



COUNCIL

MEETING : Thursday, 19th November 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, Derbyshire, 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
Policy and Governance Manager
Democratic and Electoral Services Team Leader

APOLOGIES : None

34. MINUTES

34.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

35.1 There were no declarations of interest.

36. CALL OVER

36.1 The Mayor invited Members to indicate if they wished to reserve agenda item 9 for discussion. No Member indicated that they wished to do so.

36.2 Councillor Cook (Leader of the Council) moved and Councillor Hannah Norman (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded that the Revocation of

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Planning Briefs, Supplementary Planning Guidance and Supplementary Planning Documents be approved.

- 36.3 **RESOLVED** that: - The Revocation of Planning Briefs, Supplementary Planning Guidance and Supplementary Planning Documents is **APPROVED**.

37. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

- 37.1 There were no public questions.

38. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

- 38.1 Councillor Hyman presented a petition signed by residents of Ebor Road and part of Armscroft Road, both in his Ward, in opposition to the withdrawal of the garden waste collection service.
- 38.2 Councillor Cook stated that he would be happy to receive the petition and advised that he would examine it once he had sight of it.

39. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor

- 39.1 The Mayor informed Members that she had participated in a number of events to commemorate Remembrance Sunday. She had attended a ceremony at the North Warehouse for Members of the Corporation who lost their lives in the First World War. The Mayor, on Remembrance Sunday, attended the Cross of Sacrifice and War Memorials at the Old and New Cemeteries in Tredworth. She also informed Members that she had attended the memorial in the park and the Hussars Memorial outside the Cathedral. Due to Covid, these were private ceremonies with very limited attendance including her Chaplain, the City Marshall and Councillor Coole.
- 39.2 The Mayor informed Members that she had presented a wreath for the Great Western Railway (GWR) poppy train to London with a number of other organisations in the City. A service was conducted at Paddington Station and could be watched back on the GWR website. The Mayor also participated by contributing a line from a poem along with other Civics from around the South West.
- 39.3 The Mayor also brought to Members' attention that the Christmas lights had been switched on in the City Centre with a scaled down switch on. She also regretfully informed Members that the Children's Christmas party would not be taking place this year due to Covid and that it was hoped an event could be held in the spring.
- 39.4 The Mayor further announced that the 20 November was Trans day of Remembrance and that she would be attend St Mary de Crypt to light a candle in remembrance of trans people who had been killed. She further stated that the Council would be flying the trans flag.

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- 39.5 In relation to the Saintbridge Trust, The Mayor announced that there would be a training session for all Members who also act as Trustees of the Trust on 2 December. There would subsequently be a meeting of all Trustees on 15 December.

Leader of the Council

- 39.6 The Leader, Councillor Cook, advised Members that a recent compliance report in relation to the crematorium had taken place by The Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities and received 330 out of 330. He conveyed his congratulations to all who worked at the Crematorium.

Members of the Cabinet

- 39.7 The Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods, Councillor Watkins announced that a bid for £3.8m had been successful for vulnerable people in housing need during the pandemic. It would provide 50 one and two bedroom flats in Gloucester, Stroud and the Forest of Dean. Councillor Watkins further announced that 37 of these would be in Gloucester. An element of the funding would be to support those individuals to ensure they can move on and secure stable tenancies. Some of the funding would also cover hotel costs incurred during lockdown.

- 39.8 The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure, Councillor Morgan, announced that in the next couple of weeks, the Bright Lights installation would be launched. It would involve local communities as well as international and local artists to produce a series of installations in the City Centre, Podsmead and Matson through December and into January.

- 39.9 The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy, Councillor Gravells, informed Members that the City Council's response to the Planning White Paper had been submitted and thanked the three political groups for their contributions and ensuring it was not presented along party political lines. He further informed Members that the City Plan had been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and it was anticipated the inspectorate would begin work in early 2021.

- 39.10 The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Recovery, Councillor Melvin, informed Members that on 16 November, the online portal for business grant applications went live. There was not a current deadline and applications were open.

Chairs of Committees

- 39.11 The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Coole, informed Members that budget scrutiny would take place on Monday 7 December. He stated that much of the discussion would likely be in the context of Covid. They encouraged those Members who did not sit on the Committee to attend and to submit any questions they might have to democratic services by 2 December.

40. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

- 40.1 Councillor Hilton asked if the Marketing Gloucester liquidator's original draft letter was different from the one he received on 4 November. Councillor Cook responded that he understood that Councillor Hilton had written to the Managing Director on this matter and would receive a response in due course.
- 40.2 Councillor Hilton asked that all correspondence between the liquidator and the City Council be stored safely and if he could have a copy of the liquidator's report as it was prior to it being amended. Councillor Cook reassured Councillor Hilton that all documents would be stored appropriately. In relation to the liquidator's report, as the original was marked confidential, Councillor Cook advised that he would need to check whether it could be released to Councillor Hilton.
- 40.3 Councillor Hilton asked Councillor Melvin what she was doing to help the Farmer's Market at the Cross survive and recover from the pandemic. Councillor Melvin advised that, other than the grants available for the self-employed, there were various other grants including the discretionary grants. She advised that she had provided her contact details to all traders and that they could get in touch in the event of their being in difficulties.
- 40.4 Councillor Stephens asked Councillor Cook for an update regarding improving safety as part of development works at the Railway station underpass in response to a series of sexual assaults in the vicinity. Councillor Cook advised that he had asked the project board overseeing to ensure that the underpass improvements would be seen as a priority. He further advised that he had asked officers to work with City Safe to provide additional security staff throughout the week to provide confidence to pedestrians that the underpass was safe to use and that the costs would be provided from the grant made available by the Local Enterprise Partnership. Network Rail and GWR were examining providing temporary lighting prior to the scheme starting.
- 40.5 Councillor Stephens asked Councillor Cook what action would be taken to improve the impending lack of provision for tree cutting as well as hedgerow and shrubbery maintenance currently undertaken by Amey. He also asked when a proposed Cabinet report in relation to this would be tabled. Councillor Cook advised that he was hopeful that a report would be ready for the next Cabinet meeting. With regard tree cutting, he advised that many operatives had been reassigned to different roles due to Covid. Amey were also considerably behind in this work due to three major summer storms. He was confident that, had these events not occurred, the budgetary provision would have been adequate.
- 40.6 Councillor Stephens asked Councillor Cook to resolve issues regarding the inter-agency agreement with the County Council which he viewed as

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financial burdensome for the City Council. Councillor Cook stated that this would be examined in the coming months and advised that work was underway to document all the Council's land in the City which would assist with making a decision.

- 40.7 Councillor Wilson reported that a resident in Hucclecote was having difficulties registering with the My Gloucester portal and that the site said it was still at the 'beta' stage – i.e. untested. He asked why the public were being advised to register when it may not be yet ready. Councillor Hannah Norman advised that she would speak with the Head of IT about it as well as the Managing Director.
- 40.8 Councillor Coole asked the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods, Councillor Watkins, what provision for access to food was available to those who have been placed in temporary accommodation. Councillor Watkins advised that accommodation providers were made aware of what individual issues there were and that considerable work had been undertaken with a range of partners to ensure residents had access to food across the city.
- 40.9 Councillor Coole informed Members that someone who had been placed in temporary accommodation had not eaten for two days. He asked what a person in such a position should do. Councillor Watkins advised that she would hope that Members would raise such cases with officers and that there was provision to supply emergency food through the Gloucestershire Community Help Hub.
- 40.10 In response to a question from Councillor Field, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Strategy Housing, Councillor Gravells provided reassurance that all responses to the Podsmead Regeneration consultation would be considered.
- 40.11 Councillor Pullen shared his view that flytipping was becoming a major issue in the City including on private land. He asked the Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Cook, if he would reconsider Labour's budget amendment which was tabled in 2019 to provide funds for additional officers and an education programme to tackle flytipping. Councillor Cook stated that he had not received evidence that flytipping had increased and that 3GS worked with the Council to investigate, enforce and take additional action where necessary. Councillor Pullen further asked what Councillor Cook intended to do in relation to 3GS underperforming. Councillor Cook disputed that there were performance issues and Fixed Penalty Notices were regularly issued to offenders.
- 40.12 Councillor Hansdot stated that he had spoken with homeless people in the City and asked Councillor Watkins if the Council was housing people. Councillor Watkins advised that, everyone has been offered accommodation but that unfortunately, on occasion the placements were unsuccessful for a range of reasons. She encouraged Councillor Hansdot to raise the matter with Street Link and/or with officers.

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40.13 Councillor Finnegan asked the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure, Councillor Morgan, to elaborate further on the bright lights campaign organised for later in the year. Councillor Morgan advised that the programme was still being worked on and that two internationally renowned artists had been engaged. He stated that he hoped the installations would bring some joy to Gloucester and encourage people back to the City Centre.

40.14 Councillor Brazil asked what would happen to the Hempsted meadow site once Covid testing had concluded and whether the car boot sale would continue. Councillor Cook advised that it would remain with the NHS until the end of March at earliest. He further advised that the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Recovery had prepared some of her own plans for when the site becomes available again.

41. REVOCATION OF PLANNING BRIEFS, SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE AND SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

41.1 **RESOLVED that:** - The Revocation of Planning Briefs, Supplementary Planning Guidance and Supplementary Planning Documents be approved.

42. POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES - REVIEW

42.1 Councillor Cook (Leader of the Council) moved and Councillor Hannah Norman (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded the motion.

42.2 **RESOLVED that:** - Council

- (1) Approve the proposed changes to membership of Committees as set out in the report.
- (2) Receive and note nominations to the following Committees as required by the proposed changes:
 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 1 additional seat (Liberal Democrat)
 - Planning Committee – 1 replacement seat (Labour).

43. NOTICES OF MOTION

43.1 Councillor Hilton proposed and Councillor Field seconded the following motion:

This council welcomes the gathering of £6 million of public funds to carry out major refurbishment of Gloucester Railway Station.

This council agrees that the proposed changes at the railway station will enhance the rail passenger experience and along with our new bus station give Gloucester a first class public transport hub fit for the 21st Century.

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This council agrees that Gloucester has waited a long time for the railway station upgrade with the proposals for the underpass upgrade being on the cards since the early noughties.

This council agrees that the long awaited upgrade of the underpass from Great Western Road to Bruton Way must be the first priority for construction and completion.

This council agrees that the project team should ensure that construction work is started in the first quarter on 2021.

- 43.2 Councillor Cook proposed and Councillor Stephens seconded the following amendment:

“This council welcomes the gathering of £6 million of public funds to carry out major refurbishment of Gloucester Railway Station.

This council agrees that the proposed changes at the railway station will enhance the rail passenger experience and along with our new bus station give Gloucester a first class public transport hub fit for the 21st Century.

This council agrees that Gloucester has waited a long time for the railway station upgrade with the proposals for the underpass upgrade being on the cards since the early noughties.

This council agrees that the long awaited upgrade of the underpass from Great Western Road to Bruton Way ~~must be the first is the highest priority for construction and completion and must start on site as soon as possible.~~

This council agrees that the project team should ensure that construction work is started ~~in the first quarter of 2021 as soon as possible and if practical no later than the first quarter of 2021.”~~

- 43.3 Councillor Hilton accepted the amendment which became the substantive motion. The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

- 43.4 **RESOLVED that:-**

This council welcomes the gathering of £6 million of public funds to carry out major refurbishment of Gloucester Railway Station.

This council agrees that the proposed changes at the railway station will enhance the rail passenger experience and along with our new bus station give Gloucester a first class public transport hub fit for the 21st Century.

This council agrees that Gloucester has waited a long time for the railway station upgrade with the proposals for the underpass upgrade being on the cards since the early noughties.

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This council agrees that the long awaited upgrade of the underpass from Great Western Road to Bruton Way is the highest priority and must start on site as soon as possible.

This council agrees that the project team should ensure that construction work is started as soon as possible and if practical no later than the first quarter of 2021.

- 43.5 Councillor Melvin proposed and Councillor Williams seconded the following motion:

“In January 2018 Gloucester City Council adopted the MND Charter and in doing so agreed to help achieve better outcomes for those living with motor neurone disease.

The five points of that charter were

- the right to an early diagnosis and information;
- the right to access quality care and treatments;
- the right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect;
- the right to maximise their quality of life; and carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well-supported.

This disease is fatal, rapidly progressing and it has no cure. It affects around 5,000 adults in the UK at any one time and sadly, due to the speed it progresses, many of these adults die without the right care, a suitable wheelchair, or any support to communicate with their loved ones.

This Council recognises that we work with many individuals with a range of illnesses and disabilities and, although we don't directly provide care or equipment, we do have a role to play to make sure our residents are supported in ways which best meet their needs. Whilst the Council cannot prioritise one disease or disability over another we do recognise the unique and personal ways people's lives are affected by MND.

This motion is to reiterate our commitment to the Charter adopted in January 2018.

This Council commits to:

- We commit to understanding the experiences of those living with MND and how our services can better respond to their progressive illness.
- We commit to monitoring and reviewing services being delivered to those with MND to ensure that everything that can be done will be done to make their lives as dignified as possible.
- We commit to a communications campaign that would help to hear the voices of people with MND and their experiences of dealing with/ working with the Council & schedule in next year's comms planning.”

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- 43.6 The motion was put to the vote and was carried.
- 43.7 Councillor Hansdot proposed and Councillor Pullen seconded the following motion:

“Council notes:

Commonwealth veterans have a long and proud history of service in the British military, from conflicts old, such as World War Two to recent conflicts such as Iraq and Afghanistan, Commonwealth veterans have served with distinction alongside British born veterans.

However, when their service is complete many are left with extortionate charges to remain in the UK. Commonwealth veterans are supposed to receive indefinite leave to remain in the UK however many veterans state that the army failed to inform them that they needed to make an immediate application to the Home Office for leave to remain in the UK when their service was complete. Many thought the process was automatic, yet this is not the case.

Fees for indefinite leave to remain have also dramatically increased. Since 2015 fees for definite leave to remain have increased by nearly 127% from £1051 - £2381 with a family of four having to pay nearly £10000 to remain in the UK, this figure doesn't include associated legal fees that some who have struggled with immigration applications may wish to pay. This can lead to many facing spiralling debt and uncertain immigration status because If a veteran is unable to pay they and their family face the prospect of taking on large amounts of debt or failing to pay leaves their immigration status in doubt and the very real prospect of deportation.

Whilst their applications are ongoing commonwealth veterans are also unable to seek employment or claim benefits.

Council resolves:

1. To make our armed forces champion and lead officers aware of the difficulties experienced by commonwealth veterans and ensure that those who are currently experiencing problems, whether financial or immigration difficulties, are not disadvantaged whilst their applications are ongoing.
2. That the Leader of the Council writes to the Prime Minister, Kevin Forster the Minister of State for Immigration and Johnny Mercer the Minister of State for Veteran Affairs outlining this Council's support for all commonwealth veterans who have served a minimum of 4 years being granted automatic and free of charge right to remain in the UK and that any veteran who completes 12 years of service be automatically given British Citizenship.

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3. That Council lobbies Gloucester MP Richard Graham to ask that he presses the government for a change in the legislation affects those that have served diligently and honourably for this Country."
- 43.8 Councillor Watkins proposed and Councillor Lewis seconded the following amendment:

"Council notes:

Commonwealth veterans have a long and proud history of service in the British military, from conflicts old, such as World War Two to recent conflicts such as Iraq and Afghanistan, Commonwealth veterans have served with distinction alongside British born veterans.

However, when their service is complete many are left with extortionate charges to remain in the UK. Commonwealth veterans are supposed to receive indefinite leave to remain in the UK however many veterans state that the army failed to inform them that they needed to make an immediate application to the Home Office for leave to remain in the UK when their service was complete. Many thought the process was automatic, yet this is not the case.

Fees for indefinite leave to remain have also dramatically increased. Since 2015 fees for definite leave to remain have increased by nearly 127% from £1051 - £2381 with a family of four having to pay nearly £10000 to remain in the UK, this figure doesn't include associated legal fees that some who have struggled with immigration applications may wish to pay. This can lead to many facing spiralling debt and uncertain immigration status because If a veteran is unable to pay they and their family face the prospect of taking on large amounts of debt or failing to pay leaves their immigration status in doubt and the very real prospect of deportation.

Whilst their applications are ongoing commonwealth veterans are also unable to seek employment or claim benefits.

Council resolves:

1. To make our armed forces champion and lead officers aware of the difficulties experienced by commonwealth veterans and ensure that those who are currently experiencing problems, whether financial or immigration difficulties, ~~are not disadvantaged~~ **are treated respectfully, fairly and equitably whilst their applications are ongoing.**
2. That the Leader of the Council writes to the Prime Minister, Kevin Forster the Minister of State for Immigration and Johnny Mercer the Minister of State for Veteran Affairs outlining this Council's support for all commonwealth veterans who have served a minimum of 4 years being granted automatic and free of charge right to remain in the UK and that any veteran who completes 12 years of service be automatically given British Citizenship.

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3. That Council **lebbies recognises that** Gloucester MP Richard Graham leads on a campaign to presses the government for a change in the legislation **which** affects those that have served diligently and honourably for this Country.”
- 43.9 Councillor Hansdot accepted the amendment which became the substantive motion. The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

43.10 RESOLVED that:-

“Council notes:

Commonwealth veterans have a long and proud history of service in the British military, from conflicts old, such as World War Two to recent conflicts such as Iraq and Afghanistan, Commonwealth veterans have served with distinction alongside British born veterans.

However, when their service is complete many are left with extortionate charges to remain in the UK. Commonwealth veterans are supposed to receive indefinite leave to remain in the UK however many veterans state that the army failed to inform them that they needed to make an immediate application to the Home Office for leave to remain in the UK when their service was complete. Many thought the process was automatic, yet this is not the case.

Fees for indefinite leave to remain have also dramatically increased. Since 2015 fees for definite leave to remain have increased by nearly 127% from £1051 - £2381 with a family of four having to pay nearly £10000 to remain in the UK, this figure doesn't include associated legal fees that some who have struggled with immigration applications may wish to pay. This can lead to many facing spiralling debt and uncertain immigration status because If a veteran is unable to pay they and their family face the prospect of taking on large amounts of debt or failing to pay leaves their immigration status in doubt and the very real prospect of deportation.

Whilst their applications are ongoing commonwealth veterans are also unable to seek employment or claim benefits.

Council resolves:

1. To make our armed forces champion and lead officers aware of the difficulties experienced by commonwealth veterans and ensure that those who are currently experiencing problems, whether financial or immigration difficulties,-are treated respectfully, fairly and equitably whilst their applications are ongoing.
2. That the Leader of the Council writes to the Prime Minister, Kevin Forster the Minister of State for Immigration and Johnny Mercer the Minister of State for Veteran Affairs outlining this Council's support for all commonwealth veterans who have served a minimum of 4 years being granted automatic

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and free of charge right to remain in the UK and that any veteran who completes 12 years of service be automatically given British Citizenship.

3. That Council recognises that Gloucester MP Richard Graham leads on a campaign to press the government for a change in the legislation which affects those that have served diligently and honourably for this Country.”
- 43.11 Councillor Stephens proposed and Councillor Hampson seconded the following motion:

“Council values the importance of the UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that address the global challenges we face including poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation and prosperity.

Council recognises that we have a decade of action if we are to deliver the goals by 2030.

Council believes that all levels of government work together and that local government is a key component to successful domestic implementation of the SDGs.

Council notes that in 2019 the cross-party Local Government association unanimously adopted a motion recognising the vital roles that councils could play in planning, implementation and monitoring the UK’s progress on meeting the ambitions of the Agenda 2030.

Council resolves:

1. To lobby central government for them to recognise the vital role local government must play in terms of the planning, implementation and monitoring in local areas, and fully resource councils to do that work, to deliver the UK’s progress on meeting the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda.
2. To continue to engage our areas through local partnerships and with our citizens to share research and engagement with our networks, partners, and citizens, particularly given our sector’s continuing funding pressures.
3. To formalise our commitment to the Goals and therefore adopts the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), agreeing to pursue the Goals in the work undertaken by the Council.
4. To begin work by mapping which targets are relevant using the LGA and UKSSD Sustainable Development Guide.”

- 43.12 Councillor Cook proposed and Councillor Watkins seconded the following amendment:

“Council values the importance of the UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that address the global challenges we face including poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation and prosperity.

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Council recognises that we have a decade of action if we are to deliver the goals by 2030.

Council believes that all levels of government work together and that local government is a key component to successful domestic implementation of the SDGs.

Council notes that in 2019 the cross-party Local Government association unanimously adopted a motion recognising the vital roles that councils could play in planning, implementation and monitoring the UK's progress on meeting the ambitions of the Agenda 2030.

Council resolves:

1. To lobby central government for them to recognise the vital role local government must play in terms of the planning, implementation and monitoring in local areas, and fully resource councils to do that work, to deliver the UK's progress on meeting the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda.
2. ~~To continue to engage our areas through local partnerships and with our citizens to share research and engagement with our networks, partners, and citizens, particularly given our sector's continuing funding pressures. To recognise the role that the Council's policies on Social Value can play in delivering against key aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals and to continue to build local partnerships, share knowledge and research and engage with new and existing networks, partners and citizens to deliver social value.~~
3. ~~To formalise our commitment to the Goals and therefore adopts the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), agreeing to pursue the Goals in the work undertaken by the Council.~~
3. To begin work by mapping which targets are relevant using the LGA and UKSSD Sustainable Development Guide.
4. **To formalise the City Council's commitment to the Goals by embedding the principles into relevant City Council policies, plans and strategies as and when those documents are developed, reviewed or replaced."**

43.13 Councillor Stephens accepted the amendment which became the substantive motion. The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

43.14 **RESOLVED** that:-

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Council values the importance of the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that address the global challenges we face including poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation and prosperity.

Council recognises that we have a decade of action if we are to deliver the goals by 2030.

Council believes that all levels of government work together and that local government is a key component to successful domestic implementation of the SDGs.

Council notes that in 2019 the cross-party Local Government association unanimously adopted a motion recognising the vital roles that councils could play in planning, implementation and monitoring the UK's progress on meeting the ambitions of the Agenda 2030.

Council resolves:

1. To lobby central government for them to recognise the vital role local government must play in terms of the planning, implementation and monitoring in local areas, and fully resource councils to do that work, to deliver the UK's progress on meeting the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda.
2. To recognise the role that the Council's policies on Social Value can play in delivering against key aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals and to continue to build local partnerships, share knowledge and research and engage with new and existing networks, partners and citizens to deliver social value.
3. To begin work by mapping which targets are relevant using the LGA and UKSSD Sustainable Development Guide
4. To formalise the City Council's commitment to the Goals by embedding the principles into relevant City Council policies, plans and strategies as and when those documents are developed, reviewed or replaced.

43.15 Councillor Coole proposed and Councillor Stephens seconded the following motion:

"Council notes that protests on Great Western Road, near to Hope House and Gloucestershire's Sexual Assault Referral Centre, are ongoing.

Council believes that patients have the right to access healthcare, medical procedures, and advice free from intimidation, particularly when some will have had to make difficult decisions at a vulnerable time in their lives.

Council notes that other local authorities have used Public Spaces Protection Orders to create "buffer zones" around similar facilities, including the first

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such order concerning a Marie Stopes clinic in the London Borough of Ealing, which has been upheld by the Court of Appeal.

Council notes that other councils have implemented, or intend to implement, similar measures, including Manchester Metropolitan Borough Council, Richmond London Borough Council and Somerset West and Taunton District Council.

Council resolves that the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods should prepare a report investigating the potential for extending the existing PSPO, and/or similar measures, to the relevant area of Great Western Road, to be laid before Cabinet and other relevant committees.”

43.16 Councillor Watkins proposed and Councillor Melvin seconded the following amendment:

“Council notes that protests on Great Western Road, near to Hope House and Gloucestershire's Sexual Assault Referral Centre, are ongoing.

Council believes that patients have the right to access healthcare, medical procedures, and advice free from intimidation, particularly when some will have had to make difficult decisions at a vulnerable time in their lives.

Council notes that other local authorities have used Public Spaces Protection Orders to create “buffer zones” around similar facilities, including the first such order concerning a Marie Stopes clinic in the London Borough of Ealing, which has been upheld by the Court of Appeal.

Council notes that other councils have implemented, or intend to implement, similar measures, including Manchester Metropolitan Borough Council, Richmond London Borough Council and Somerset West and Taunton District Council.

Council resolves that the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods ~~should prepare a report commits to~~ investigating the potential for extending the existing PSPO, and/or similar measures, to the relevant area of Great Western Road, ~~to be laid before Cabinet and other relevant committees. subject to evidence, at the scheduled annual review in January 2021.”~~

43.17 Councillor Coole accepted the amendment which became the substantive motion. The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

43.18 **RESOLVED:-**

Council notes that protests on Great Western Road, near to Hope House and Gloucestershire's Sexual Assault Referral Centre, are ongoing.

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Council believes that patients have the right to access healthcare, medical procedures, and advice free from intimidation, particularly when some will have had to make difficult decisions at a vulnerable time in their lives.

Council notes that other local authorities have used Public Spaces Protection Orders to create “buffer zones” around similar facilities, including the first such order concerning a Marie Stopes clinic in the London Borough of Ealing, which has been upheld by the Court of Appeal.

Council notes that other councils have implemented, or intend to implement, similar measures, including Manchester Metropolitan Borough Council, Richmond London Borough Council and Somerset West and Taunton District Council.

Council resolves that the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods commits to investigating the potential for extending the existing PSPO, to the relevant area of Great Western Road, subject to evidence, at the scheduled annual review in January 2021.

44. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

- 44.1 In respect of question 2, Councillor Field asked if the Cabinet Member for Environment was concerned by reports of accidents involving e-scooters and misuse of them. Councillor Cook shared Councillor Field’s concern. He advised that he was in regular contact with the CEO of the company running scheme particularly in relation to visually and hearing impaired users. Councillor Cook also expressed concerns around intoxication and had raised these issues.
- 44.2 In respect of question five, Councillor Field asked Councillor Cook whether he agreed that it would be preferable for street signs to be in place for the completed roads at the development at one end of Bristol Road while street signs were already in place for unfinished parts of the development. Councillor Cook responded that officers would be engaging with the development company to get the job done.
- 44.3 In respect of question 6, Councillor Field asked Councillor Melvin if she had the report valuing the continental market and if so, could it be shared. Councillor Melvin advised that she would be in touch with him early the following week.
- 44.4 In respect of question 7, Councillor Field noted that there had been several comments regarding fireworks and safety in recent weeks. He asked if further action was required such as banning their sale. Councillor Melvin shared her view that it was an important debate and it might be prudent to canvass a wide range of views. Councillor Cook acknowledged that there were considerable environmental issues to be considered and that it was likely that such measures be introduced by bodies other than local authorities.

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- 44.5 In respect of question 9, Councillor Field asked, given the widespread recognition that local government had assisted with responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, was Councillor Hannah Norman making the case that Councils needed to be fully funded in order to respond to such crises. Councillor Hannah Norman agreed and stated that continual lobbying of the MP was taking place. She outlined what funds had been received from Central Government and that further funds were forthcoming but could take some time.
- 44.6 In respect of question 10, Councillor Stephens stated he was disappointed to see that there were approximately eleven rough sleepers in city when at start of pandemic it was zero. He sought assurance that everything was being done to house them. Councillor Stephens also stated that Members had issues contacting the out of hours service. He asked Councillor Watkins if this was being resolved and queried what those presenting to closed offices with no access to a phone were to do. Councillor Watkins confirmed that the number cited was a snapshot in time and, as such, would fluctuate. There were individuals who the Council was working hard with but were not accepting accommodation and that further work was required to help. With regard to contacting the Council 'out of hours' Councillor Watkins stated that she had not been made aware of any performance issues in respect of the out of hours team. There was a freephone number and a map with phones indicated as well as free Wi-Fi in the city centre.

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours

Time of conclusion: 9.00 pm hours

Chair