, visualisation of final scheme.

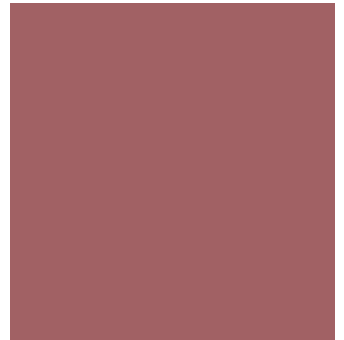
Project design by Urban Movement http://www.urbanmovement.co.uk/clapham-ot_projects_urd.html

Winner of the NLA 'Public Space' Awards 2015, the London Planning Awards 'Best New Public Space' 2015, the London Transport Awards 2015 'Excellence in Cycling & Walking', and 'Highly Commended' for the RTPI Awards 2015 in the 'Planning for the Public Realm' category



Place d'Youville, Quebec, Canada
by Claude Cormier + Associates
<http://www.claudecormier.com/en/projet/place-dyouville>

Above: Paving, Copenhagen



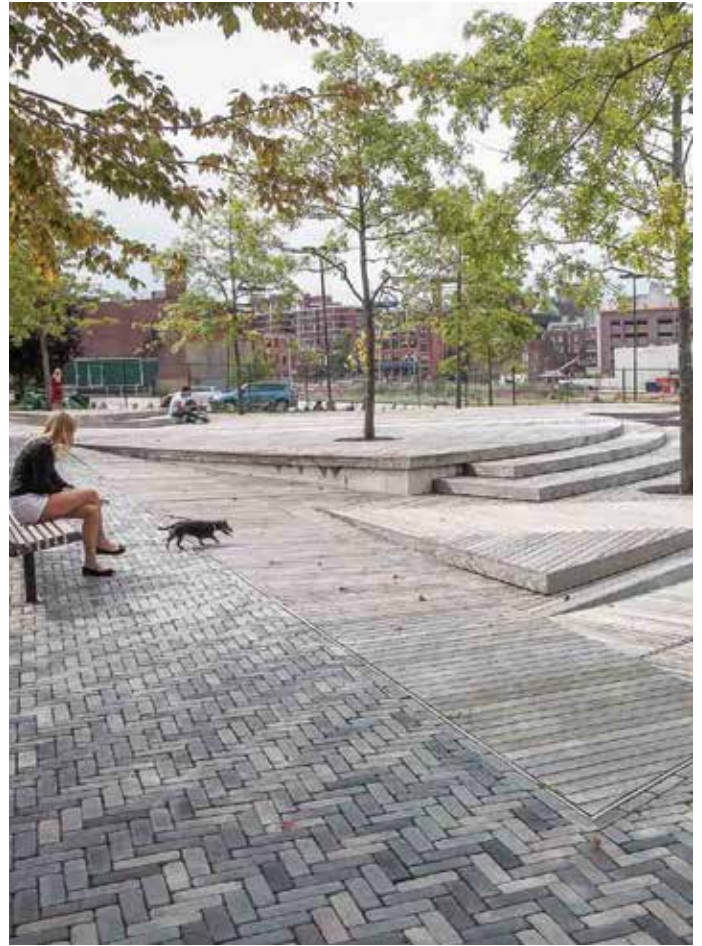
The Waterfront Promenade, Aker Brygge, Oslo (Norway) by Link Landskap

Below: Public Realm project at Stationsstraat, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium





Ribe Cathedral Square, Denmark



The Jewelry District, Providence (USA)

Below: Federation Square, Melbourne



Contrasting paving textures

4.9 Design affecting visually impaired, disabled and elderly groups

4.9.1 The public realm of Gloucester should cater for the needs of a broad cross-section of the population. The needs of visually impaired, disabled and elderly people should be taken into account when designing new areas of public realm, or when adapting existing areas.

4.9.2 The following principles should be followed.

- Maximising the area for pedestrians will benefit visually impaired and disabled
- Using clearly set out and unbroken boundary lines will help ease of movement
- Introducing an unobstructed raised kerb within the Gate Streets will improve the legibility of the public realm for partially sighted or blind pedestrians
- Using flat and smooth paving types will allow good movement to those in wheelchairs

- Rough or uneven surfaces can be difficult for wheelchair users and people with prams and pushchairs to cross, and they can create trip hazards or be confusing for blind or partially sighted people. A greater focus on maintaining and repairing damaged hard landscaping will provide safer and less obstructed routes
- Strong contrasts can make it easier for partially sighted people and colour blind people to find their way. Clear and consistent colour schemes within the landscaping and street furniture, can make it easier for everyone to understand streets and spaces
- Highway and planning authorities must comply with the Disability Equality Duty under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005. This means that in their decisions and actions, authorities are required to encourage participation by disabled persons in public life
- Consultation should be carried out with interest groups particularly at the detailed design

- stage to ensure designs meet the needs of the community
- The introduction of new street furniture should ensure that the design meets the needs of all users and is sited to ensure unimpeded routes
- Seating should be well designed and located and be provided at regular intervals
- Public lighting should be at an adequate level to help create safe routes and space for all.
- 6.9.3 For planned new public realm schemes, a disability user audit should be undertaken to identify where improvements can be made to a scheme. This should be carried out during the design stages and not once a design has been finalised, to allow for proper integration of suitable features.



4.10 The Via Sacra

4.10.1 The Via Sacra is a circular walk around the centre of Gloucester which broadly follows the line of the Roman city walls. It's route passes numerous historic landmarks and is identified by black or contrasting alternating paving. It was established in the 1960's and is now the most popular Civic Trust walking tour within the city.

4.10.2 The existing Via Sacra route crosses all of the Gate Streets at various points and is made up of varying types of paving, in a range of states of repair. Both the concept and physical marking of the route are well supported and the route forms a useful walking route which broadly reflects the historic Roman wall line.

4.10.3 However, the Via Sacra route does miss many notable historic

structures and spaces, including The Cross and the numerous historic buildings along Westgate Street.

4.10.4 The following recommendations were formed in response to the lack of a single, coherent paving style and the varying states of repair along the route (including the absence of markings in various places). Research based on precedents from other cities was also considered.

- Where possible, retain the existing cruciform pattern where materials are in good order. Examples include the route through the Kingswalk Shopping Centre and along Greyfriars Lane
- Renew existing poor quality areas of Via Sacra paving and add metallic markers set into the paving, which indicate the route. This has been used to good effect

in Norwich, and would allow the Via Sacra route to essentially overlap the existing streets without the need for wholesale repaving of entire routes, while also being fairly unobtrusive and not contributing to street clutter. A marker could be positioned at every turn in the route

- The design of the markers could be inspired by a locally distinctive feature or concept, with each plate being individually artist designed, or a series of duplicated designs
- Query the inclusion of parts of the Via Sacra route, including Kings Square and Eastgate, and consider including The cross and more of Westgate Street.



5. Street furniture

The most noticeable and functional elements of the public realm are often the street furniture, which involve a wide range of items, including benches, litter bins, bike racks, light columns and signage. The following section sets out design principles and proposals for each main type of street furniture, based on the analysis carried out within Gloucester and of precedent schemes from across the UK and Europe.



5.1 Design principles

There are a number of important principles which any type of street furniture should follow.

- The design of the street furniture should be coordinated using a limited palette of traditional materials such as stone, wood and metal. The design should have a timeless quality that is capable of accommodating future additions or changes
- Any street furniture must be robust with very low maintenance requirements, including being resistant to vandalism. Any items must be able to be treated to preserve their structure or prolong their lifetime
- Where timber is used within street furniture, a hardwood must be specified to provide a more robust and longer-lasting finish, possibly including a preservative treatment
- Street furniture must be visually appealing and not detract from the character of the area
- Furniture should function well and be fit for purpose, while meeting the needs of a cross-section of the users of the public realm, including children, elderly and disabled
- Surviving historic street furniture should be retained and refurbished where necessary, particularly the pin and needle bollards found within the Gate Streets
- Consideration should be given to grouping and locating furniture so that it responds to the uses and activity within the surrounding area. This would include placing fewer items of furniture in particularly busy areas, or leaving space to the fronts of cafes and restaurants to allow for outside seating areas
- A coordinated colour palette should be agreed, which helps to develop a unique local theme for street furniture within the city centre. This colour palette should complement the choice of materials used in hard landscaped areas, such as the greys and lighter tones of granite and sandstone paving.

- In order to reduce clutter, consideration should be given to linking items of furniture. This could involve integrating separate sign columns onto a new lighting column, or using benches, bins and light columns in place of long rows of bollards. Consolidating furniture would also lead to a clearer and simpler public realm which would enable fewer high quality items to be provided
- Although it is advisable to reduce unnecessary street clutter, consideration must be given to not reducing the essential public realm items which support the functioning of the city centre, such as appropriate seating, bins and bike racks
- Where rows of bollards are unavoidable to protect areas of high quality paving or existing cellars of older properties, consideration should be given to reducing the number of bollards and increasing the spacing between bollards. This would have a positive visual effect without removing the function of the bollards.

- Seagull proof (it has a covered top with two clear openings)
- Cigarette provision including stubber and accessible ash collector, which doesn't detract from the visual quality
- A type which can be adapted for recycling
- A contemporary form and appearance must be of a high quality
- The physical structure must be very robust, using full metal construction, including the internal liner, with a minimum 5-year guarantee
- The bin must be able to be fitted into a variety of base materials, including stone and brick, with an adjustable base being preferable
- A capacity for main bins not below 110L to provide for adequate general use
- Must have wide enough opening to accept a wide range of items.

5.2 Litter bins

5.2.1 Bins are one of the most important functional items within any city centre public realm scheme. There are a number of essential requirements which any proposed bin within the Gloucester city centre must meet.

5.2.2 Following extensive research into bin types, the OMOS s16.2 bin has emerged as one of the leading contenders, which meets all of the criteria, with a 10 year guarantee, robust construction and positive appearance. This bin type should be considered for inclusion within the Gate Streets. This bin has also recently been installed within the Royal Parks of Cambridge.



Examples of OMOS s16.2 bins

5.2.3. In addition to meeting the primary criteria for litter bins, the OMOS s l 6.2 has the following features.

- A recycling adaptation to the openings means the same bin type can be used for both recycling and general waste, which will allow better integration into street scene
- The form and appearance has a quality which means it is aesthetic but doesn't overly stand out, with a flowing curved form
- The construction is very robust with a 10-year guarantee, which is the only bin on the market to provide this level of cover. The bin is full metal construction using 10mm galvanised truck steel and aluminium top
- Fully adjustable base and fixings with robust base material allows placement in any position
- Full range of RAL colours available
- A Large capacity of 120L, which is 10L more than the standard capacity, meaning fewer bins are needed overall.

5.3 Bollards

5.3.1 There are a number of areas within the city centre where bollards are required, however bollards also contribute to street clutter and there are often other means of achieving the same functions.

- Use of bollards should be limited to areas where potential impacts on pedestrian safety exist or where vehicular impacts could damage buildings or street trees
- The use of raised kerbs, or the placement of other essential items of street furniture, should be considered as an alternative to the introduction of bollards in most cases
- Bollard design should complement other items of street furniture
- Consideration should be given to the robustness of the bollard types used, as well as the longer-term maintenance issues. A simple stainless steel bollard can present fewer maintenance issues over time and would complement

a simple palette of materials, including stone, timber and stainless steel

- A selection of the Gate Streets pin and needle bollards should be retained but where appropriate, should be reduced in number to avoid street clutter:

5.4 Bike racks and hoops

5.4.1 In order to encourage non-vehicular forms of transport, it is essential to also provide the necessary secure storage and parking facilities for bicycles within the city centre.

5.4.2 Bike racks must be located in easily accessible locations which are close to the main centre uses, such as shops and restaurants. At present, bike racks are located at the pedestrianized entrances to each of the Gate Streets, which is in line with the policy of only allowing cycle access through the Gate Streets between the hours of 10am and 5pm. This restriction is in place to reduce the conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians, in often crowded areas.

5.4.3 It is recommended that these general areas allocated for bike racks are retained as the main cycle parking areas for the Gate Streets. Additional bike racks should be installed adjacent to other major activity generators within the secondary streets and spaces, such as within Kings Square.

5.4.4 The street furniture audit found numerous issues relating to damage to existing bike racks, principally caused by the extensive use that some of the bike racks are subject to. Damage to paintwork as well as structural damage was evident.

5.4.5 Stainless steel racks would not suffer from damage to paintwork and are a robust and cost-effective solution. An alternative plain metal style could also be suitable in a different finish but any material chosen must be highly robust due to the consistent impacts from daily use.

5.4.6 Covered bike racks should also be considered in high activity areas where demand for bike parking is high. This would improve the chances that people would use these facilities and potentially lead to improved use.

Summary

- Well placed, accessible and secure bike parking facilities are essential to provide, which are close to the main city centre facilities
- Bike racks located at the pedestrianised entrances to the Gate Streets should be retained, with additional racks considered around entrances to key activity generators
- The re-painting of existing bike racks should be considered as a short-term improvement
- Introduce stainless steel bike racks as a low maintenance and robust material
- Introduce covered bike racks in areas of high activity, to encourage use.



Sheffield hoops



Edge bike shelter



Cyclehoop Ltd Public Bike Pump

5.5 Benches and seating

5.5.1 Benches are one of the essential items of street furniture that any area of public realm within the city centre should provide. Benches offer places to sit comfortably while eating or resting and provide an essential service to elderly people.

5.5.2 Good provision of benches in strategic places will enhance people's experience of the city centre and allow people to extend the time they spend there.

5.5.3 Where appropriate the design and layout of seats and benches should define and enclose spaces as well as provide seating. Simply providing rows of benches is not the best use of space and more imaginative options could encourage better use and enhance people's experiences.

5.5.4 The provision of benches within and adjacent to high activity areas must be promoted.

5.5.5 Seating can easily be incorporated into other forms of street furniture in order to simplify the number of items and reduce street clutter. Seating set within planters or surrounding street trees, can be an effective approach.

5.5.6 Seating should generally be positioned towards the edges of a street and face towards the centre of the street. This allows the best views of activity within the street. Another option is to place seating backing onto each other and facing up and down the street, thereby providing longer views. This also provides the opportunity for clusters of feature seating which define specific areas.

5.5.7 Multi-facing benches should also be considered if a more central position is chosen, to allow choices of facing positions for people and to maximise the views on offer.

5.5.8 In order to make seating areas easier to use and more comfortable, particularly considering elderly and disabled people, seating should generally incorporate backs and arm rests.

5.5.9 Seating can provide a good opportunity to provide forms of feature lighting, particularly under block style seating. This can create interesting and more defined areas of lighting and enhance the general appearance of a street scene after dark. Maintenance and robustness issues should be considered and the need to properly maintain lighting over time.

5.5.10 Materials for benches should be robust and able to withstand daily use. Metal will generally be the most appropriate material (either painted or stainless steel), with stone providing a more solid alternative. Timber should be considered within a small palette of materials and is recommended to break up the hard stone and metals and to provide a more comfortable surface. If timber is used, only a European hardwood which is FSC Certified should be specified.

Summary

- Seating should be positioned close to activity generators, such as shops, areas of open space, cafes and restaurants.
- Arranging benches to enclose spaces, or in positions other than in simple lines (such as backing onto each other), can create more options for people
- Main areas of seating should generally be positioned towards the edges of a street or space, to allow longer views across the public realm.
- Multi-directional seating should be considered if seating is positioned more towards the centre of a space, for example surrounding a feature tree
- Robust materials must be specified for benches.



Alcorque | corten bench - Lab23



Clifton hardwood bench - Woodscape



Woodscape Westbrook Circular



Hardwood and Corten Steel seat - Street Furniture Direct



Metalco timber and metal bench



Timber and metal bench, Kimbrose Triangle



Camber bench by Forms+Surfaces



Timber bench, The Lyng - West Bromwich



Mariahilferstrasse Vienna benches and paving



Streetlife Rough&Ready Topseats bench



Docks stone block seating



Woodscape Westbrook Circular

5.6 Planters and street trees

5.6.1 Street trees and planting are always popular and valued aspects of the public realm. Trees can help to soften sometimes overly hard landscapes and provide an organic contrast within urban areas. Trees also provide shelter from the elements and shade on sunny days, while also helping to limit and control atmospheric pollution.

5.6.2 At present, street trees exist at limited locations within all of the Gate Streets, often in the areas within the line of the Roman walls. Their use does compliment the very defined public realm, where the majority of buildings are located hard against the street.

5.6.3 The existing street trees should be preserved and where necessary, maintained to limit their overall size. The introduction of additional street trees should be carefully considered.

5.6.4 The following principles should be considered and followed when developing design for new public realm projects.

- The guiding principle is to provide the right tree in the right place. Inappropriate tree planting can have a negative impact in many ways
- Consider the ultimate size and shape of the tree. Will the tree frame, enhance, detract or screen a view, building, or setting? Views towards landmarks or listed buildings should be preserved
- Develop a clear rationale for why the tree is being planted
- Consider the ground and site conditions. Trees will need to cope with, and be protected from, a range of factors within the urban environment, including poor soils, pollution, drought, extremes of temperature, and underground services
- Tree characteristics, including leaf texture, size, shape, autumn colour, bark colour, flowers and fruit should be considered. Are these characteristics appropriate to the setting?

- The vast majority of tree roots grow in the top 1 to 1.5m of soils. Roots can exert direct pressure upon hard-surfacing in close proximity to the base of the tree as they grow. Tree pits can be used within hard landscapes to limit or control root growth.

5.6.5 In general, trees should be planted in the ground rather than in planters as this will help to prolong the life of the tree and aid the growing stages. Far less on-going maintenance is required for ground-planted trees, including watering during the summer months.

5.6.6 There will be occasions when it is not possible for planting to be placed in the ground, possibly due to archaeology or services, or when a less permanent solution is desired. In this case, the following criteria should be applied to the design and construction of tree planters.

- The style of planter should be urban and modern, drawing on the references from the palette of materials established for other street furniture items
- The construction of planters should generally be limited to robust materials, including concrete, stone and metal. Timber should be avoided as a priority due to its less robust finish and on-going maintenance issues
- The use of planters could be considered in place of bollards or benches and would perform the multi-function of protecting sensitive areas, providing planting and seating
- A public art theme could be incorporated into the planter design and help to form a consistent theme which would run through the various street furniture elements and landscaping.

5.6.7 Tree grilles and other furniture associated with tree planting should be carefully considered as part of the overall public realm design. These elements offer opportunities for public art or decoration, which can help to improve the interest and appearance of public spaces and streets.

5.6.8 A consistent theme should be developed based on the category of spaces set out in Section 4.3. A bespoke set of grilles could be designed to link into the branding of each specific Gate Street, which could help to distinguish each area and enhance the local character and identity of those streets.

5.6.9 In general, guidelines set out in the Trees and Design Action Group document, titled 'Trees in Hard Landscapes – A Guide for Delivery', should be followed when developing planting schemes.



Aalborg City Centre tree grille



Corten tree grille and timber bench



Corten tree surround



Maribymong City Council, Victoria (Australia) tree grille



Tripla tree grille



Streetlife conical tree tubs



Maribymong City Council, Victoria (Australia) tree grille



Streetlife Corten Shrubtubs



Metalco Dhalia corten planters



Streetlife Love Tubs

5.7 Signage and road markings

5.7.1 While some street signage forms an essential part of a properly functioning city centre, the over provision of signs can lead to confusion and clutter. Signs must only be provided if absolutely necessary.

5.7.2 Multiple signs should be placed on the same post where possible to limit the number of individual posts.

5.7.3 When designing new areas of public realm, guidance set out in Manual for Streets should be considered. A starting point of zero signage should be introduced and only introduce signage if necessary.

5.7.4 Statutory signs must give users a clear message. Limiting the number of these signs is encouraged, as this will have more impact. Providing a uniform shape and colour for the signs will aid the recognition process.

5.7.5 In general, road markings of all types should be avoided, unless absolutely necessary. For example, double yellow lines are unsightly and detract from the character of an area. Small 'no parking' signs can be used instead and fixed to existing items of street furniture to limit and control street clutter. Metal studs or a contrasting material should be used for parking bays instead of painted line markings.

5.7.6 Adshel advertising signs can have a negative impact on the functioning and appearance of the public realm. In general, these forms of signage should be removed. Where they are deemed to be absolutely necessary (or where existing contracts limit removal options), they must be positioned perpendicular to the pavement not at right angles as this blocks pedestrian flows and restricts views and desire lines.

5.7.7 The modern wayfinding map panels installed as part of the linkages project are simple and easy to understand, but display a fairly limited range of information. The quality of the finish is also very poor.

5.7.8 An updated style of map panel should be developed for the city centre which sets out clear and legible information, which integrates the Quays linkages information and which provides an indication of walking times through the area. The Bristol Legible City project could be used as the basis for a new system in Gloucester.

5.7.9 Principles for new map panels should include;

- Clear and easy to understand
- Strong structurally and hard wearing
- Must show all of the major tourist attractions and places of interest
- Must not block desire lines or visibility lines
- Must visually and stylistically relate to the Linkages map panels, to promote continuity between areas
- Should be elegant in appearance and not visually dominate the appearance of the streetscene.

5.7.10 The fingers element of the wayfinding signs are an important feature and clearly direct visitors to key city centre locations. This fingers element of the existing signage should be replicated in a similar way in any new form of city centre wayfinding signage.

5.7.11 The use of A-boards is controlled by separate guidance produced by the Licensing team within the City Council.

5.7.12 Digital signage is another method of displaying a range of content, including advertising, wayfinding and targeted local events information. Content is able to be regularly updated to reflect specific local needs, for example to alert people to festival information or when an event is being held at a local venue.

5.7.13 Due to limitations with existing display technology and the need to provide very robust outer shells, the overall depths of external digital signage units remain high. The bulkiness of these digital units, whether single or double-sided displays, must be carefully considered when assessing their impact on the character of an area, particularly within areas of significant historic interest.

5.7.14 The colour of signage in general will have an impact on how much they stand out within the streetscene. Darker colours, tend to stand out more and in general, should be avoided. Items of street furniture which have a heavy appearance and which dominate the appearance of the streetscene, should be avoided and lighter alternatives considered.

Precedent images for signage options



Bath wayfinding signage by Pearson Lloyd



Wayfinding signage in Mulhouse, France



Rivermeade Linkages wayfinding signs



Wayfinding signs, Millennium Square, Sheffield



Birmingham city centre digital signage



Reddcliffe Place, Brisbane, Australia

5.8 Lighting

5.8.1 Public realm lighting is an important element of the overall functioning of the city centre and has a significant impact on the actual and perceived safety of people. Good lighting allows the use of the public realm to be extended beyond daylight hours, particularly during the winter months.

5.8.2 The existing lighting within the city centre is predominantly based on standard Highway lighting design principles, where high lamps are mounted on columns. The public realm lighting within the Gate Streets is based on building-mounted, high-level floodlights, set at regular intervals.

5.8.3 It is recommended that lighting within the edge of centre streets follows the standard highway approach, given that this is functional and this lighting is generally in areas outside of the historic core.

5.8.4 The Gate Streets and Lanes provide a different type of public realm, generally being pedestrianised at most times, with a focus on the quality of the spaces and buildings. People experience these areas at a lower speed and it is important to provide the best experience possible.

5.8.5 The existing lighting within the Gate Streets in particular provides a very functional and even effect, which supports CCTV operations. The Gloucester Lighting Strategy (2008) sets out numerous lighting projects and design principles, with one of the suggested projects being to re-light the Gate Streets. Part of that approach would be to move from the high-level building mounted floodlights, to column based lighting.

- A 'high-low' effect could be used, where a tall lamp would provide wider area lighting, with a lower lamp providing more directed lighting. This approach has been used within the Docks public realm project along the Eastern side of Victoria Dock
- An uncluttered appearance which provides contrasting lighting effects to the pedestrian spaces, but still a fairly even effect over the highway area.

- Multi-head systems offer the opportunity to provide not just ground lighting, but feature lighting of specific items within the public realm, such as seating areas or ground paving artworks
- The existing building-mounted floodlights could be removed, leading to less intrusion onto historic or listed buildings within the conservation area
- Architectural lighting would become very easy with one lamp directed at a building of interest, without the need to fix costly and intrusive equipment to the buildings themselves. This would avoid the need for contracts with building owners and for Listed Building Consent in most cases
- Maintenance and repairs would be straightforward and limited to specific columns which are easily accessible from the public highway. Each component is easily ordered when necessary and come in energy saving LED options
- Power would be taken from the County's supply rather than multiple individual property owner's supplies, resulting in a far more efficient system
- CCTV can be incorporated into lighting columns to remove additional items of clutter
- Fixings and energy supply for Christmas lights across the Gate Streets can be incorporated into the construction of the columns with lights strung between columns, further reducing the need for multiple fixings into historic or sensitive buildings. Side decorations can also be fixed to columns which could extend the offer.

5.8.9 Lighting within benches is a further option available, which can have the benefit of producing more subtle lighting within specific areas, as well as creating or enhancing artworks or features within the streets.

5.8.10 In any situation where lighting is provided, robustness of equipment and a long lifespan is essential to reduce on-going maintenance costs and to preserve the intended effects.

5.8.11 It is recommended that any fundamental re-lighting within the Gate Streets is carried out in a holistic manner, at the same time as public realm works to minimise disruption and to lower costs.



Charlie Davidson, Sunnyside Gardens Sunderland, UK



Urbis Modullum



Budapest street lights



Pere Cabrera multi-head light column, Barcelona



Gloucester Docks public realm light columns



Woodhouse Olivio light



Sydney tunnel art lighting

5.9 Public art

5.9.1 Any area of public realm can potentially be enhanced and made more interesting through the installation of public art features. Public art is particularly good in areas where a focus is needed or where large groups of people congregate. The following can be achieved through public art.

- Create a sense of place and local distinctiveness
- Enhance the architectural and historic heritage of a place
- Develop new relationships within the community
- Inspire a creative and imaginative approach
- Improves the quality and interest within the public realm
- Helps to express local identity and cultural diversity
- Brings social and economic benefits.

5.9.2 Public art can take many forms, including paving features, street furniture, planting, enhanced materials or building-mounted forms, including the design of cladding or sculptures.

5.9.3 In general, public art which has a connection to the local people or area is best and in addition to trained artists, this can involve community groups, college students and members of the public in the design process. For example, the stone wave bench sculpture at the cross by Peter Yarwood illustrates the Severn Boar which periodically runs up the River Severn.

5.9.4 The 2006 document 'A Place for Art – A Public Art Strategy for Central Gloucester' (by Ginkgo Projects Ltd), should be used to guide the provision of public art within the Public Realm Strategy area. This strategy document highlighted the historic city gates as potential areas for public artworks and sets out management strategies for the existing artworks.

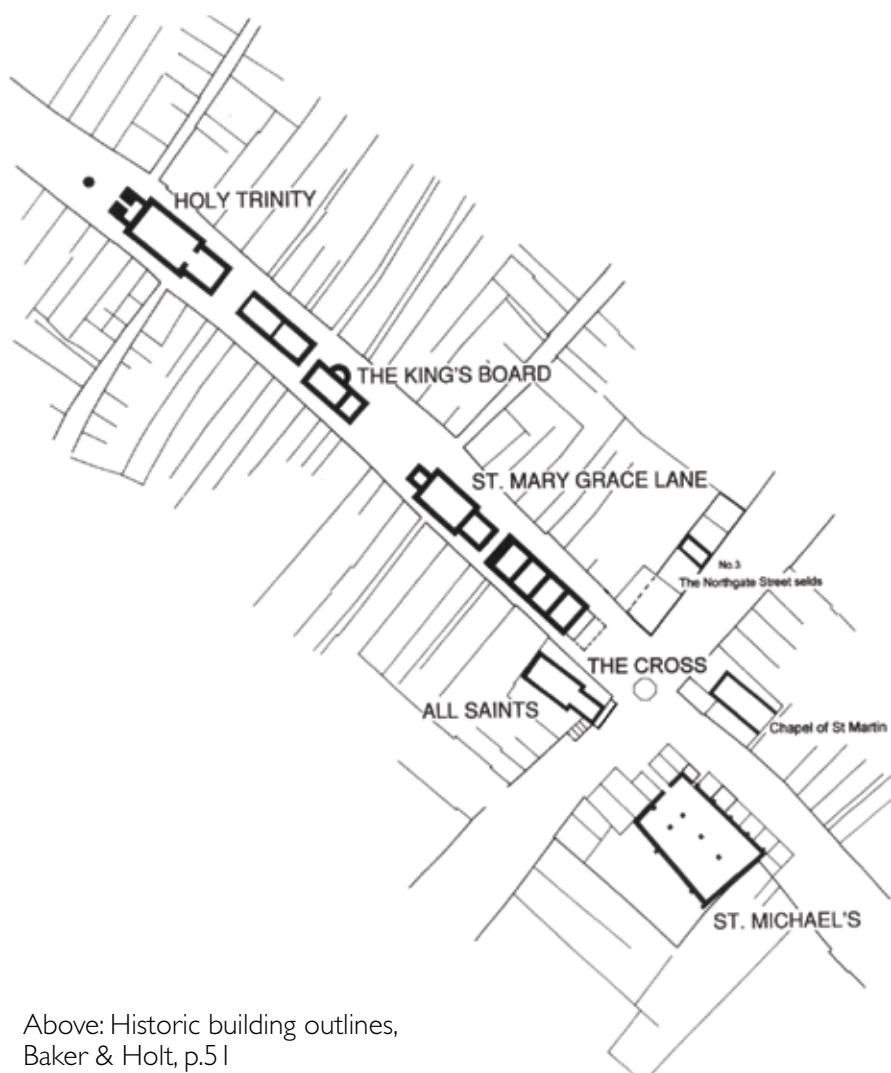
5.9.5 One of the more interesting but often overlooked public artworks

within the Gate Streets is the series of building outlines along Westgate and Eastgate Streets. These outlines, formed in black engineering brick, show the locations of historic buildings which stood within these streets, which is a real link to the history of the place.

- It is recommended that these features are retained within any new public realm works project
- The existing form of the outlines needs reviewing to help the feature stand out more
- Coloured metal strips could be used for the outlines, against a lighter paving background to increase the contrast between colours and materials
- Alternating colours, from bright yellow, through orange and red down the street, could draw further attention to these features
- The use of textured materials could be appropriate.

5.9.6 A series of recently reconstructed mosaics are set into the ground at the head of each lane off Westgate Street and older mosaics along Northgate and Southgate Streets. These broadly illustrate the types of historic activities which were carried out within each of the specific lanes or buildings. Each of the new mosaics is set within a metal tray which should allow them to be temporarily removed during any public realm works. These mosaics should be retained within any new public realm project.

5.9.7 Some form of artistic branding of the Gate Streets using artist designed decorative signs could be an interesting way of signifying each streets' identity and character, possibly linking into an individual theme for each. Brass plaques at the entrance to each Gate Street could also be a positive addition.



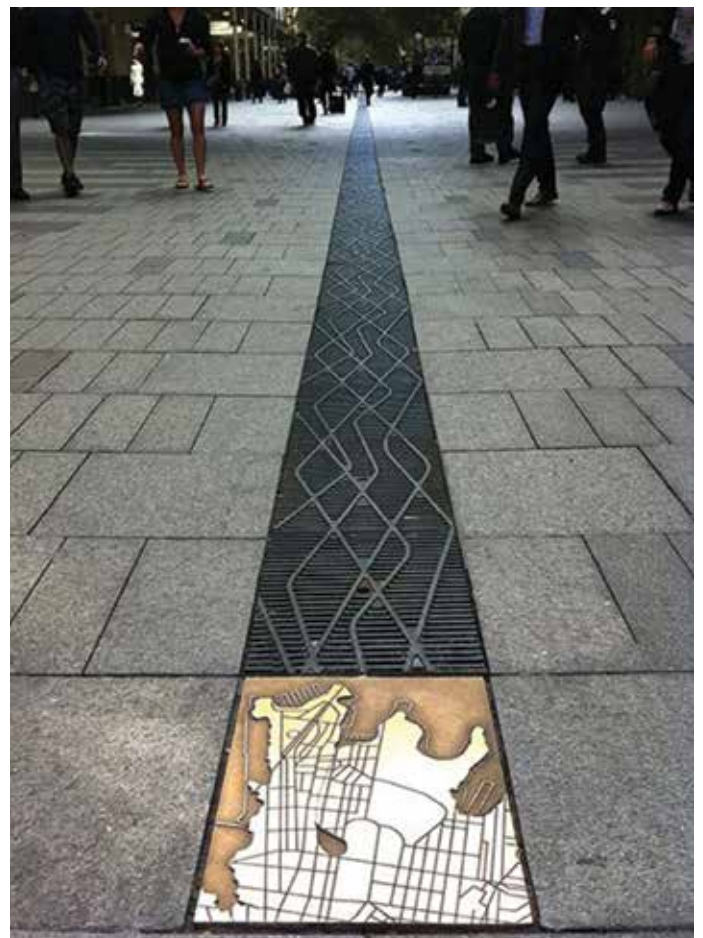
Above: Historic building outlines, Baker & Holt, p.51



Paving and Corten marker, Arminza, Spain



Landscaping and paving detail, Place d'Youville, Quebec, Canada by Claude Cormier + Associes



Pitt Street Mall, Sydney



Colourful pigeons by artist Patrick Murphy, Walker Gallery, Liverpool



Coda range of artistic street furniture, by Woodhouse and Alex Lifshutz



Berlin Wall paving marker



Paving directional tile



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