



Shire Hall
Westgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2TG

Wednesday, 11 November 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, 19th November 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/2UkPBBq>

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 - 24)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24 September 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 (items 9 and 10) 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.

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

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. **REVOCATION OF PLANNING BRIEFS, SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE AND SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS (Pages 25 - 30)**

To consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy seeking approval to revoke several Planning Briefs, Supplementary Planning Guidance notes and Supplementary Planning Documents.

10. **POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES - REVIEW (Pages 31 - 34)**

To consider the report of the Head of Paid Service concerning a review of political balance on committees following a change to the political composition of the Council.

MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

11. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON

“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 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.”

2. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MELVIN

“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 communications planning."

3. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HANS DOT

"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.
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."

4. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

"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."

5. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR COOLE

"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.

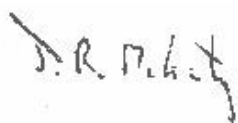
Council notes that other councils have implemented, or intend to implement, similar measures, including Manchester Metropolitan Borough Council, Richmond London Borough Council and Somerset West and Taunton District Council.

Council resolves that the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods should prepare a report 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."

12. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Pages 35 - 40)

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 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.

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.



COUNCIL

MEETING : Thursday, 24th September 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 Place
Head of Policy and Resources
Solicitor (One Legal)
Policy and Governance Manager
Democratic and Electoral Services Team Leader

APOLOGIES : None

24. MINUTES

24.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

25. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

25.1 Councillor Toleman declared an interest in motion number 6 by virtue of his being a Trustee of the Aspire Trust.

26. CALL OVER

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

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- 26.2 Councillor Cook (Leader of the Council) moved and Councillor H Norman (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded that the Appointment of the Independent Remuneration Panel be approved.
- 26.3 **RESOLVED that:-** the Appointment of the Independent Remuneration Panel be approved.

27. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

- 27.1 Mr Gower asked, could the council inform him if people who are evicted from the hotels provided by city council and are therefore on our streets or sofa surfing, what is the mechanism for appeal such a decision made by council policy to be given duty by the council and did the council feel this was good practice at any time of year but during a pandemic extremely dangerous for all concerned.
- 27.2 The Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods, Councillor Watkins, responded that, following the 'bring everyone in' message from central government the Council housed a significant number of people in hotel accommodation across the County and continued to house those in need for several weeks,. Sadly, not everyone was able to sustain the accommodation and some were continually evicted despite new placements being found. However, work with these individuals was on-going across the countywide housing partnership to offer support where possible. There are also a number of individuals who have been evicted from hotels who we have not been able to maintain contact with. Some of these people may have left the area and we can assume that some will be sofa-surfing with family and friends.
- 27.3 In respect of appeals, Councillor Watkins further responded that if someone was placed under s189 localism act (non-priority need) and the Council ended accommodation this did not come with right of appeal. If someone was deemed in priority need and placed under s188 of housing act and then subsequently loses accommodation, they have a right to request a judicial review. However individual circumstances were kept under constant review. She stated that it was important to add that individuals evicted from hotels were evicted due to non-compliance with hotel rules and their own behaviour. The Council could not compel hotel owners to keep individuals who pose a risk to staff, property and other residents.
- 27.4 Councillor Watkins advised that extensive efforts had been made as part of the Council's COVID-19 response to bring those in who were rough sleeping and at risk of rough sleeping. Unfortunately sometimes people lose accommodation and are unable to sustain accommodation for a multitude of reasons. In these cases, Officers and commissioned services work hard to offer support.
- 27.5 Mr Gower asked if Councillor Watkins stood by the Council's policy to provide food only for those not on benefits living in hotels, during the pandemic and previously homeless. Councillor Watkins advised that this was not the policy and had never been. Food was initially provided to all residents

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and then on the basis of need. The Council assessed individual needs of households placed and if it was deemed reasonable to provide access to food services the Council would do so. However, as a general rule, households were encouraged and enabled to provide for themselves by ensuring they were in receipt of any benefits they were entitled to.

27.6 Mr Gower noted that the Covid 19 Emergency Plan written by the Government regarding homeless provision in hotels and the second statement of intent mentioned an assessment for all concerned. He asked how many assessments per occupant of all hotels used have had an assessment in Gloucester.

27.7 Councillor Watkins responded that all households placed into emergency accommodation were given a full housing needs assessment. If they were placed out of hours, the Council aimed to assess within one working day to ensure their needs and situation were known.

28. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

28.1 There were no petitions or deputations.

29. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor

29.1 The Mayor informed Members that facemasks with the Civic Coat of Arms were available for a donation to the Civic Charity and that if any Members would like one, they could contact her. She thanked Members who had already made a contribution.

29.2 The Mayor announced that she had, that morning, had met with Officers and representatives of the ARK and the RBL to begin preparations for the Remembrance Day commemorations. She noted that there would have to be significant changes to this year's events but that it was the intention for the City to mark the day with due respect.

Members of the Cabinet

29.3 The Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods, Councillor Watkins, informed Members that in July the Government had launched the Next Steps Accommodation Programme inviting local authorities to apply for funding to ensure those accommodated would not return to rough sleeping and prevent others at risk, from ending up on the streets. She announced that an initial award of £296,542 had been made to Gloucestershire which would go towards providing immediate and short term help including secure hotel accommodation across the districts. Councillor Watkins also informed Members that she hoped to hear further news regarding capital funding for 'move on' accommodation in a matter of weeks. She thanked all those involved in leading on the bid.

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- 29.3 The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure, Councillor Morgan, announced that a company had been awarded a contract to help provide the Tall Ships Festival for 2021.

30. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

- 30.1 Council Hilton asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor Cook, if the Business Improvement District's (BID) investigation into Marketing Gloucester was complete and if the City Council had received a copy of the report. If a copy had been received, would a copy be shared with Group Leaders. Councillor Cook advised that a report had been completed by a firm of accountants and this had been shared with the Council. He further advised that some of the information in it was confidential and, as such, could not be shared without first seeking advice. Councillor Cook also confirmed that the report had been shared with Gloucestershire Constabulary.
- 30.2 Councillor Stephens asked The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy, Councillor Gravells, if the Council had yet made a bid for funding from the recently announced provision of £12bn for the affordable homes programme. Councillor Gravells stated that he and officers were working closely with registered providers to ensure they were bidding for additional funding. He further stated that he would shortly be meeting with Homes England to examine how the resources would be directed as well as meeting with a provider to explore how the Council could assist them in accessing further funding.
- 30.3 Councillor Hilton noted that, as part of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) Review, a local housing needs assessment had been carried out that identified potential new housing sites in the JCS area. He asked Councillor Gravells when this would be published.
- 30.4 Councillor Gravells stated that the Local Housing Needs Assessment was still a work in progress. He advised that an update would be provided at the next meeting of the Planning Policy Members Working Group and that he was happy for members of the JCS team to attend and provide that update.
- 30.5 Councillor Hilton asked if it had not been published for political reasons as some sensitive sites had been identified, particularly in Westgate and Matson and Robinswood. Councillor Gravells advised that this was not the case and that the work had taken longer than expected to complete. He further advised that Members would be briefed as soon as possible.
- 30.6 Councillor Stephens informed Members that a crowdfunding campaign to support the King's Theatre had been launched and asked the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure, Councillor Morgan, if he had had any conversations with the group to examine what support could be given. Councillor Morgan stated that he would be more than happy for the theatre to get in touch with him regarding any proposals.

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- 30.7 Councillor Wilson asked Councillor Gravells if he could envisage supporting a proposal which could result in the City having less new affordable housing due to the proposed replacement of s. 106 monies and community infrastructure levies with a different system. Councillor Gravells reiterated his commitment to listening to Members' view in regard to this and for views to be included in a cross-party response to the consultation of the White Paper where possible.
- 30.8 In response to a question from Councillor J. Brown regarding ensuring that rivers in the City were improved, Councillor Cook advised that the Council continually examined the quality of the rivers in tandem with the Environment Agency who was the responsible authority and that he had met with them during the previous week. He also encouraged Members to pass any information on river pollution to the Environment Agency.
- 30.9 Councillor Coole noted the responses to his written questions and asked Councillor Cook if he agreed that it was regrettable that the Council had not met as Trustees for three significant pieces of land it owned. Councillor Cook agreed and stated his belief that the Council as Trustees should meet. He was unsure whether Councillor Coole's suggestion of training for Members in differentiating between their roles as Members and Trustees would be beneficial but that if Members felt this was appropriate, such training could be facilitated.
- 30.10 In response to Councillor D. Brown's request for an update regarding the provision of additional defibrillators across the City, Councillor Watkins advised that the Community Wellbeing Team would be in touch to provide such an update.
- 30.11 Councillor Lugg asked if two rough sleepers she had encountered were reflective of a change in position from the initial COVID response or if they had been removed from accommodation. Councillor Watkins advised that while the identities of the individuals could not be known through anecdote, the Council continued to engage with rough sleepers and that unfortunately, during the initial stages of the pandemic some rough sleepers did not take up offers of accommodation. She encouraged Councillor Lugg to pass on information to officers if she had not yet done so.
- 30.12 Councillor Field asked Councillor Gravells how it would be ensured that the Council did not fall behind in the Podsmead regeneration consultation in light of cancelled consultation events due to COVID-19. Councillor Gravells advised that meetings between Members and others involved in the consultation would continue and that there was always the opportunity to ask questions directly of him. He also stated that continued engagement with residents would be discussed at the upcoming meeting.

31. APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

- 31.1 **RESOLVED that:-** The Appointment of the Independent Remuneration Panel be approved.

32. NOTICES OF MOTION

- 32.1 Councillor Hilton moved and Councillor Bowkett seconded the following motion:

“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.”

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

32.3 RESOLVED

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.

- 32.4 Councillor D. Brown moved and Councillor Ryall seconded the following motion:

“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

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recommendations on how this infrastructure could be better interconnected and improved to make cycling a more popular mode of transport.”

32.5 The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

32.6 **RESOLVED that:-**

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.

32.7 Councillor Cook with the consent of his seconder, Councillor H. Norman, withdrew motion number three.

32.8 Councillor Hilton proposed and Councillor Hyman seconded the following revised motion in place of the one set out in the agenda:

“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 or if not possible, continue to work with Sainsbury's to secure their presence in the city centre at another location

32.9 Five Members indicated the motion be put to a recorded vote. The votes were cast as follows:

For	Against	Abstention
Haigh		
Lugg		
Cook		
Norman H.		
Gravells		
Melvin		
Morgan		
Watkins		
Hilton		
Stephens		

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Tracey

Hanman

Lewis
Wilson
Bhaimia
Williams
Brown D
Dee
Taylor
Field
Hansdot
Organ
Patel
Toleman
Norman D
Pullen
Hampson
Brooker
Brazil
Brown J
Coole
Derbyshire
Finnegan
Hyman
Ryall
Walford
Bowkett

32.10 RESOLVED that:-

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 or if not possible, continue to work with Sainsbury's to secure their presence in the city centre at another location

32.11 Councillor Stephens proposed and Councillor Pullen seconded the following motion:

"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

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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."

32.12 RESOLVED that:-

"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.

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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."

32.13 Councillor Pullen proposed and Councillor Stephens seconded the following motion:

"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:

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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."

32.14 Councillor Morgan proposed and Councillor Walford seconded the following amendment:

"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~~ **challenges** due to ~~lockdown~~ **the closure of premises** during the Covid-19 pandemic. **The Council has worked with the Chief Executive of Aspire Trust and supported them throughout this period.** 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~~ **further** support ~~package~~ will need to be put in place to support Aspire over the coming months to ensure its **Aspire's** survival.

Council resolves:

1. To pledge **continue** its ongoing support to Aspire Trust to ~~ensure that~~ **enable** both GL1 and Oxstalls Tennis Centre ~~to~~ 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~~ **any further** support ~~measures, including financial support that may be~~ required to ensure Aspire remains an ongoing concern."

32.15 Councillor Pullen accepted the amendment. The amended motion was put to the vote and was carried.

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32.16 RESOLVED that:-

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 financial challenges due to the closure of premises during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Council has worked with the Chief Executive of Aspire Trust and supported them throughout this period. 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 further support will need to be put in place over the coming months to ensure its Aspire's survival.

Council resolves:

1. To continue its ongoing support to Aspire Trust to enable both GL1 and Oxstalls Tennis Centre to 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 any further support required to ensure Aspire remains an ongoing concern.

32.17 Councillor Coole proposed and Councillor Hansdot seconded the following motion:

"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.

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- 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."

32.18 The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

32.19 **RESOLVED that:-**

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.

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- Support the work of schools and education providers to bring the lessons of Srebrenica to young people across Gloucester

33. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

- 33.1 In respect of question 11, Councillor Field asked Councillor Cook if he felt the budget was too high, too low or 'about right'. Councillor Cook advised that there was an inherent flexibility in the budgets. Due to recent damage, it may have been that the budget was too low but that in other years it was 'about right'.
- 33.2 In respect of question 12, Councillor Field asked if the views of blind and partially sighted people had been considered. Councillor Cook advised that, as the proposal had been made only very recently by the County Council, the opportunity to consult had not yet arisen. He further stated that it was important that blind and visually impaired people as well as those with hearing difficulties were consulted as had been discussed by Cabinet when it had been made aware of the proposals.
- 33.3 In respect of question 15, Councillor Field asked Councillor Melvin what the position of the Farmers' Market was given the recent reduction in custom and what was being done to restore it to previous health. Councillor Melvin advised that the market was run by a third party and the Council was doing all it could to encourage the further take up of quality stalls as was the operator.

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours

Time of conclusion: 8.55 pm hours

Chair



Meeting:	Cabinet Council	Date:	11 November 2020 19 November 2020
Subject:	Revocation of Planning Briefs and Supplementary Planning Documents		
Report Of:	Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy		
Wards Affected:	All		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	Yes
Contact Officer:	Claire Haslam Principal Planning Officer		
	Email: Claire.haslam@gloucester.gov.uk	Tel: 39-6825	
Appendices:	None		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To request that Members revoke several Planning Briefs, Supplementary Planning Guidance notes and Supplementary Planning Documents.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to consider the information contained in the report and make any recommendations to the Council.

- 2.2 Cabinet is asked to **RECOMMEND** to Council that:

- (1) the documents as set out in Table 1 of this report are revoked and withdrawn from publication.

- 2.3 Council is asked to **RESOLVE** to:

- (1) the documents as set out in Table 1 of this report are revoked and withdrawn from publication.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 Over past twenty years the council has produced several Planning Briefs, Supplementary Planning Guidance notes (SPG) (pre 2004), Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) (post 2004), to help shape development, and set out clearly to developers what is considered acceptable and unacceptable in planning terms. These documents are a material consideration in decision making.

- 3.2 Many of these documents were produced in the early to mid-2000s as the Gloucester Local Plan 1983 became increasingly out of date and its various replacements (Local

Plan 1996, Second Stage Deposit City of Gloucester Local Plan 2002, Local Development Framework 2005) failed to proceed to full adoption.

- 3.3 Since that time changes have been made nationally to the planning system including the publication of Written Ministerial Statements (WMS) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that have changed policy, advice and guidance.
- 3.4 In addition to these national changes, locally the Joint Core Strategy was fully adopted in 2017 and the new Local Plan, Gloucester City Plan, has significantly progressed to the point where it can be afforded limited to moderate weight.
- 3.5 It is now considered appropriate to review the current suite of documents and revoke any that are no longer relevant.
- 3.6 Where a document is revoked under the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 the Local Planning Authority (LPA) must cease to make the document available and can take any other steps it considers necessary to draw the revocation of the document to the attention of persons living or working in the LPA area.
- 3.7 It is proposed that the documents will be removed from the website and a statement detailing the revocation published on the website for a period of 8 weeks.
- 3.8 The documents that will be deleted from the website and no longer used for decision making purposes are:

Table 1 – Documents to be revoked

Document	Reason
Gloucester Docks planning brief (2006)	Development mainly complete.
Greater Blackfriars planning brief (2009)	Area subject to Local Development Order and partial constructed.
Greater Greyfriars planning brief (2010)	Development complete.
Industrial Sites - Bristol Road/Tuffley Crescent planning brief (2003)	Planning permission secured and development partially completed.
Kwiksave Site - Northgate Street planning brief (2004)	Development complete.
Land East of Waterwells Business Park planning brief (2009)	Out of date and partially developed.
Relocation of Court Sites to Great Western Road planning brief (2004)	No longer being pursued by Ministry for Justice.
SPG 1 – Sustainable urban drainage systems (2004)	Considered outdated by technical officers.
SPG 2 – Travel plans (2004)	County Council have more up to date guidance.
SPG3 – Standards for the sub-division of houses	Out of date. Written Ministerial Statement March 2015 introduced new optional national technical standards.
SPG5 – Lifetime homes	Out of date. Written Ministerial Statement March 2015 introduced new optional national technical standards.

Interim adoption 'Development Affecting Sites of the Historic (Archaeological) Environment SPD (August 2008)	Superseded by NPPF
Interim adoption 'Telecommunications Development' SPD (August 2008)	Superseded by NPPF.
Views of Robinswood Hill and other high ground from Hempsted" SPD (March 1996)	Superseded by JCS and evidence base including Landscape Characterisation Assessment and Sensitivity.

3.9 The documents that will remain in place are:

Table 2 – List of SPDs that remain as a material consideration in decision making

Document	Reason for retention and future work
Matson Estate Regeneration Supplementary Planning Document (November 2019)	No changes. Ongoing potential for redevelopment.
Podsmead Estate Regeneration Supplementary Planning Document (November 2019)	No changes. Ongoing potential for redevelopment.
Interim adoption 'Public Realm Strategy' SPD (September 2017)	No changes. Still used to guide public realm works.
Interim adoption 'Designing safer places' SPD (August 2008)	To be amended to remove technical specification in relation to locks and doors as this has since been included as part of the Building Regulations. Otherwise all other content relevant.
Interim adoption 'Heights of Buildings' SPD (November 2008)	No changes. Used to protect views of the cathedral and historic church spires. Policy in City Plan.
Interim adoption 'Home Extension Guide' SPD (August 2008)	Used by Development Management for householder applications.
Shopfront Shutters and Signage Design Guide (November 2017)	No changes. Used to guide development. Policy in City Plan.
King's Quarter concept statement - Interim adoption (January 2013)	No changes. Development on going.
Fleece Hotel concept statement - Interim adoption (February 2012)	No changes. Development on going.
Interim Adoption 'Railway Corridor' Planning Brief (March 2011)	No changes. Partially developed but brief sets out requirement for linear green park which should be taken forward.
SUDS Design guide – Supplement to SPG (2013)	No changes. Still used by Development Management and Flood Management Environment Officers.
SPG6 –New Housing and open space (2001)	Used by technical officers to calculate open space contributions.

4.0 Social Value Considerations

- 4.1 The National Planning Policy Framework and the Localism Act 2011 enables local communities to form Neighbourhood Forums and pursue Neighbourhood Development Plans in order to create their own planning policies and shape development in their area.
- 4.2 Public consultation is an active and essential component of plan making. All of the documents that will be revoked or retained underwent public consultation which helped to shape the documents. Any new SPDs, Planning Briefs or Design Guides will also be written in consultation with the relevant community groups and stakeholders.

5.0 Environmental Implications

- 5.1 There are no environmental implications positive or negative to revoking the documents. Sustainable development remains at the centre of plan making and decision taking.

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 The documents could be left in perpetuity however this is likely to cause confusion and delay for applicants, members of the public, and decision makers including Planning Inspectors. It is considered more coherent and efficient to keep only relevant and useful documents published.

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 7.1 To revoke outdated published planning documents in order to provide clarity for all users of the planning system.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

- 8.1 No further work or reports are proposed on this matter.

9.0 Financial Implications

- 9.1 None

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

10.0 Legal Implications

- 10.1 Section 25 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (“the Act”) provides that the Secretary of State may at any time revoke a local development document at the request of a local planning authority and may prescribe descriptions of local development documents which may be revoked by the authority themselves.
- 10.2 Regulation 15(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England Regulations) 2012 provides that: a local planning authority may revoke any supplementary planning document. Regulation 15(3) goes on to state that where a supplementary planning document is revoked pursuant to section 25 of the Act the

local planning authority must as soon as reasonably practicable cease to make any documents relating to the revoked supplementary planning document available in accordance with regulation 35 (which provides for inspection copies and publication on the authority's website); and take such other steps as it considers necessary to draw the revocation of the supplementary planning document to the attention of persons living or working in their area.

- 10.3 The Regulations apply to SPDs and do not prescribe a process to be followed as regards the SPGs or Planning Briefs, but it is considered sensible to take the same approach as with the SPDs, with the revocation a decision taken by Council.
- 10.4 No consultation is required but the Council's website will be updated to raise awareness of the revocation; with the revoked documents removed from the website and a revocation statement published.

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

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

- 11.1 No risks have been identified. Revoking and deleting the outdated documents provides an opportunity to clarify the LPA's position on a number of matters reducing the potential for risk.

12.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA) and Safeguarding:

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

13.0 Community Safety Implications

- 13.1 None

14.0 Staffing & Trade Union Implications

- 14.1 None

Background Documents: All documents are listed in Table 1 and 2 of this report and can be found online at <https://www.gloucester.gov.uk/planning-development/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-documents/> and <https://www.gloucester.gov.uk/planning-development/planning-policy/planning-briefs-and-concept-statements/>

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Meeting:	Council	Date:	19 November 2020
Subject:	Political Balance on Committees - Review		
Report Of:	Jon McGinty, Head of Paid Service		
Wards Affected:	All		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
Contact Officer:	Jonathan Lund, Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer		
	Email: jonathan.lund@gloucester.gov.uk	Tel: 396276	
Appendices:	None		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To make changes to the membership of Committees to ensure statutory political balance following a change in the Labour Group.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Council is asked to **RESOLVE** to:

- (1) Approve the proposed changes to membership of Committees as set out in this 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)

3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 Councillor Lauren Derbyshire has resigned from the Labour Group on the City Council. Councillor Derbyshire will now sit as an Independent Councillor. There are now 18 Conservative, 9 Liberal Democrat, 8 Labour, 2 Independent Councillors and two vacant seats. Consequently, there is a need to review the political balance of the Council and make any necessary changes to the political composition of committees.
- 3.2 Table 1 below indicates the political balance of the Council before and after the resignation:

	Old Composition		New Composition	
	Seats	%	Seats	%
Conservative	18	48.65%	18	48.65%
Liberal Democrat	9	24.32%	9	24.32%
Labour	9	24.32%	8	21.62%
Other	1	2.70%	2	5.41%

- 3.3 When applied to the total number of committee seats (56) seats these percentages give the following aggregate entitlement (rounded up/down to the nearest whole seat) for each Group:

Conservative	48.65% of 56 =	27 (27.24)
Liberal Democrat	24.32% of 56 =	14 (13.62)
Labour	21.62% of 56 =	12 (12.11)

Variance in total seats = -3

- 3.4 Noting that Independent Councillors, unless aligned as an independent group, have no entitlement to seats on Committees, to comply with the statutory requirement broadly to reflect the political balance of the Council on each committee (the rules do not apply to Cabinet) it is necessary to alter the political composition of Committees as follows:

Committee	Size	Con	Lib Dem	Lab	Other	Seat Variance
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16	8	4	3 (-1)	0	-1
Planning Committee	12	6	3	3	0	0
Licensing and Enforcement Committee	12	6	3	3	0	0
Audit and Governance Committee	8	4	2	2	0	0
General Purposes Committee	8	4	2	2	0	0
TOTAL	56	28	14	13 (-1)	0	-1

- 3.5 The calculation above results in a total variance of -1 seats across all committees/bodies subject to political proportionality. To reach the total available number of seats (56), it is proposed that allocations are adjusted as follows:

Committee	Size	Con	Lib Dem	Lab	Other	Seat Variance
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16	8	5 (+1)	3	0	0
Planning Committee	12	6	3	3	0	0
Licensing and Enforcement Committee	12	6	3	3	0	0
Audit and Governance Committee	8	4	2	2	0	0
General Purposes Committee	8	4	2	2	0	0
TOTAL	56	28	15 (+1)	13	0	0

- 3.6 The number of seats based on proportionality and each political party's entitlement is therefore as follows:

	Provisional allocation	Entitlement to seats on committees/bodies based on proportionality/Widdicombe principles	Variation
Conservative	27	28	+1
Liberal Democrat	14	15	+1
Labour	12	13	+1
Other	0	0	0

4.0 Social Value Considerations

- 4.1 None

5.0 Environmental Considerations

- 5.1 None.

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 None

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 7.1 To comply with statutory requirements to achieve and maintain political balance on Committees.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

- 8.1 None

9.0 Financial Implications

- 9.1 None

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

10.0 Legal Implications

- 10.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 require the overall political balance of Council to be reflected in Committees (so far as possible) and to review the political balance when necessary (for example where the political balance changes as a result of a by-election). This report seeks to comply with those obligations.

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

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

11.1 None

12.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA) and Safeguarding:

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

13.0 Other Corporate Implications

Community Safety

13.1 None

Sustainability

13.2 None

Staffing & Trade Union

13.3 None

Background Documents: None

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 Hyman to the Cabinet Member for Environment	Please will you advise on the progress of the environmental enforcement officers. How many incidents have they dealt with and how many resulted in fines or prosecutions? Do they patrol across the whole city and have they visited Elmbridge ward recently where there are considerable incidents of dog fouling?
Response:		
In the second quarter (Jul to Sep), 359 FPN were issued, 166 of which were paid within the given period. 96 prosecution files were referred to One Legal for prosecution (those choosing not to pay the FPN). 3 Enforcement Officers are based in the City Centre, but as and when requested by City Council Officers or the Contact Centre staff, they would attend any sites within the City to investigate any reported fly-tip or Dog fouling offences.		
2.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Environment	With regards to the e-scooter trial currently continuing in Gloucester City. When were you first aware of the trial? What consultation did you and the representatives from the county council carry out with local disability groups? What is being done to ensure safe use of these scooters in the area of the city council during this trial?
Response:		
With regards to the e-scooter trial currently continuing in Gloucester City. When were you first aware of the trial? County Council officers first raised the trial with city officers in August and the Gloucester scheme launched in early October. This reflects the very tight timescale set by the government over the summer for councils to apply for and launch local e-scooter trials in time to support the Covid recovery and assist people returning to work.		
What consultation did you and the representatives from the county council carry out with local disability groups? One of the reasons that the government is trialling e-scooters over the next 12 months is to understand how this new form of low carbon transport can be safely used at scale. Therefore, engagement with disability groups is a key requirement		

	<p>of operators and councils taking part in the trial. Since Zwings were appointed by the County Council they have been proactive in meeting groups representing people with disabilities, especially those with impaired vision. A constructive meeting was held with Insight Gloucestershire in October and a further meeting is planned for mid-November when Zwings will seek to engage the Sight Loss Council and other organisations working with people with a visual impairment in the county - Insight Gloucestershire, Guide Dogs, Macula society, Forrest Sensory Services and the RNIB.</p> <p>What is being done to ensure safe use of these scooters in the area of the city council during this trial?</p> <p>Safety has been and continues to be our priority at all stages of the trial, starting with the selection of a responsible operator by the County Council and their compliance with the terms of the Department for Transport's license. Zwings has been engaging local council officers, elected members, the police, disability groups, university and other stakeholders to understand the local issues and will continue to hold regular stakeholder group meetings to monitor use and learn from the trial. County Council officers first raised the trial with city officers in August and the Gloucester scheme launched in early October. This reflects the very tight timescale set by the government over the summer for councils to apply for and launch local e-scooter trials in time to support the Covid recovery and assist people returning to work.</p>	
3.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Environment	<p>Again with regards to e-scooters:</p> <p>Have you considered the matter of their visibility at night and the legality of their rear lights?</p> <p>As far as I am aware, the minimum height of a rear red light is 350mm above the ground. These don't comply and the government doesn't appear to have changed the law to exempt e scooters from this.</p> <p>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1989/1796/schedule/10/made in (2)(c)(iii)(A)</p>
<p>Response:</p> <p>The E-scooter is a County Council scheme and the operator have provided the following response:</p> <p>Referring to the guidance from the Department for Transport for vehicle specification requirements, there is no indication that there needs to be a certain height above the ground by law. Given the special circumstances from which e-scooter rental schemes were legalised during COVID and most importantly because the purpose of the trial is test how e-scooters operate on British streets, measures have been implemented to ensure that there does not need to be formal changes in the wording of the law (yet). This trial is allowing the government to identify more accurately what rules need to be implemented to help councils and operators to deliver responsible e-scooter rental schemes.</p> <p>All e-scooters rear fenders are generally around the same height with a 10-inch wheel. The government requested all scooters have the following:</p> <p>a) Obligatory lamps</p> <p>i) The vehicle shall be fitted with a front position lamp meeting the following requirements:</p>		

	<p>Colour: white; Visibility: easily visible for other road users from a reasonable distance, but not to dazzle the oncoming road users.</p> <p>ii) The vehicle shall be fitted with a rear position lamp meeting the following requirements:</p> <p>Colour: red; Alignment: at or near the rear; Visibility: easily visible for other road users from a reasonable distance, but not to dazzle the oncoming road users.</p> <p>iii) Flashing lamps are permitted with a flashing frequency of 1-4 Hz (60-240 times per minute)</p> <p>(b) Optional lamps</p> <p>i) The vehicle may be fitted with direction indicators. If fitted, the colour of the direction indicators shall be amber. ii. The vehicle may be fitted with a stop lamp. If fitted, the stop lamp shall meet the following requirements: Colour: red; Alignment: to the rear</p> <p>The local operator have added additional reflectors to provide a second tier of visibility.</p>	
4.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure	Is there any delay to the Blackbridge project as a result of Coronavirus?
	<p>Response:</p> <p>No. The project is still on track for a planning application to be ready for submission early in the new year.</p>	
5.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Environment	In response to requests from residents I have asked for street signs to be installed at Neven Place and Manu Marble Way, Podsmead. I understand this is the responsibility of the developer. Despite repeated assurances that these will be installed they have still not appeared. Can this be looked into and rectified, please?
	<p>Response:</p> <p>The Council's Enforcement Officer has raised this with the developer, Matthew Homes, who advise that the street signs will be installed as the scheme nears completion. Although this is a matter that is not actually covered by Planning legislation I have asked the Enforcement Officer to remind the developer again.</p>	
6.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery and Growth	<p>The continental market returned recently to Gloucester but didn't seem to be publicised very well. If and when this returns will this be improved?</p> <p>Secondly, is there any footfall data to show that the market brings extra people in to the city, or not?</p>
	<p>Response:</p> <p>The Cultural Services Team are currently preparing a post-event report to reassess the value of the market - this will cover marketing and footfall. They are hoping to have this finalised next week, as they are still awaiting on some more responses from business feedback.</p>	
7.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Environment and or Economic Recovery and Growth	It is a stated aim of this council to encourage wildlife to recover and flourish. Fireworks are a concern to not only pets and pet owners but also to wildlife who are startled and disoriented. What balance can be achieved by the city council as licensing authority,

		in terms of discouraging inappropriate use of fireworks whilst trying to help shops make a living?
	Response:	
	Any events that require licensing by the City Council or take place on Council owned land are now required to be advertised by the organiser in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people. The council took the decision not to hold a fireworks display this summer and has no plans for any official fireworks display, nor has permission for any displays been granted for 2020.	
	Furthermore, the City Council have worked with the Dogs Trust, who have developed a poster in addition to its existing Fireworks Dog Code campaign for use in the City. It is Gloucestershire County Council (Trading Standard) who is the licensing authority for the sale of Fireworks across the County and they have agreed to promote these campaigns to all retailers selling fireworks within the City.	
8.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources	Have there been savings due to meetings being held online, officers and members working from home etc?
	Response:	
	Holding council meetings remotely has not resulted in any significant financial savings for the Council. There may have been minimal savings from not having to provide refreshments for meetings and from the closure of North Warehouse to the public, however, we have continued to pay staff who carry out duties in the building and additional officer resource is required to support the remote meetings solution.	
9.	From Councillor Field to the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources	What is the estimated financial impact of lockdown 2 on the city council, and the local economy?
		What financial support has the government pledged for the council for lockdown 2?
	Response:	
	At this point we do not know the impact on the city council and the local economy. We will monitor any additional expenditure or lost income for the Council and will continue to lobby Government for support for these pressures. We will also continue to submit monthly returns on the COVID impact.	
	No specific additional support has been pledged, however we will, as stated above, continue to lobby for the Council to be compensated for all pressures as a result of the lockdown.	
10.	From Councillor Stephens to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number of rough sleepers recorded in the City. 2. The number of applicants registered on the housing register within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. 3. The number of households accepted as homeless within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. 4. The number of households that are in gold band on the housing register within the Gloucester City Council administrative area.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The number of households within silver band on the housing register within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. 6. The number of households currently under active investigation for homelessness within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. 7. The number of households that are housed in temporary accommodation within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. 8. The number of households that are housed in temporary accommodation that include families with one or more children within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. 9. The number of households housed in temporary accommodation outside of the Gloucester City Council administrative area that the Council has placed there. 10. The average length of stay for households in temporary accommodation before becoming permanently rehoused. 11. The estimated cost of dealing with homelessness in the current year. 12. The number of units of temporary accommodation for homeless households available at present within the Gloucester City Council administrative area.
Response:	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number of rough sleepers recorded in the City. Official Rough Sleeper figures are not yet available, however, end of October operation figures suggest 11 rough sleepers in the City. 2. The number of applicants registered on the housing register within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. As of end October 2020 there are 4943 live applications on the housing register across all bands, including emergency. 3. The number of households accepted as homeless within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. As of end of October 2020 there were 149 accepted homeless applications. 4. The number of households that are in gold band on the housing register within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. Total in Gold Band is 289 as of 31.10.20 5. The number of households within silver band on the housing register within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. Total in Silver band is 1614 as of 31.10.20 6. The number of households currently under active investigation for homelessness within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. Number of open prevention cases (households threatened with homelessness which we are actively working to prevent them from becoming homeless) is 147 as at 31.10.20 and the number of open relief cases (households who are actually roofless) is 205 as at 31.10.20

	<p>7. The number of households that are housed in temporary accommodation within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. 191 as of 31.10.20</p> <p>8. The number of households that are housed in temporary accommodation that include families with one or more children within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. Number of households that are housed in temporary accommodation that include families with one or more children is 50 as of 31.10.20 (this does not include households who have made their own temporary arrangements)</p> <p>9. The number of households housed in temporary accommodation outside of the Gloucester City Council administrative area that the Council has placed there. Number of households in temporary accommodation outside of Gloucester is 3 as of 31.10.20</p> <p>10. The average length of stay for households in temporary accommodation before becoming permanently rehoused. Due to upgraded reporting mechanisms we are unable to access this at this time.</p> <p>11. The estimated cost of dealing with homelessness in the current year. As of the end of Q2 the spend on Temporary accommodation was £455,337.48 with the forecasted spend for 2020/21 being £765,000.</p> <p>12. The number of units of temporary accommodation for homeless households available at present within the Gloucester City Council administrative area. Unable to provide quickly- there have been some changes due to COVID 19 emergency procurement and recommissioning so this will take some time to collate.</p>
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