



Shire Hall  
Westgate Street  
Gloucester  
GL1 2TG

Wednesday, 16 September 2020

## TO EACH MEMBER OF GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the **CITY OF GLOUCESTER** to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on **Thursday, 24th September 2020** at **6.30 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

## AGENDA

### VIEWING ARRANGEMENTS FOR REMOTE MEETINGS

View the meeting here: <https://bit.ly/2FCERui>

The meeting is being broadcast live using Microsoft Teams. We recommend that you install the Microsoft Teams app on your device for the best viewing experience. If viewing via a web browser, please note that this is not possible if using Safari; instead please download the Microsoft Teams app or the Microsoft Edge browser.

Further advice on accessing meetings through Teams, is available here:  
<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Attend-a-live-event-in-Teams-a1c7b989-ebb1-4479-b750-c86c9bc98d84>

### 1. **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

### 2. **MINUTES (Pages 11 - 28)**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 July 2020.

### 3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

#### 4. **CALL OVER**

- (a) Call over (Item 9) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the items for discussion.
- (b) To approve the recommendations of those reports which have not been reserved for discussion.

#### 5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)**

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

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

*If you would like to ask a question at this meeting, please contact [democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk) as soon as possible and by Monday 21 September 2020 at the latest.*

#### 6. **PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)**

A period not exceeding three minutes is allowed for the presentation of a petition or deputation provided that no such petition or deputation is in relation to:

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

*If you would like to present a deputation or petition at this meeting, please contact [democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk) as soon as possible and by Monday 21 September 2020 at the latest.*

#### 7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive announcements from:

- a) The Mayor
- b) Leader of the Council
- c) Members of the Cabinet
- d) Chairs of Committees
- e) Head of Paid Service

## 8. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

### a) Leader and Cabinet Members' Question Time (30 minutes)

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

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

Only one supplementary question is allowed per question.

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

## ISSUES FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL

### 9. APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL (Pages 29 - 32)

Report of the Corporate Director concerning the appointment of members to the Independent Remuneration Panel.

## MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

### 10. NOTICES OF MOTION

#### 1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON

"That this council welcomes the establishment of the City Centre Commission under the chairmanship of the Dean of Gloucester.

The changing nature of town and city centres shows how important the City Centre Commission will be in creating the ideas that can be implemented to breath life back into our city centre.

We need to make Gloucester's historic centre a place for businesses to thrive, local shops to trade, great attractions to encourage visitors to enjoy, with wonderful places to eat and stay; and finally a city centre where many people live and work.

We encourage the City Centre Commission to use its remit to come forward with imaginative proposals that can be taken forward to fruition."

## **2. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR D. BROWN**

“This council agrees that the cycling infrastructure within the city of Gloucester could be improved to encourage far more journeys to be taken on two wheels.

This council agrees to work with the county council to improve cycling infrastructure in Gloucester.

This council requests that the appropriate cabinet member prepares a report on the current cycling infrastructure within the city boundaries, to include recommendations on how this infrastructure could be better interconnected and improved to make cycling a more popular mode of transport.”

## **3. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR COOK**

“This council awaits, the Government’s white paper on potential Local Government reorganisation in the autumn and maintains an open mind as to the implications for this Council and Gloucester residents.

This Council believes that Local Government reorganisation at this time will deflect attention from the immediate priorities of recovery after the Covid pandemic, and therefore should not be considered further at this stage. Should the status quo not be possible, this Council requests that the reorganisation will include all levels of local representation including Parish/Town Councils and serious consideration is given to the establishment of area committees to ensure equal local representation across all current district areas.

The Council commits to:

- consulting widely with a broad cross-section of Gloucester residents and businesses, and community, faith, sporting and voluntary groups once further information on any local government reorganisation proposals are known
- supporting Council staff through any reorganisation process which may occur in the future
- continuing with Group Leaders briefings and working in a cross-party manner
- ensuring that the focus of this Council shall remain on the delivery of services and post Covid-19 recovery
- discussing any local government reorganisation options with leadership, from the other five districts, the county council, and the Gloucester MP Richard Graham
- Preserving the City’s historic and ancient civic offices of Sheriff and Mayor and the traditions which accompany them.”

#### **4. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON**

“This council notes that J Sainsbury PLC has announced the closure of its popular city centre store on Northgate Street.

This council notes that this wonderful supermarket has been serving customers for nearly half a century.

This council agrees that it should do all it can to stop the supermarket’s closure by persuading J Sainsbury PLC to keep it open.”

#### **5. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR STEPHENS**

“Council notes that local government has played a crucial role in combatting the Covid-19 pandemic, supporting local communities and will have a vital role to play in monitoring and containing the virus, restoring public confidence and reinvigorating our local economies as we move forward.

Council further notes that the cost of dealing with Covid-19 has placed an intolerable strain on local government finances. The Institute for Financial Studies (IFS) has estimated that councils will be left with a £2 billion funding gap this year. Councillor Richard Watts, Chair of the Local Government Association’s Resources Board has estimated that the funding shortfall could be at least as high as £6 billion.

The CEO of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) has warned that: “...a financial tsunami of reduced income and increased cost is heading in councils’ way. While it’s vital that our health service is given everything it needs to fight this disease, we must not forget the crucial role of services like public health, social care and all community services.”

In Gloucester we are forecasting a shortfall in funding this year more than £500,000. Our budget in future years will be constrained by predicted reductions in business rates, lost council tax income, lost income from commercial property and increased costs. Unfortunately, Government has stated that it will not reimburse councils for lost commercial income.

Council believes that it is vitally important that we are properly financed to be able to deal effectively with this unprecedented crisis and provide adequate support and services for our communities.

Cancellation of local authority debt would significantly reduce the burden on local authorities releasing around £4.5 billion extra a year, this would enable councils to begin to stabilise and grow their services in line with social needs. In Gloucester we currently pay over £1.5 million per annum in interest payments to service our debt to the PWLB.

Council resolves to:

1. Make representations to the Government and City MP that we should be fully

- reimbursed (as promised) for all the costs of dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic including loss of commercial income.
2. Support the national campaign for the cancellation of local authority debt to the Public Works Loans Board and call on the Government and City MP to support this.”

## **6. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR PULLEN**

“Council recognises that both GL1 – Gloucester Leisure Centre and the Oxstalls Tennis Centre are a vital part of the City’s leisure and sporting infrastructure and make a significant contribution to the health and well-being of many Gloucester residents.

Council further notes that Aspire Trust has experienced serious financial problems due to lockdown during the Covid-19 pandemic. The impact of Covid-19 and in particular social distancing measures mean that capacity at both venues has been greatly reduced and it is therefore likely that a comprehensive support package will need to be put in place to support Aspire over the coming months to ensure its survival.

Council resolves:

1. To pledge its ongoing support to Aspire Trust to ensure that both GL1 and Oxstalls Tennis Centre remain open and continue to serve the needs of Gloucester people.
2. To continue to have regular dialogue with the Trust and its Board so that we are fully informed as to any problems the Trust may be experiencing.
3. At an appropriate time a report be produced and considered by the Council’s Cabinet setting out the current and forecast financial recovery position and detailing if needed a package of support measures, including financial support that may be required to ensure Aspire remains a profitable concern.”

## **7. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR COOLE**

“This Council

- Notes that 2020 is the 25th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which saw over 8,000 Muslim men and boys killed by Serbian nationalist forces.
- Notes that in 2009 the European Parliament passed a resolution that 11 July should be recognised as the day of commemoration of the Srebrenica genocide all over the EU; and in 2015 urged the development of educational and cultural programmes that promote an understanding of the causes of such atrocities and raise awareness about the need to nurture peace and to promote human rights and interfaith tolerance. All UK political parties have supported the work of Remembering Srebrenica in this regard.

- Applauds the work of those involved in the pursuit of justice for the victims and their surviving relatives, including the International Commission of Missing People (ICMP) and the Mothers of Srebrenica, whose courage and humility in the face of unthinkable horror is an inspiration to us all.
- Commends the work of the charity, Remembering Srebrenica, in raising awareness of this tragic and preventable genocide and working in communities across Britain to help them learn the lessons of Srebrenica.

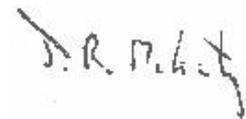
This Council resolves to

- Support Srebrenica memorial events in July each year throughout Gloucester as part of the UK-wide Remembering Srebrenica Memorial Week.
- Support the work of Remembering Srebrenica in communities across Gloucester to learn the lessons from Srebrenica to tackle hatred and intolerance to help build a better, safer and more cohesive society for everyone.
- Support the work of schools and education providers to bring the lessons of Srebrenica to young people across Gloucester.”

**11. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Pages 33 - 38)**

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

Yours sincerely



**Jon McGinty**  
**Managing Director**

## 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](http://www.gloucester.gov.uk) and are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

For enquiries about Gloucester City Council’s meetings please contact Democratic Services, 01452 396126, [democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk](mailto: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 Mayor aware before the meeting starts.

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**COUNCIL**

**MEETING** : Thursday, 9th July 2020

**PRESENT** : Cllrs. Haigh (Mayor), Lugg (Sheriff & Deputy Mayor), Cook, H. Norman, Gravells, Melvin, Morgan, Watkins, Hilton, Stephens, Tracey, Hanman, Lewis, Wilson, Bhaimia, Williams, D. Brown, Organ, Dee, Taylor, Field, Hansdot, Finnegan, Patel, Toleman, D. Norman, Pullen, Hampson, Brooker, Brazil, J. Brown, Coole, Hyman, Ryall, Walford and Bowkett

**Others in Attendance**

Managing Director  
Corporate Director, Partnerships  
Corporate Director, Transformation  
Head of Communities  
Head of Cultural Services  
Head of Place  
Head of Policy and Resources  
Solicitor (One Legal)  
Policy and Governance Manager  
Democratic and Electoral Services Team Leader

**APOLOGIES** : Cllrs. Derbyshire

**10. MINUTES**

10.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

**11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

11.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**12. CALL OVER**

12.1 The Mayor invited Members to indicate whether they wished to reserve agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 for discussion. Members indicated that they wished to reserve items 9 and 11 for discussion.

12.2 Councillor Cook (Leader of the Council) moved and Councillor H Norman (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded that the Governance

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Arrangements for the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee, the Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee 2019-20 and the Appointments to Committees be approved.

12.3 **RESOLVED that:** - Governance Arrangements for the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee be approved.

12.4 **RESOLVED that:** - The Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee 2019-20 be approved.

12.5 **RESOLVED that:** - Appointments to Committees be approved.

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

13.1 Richard Ford asked the following question of the Leader of the Council:

Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 states :-

“If a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority “

No such approval in accordance with s85(1) was made by Gloucester City Council within the requisite time frame and therefore Councillor Lee Hawthorne was automatically excluded from the Council by statute on 10th January 2020.

Please could the Leader of the Council therefore confirm that in accordance with s12(1) of the Scheme of Members' Allowances with regard to overpayments to Councillors former Councillor Hawthorne will be contacted and asked to repay any allowances erroneously paid to him in respect of the period since he was automatically excluded from the Council on 10th January 2020?

13.2 Councillor Cook stated that it was wrong to conclude that former Councillor Hawthorne's absence from the council was not permitted by a lawful leave of absence granted by the Council.

Mr Hawthorne's leave of absence was considered and approved by this council in November 2019, well before the expiry of the statutory sixth month period.

The resolution passed by the council did not restrict the leave of absence to matters relating to the payment of allowances.

The council was asked to approve a leave of absence for a period of up to six months.

The council was aware of the circumstances which prompted the request, and the council approved that absence.

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During that period after, Mr Hawthorne resigned his seat and left the council. The vacant seat would remain vacant because it was not possible to conduct a by-election at present because of the national regulations introduced as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic and the suspension of local government elections.

- 13.3 Jon Ellis asked, via telephone, when the Council was going to review its mowing regimes in the city. The 20 day cycle appears unsustainable in a city that seeks an increase its biodiversity. The current regimes need to be replaced with more sensitive and cost effective ones which leave wider verges and more areas for wildlife to flourish.
- 13.4 Councillor Cook advised that the Council had, for a number of years, carried out management regimes on open spaces to improve biodiversity. He stated that there was an annual haycut with a 'tidy up' operation conducted in the autumn. He suggested that there would always been a difference of opinion between people on a subjective matter of appearance of green space.
- 13.5 Deborah Hill asked the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods: As a member of Gloucester City Council and former Chairman of Marketing Gloucester Ltd would you have expected to have been included as a Stakeholder in any Internal Audit work and associated report on Marketing Gloucester Ltd undertaken by Gloucester City Council (as 100% shareholder in Marketing Gloucester Ltd.)?
- 13.6 Councillor Watkins apologised that Ms Hill had had poor experiences with MGL. During her time as Chair, there was no audit report for Councillor Watkins to consider. Had there been, she would have ensured she was aware of the contents of the report and she confirmed that the former Chair was aware of the 2017 internal audit report.
- 13.7 Bob Newby asked: Given that the choice of Hempsted Meadows as the site for a COVID Testing Station displaced up to 100 micro-businesses, risking their bankruptcy, and deprived up to 1,000 buying customers of their chosen place to shop, please explain why it was decided that it was the best location and what other locations were considered?
- 13.8 Councillor Cook stated that he was not aware that other sites were considered. He advised that the NHS had identified the site through consultation with the County Council. Previous to the establishment of the Hempsted site, there had been a testing facility in Brockworth for NHS workers. Other key workers had to go to Worcester or Bristol. A temporary station was initiated at Plock Court but, following an increase in demand, the NHS identified Hempsted Meadows as a viable site to increase testing capacity.
- 13.9 A question from Steve Gower was provided in advance and was read out on his behalf:

Following a recent FOI request to the question:

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Q. Please can you tell me the number of people on the DO NOT rehouse list as on 11/06/2020 used by our emergency homeless call centre (EDT)

A. The Council does not record these figures.

Will the council acknowledge that it is the councils housing officers that contribute information to the list, for what purpose are these lists used and why doesn't council keep a record of them?

13.10 Councillor Watkins confirmed that the Council did not have a 'Do not rehouse' as there was a duty to provide assistance to those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

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

14.1 Councillor Hilton raised a petition signed by residents of Green Pippin Close regarding issues pertaining to the footpaths joining it to Barnwood Road and Windfall Way. Councillor Cook advised that he would liaise with Councillor Hilton to examine what action might be necessary.

**15. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Mayor**

15.1 The Mayor announced that a ceremony would take place at 11am on Friday 10 July 2020 at North Warehouse to mark 25 years since the genocide at Srebrenica. The flag would be flown at half mast.

15.2 The Mayor announced that a certificate had been prepared for Councillor Lugg to mark her being a Councillor for twenty years and invited Members to share their thoughts on her achievement.

Councillor Stephens expressed that he was delighted that Councillor Lugg's long service had been recognized and that she had made an important contribution to the City through both her time as a ward Councillor and her holding Civic Office.

Councillor Lewis stated that Councillor Lugg was a great advocate for the people of Gloucester and expressed the thanks of the Conservative Group.

Councillor Hilton conveyed the congratulations of the Liberal Democrat Group and that it had been a pleasure to have worked with her on the Board of Gloucestershire Airport. He also thanked Councillor Lugg for staying on as a Councillor during the COVID-19 pandemic when she had intended to stand down from her role.

Councillor Gravells thanked Councillor Lugg for her work when Secretary of the National Sherriff's Association.

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Councillor Lugg thanked Members for their good wishes and thanked the Mayor in advance of the delivery of the certificate marking her long service.

- 15.3 The Mayor announced that Paul James had stood down as a Councillor. Councillor Cook noted that Paul James was first elected in 2002 as one of two Conservatives and had been Leader of the Council from 2007 until late 2019. He stated that he was sure that Mr James would always have a fondness for both the City and the Council.

Councillor Stephens stated that, while he and Mr James had numerous political differences, Mr James made an important contribution as a major force in driving the regeneration of the City and would be missed by his constituents. Councillor Stephens conveyed the thanks of the Labour Group for his work and their best wishes for the future.

**Members of the Cabinet**

- 15.4 The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Recovery, Councillor Melvin, brought to Members' attention the newly initiated, 'Monster Hero Safari Trail' and that there were numerous locations for families to discover the stories of the monster superheroes. She stated that she hoped this would bring more people to the City's high streets.
- 15.5 The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure, Councillor Morgan, informed Members that there had been a meeting of the culture and visitor economy action group and that there had been a lengthy discussion on the need to support local business. He invited Members to support local businesses in recovering from the current pandemic.

Councillor Morgan announced that the Music Works project had been offered funding of £1m from the Arts Council as a consequence of the Council's support. He also announced that £200k had been awarded to Music Works and the Culture Trust from the Disabled Facilities Grant fund in order to install a lift in Kings House where Music Works was to be situated on the top floor.

Councillor Morgan brought to Members' attention the launch of the Gloucester Good to Go digital campaign which was important for the promotion of Gloucester businesses.

- 15.6 Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy, Councillor Gravells, stated that he had been working with the South West branch of the Royal Institute of British Architects and that Gloucester had been invited to showcase their recent work at an online conference on 30 July 2020.

**16. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME**

- 16.1 Councillor Stephens asked if the relevant Cabinet Member could update Members of the forecasted financial deficit over the year and if there were any plans for an emergency budget in the autumn to reset the budget.

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- 16.2 The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, Councillor H. Norman advised that the latest delta return would be circulated to group leaders. She further advised that both the s. 151 officer and herself believed there was no requirement to hold an emergency budget but that the right to hold one was reserved should it be necessary.
- 16.3 In response to a question from Councillor Stephens regarding whether a failure by central government to fully reimburse costs incurred in response to the COVID-19 pandemic would represent an act of bad faith, Councillor H. Norman stated that the Council had spent what it needed to and that the support that central government had actioned over recent months was unprecedented in its scale.
- 16.4 Councillor Hilton asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor Cook, why a Cabinet Member is quoted in the media in representations of what he termed good news and an officer is quoted in articles regarding what he termed bad news. Councillor Cook advised that he does not have operational involvement in the Council's communications work and that it was possible that Councillor Hilton was being selective in his reading of coverage.
- 16.5 Councillor Stephens noted that flytipping represented a great cost to the Council and asked if Councillor Cook agreed that the Council needed to be more proactive and, for example, use powers at its disposal under environmental protection law. Councillor Cook advised that officers were already working in Councillor Stephens ward to address this issue and that it was possible a Community Protection Notice could be issued. He further advised that the Council was working with residents in the first instance and that he was fully committed to improving the City's outdoor space.
- 16.6 In response to a question from Councillor Hilton in respect of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's recommendations regarding the options appraisal for the Waste, Streetcare and Ground Maintenance contract, Councillor Cook advised that Cabinet intended to accept the recommendations at it would not present a large additional cost to investigate bring the services 'in house'.
- 16.7 Councillor Hilton asked whether there would be an enhancement in the streetcare provision when a new contract was entered into. Councillor Cook stated that this would likely require additional costs and that this cost would have to come from elsewhere. He invited Councillor Hilton to suggest where this money could come from.
- 16.8 In respect of a question from Councillor Hyman regarding whether there would be any changes to community funding such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau and the Gloucester Law Centre, the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods, Councillor Watkins, advised that there were no planned changes.
- 16.9 Councillor Field noted the good work done by the athletics club at Blackbridge and that young and disabled people would require toilet facilities. He asked Councillor Morgan if he supported this. Councillor

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Morgan agreed that it was an essential part of the experience and that there was no reason why anyone would oppose it.

- 16.10 Councillor Wilson asked what discussions had taken place at the Cabinet away day in respect of a 'worst case scenario' regarding monies being reimbursed by central government for spending related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Councillor H. Norman replied that all Cabinet Members were examining their budgets and what projects could be postponed. She advised that this did not include changing staffing levels. Councillor H. Norman also stated, in response to Councillor Wilson's supplementary question, that she did not believe that the Council was at the point of having to choose between statutory and non-statutory services.
- 16.11 Councillor Morgan, in response to a question from Councillor Hampson as to what support would be given to the Aspire Trust, stated that he was aware of the difficulties that faced the leisure sector and that he would be continuing discussions with them despite there being no request for help at present. Councillor Cook advised that a letter would be sent by South West Councils to the government regarding providing funding for the leisure industry.
- 16.12 Councillor Coole asked Councillor Melvin if she had had any discussions with businesses and stakeholders regarding how the Council could support the recently announced 'Eat Out to Help Out' scheme. Councillor Melvin advised that there were continual discussions and that officers were working with the relevant venues to which the scheme applied.
- 16.13 Councillor Hampson asked Councillor Watkins if she was aware that there was an acute shortage of bespoke housing support for veterans, particularly for those with mental health issues such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. He also asked if officers had relevant training. Councillor Watkins replied that she was aware and relevant information had been passed to the housing team.

**17. COUNCIL PLAN EXTENSION – PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS FOR 2020/21**

- 17.1 Councillor Cook moved and Councillor Watkins seconded the motion.
- 17.2 Councillor Cook outlined the recommendations and informed Members that its purpose was to continue projects already in progress as well initiate new ones. He highlighted some of the higher priority projects including the delivery of new homes, the establishment of a climate change strategy as well as a social value policy and the delivery of a successful festival and events programme. Councillor Cook also indicated that he would be amenable to discussing accepting parts of the amendment tabled by Councillor Hilton.
- 17.3 Councillor Hilton moved and Councillor Field seconded the following amendment:

**Add these three clauses**

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- Start and finish a stock condition survey to determine the number of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) in the following wards, which are most affected by such conversions namely, Kingsholm & Wotton, Barton & Tredworth, Moreland and Westgate. The purpose to gather data to consider introducing an Article 4 Direction to require planning permission for the conversions of family homes into HMOs for six persons or less.
- Implement the council's unanimous decision to approve the motion to acquire 67/69 London Road for a housing regeneration project as approved unanimously by members on 21st May 2018.
- Work with Gloucestershire County Council to improve facilities in Gloucester for pedestrians and cyclists, with the aim of encouraging a modal shift towards active travel, namely cycling and walking.

**Change these clauses to read**

3. Develop sustainable programme for Kings Square, and improved coordination of a low- carbon impact festivals and events programme across the City **that is diverse, inclusive and innovative.**
4. Seek clarity on the process and timescales for City of Culture, **but accept the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which agreed overwhelmingly that no further work should be carried out on a bid during the life of this council.** ~~and explore whether future candidate city status would complement and help drive the City's wider ambitions for culture, events and festivals, history and heritage, social and capital investment, digital and climate action.~~

17.4 Councillor Stephens moved and Councillor Pullen seconded the following amendment to the amendment tabled by Councillor Hilton:

- Start and finish a stock condition survey to determine the number of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) in the following wards, which are most affected by such conversions namely, Kingsholm & Wotton, Barton & Tredworth, Moreland and Westgate. The purpose to gather data to consider introducing an Article 4 Direction to require planning permission for the conversions of family homes into HMOs for six persons or less.
- ~~Implement the council's unanimous decision to approve the motion to acquire 67/69 London Road for a housing regeneration project as approved unanimously by members on 21st May 2018.~~  
**Reaffirms the Council's commitment to the redevelopment of 67 – 69 London Road for a housing regeneration project as listed in the draft City Plan. It further commits to:**
  - i) Obtaining an independent valuation as to the site value
  - ii) Seek Counsel's opinion as to the likely success of any application for a Compulsory Purchase Order to secure the site; and
  - iii) The likely cost of any such order
  - iv) That the above be presented to Cabinet as soon as is practicably possible

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- Work with Gloucestershire County Council to improve facilities in Gloucester for pedestrians and cyclists, with the aim of encouraging a modal shift towards active travel, namely cycling and walking.

**Change these clauses to read**

5. Develop sustainable programme for Kings Square, and improved coordination of a low- carbon impact festivals and events programme across the City that is diverse, inclusive and innovative.
6. Seek clarity on the process and timescales for City of Culture, but ~~accept the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which agreed overwhelmingly that~~ no further work should be carried out on a bid during the life of this council.

17.5 Councillor Hilton accepted the amendment to the amendment.

17.6 Councillor Hilton stated his belief that research should be done to examine the possibility of needing permission for any conversions of properties to Homes in Multiple Occupation. He further stated that the part of amendment in relation to acquiring 67-69 London Road was a request that this be revisited. Councillor Hilton also drew to Members' attention that local authorities had been awarded £250m to improve the take up of walking and cycling and that this should be reflected in the Council Plan.

17.7 Councillor Field expressed his thanks to Councillor Morgan for the invitation to join the cultural committee and that it was positive to have cross party representation alongside Councillor Hampson. With regard to the potential City of Culture bid, he stated that he had spoken with colleagues elsewhere who had been involved in successful bids. Following these discussions, he suggested the priority should be establishing a good programme of events and then perhaps consider a bid.

17.8 Councillor Cook stated that he did not accept the amendment in its entirety but would accept:

- Work with Gloucestershire County Council to improve facilities in Gloucester for pedestrians and cyclists, with the aim of encouraging a modal shift towards active travel, namely cycling and walking.

AND

5. Develop sustainable programme for Kings Square, and improved coordination of a low- carbon impact festivals and events programme across the City that is diverse, inclusive and innovative.

17.9 Councillor Gravells stated, in relation to the bringing forward the count of HMOs, that a count had always been planned for 2021 and that the budget to do it now was not there.

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- 17.10 With regard to 67-69 London Road, Councillor Cook noted that the motion to which Councillor Hilton had referred asked for the acquisition to be considered which had been done.
- 17.11 Councillor Morgan stated that he was opposed to the amendment regarding a City of Culture bid and that there were no plans to use significant amounts of officer time. He stated that if the Council's partners in the culture sector believed that Gloucester would not consider a bid at all, it may adversely affect organising an appealing cultural offer.
- 17.12 Councillor Stephens suggested that background work be conducted for a City of Culture bid to examine the best way forward. He stated that Members had been told that if there was not cross party support there would not be a bid. He further stated that such support did not currently exist and, as such, a bid should not be progressed.
- 17.13 In summing up, Councillor Cook stated that there would be costs for seeking Counsel's opinion in relation to examining the prospect of success in a Compulsory Purchase Order application. With regard to the City of Culture amendment, he stated that if the Council were to rule out a bid entirely, it may dissuade potential funders from supporting Gloucester's festival and events offer.

- 17.14 The following part of the amendment was put to the vote and was lost:

*Start and finish a stock condition survey to determine the number of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) in the following wards, which are most affected by such conversions namely, Kingsholm & Wotton, Barton & Tredworth, Moreland and Westgate. The purpose to gather data to consider introducing an Article 4 Direction to require planning permission for the conversions of family homes into HMOs for six persons or less.*

- 17.15 The following part to the amendment was put to the vote and was lost:

*Reaffirms the Council's commitment to the redevelopment of 67 – 69 London Road for a housing regeneration project as listed in the draft City Plan. It further commits to:*

- i) Obtaining an independent valuation as to the site value*
- ii) Seek Counsel's opinion as to the likely success of any application for a Compulsory Purchase Order to secure the site; and*
- iii) The likely cost of any such order*
- iv) That the above be presented to Cabinet as soon as is practicably possible*

- 17.16 The following part to the amendment was voted on and was lost:

*Seek clarity on the process and timescales for City of Culture, but ~~accept the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which agreed overwhelmingly that no further work should be carried out on a bid during the life of this council.~~*

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17.17 Councillor Stephens moved and Councillor Coole seconded the following amendment:

Priority 3 (13) in the Council Plan Extension Priorities for 2020/21 be amended to read: “work with partners to improve the health and wellbeing of our population, in particular through the development of the Blackbridge site **and other community initiatives.**”

17.18 Councillor Cook stated that he did not accept the amendment.

17.19 The amendment was put to the vote and was lost.

17.20 **RESOLVED that:-** the one year extension to the Council Plan and the priorities and actions outlined in Appendix A as amended to add: •

*Work with Gloucestershire County Council to improve facilities in Gloucester for pedestrians and cyclists, with the aim of encouraging a modal shift towards active travel, namely cycling and walking.*

AND

*Develop sustainable programme for Kings Square, and improved coordination of a low- carbon impact festivals and events programme across the City that is diverse, inclusive and innovative.*  
be approved.

**18. GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE ECONOMIC GROWTH JOINT COMMITTEE**

18.1 **RESOLVED that:** - Governance Arrangements for the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee be approved.

**19. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2019-20**

19.1 Councillor Coole moved and Councillor Ryall seconded the motion. Councillor Coole stated that it was an honour to Chair the Committee for a unexpected further year, the May 2020 elections having been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

19.2 Councillor Coole thanked all Members of the Committee, particularly Councillor Ryall and Vice-Chair and Councillor Lewis as Spokesperson. They also stated how pleased they were to have Councillor Tracey back on the Committee as she brought a great deal of experience.

19.3 Councillor Coole outlined that since lockdown, they had been meeting with colleagues across the country and they reported that Gloucester is very well regarded for excellent and innovative scrutiny. They provided a summary of the work of the Committee over the course of the year and that the

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Committee had identified the culture portfolio as a priority for the year ahead. Councillor Coole advised that the Committee would be looking forward in terms of marketing the City in the future as well as examining COVID recovery plans in some detail.

- 19.4 Councillor Ryall praised the collegiately of the scrutiny process and the collaborative work with the Cabinet.
- 19.5 Councillor Lewis stated that Councillor Coole had developed the Committee into a real critical friend and that whilst some recommendations had been controversial, the culture had been very positive.
- 19.6 **RESOLVED that:-** the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2019-20 be noted.

**20. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 2019-20**

- 20.1 **RESOLVED that:** - The Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee 2019-20 be approved.

**21. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

- 21.1 **RESOLVED that:** - Appointments to Committees be approved.

**22. NOTICES OF MOTION**

- 22.1 Councillor Hilton moved and Councillor Stephens seconded the following motion:

“This council records its thanks to everyone that has helped during the coronavirus pandemic, be they council staff, those working in the NHS or the care sector and the many volunteers who helped others within our close-knit communities.

This council agrees that Gloucester must retain and encourage the continued development of the volunteer-led community support system that worked so well to help many people in Gloucester during the lockdown, including the homeless, those living in poverty and the vulnerable.

We also agree that we should make sure that this diverse support system is able to assist in the event of a second wave of Covid-19 infections should it happen in Gloucestershire within the next few months.”

- 22.2 The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

- 22.3 **RESOLVED that:-**

This council records its thanks to everyone that has helped during the coronavirus pandemic, be they council staff, those working in the NHS or the care sector and the many volunteers who helped others within our close-knit communities.

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This council agrees that Gloucester must retain and encourage the continued development of the volunteer-led community support system that worked so well to help many people in Gloucester during the lockdown, including the homeless, those living in poverty and the vulnerable.

We also agree that we should make sure that this diverse support system is able to assist in the event of a second wave of Covid-19 infections should it happen in Gloucestershire within the next few months.”

22.4 Councillor Hansdot moved and Councillor Coole seconded the following motion:

“Council is appalled by and condemns the recent killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, America.

Council recognises and supports the ‘Black Lives Matter’ campaign and its efforts to raise awareness of racial inequality and institutionalised racism within the United Kingdom.

Council notes that black people in the United Kingdom are:

- 8 x more likely to be stopped as part of ‘stop and search laws’ than white people
- More likely to be in low paid jobs or unemployed
- More likely to live in poor housing conditions
- Less likely to have good educational opportunities
- More likely to die from the COVID-19 pandemic

Council is committed to tackling racial discrimination and working with our BAME community to address issues of racial discrimination.

This includes undertaking a review of all statues/ monuments/ plaques within the City that celebrate the lives of those who profited greatly from the slave trade/ plantation ownership.

Council resolves to:

1. Write to the American Ambassador on behalf of the City setting out our deep concerns and condemnation at the killing of George Floyd
2. Set up a Commission with partner organisations in the City including the Police & Crime Commissioner, County Council, NHS and representatives of BAME community to review race relations in Gloucester with a view to producing recommendations to improve the lives of and enhance opportunities for BAME communities within the City
3. Undertake a review of all monuments, statues and plaques within the City connected with the slave trade/ plantation

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ownership with a view to renaming or removing them as appropriate

4. The above review to include Bakers Quay and Phillpotts Warehouse. Both Samuel Baker and Thomas Phillpotts were heavily involved in and much of their wealth was generated by the slave trade/ plantation ownership.”

22.5 Councillor Patel moved and Councillor Gravells to following amendment:

“Council is appalled by and condemns the recent killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, America.

Council recognises and supports the ‘Black Lives Matter’ ~~campaign and its~~ efforts to raise awareness of racial inequality and institutionalised racism within the United Kingdom, **however deplores any violence and damage in the name of the campaign.**

Council notes that black people in the United Kingdom are:

- 8 x more likely to be stopped as part of ‘stop and search laws’ than white people
- More likely to be in low paid jobs or unemployed
- More likely to live in poor housing conditions
- Less likely to have good educational opportunities
- More likely to die from the COVID-19 pandemic

Council **recognises that whilst we have generally good community relations in the City, and these are reinforced by our cross party equalities working group we remain** is committed to tackling racial discrimination and working with our BAME community to address issues of racial discrimination.

~~This includes undertaking a review of all statues/ monuments/ plaques within the City that celebrate the lives of those who profited greatly from the slave trade/ plantation ownership.~~

Council resolves to:

1. Write to the American Ambassador on behalf of the City setting out our deep concerns and condemnation at the killing of George Floyd
2. Set up a Commission with partner organisations in the City including the Police & Crime Commissioner, County Council, NHS, **the Civic Trust** and representatives of BAME community to review race relations in Gloucester with a view to producing recommendations to improve the lives of and enhance opportunities for BAME communities within the City.
3. Undertake a review of all monuments, statues and plaques **including Bakers Quay** within the City connected with the slave trade/ plantation ownership **and for Cabinet and Scrutiny to consider its**

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**recommendations, taking advice from the Commission, and further resolves to review the way in which the contribution of minority communities is presented as part of the City's history, including at the Museum of Gloucester ~~renaming or removing them as appropriate.~~**

~~4. The above review to include Bakers Quay and Phillpotts Warehouse. Both Samuel Baker and Thomas Phillpotts were heavily involved in and much of their wealth was generated by the slave trade/ plantation ownership."~~

22.6 Councillor Hansdot accepted the amendment which became the substantive motion.

22.7 The motion was voted on and was carried.

22.8 **RESOLVED that:-**

Council is appalled by and condemns the recent killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, America.

Council recognises and supports the 'Black Lives Matter' efforts to raise awareness of racial inequality and institutionalised racism within the United Kingdom, however deplors any violence and damage in the name of the campaign.

Council notes that black people in the United Kingdom are:

- 8 x more likely to be stopped as part of 'stop and search laws' than white people
- More likely to be in low paid jobs or unemployed
- More likely to live in poor housing conditions
- Less likely to have good educational opportunities
- More likely to die from the COVID-19 pandemic

Council recognises that whilst we have generally good community relations in the City, and these are reinforced by our cross party equalities working group we remain committed to tackling racial discrimination and working with our BAME community to address issues of racial discrimination.

Council resolves to:

1. Write to the American Ambassador on behalf of the City setting out our deep concerns and condemnation at the killing of George Floyd
2. Set up a Commission with partner organisations in the City including the Police & Crime Commissioner, County Council, NHS, the Civic Trust and representatives of BAME community to review race relations in Gloucester with a view to producing recommendations to improve the lives of and enhance opportunities for BAME communities within the City.

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3. Undertake a review of all monuments, statues and plaques including Bakers Quay within the City connected with the slave trade/ plantation ownership and for Cabinet and Scrutiny to consider its recommendations, taking advice from the Commission, and further resolves to review the way in which the contribution of minority communities is presented as part of the City's history, including at the Museum of Gloucester.

22.9 Councillor Stephens moved and Councillor Pullen seconded the following motion:

“Council notes that the COVID-19 pandemic has presented many serious challenges both in terms of resources and particularly pressure on the Council’s finances due to increased expenditure and loss of income.

As at the end May 2020 Council has:

- Spent an additional £1.312 million directly on COVID-19 related expenditure
- Estimated lost income from collection fund of £1.4 million (£900,000 business rates and £500,000 council tax)
- Estimated lost income from sales, fees, and charges of £2.2 million
- Estimated lost income from property (commercial rents etc) of £730,000

To date Council has received £1.355 million from government to cover additional costs.

Total estimated lost income is £4.3 million. Council expects to recover £900,000 of lost income leaving a total shortfall of £3.4 million.

If we are to avoid further cuts to services/ redundancies it is vital that government reimburses Council fully for additional expenditure and lost income due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Council resolves to:

1. Support the Local Government Association in its campaign to ensure local government is fully reimbursed for additional expenditure and loss of income due to COVID-19
2. Seek the support of the City MP in lobbying central government in support of the Council’s demands

Instruct the Leader of the Council to write to Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government in support of our claim.”

22.10 The motion was put to the vote and carried.

22.11 **RESOLVED that:-**

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Council notes that the COVID-19 pandemic has presented many serious challenges both in terms of resources and particularly pressure on the Council's finances due to increased expenditure and loss of income.

As at the end May 2020 Council has:

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If we are to avoid further cuts to services/ redundancies it is vital that government reimburses Council fully for additional expenditure and lost income due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Council resolves to:

1. Support the Local Government Association in its campaign to ensure local government is fully reimbursed for additional expenditure and loss of income due to COVID-19
2. Seek the support of the City MP in lobbying central government in support of the Council's demands
3. Instruct the Leader of the Council to write to Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government in support of our claim."

**23. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS**

23.1 In respect of question 10, Councillor Ryall asked of the Cabinet Member for Resources on what basis would it be determined whether the use of the Gloucester Old Boys RFC was or was not causing issues. Councillor H. Norman advised that she would speak with the asset management team to find out what criteria would be applied and that ward councillors' input would be useful.

23.2 With regard to the questions regarding allotments (11,12 and 13), Councillor Field asked what measures were being considered to increase future supply of allotments. Councillor Cook replied that the opportunity to extend provision at Netheridge Farm was being considered. It was unclear how many could be accommodated but discussions were ongoing.

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- 23.3 Councillor Field asked, in respect of mitigating climate change as referred to in question 14, whether, instead of the Prime Minister's call for the country to, 'Build, Build, Build' as a central theme of the Covid recovery, it would be preferable to, 'Plant, Plant, Plant.' Councillor Cook noted the upcoming distribution of 300 for each Member to plant in their ward. He encouraged Members to start planting the trees as soon as possible,
- 23.4 With regard to question 21, Councillor Field expressed concern that some who were using the City's parks were not taking hygiene precautions and asked if there was anything that could be done to encourage precautions to be taken. Councillor Cook noted that there were signs advising such in play areas and social media was being deployed to encourage this. He further noted that residents did need to take personal responsibility to protect them and others from the spread of Covid.
- 23.5 In relation to question 24, Councillor Hilton clarified that he was the nominated substitute for Councillor Bowkett on the Economic Recovery Task Force.

**Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours  
Time of conclusion: 9.50 pm hours**

**Chair**



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>24 September 2020</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Appointment of the Independent Remuneration Panel</b>		
<b>Report Of:</b>	<b>Corporate Director</b>		
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Budget/Policy Framework:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Tanya Davies, Policy and Governance Manager</b>		
	<b>Email: tanya.davies@gloucester.gov.uk</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>39-6125</b>
<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>None</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the appointment of a new Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).

**2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 Council is asked to **RESOLVE** that the following be appointed to the Independent Remuneration Panel for a period of three years:

Mrs Wynn Bartlett  
 Mr Chris Markley  
 Mr Graham Russell.

**3.0 Background and Key Issues**

3.1 Council is required, under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 and the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 to appoint an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council on a Scheme of Members' Allowances for adoption.

3.2 The Regulations specify that there must be at least three panel members and the guidance suggests that, as far as possible, the make-up of the panel should be representative of the diversity of the communities in the local authority area.

3.3 In Autumn 2019 a joint recruitment exercise was undertaken with Stroud District Council (SDC) to take advantage of a wider pool of applicants, with the intention that each council would appoint its own panel off the back of the joint recruitment, rather than appoint a joint panel. Following this exercise, both Councils appointed Mrs Wynn Bartlett, Mr Stewart Dove and Mr Graham Russell to their panel in November 2019.

- 3.4 A review of allowances did not take place in 2019, and instead the council relied on the provision within the scheme for an annual increase in line with the local government staff pay award, as permitted under the Regulations for a period of four years from the date the annual index was approved.
- 3.5 In February 2020 Group Leaders were informed that Mr Stewart Dove had resigned from the panel due to increased professional workload and the vacant position continued to be advertised; the council thanks Mr Dove for his service. The vacant position was advertised and an application was received in July 2020 from Mr Chris Markley, who was subsequently interviewed and assessed by the current panel members and the Policy and Governance Manager as suitable for the role. Information from Mr Markley's application was then circulated to Group Leaders with a request for any objections to be highlighted.
- 3.6 As no objections were received, it is recommended that the Mr Markley be appointed to the panel for a period of three years, along with the two existing panel members to bring their service into line. SDC will also be formally considering appointing Mr Markley to their panel.
- 3.7 A brief summary of the experience of each of the three proposed panel members is included below:
- Existing Member - Mrs Bartlett has an extensive background in education and voluntary work within Gloucester.
  - Existing Member - Mr Russell has an extensive local authority background as a previous Head of Democratic Services and is an experienced Chair of IRPs across the South West.
  - New Member - Mr Markley has a military background and has worked as a military inspector/auditor of public funded allowances.

#### **4.0 Social Value Considerations**

- 4.1 It is important that the make-up of the panel is representative of the diversity of the communities in the local authority area and applications from all sectors of the community have been encouraged for this important role.

#### **5.0 Environmental Implications**

- 5.1 There are no environmental implications.

#### **6.0 Alternative Options Considered**

- 6.1 There are no alternative options.

#### **7.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 7.1 The Council is required to have regard to the recommendations of an IRP when agreeing a Scheme of Allowances and therefore must appoint a panel.

#### **8.0 Future Work and Conclusions**

- 8.1 A minor review was due to take place in autumn 2020; however, as the current scheme is indexed to the local staff pay award for a period of four years, there is no

requirement to bring forward a recommendation from the panel unless specific changes are being pursued. In consultation with Group Leaders, it has been agreed that no changes be pursued at this time and therefore, the current scheme will apply unamended for the 2021-22 financial year, and the index will be applied to the scheme as and when it is agreed.

8.2 Consideration will be given to commencing a minor review in autumn 2021 for the 2022-23 scheme.

8.3 In line with the four-yearly cycle, the next detailed review is scheduled to report to Council in January 2023.

## **9.0 Financial Implications**

9.1 There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations in the report as the Panel will be appointed on a voluntary basis.

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

## **10.0 Legal Implications**

10.1 The legal implications are detailed in the body of the report.

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

## **11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications**

11.1 There are no risks associated with the recommendations.

## **12.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA):**

12.1 While the importance of appointing a representative Panel has been identified, the PIA Screening Stage was completed and did not identify any potential or actual negative impact in respect of the specific recommendations within this report because the roles are open to all prospective applicants; therefore a full PIA was not required.

## **13.0 Community Safety Implications**

13.1 There are no community safety implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

## **14.0 Staffing and Trade Union Implications**

14.1 There are no Staffing and Trade Union implications arising out of the recommendations in this report.

**Background Documents:** None

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Paragraph 12.02 of Part 4 of the Rules of Procedure contained within the City Council's Constitution provides that a Member of the Council may submit a written question to any Cabinet Member.

This document informs Members of Council of written questions put to Cabinet Members and written replies thereto.

**Council is recommended to RESOLVE to note the written questions submitted and corresponding responses.**

No.	Question from/to	Question
1.	From Councillor Coole to the Leader of the Council	Will the Leader of the Council give an undertaking to work with the Members for Matson, Robinswood and White City, to put in place effective governance arrangements for Saintbridge Recreation Ground, land held in charity trust for which the Council is the sole trustee, and ensure that the Council as the trustee is meeting its statutory obligations?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	The Council runs the Saintbridge Recreation Ground for recreation purposes as part of its adopted Open Space Strategy and in the execution of its normal duties. It has no intention in the near future to put in place additional governance arrangements in relation to the management of this particular asset. Should the situation change, and were the Council to be approached in relation to the disposal and/or redevelopment of the site, I would ensure that Ward Members were fully and closely consulted.	
2.	From Councillor Coole to the Leader of the Council	Other than Saintbridge Recreation Ground, is Gloucester City Council a trustee for any other pieces of charity land in the city, and if so, which land?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	As a result of a search of the Council's land terrier records the only other land where GCC are the Trustees that has come to light is the 'Hempsted Recreation Ground' which is under the Frederick William Corey Trust, however, this doesn't appear to be registered with the Charity Commission.	
3.	From Councillor Haigh to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods	Will the Cabinet Member give a breakdown of instances of anti social behaviour incidents reported by type, location and by week since the beginning of lockdown? How many were outside the PSPO area, how many were breaches of the PSPO and how many were other categories?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	<i>Will the Cabinet Member give a breakdown of instances of anti-social behaviour incidents reported by type, location and by week since the beginning of lockdown?</i>	

Solace

Total: 23/03/2020 – 30/07/2020 = 15 new cases opened for Solace on our case management system for Gloucester (NB – existing cases already recorded on our case management system prior to this date will also have had continued work/actions/court time/breaches processed during the period of lockdown 23/03/20 – 30/07/20. The figure given is the new cases which have been opened during the date periods specified).

Type of cases:

Neighbour issues: 7

Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) relating to visitors to an address: 2

Organised Crime Group: 2

Referral on to another agency/advice: 3

Closure order: 1

Location of cases:

Barton and Treadworth: 4

Tuffley: 1

Matson: 1

Linden: 1

Kingsway: 1

Abbeymead: 2

Quedgeley: 3

Kingsholm: 1

Unknown: 1 (case was advisory only)

Dates cases received: please see table below:

24/07/2020; 24/07/2020; 10/07/2020; 23/07/2020; 03/07/2020; 11/06/2020;  
22/05/2020

18/05/2020; 30/04/2020; 27/04/2020; 22/04/2020; 14/04/2020; 09/04/2020;  
09/04/2020;

01/04/2020

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)work extra information:

City Protection Officers (CPO):

Month 2020	Street Drinkers Interactions	Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents
March	184	83
April	426	78
May	396	86
June	295	85

Reports for March, April, May and June (during lockdown) will show some of the ASB reported, however its not divided into specific types or locations. CPOs work the gate streets, within the BID

area so all the figures centre around the Gate Streets, Docks and Quays. In addition, there were issues due to ASB in the areas around the Central Hotel and New County Hotel during lockdown.

	<p>Gloucester Neighbourhood Policing Team</p> <p>have been undertaking the advice/moving on/education/removal of open alcohol during lockdown. The figures below are for July alone (NB this is mainly due to prior to this the work was continuing, but the focus understandably was on Covid-19 related work).</p> <p>In July 2020, the breakdown of work undertaken by the Neighbourhood Policing team in the London Road area is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 43 patrols/visits/presence in the area</li> <li>o No one seen drinking alcohol in the no alcohol PSPO area: 18</li> <li>o Alcohol removed: 7</li> <li>o Other crime/enforcement necessary: 3</li> <li>o Advice on the PSPO (no alcohol removed): 7</li> <li>o Patrol whilst on duty of the area to be a presence e.g. whilst working on night-time economy policing/CCTV work: 8</li> </ul> <p>How many were outside the PSPO area? Not all were not linked to either PSPO's or not always reported by specific area.</p> <p>How many were breaches of the PSPO? Not all were not linked to either PSPO's or not always reported by specific area.</p> <p>How many were other categories? All were other categories as expanded on above.</p>	
4.	From Councillor Haigh to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods	How many times has the Community Trigger been used in Gloucester in the last 12 months?
<p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>Community triggers for Gloucester July 2019-July 2020 = 3</p> <p>All met the trigger threshold.</p> <p>Please note that not all trigger requests meet the threshold for a trigger to take place. For example, in the last 5 years for all the districts in Gloucestershire (minus the Cotswolds as they run their own), there were 23 trigger requests, but only 4 met the threshold for a trigger conference to take place.</p>		
5.	From Councillor Haigh to the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery and Growth	How many inspections of premises for inspection and enforcement of the Gambling Act have taken place in the last 12 months. Was any action taken?
<p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>There have been no inspections of Gambling premises in the last 12 months, however we have been chasing outstanding annual fees in the office. In terms of enforcement action one premises had been referred by Sundry Debtors to Dukes Bailiffs and subsequently paid two outstanding fees of £700 each.</p>		
6.	From Councillor Haigh to the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery and Growth	Under the new powers that Councils have to shut down premises and events to prevent the spread of Covid-19 what procedures are in place for members of the public to make reports and have them acted upon out of office hours?

	<b>Response:</b>	
	Social distancing (Covid secure related matters) complaints are referred to Community Wellbeing for any action. All premises are required to conduct a Risk Assessment and this should be made available on a request from an authorised Officer. Recently Gloucestershire County Council (not City) have been given the powers to close businesses under Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No.3) Regulations 2020 which came into force on 18th July, legal services are considering how this will be applied. Out of hours calls are logged and passed on to the team on the following business day, responses would be made as appropriate. Community Wellbeing are carrying out proactive Covid secure visits at licensed premises liaising with the Police providing advice and guidance as necessary, also we have powers to close businesses under the Health and Safety at Work Act. This is a bit long winded as we would serve an improvement notice and this carries a 21-day compliance time scale, if this is not complied with, court action could follow.	
7.	From Councillor Coole to the Leader of the Council	Does the Leader agree that it is important to follow the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and Local Government association, that states where a Local Authority is responsible for land as a charity trustee (and the relationship is therefore governed by the Charities Act 2011 rather than the Local Government Act 1972) that “the management of the charity should be kept separate, as far as possible, from the business of the Local Authority” and that any finances or assets related to the charity must be accounted for separately and channelled through discrete cost centres? <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/351608/council_as_charity_trustee_overview.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/351608/council_as_charity_trustee_overview.pdf</a>
	<b>Response:</b>	
	Legal advice has been received in respect of the Council’s duties where it is a trustee. Trust meetings will be held separately from Council meetings. Charity assets are noted as such in the appropriate records. Not all charities have capital or generate an income, but where they do, the duty to ring-fence is recognised and the finances separately identified.	
8.	From Councillor Coole to the Leader of the Council	Does the Leader agree that is important to follow the Charity Commission and LGA guidance in reference to Councils as charity trustees where it states that “ongoing management (of the charity) may be delegated to officers, responsibility for decision making and oversight rests with councillors” and will he ensure these arrangements, separate from our duty as Local Authority, are in place for the two pieces of charity land currently identified in the City?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	Legal advice has been received in respect of the Council’s duties where it is a trustee. Trust meetings will be held separately from Council meetings.	
9.	From Councillor Coole to the Leader of the Council	Will the Leader register with the Charity Commission, any charitable trusts for which Gloucester City Council is responsible as a trustee that currently remain unregistered?

	<b>Response:</b>	
	Certain charities are not registrable. In particular, the Charity Commission will not register charities with an income of less than £5,000 per annum.	
10.	From Councillor Haigh to the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery and Growth	Following on from the response to question 6, if members of the public are concerned that social distancing is being breached out of hours what steps should they take to ensure this is investigated and acted upon urgently?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	Social Distancing measures vary, and are dependent on situation and the types precautions in place, for example wearing a mask allows for less distancing, such as shopping in supermarkets. It is best for any one concerned about inadequate precautions inside a business (barbers, hair dressers etc. ) to avoid risk by exiting the premises and reporting this to the City Council through...	
	Phone During Normal Working Hours	
	Phone: 01452 396 396 and choose the option you need. Text telephone: 01452 396 161	
	Email: <a href="mailto:heretohelp@gloucester.gov.uk">heretohelp@gloucester.gov.uk</a>	
	Out of hours please call: 01452 396 220	
	This would be passed on to the Community Wellbeing Team for consideration and investigation as appropriate.	
	If there are crowded situations that require immediate action please contact the local police through 101 or 999 if there is a possibility of imminent danger.	
	Everyone must be mindful of the most recent government guidance which is current as of today through this link:	
	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing-after-4-july">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing-after-4-july</a>	
	We are currently seeking to appoint a Covid response officer in collaboration with the other Gloucestershire districts to respond specifically to matters of this nature and carry out proactive work with businesses. An emergency response structure is being considered within this collaborative structure. Currently our officers have been working in partnership with the police and licencing teams to provide a similar service whilst having to balance this with existing Environmental Health priorities within the City.	
11.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Environment	What is the annual budget for tree works carried out by the city council tree team in Gloucester?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	The annual budget for tree maintenance works is £83,000.	
12.	From Councillor Field to the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Environment	The government has allowed local authorities to carry out trials for e-scooter rentals. Will a trial be taking place in our area?

	<b>Response:</b>	
	Gloucestershire County Council as highway authority will be running a pilot which will start towards the end of September. They have licenced a company called Zwing to deliver an e-scooter hire service in Gloucester and Cheltenham. Details will have been circulated on a Members' briefing paper prior Council.	
13.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Environment	With the news that possibly 25% of UK mammals are facing extinction, what is the council doing to encourage and protect the mammal population in our council area?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	To protect all wildlife we need to protect and enhance the broader habitat that is the way to reverse biodiversity decline. With regard to our own estate, as well as our reserves, we have large areas of open space some of which we have started to manage for wildlife as well as amenity. With ERDF/ESIF scheme we have been able to spend quite large sums of money on habitat creation in open space often with the added benefit of flood management. In our regulatory role we protect habitat and species through the development control process.	
14.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery and Growth	What is being done to support local traders for example in Eastgate Market?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	We have instructed a local company to create the infrastructure to introduce free WIFI at the Indoor Market. This will enable the traders to start taking card/contact-less payment. Free WiFi will also encourage the Traders, with help/assistance from the Market Officer, to start using social media to promote their products and advertise last minute offers.	
	We are installing a 52" inch screen at the entrance of the market, which will display digital content on a loop to promote/advertise all the stalls and services within the Indoor Market and a full PR presentation is ready to go live.	
	A budget has been approved to carry out improvement works to the toilets, to have brighter/more efficient lights, and to carry out other cosmetic works. The market will be completely rebranded with new signs and banners in place before Christmas. It is hoped that, when completed, all the improvement works will make the market more attractive, which will result in an increased footfall, thus benefiting the Traders.	
15.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery and Growth	How much does it cost to bring the continental street market to Gloucester?
	<b>Response:</b>	
	There is no direct cost to bringing the Continental Street Market to the City Centre. Instead, the council derives an income from the arrangement.	
	In terms of Officers' time, it takes approximately 5 hours, which includes the booking process, the approval stage and the supervision, to manage/deliver the Continental Market.	