



**Gloucester  
City Council**

**Cabinet**

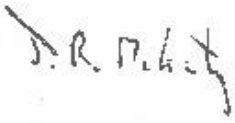
**Meeting: Wednesday, 10th January 2018 at 6.00 pm in Civic Suite, North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP**

<b>Membership:</b>	Cllrs. James (Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy) (Chair), Watkins (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods), Noakes (Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure), D. Norman (Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources), Organ (Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning) and Cook (Cabinet Member for Environment)
<b>Contact:</b>	David Rice Democratic Services Officer 01452 396126 david.rice@gloucester.gov.uk

## AGENDA

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>  To receive any apologies for absence.
<b>2.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>  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.
<b>3.</b>	<b>MINUTES (Pages 7 - 12)</b>  To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2017.
<b>4.</b>	<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)</b>  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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matters which are the subject of current or pending legal proceedings, or</li> <li>• Matters relating to employees or former employees of the Council or comments in respect of individual Council Officers</li> </ul>

5.	<p><b>PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)</b></p> <p>To receive any petitions or deputations provided that no such petition or deputation is in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matters relating to individual Council Officers, or</li> <li>• Matters relating to current or pending legal proceedings</li> </ul>				
6.	<p><b>LEADER AND CABINET MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)</b></p> <p>Any Member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or any Cabinet Member any question without prior notice, upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any matter relating to the Council's administration</li> <li>• Any matter relating to any report of the Cabinet appearing on the summons</li> <li>• A matter coming within their portfolio of responsibilities</li> </ul> <p>Only one supplementary question is allowed per question.</p>				
7.	<p><b>LITTER STRATEGY (Pages 13 - 20)</b></p> <p>To consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Environment apprising Members of the City Council's current and future response to managing litter in the city.</p>				
8.	<p><b>PURPLE FLAG APPLICATION (Pages 21 - 28)</b></p> <p>To consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods requesting Members approve an application for Purple Flag status for the City of Gloucester.</p>				
9.	<p><b>LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME REVIEW 2018/19 (Pages 29 - 32)</b></p> <p>To consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources seeking approval to retain the current Local Council tax Support Scheme (LCTS) for 2018/19.</p>				
10.	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</b></p> <p><b>To resolve:-</b></p> <p>"That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the following items of business on the grounds that it is likely, in the view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public are present during consideration of this item there will be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended".</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 1736 1477 1939"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="225 1736 606 1780"><b>Agenda Item No.</b></th> <th data-bbox="606 1736 1477 1780"><b>Description of the Exempt Information</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1803 606 1848">11</td> <td data-bbox="606 1803 1477 1939">Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>Description of the Exempt Information</b>	11	Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
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11	Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).				
11.	<p><b>EXEMPT MINUTES (Pages 33 - 34)</b></p> <p>To approve as a correct record the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017.</p>				

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. R. McGinty".

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

**Date of Publication: Tuesday, 2 January 2018**

## 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**

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For further details and enquiries about this meeting please contact David Rice, 01452 396126, [david.rice@gloucester.gov.uk](mailto:david.rice@gloucester.gov.uk).

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

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

### **Recording of meetings**

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

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

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

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

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## CABINET

**MEETING** : Wednesday, 6th December 2017

**PRESENT** : Cllrs. James (Chair), Watkins (not present for items 71-77), Noakes, D. Norman, Organ and Cook

**Others in Attendance**

Cllrs Hilton (not present for items 76-77) and Stephens  
Jonathan Lund, Corporate Director  
Anne Brinkhoff, Corporate Director  
Jon Topping, Head of Policy and Resources  
Lloyd Griffiths, Head of Communities  
David Rice, Democratic Services and Elections Officer

**APOLOGIES** : Jon McGinty, Managing Director

### 63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 64. MINUTES

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the following corrections:

1. Others in Attendance  
That 'Cllr Terry Pullen' be substituted for 'Cllr Pullen'
2. Minute 60  
That 'Tom Denny' be substituted for 'John Denny'

### 65. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were no public questions.

### 66. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

There were no petitions or deputations.

**67. LEADER AND CABINET MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)**

In relation to agenda item 7 (Public Space Protection Orders) Cllr Hilton sought assurance that the London Road rose garden would be included in the PSPO for Gloucester City Centre (Appendix 2). The Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods responded that it would be incorporated within the boundary as defined by the map in appendix one of the PSPO document prior to the consultation. Cllr Hilton further asked if it was possible to vary restrictions across the PSPO zone so that issues in particular areas might be addressed without imposing inappropriate restrictions on the whole. The Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods replied that this would be considered as part of the consultation process which would be open to all ideas. Cllr Hilton enquired if there was a start date for the consultation. The Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods responded that there would be draft document prepared within the next week or so and took the opportunity to urge that as many residents as possible be encouraged to give feedback.

In relation to agenda item 9 (Regeneration of the Former Fleece Inn Site) Cllr Hilton asked if its security had been improved since the fire of July 2017 and whether Members were confident that the site was secure. The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy gave reassurance that the Asset Management Team had indeed reviewed security measures. He pointed out that no site is ever 100% secure but that bringing it back into use as soon as possible would be the best way to protect it. Cllr Hilton stated that the report was good and emphasised the importance of the site but sought clarification on how much consultation with Council Members there would be. The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy indicated that he would take guidance from officers. The Corporate Director (Jonathan Lund) stated that the process would be pursued with Members, and that there will be further discussions with Cabinet on the matter.

**68. PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods that outlined plans to introduce Public Space Protection Orders.

The Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods acknowledged the useful contributions from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on (27 November 2017) and advised Members that 1114 reports of anti-social behaviour 305 of which were personal, 72 environmental and 737 nuisance related had been received in the year before December 2017.

The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure pointed out that the Coney Hill Designated Public Places Order (3.3) included Barnwood and drew Members' attention to how much has been learnt since the previous types of order were implemented. The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning sought reassurance that anti-social cycling would be addressed. The Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods stated that this was covered by the list of prohibitions (3.18) and thanked Members for their contributions which would be addressed before the public consultation.



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**RESOLVED** that:

1. The contents of the report be noted;
2. The the use of PSPO Guidance included at appendix 1 be approved;
3. The undertaking of a 12 week public consultation exercise in respect of a draft PSPO for a designated area of the City Centre, a copy of which is included at appendix 2 be approved,
4. Delegation be provided to the Head of Communities in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Communities & Neighbourhoods to implement the PSPO referred to in para 2.1.(3) following consideration of consultation feedback
5. Delegation be provided to Head of Communities in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Communities & Neighbourhoods to undertake further consultation exercises to allow the remaining Gating Orders, Dog Control orders and Designated Public Space Orders (DPPOs) to be reviewed.

**69. FUTURE PROGRAMME FOR GULL CONTROL**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Environment that informed them of the results of the egg & nest removal programme and sought Cabinet's approval to extend the current programme for a period of one year through to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 and to undertake a gull breeding survey during the summer of 2018 to assess the impact of the treatment programme.

The Cabinet Member for Environment commented on anecdotal evidence of gull displacement away from the city centre and population reduction at Hempsted due to changes in the way food waste is processed at the waste management site. The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources advised Members that he had seen fewer gulls in the city and received fewer complaints in his ward. The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning suggested that less refuse in the streets was a contributing factor in the perceived reduction.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The positive impact that the egg & nest removal programme has had on the treatment sites be noted and that the continuation of such a treatment programme in order to further decrease the urban gull population growth rate be endorsed.
2. Approval be granted for a 1 year extension of the current egg & nest removal contract through use of Condition 4 of the contract between the Council and Mitie Pest Control Ltd, and
3. Approval be granted to procure a gull breeding survey to be carried out in 2018 and for delegation to be provided to The Head of Communities in consultation with the Cabinet Member of Environment and s.151

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Monitoring Officer to award the contract in line with the Council's procurement rules.

**70. REGENERATION OF THE FORMER FLEECE INN SITE**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy that sought approval to take the Fleece site to the open market to secure a partner to deliver a regeneration scheme that safeguards its future.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning commented on the complex nature of the site and welcomed the approach being taken to generate a greater range of options to explore from which the best can be adopted.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. Officers be instructed to prepare a development brief for the Fleece site that sets the parameters for the development scheme, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Economy
2. A soft market testing and appropriate tender exercise, based on the brief, be undertaken by the Managing Director in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Economy, to test the commercial appetite for the various options for the site and to secure an investor/developer partner
3. A further report be brought back to Cabinet in March 2018, detailing the basis of the proposals received and identifying a preferred partner

**71. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that presented the Strategic Risk Register.

**RESOLVED** that the Strategic Risk Register be noted and endorsed.

**72. FINANCIAL MONITORING QUARTER 2 REPORT**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources Environment that informed them of the year-end forecasts and progress made against agreed targets for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy commented that each Member will be examining their own portfolio for progress towards targets in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

**RESOLVED** that it be noted that:

1. The savings achieved in year to date total £1.694 million with a further £511k in progress.

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2. The forecast year end position is currently for a reduction to the Council's General Fund balance of £163k.
3. The details of specific budgetary issues identified by officers and the actions being taken to address those issues
4. The current level of Capital expenditure as shown on Appendix 2.

**73. TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR UPDATE 2017/18**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that sought to update Members on treasury management activities over the six month period ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Code of Practice for Treasury Management.

**RESOLVED** that the contents of the report be noted.

**74. DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS (INCLUDING MONEY PLAN AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME)**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that sought to review the Council's Draft Money Plan and Draft Budget Proposals.

The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources informed Members that the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Autumn Budget (22 November 2017) appeared to have no impact and that the Scrutiny and Overview Committee of 4 December 2017 had sought clarification on the definition of terms around price inflation (7.4) and reserves (13). He commented that officers should be praised for making so much progress thus far.

The Cabinet Member for Environment drew Members' attention towards a typographical error (6.2 Table 1) where 1.99% had been represented as £1.99. The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy stated that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's examination was comprehensive and its findings would be taken on board. He further reminded Members of the positive impact of the King's Walk regeneration project in reducing challenges this year.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The assumptions contained in the Council's draft Money Plan from 2018/19 to 2022/23 and revisions to the draft revenue budget be approved.
2. The uncertainties regarding future incomes, as shown in this report and Appendix 1, and the need to update the Draft Money Plan when there is more certainty regarding Central Government financing, be noted.

**75. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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**RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the following items of business (Agenda items 15, 16) on the grounds that it is likely, in the view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public are present during consideration of this item there will be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

**76. GOVERNANCE REVIEW GLOUCESTERSHIRE AIRPORT**

To consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources concerning the Governance Review of Gloucestershire Airport.

**RESOLVED** as per the recommendations in the confidential report.

**77. KINGS QUARTER PLANNING APPLICATION**

To consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy concerning the King's Quarter Planning Application.

**RESOLVED** as per the recommendations in the confidential report.

**Time of commencement: 6.00 pm**

**Time of conclusion: 6.45 pm**

**Chair**



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Litter Strategy</b>		
<b>Report Of:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Environment</b>		
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Budget/Policy Framework:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Meyrick Brentnall – City Improvement and Environment Manager</b>		
	<b>Email: meyrick.brentnall@gloucester.gov.uk</b>	<b>Tel: 396829</b>	
<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>None</b>		

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To apprise Cabinet of the City Councils current and future response to managing litter in the City.

**2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 Cabinet is asked to **RESOLVE** that:

The report and its contents are noted as a means to provide a broad framework for the management of litter in Gloucester over coming months and years.

**3.0 Background and Key Issues**

3.1 Nationally it is estimated that street cleansing costs local government almost £1 billion a year. For Gloucester it will be in the region of £1 million. Not only is this costly; but litter looks unsightly, reduces the overall quality of life, discourages investment/visitors and can be a problem for the wider environment as plastics especially, become part of the ecosystem damaging species and ultimately us.

3.2 To address these problems the Government published its litter strategy back in April 2017, this was part of its overall environmental pledge to ‘make ours the first generation to leave the natural environment of England in a better state than we found it’.

3.3 The strategy has a 3 pronged approach to tackling litter around the themes of

- Education/Awareness
- Enforcement
- Infrastructure

- 3.4 There were some new initiatives announced in the Strategy around marketing and packaging but it did place the onus on local authorities to deal with problem. There is no additional money and some think an opportunity has been missed for example levying a returnable deposit for plastic drink containers; although interestingly the current Secretary of State has suggested he is more amenable to this particular issue.
- 3.5 Gloucester City clearly has a significant role to play and currently dedicates a large resource to providing and emptying bins, clearing fly tips and picking up litter in general. There is lot more however, that could be done and this will be the basis for this report.

### **Implications for Gloucester**

- 3.7 Litter is a big drain on Council resources, it looks unsightly will have an impact on inward investment/ tourism and can be a hazard for wildlife. We do recognise the problem and certainly given the correspondence we receive, we need to do more. Finance, however, will always be an issue and we need to be aware that we can not simply spend our way out of the problem. More can be done within existing budgets but ultimately there are aspects of litter prevention that are best left to Government for example running high profile anti litter campaigns..
- 3.8 When looking at our response to litter it is useful to look at it in context of the national strategy and group our responses into the 3 broad categories of; Education/Awareness, Enforcement and Infrastructure. .

#### Education/Awareness.

- 3.9 The National Litter Strategy does make clear that the Government intends to roll out an intensive campaign aimed at changing behaviour. This sort of work can be time consuming and expensive so in terms of direct marketing we will take a back seat and potentially piggy back on the national campaign. We will however endeavour to do the following:
- We will use our position as waste collection authority (with our partner Amey) to spread the message about the financial and environmental cost of litter. Social media will be a useful cost effective tool to help with this message.
  - We will support community clean ups, in particular the Great British Clean up held in the spring of each year and promote this to other groups and stakeholders
  - We will work with the BID and local business in general to get them involved with community clean ups and other initiatives to improve the environment in their locality.
  - We have recently submitted a bid to Government to trial a model based on Fairshares, where volunteers can claim 'credits' for work they do. Whether or not we are successful we will roll out a programme that delivers what is an innovative and we think unique scheme.
  - We will continue our work with voluntary groups and individuals enabling them to be actively involved in litter picking in their communities.
  - While we accept that it can be 'resource heavy' we would like to work with colleges to get the message across about littering. We already do some targeted work

around recycling with the University. Given the number of new students who will be studying in Gloucester that fit the 'littering demographic' then we would like to roll recycling and littering awareness into one and target young people who are studying in Gloucester.

- In the past done work with schools offering litter pickers and assistance. We will look again at this work as it is a good investment in the future.
- A regular problem concerns sports pitches and associated littering after matches. We will work with Amey to ensure that teams are aware of their responsibilities and potentially refuse clubs access to pitches if they are serial litterers. This may require a change in terms and conditions of hire/seasonal tenancy agreements.
- We have a good working relationship with Gloucester City Homes (GCH) and other housing associations working within the City. We would like to help them raise awareness of the problem and build on the good work they already do.
- We have in the past worked with schools to design anti littering and dog fouling posters. If resources allow we would like to re-enact this.
- The Community Protection Officers are now in place as well as a presence within the city centre BID area. They have a role to play with regard to education. We will talk to the BID to see how this role can be enhanced.
- We have already done some work to investigate the potential of bringing in a private operator to issue fixed penalty notices with regard to littering, dog fouling and other small scale environmental crime (see enforcement below). If this is implemented then we will require that any successful operator devotes a resource into education and awareness to try and deter littering in the first place.

## Enforcement

3.10 Enforcement is often treated as the last resort. While ideally we would not have to enforce at all it is a useful tool especially when trying to change behaviour patterns of habitual litterers.

- We supported the BID with the employment of City Protection Officers. There is an option for them to be trained to issue Fixed Penalty Notices though we need to be aware of issues that may arise if we also employ a contractor to do this in the City
- We have begun discussions with a number of commercial organisations who will issue fixed penalty notices for small scale environmental crime in particular littering. It is proposed we run a trial for a period of one year sometime in the New Year.
- Fixed penalty notices are currently set at £75. There is an option to raise this to a new maximum of £150. It is proposed that report is taken to Cabinet in the spring of 2018 enabling this to happen.
- We will continue to pursue fly tipping through the use of cameras and investigative work. We will look to use the income from fixed penalty notices to cross subsidise further work in this area.
- We will continue to work with the Council's Private Sector Housing team to address the issue of over crowding in rental properties and the associated poor management of waste.
- We will continue to ensure that small scale take-a-ways and other food premises have waste agreements in place and pursue those that do not.
- We will continue to mount joint operations with the police and Environment Agency to clamp down on vehicles and skips carrying/holding waste that are not registered or non compliant. Some non-compliant operators do utilise practices that result in littering.

- We will be publishing a draft Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) covering the City Centre that will allow us to increase enforcement within the area.
- Take-a-ways near to schools can lead to poor diet as well as increased littering. It is proposed that policies are pursued through the City Plan that try and control the number of outlets near to schools

### Infrastructure

3.11 Infrastructure can be something as simple as a new bin or as complex as a computer algorithm that predicts where and when litter will appear. Investment in technology and other infrastructure can improve service delivery and save money.

- Working with our partner Amey, we are introducing changes to our streetcare contract. This includes a revised round for hard to reach properties utilising gull proof sacks rather than bins and purple bags. This should in itself cut out on litter from spillage and the resulting reduction in street clutter will allow the use of mechanical sweepers making street cleaning more efficient.
- Changes in the streetcare contract will see a re-alignment of the street cleansing team. They will now work as small teams on dedicated rounds, coordinated to be the day after the waste collection which will help with the clearing of spillage and importantly allowing officers and the public to know where they are and when. It is also the intention to build up pride in the teams leading to greater motivation and productivity.
- We have in the region of 1100 litter bins. There is no information about their status and use. We need to work with Amey to geographically map and monitor all the bins. We then need to understand which ones are overused and focus activity and bin collection on those bins. Currently they are emptied on a set frequency irrespective of use. It is hoped that the end result is less bins but those that are left are more frequently emptied or larger thus reducing litter spill.
- There are a new generation of 'Smart Bins' that can compact waste and communicate with operatives informing them when full. These are currently expensive and would not at present be good value for money. However, as new players come on the market prices are expected to drop, as they do we will appraise the situation accordingly.
- We currently only have public recycling bins at limited locations. Recycling bins were trialled in the city centre a number of years ago; however it was not successful due to contamination. In recent years the public's understanding of recycling has grown and it has become much more common place than it may be worth trialling again.
- The My Gloucester app allows the public to quickly and efficiently pass on information around littering and fly tipping. We need to promote this more widely.
- Gum Zapper. We are working with the BID to purchase a machine that will clean gum from the gate streets. It is hoped that as litter declines due to other activities we can dedicate one of the City Centre team to working this machine.
- Assistance from Friends groups. This is always very welcome and yet sometimes the group can be short of the equipment to properly tackle the problem. We will ensure that Friends and other community groups are furnished with litter pickers, gloves and bags – and make sure that litter is picked up after they have completed their work.
- Mobile Cameras have dropped in price and they can be useful in tackling fly tipping. Although they are not the panacea they are sometimes made out to be, we will



extend our coverage of mobile cameras and so increase our potential to catch those responsible.

- Litter follows patterns both spatially and in time. Although not something we will do immediately we will want to look at technology that allows us to predict where and when litter appears allowing us to tackle it more efficiently. On a related issue some authorities have taken the steps of removing vegetation as it traps litter – this appears counter productive as if it is trapped it is focussed, and our contractor if they know about can remove it.

3.12 The list above is not exhaustive and there will be work we currently do, and will do in the future that will help us tackle the nuisance of litter. As technology moves on we should be able to focus our and our contractor's work to be smarter so litter can be tackled quicker and more efficiently. Also people who experience litter will be able to report and log it easier and in a manner that gets dealt with quickly.

#### **4.0 Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Considerations**

4.1 Communities are well placed and often very eager to tackle the problem of litter. While there is plenty of good work the report makes clear that there is more that can be done from rolling out of the Fairshares process to empowering local groups to go on regular litter picks in their community.

4.2 Community involvement is key to Gloucester being litter free not only in mopping up the downstream end but ensuring that by working with young people and other groups that it is not dropped in the first place.

#### **5.0 Alternative Options Considered**

5.1 Do nothing. We could carry on as we are, however, this is clearly not delivering a City we can be proud of.

5.2 The traditional approach would be to employ more staff to pick litter. This would have an impact but would not reduce the problem at source, and of course would need long term funding.

#### **6.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

6.1 It is recognised that litter is a problem that not only impacts on amenity and wildlife but has economic impacts as individuals and business are less likely to invest in/visit the city. It is however, a national problem and the government's recognition of the problem is welcomed.

6.2 The proposals put forward vary from modest to quite ambitious, put together it is hoped they will make a real difference to how the city looks and feels by tackling litter at source, empowering communities to do their bit and ensuring that the recourse we spend is put to the best most efficient use. .

## **7.0 Future Work and Conclusions**

- 7.1 It is clear that there will be legislative changes coming through from Government as well as support for measures that reduce littering and its impact. The City Council will need to be alive to any new initiatives and respond accordingly.
- 7.2 It is also clear that the area of litter management like many other aspects of local government work will be subject to technological change that will make our work more efficient. Again the City Council will need to be alive to these changes and move forward when appropriate.
- 7.3 It is concluded therefore that the proposals put forward are ambitious but appropriate and when taken as a whole should make a visible difference to littering in the City.

## **8.0 Financial Implications**

- 8.1 All the proposals put forward can be achieved through existing budgets.

## **9.0 Legal Implications**

- 9.1 The Council needs to ensure that they comply with EPA (Environmental Protection Act 1990) Section 89 (1) Duty to keep land and highways clear of litter etc.
- 9.2. Any surveillance undertaken must be in accordance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000

## **10.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications**

- 10.1 See table below

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
Third party contractor not interested in working in Gloucester	Flexibility of contract could allow third party to work in Gloucester and still be a viable business
New working practices for Amey staff unworkable	New staffing arrangements at Amey lead to increased motivation, staff retention and increased productivity
Fairshares bid fails	Fairshares becomes model for other authorities indeed other sectors of Local authority work
New technology proves to expensive/complicated to be worthwhile	New technology provides a platform for real efficiency savings

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

- 11.1 N/A at this stage

## **12.0 Other Corporate Implications**

### Community Safety

12.1 N/A

### Sustainability

12.2 Reducing litter is an environmental imperative. Some of the proposals put forward will make energy savings increase recycling/waste minimisation. Litter reduction will benefit wildlife thus assisting long term sustainability.

### Staffing & Trade Union

**Background Documents:** None

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# Gloucester City Council

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Purple Flag Application</b>		
<b>Report Of:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods</b>		
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Budget/Policy Framework:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Ismael Rhyman, City Improvement and Environment Officer</b>		
	<b>Email: ismael.rhyman@gloucester.gov.uk</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>396784</b>
<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>1. Purple Flag Core Agenda</b>		

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

### 1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To request Cabinet approve an application for Purple Flag status for the City of Gloucester.

### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to **RESOLVE** that a Purple Flag application for Gloucester be lodged before 30<sup>th</sup> January.

### 3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 The Purple Flag Scheme has been developed and is awarded by the Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) to cities and towns that have met the scheme core agenda (see appendix).
- 3.2 In the same way that the Green Flag Scheme is used to assess the quality of parks and open spaces, Purple Flag is the 'gold standard' for city and town centre hospitality and entertainment areas at night.
- 3.3 The aim of scheme is to raise the standard and broaden the appeal of commercial and city centres as of 5:00 pm. The scheme is managed by the ATCM working alongside the Purple Flag Advisory Board; a partnership of key stakeholders including central and local government, police, business and consumer groups.
- 3.4 Purple Flag has been designed as an objective assessment process which evaluates the effectiveness of an area across five core themes.
- 3.5 Locations that reach or surpass the required standard can be promoted as Purple Flag destinations and research carried out on Purple Flag sites, shows that achieving Purple Flag status is beneficial, including:

- A raised profile and an improved public image

- Wider patronage
- Increased consumer expenditure
- Lower crime and anti-social behaviour
- A more successful mixed-use economy

- 3.6 For a number of years, members and officers at Gloucester City Council, along with key stakeholders and partners have developed multiple initiatives to support and improve the management of the night time economy.
- 3.7 Applying to obtain Purple Flag Status for Gloucester will provide the Council with an opportunity to highlight all the progress that has been made to date in relation to the night time economy and address any gaps in the current offer and learn from the best practices adopted by other cities and towns that are holders of the Purple Flag Status. If Gloucester is successful in achieving this status, it can then be used to promote Purple Flag as part of a wider programme of improvements to help overcome any negative perceptions.

#### Foundation for Application

- 3.8 The Nightsafe Group is a strategic group, chaired by Justin Hudson, the Chair of the LVA, with responsibility for Community Safety and to improve the night time economy.
- 3.9 The Group is made up of key Council Officers and external partners, including the Police, licensed sector, BID, Marketing Gloucester and other key stakeholders.
- 3.10 The group has delivered several projects including the introduction of the road closure of Lower Eastgate Street on Friday and Saturday night by way of a Traffic Order, the introduction of the Taxi Marshall Scheme and the Best Bar None Scheme.
- 3.11 The working group set up to deliver Purple Flag status for Gloucester is a sub group of the Nightsafe Group.
- 3.12 As part of the preparation to start working towards an application for Purple Flag, Sarah Walker, the Purple Flag Scheme Manager (ATCM) was invited to spend a whole day in Gloucester in July 2017. The purpose of this invitation was for the working group to obtain an objective view of all the gaps that are required to be met before a successful application can be lodged.
- 3.13 Following Sarah Walker's visit to Gloucester and two City Council Officers attending an ATCM meeting in September 2017, an assessment of the feasibility of attaining Purple Flag was undertaken and the Purple Flag Working Group has been meeting on an 'as and when' basis.
- 3.14 As part of the application process, a 12-hour self-assessment, based on the Core agenda (see 4.0), has to be carried out and the results/data should be included in the application form.

- 3.15 In Gloucester, the self-assessment was carried out by the Working Group on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (5:00pm to 5:00am). This have shown that the minimum standard in most, if not all of the categories would be met if the night time economy was to be assessed by Purple Flag official assessors.
- 3.16 A Purple Flag Action Plan has also been devised by the Working Group to capture the key elements of the Purple Flag process and ensure that the required standards are met.

#### **4.0 Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Considerations**

- 4.1 One of the key elements that the assessors would look at when considering an application is sustainability, i.e. what happens if the lead Local Authority Officer for Purple Flag is not in post or the scheme is no longer a priority for the Local Authority. In the case of Gloucester, the Working Group consists of members of the LVA, the BID board and Higher Educational Institutions, all of which have Purple Flag as an objective for their respective interest group and are contributing directly or indirectly to assist Officers to address any the gaps that have been identified. As an example, the Street Pastors will be highlighted in our application as an invaluable service provided by volunteers residents.

#### **5.0 Alternative Options Considered**

- 5.1 Not to apply for Purple Flag and to continue to work with partners and stakeholders, as part of the Nightsafe Working Group to improve the vitality of the night time economy and make Gloucester a safe city for residents to enjoy. However, the applying for Purple Flag status for the City is one of the current administration's commitments and the BID's board has since endorsed this initiative. Submitting an application in the January window would ensure that, if successful, Gloucester City would be able to use this status to promote it's night time economy as welcoming, clean and safe to the influx of students expecting to move into the city as of September 2018.

#### **6.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 6.1 Having Purple Flag status could bring benefits to the City such as a raised profile and improved public image, a wider patronage with increased consumer expenditure, lower crime rate and anti-social behaviour and more successful mixed use economy in the longer term

#### **7.0 Future Work and Conclusions**

- 7.1 Once Purple Flag status is obtained, it has to be renewed annually.

#### **8.0 Financial Implications**

- 8.1 The entry fee for making an application to Purple Flag is £3000. This fee covers the cost of processing the application, including the visit by the Assessors, fact checking with the applicant, preparation of the report to the Accreditation Panel, guidance and feedback to applicants and attendance for two people at the Purple Flag Awards Ceremony and subsequent spot checks. The fee is non-returnable but

any applicant who is not successful will be entitled to re-apply within a 12 month period at 50% of the relevant prevailing rate.

8.2 Purple Flag status is dependent on 12 month renewals from the date of accreditation. This is subject to a 'light touch fee of £1,000.

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

## 9.0 Legal Implications

10.1 One Legal have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

## 10.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

10.1 See table below:

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
Fail to obtain Purple Flag status	The Nightsafe Working Group would receive valuable and objective feedback on how to improve the night time economy, which can then be developed into an Action Plan for improvements.

## 11.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA):

11.1 N/A at this stage

## 12.0 Other Corporate Implications

### Community Safety

12.1 N/A

### Sustainability

12.2 N/A

### Staffing & Trade Union

12.3 N/A

**Background Documents:** None



## Purple Flag Core Agenda

The Purple Flag Core Agenda describes five broad themes which are key to developing and managing successful centres at night. It is the framework for assessing the quality and appeal of each centre. It is used by cities and towns in compiling their entries and by the Purple Flag Assessors and Accreditation Panel in reaching their decisions. For each Core Agenda theme there is a simple 'Minimum Threshold Requirement' and several 'Purple Flag Attributes'.

The five themes are:

### 1. **Wellbeing** – welcoming, clean and safe.

A pre-requisite for successful destinations is that they should be safe and welcoming. The Purple Flag minimum threshold in respect of this theme is “*per capita crime and anti-social behaviour rates that are at least average and show an improving trend – taking both residents and visitors into account*”

The Purple Flag attributes are:

- **Safety** - Proportionate levels of visible, effective policing and active surveillance
- **Care** - Responsible guardianship, customer care and concern for community health.
- **Regulation** - Positive and proactive licensing and regulation.
- **Services** - Appropriate levels of public utilities.
- **Partnership** - The active involvement of business in driving up standards
- **Perceptions** - A valid and positive presentation of the area to customers.

### 2. **Movement** – A secure pattern of arrival, circulation and departure

Getting home safely after an evening out is prime requirement. So too is the ability to move around the centre on foot with ease. The Purple Flag minimum threshold in respect of this theme is “*some form of appropriate late-night public transport provision.*”

The Purple Flag attributes are:

- **Public Transport** - Safe, affordable, well-managed, late-night public transport.
- **Car Parking** - An appropriate provision of secure late night car parking.
- **Pedestrian routes** - Clear, safe and convenient links within the centre and homewards.

- *Crowd Management* - Measure to deal with overcrowding, congestion and conflict between those on foot and moving vehicles.
- *Information* – Provision of practical information and guidance to town centre users.
- *Partnership* – Business and operator commitment and participation

**3. Appeal** – A vibrant choice and a rich mix of entertainment and activity.

Successful destinations should offer a vibrant choice of leisure and entertainment for a diversity of ages, lifestyles and cultures including families. They should contain a rich mix of public and private attractions. They should be vital places for the both the day and the night. The purple flag minimum threshold in respect of this theme is “*a late night offer that is broader than youth oriented and alcohol based activity*”.

The Purple Flag criteria for success are:

- *Food and Dining* - A choice of eating venues and a commitment to good food.
- *Pubs and Bars* - Well-managed venues, to meet varied tastes, and offering more than just alcoholic beverages.
- *Late night venues* - A late night offer that complements the diverse appeal of the centre as a whole.
- *Early evening activity* - An active early evening period including late opening shops.
- *Public Building* - Creative and imaginative use of public/civic buildings in the evening and at night.
- *Arts and Culture* - A vibrant, inclusive arts and cultural scene.

#### 4. **Place** – A stimulating destination and a vital place.

Successful hospitality areas are alive during the day and night. They contain a blend of overlapping activities that encourage people to mingle and attractive places where spending and being are in balance. They respect and reinforce the character and identity of the area – its buildings, structures and features. They display fair and imagination in all aspects of design for the night. The purple Flag minimum threshold requirement in respect of this theme is “*A diversity of land uses. A convenient and attractive destination at night*”

The Purple Flag criteria for success are:

- *Location* - Appropriate location, clustering and capacity of venue types.
- *Diversity* - A successful balance of uses and brands.
- *Clarity* - Well-designed links and visible signs.
- *Animation* - Attractive, well-used public places, active streets and building frontages.
- *Good Design* - Thoughtful and imaginative design for the night.
- *Identity* - Appropriate use of natural and built features to reinforce appeal.

#### 5. **Policy Envelope** – A clear aim and a common purpose

After hours policy crosses many professional, budgetary and sectoral boundaries. The challenge is to bring clarity and focus to a complicated field. The Purple flag minimum requirement is “*A momentum of collaboration between sectors, agencies, service providers and policymakers.*”

The Purple Flag criteria for success are:

- *Data* - A sound statistical base for policy making and action.
- *Strategy* - Positive strategic objectives and targets.
- *Coordination* - Public policy co-ordination and focus.
- *Leadership* - Clear responsibilities for policy and action.
- *Partnership* - Multi-sector endorsement and commitment
- *Community* - A dialogue with consumers and residents

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# Gloucester City Council

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Council</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018 25<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Local Council Tax Support scheme 2018/19</b>		
<b>Report Of:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Performance &amp; Resources</b>		
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Budget/Policy Framework:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Stacey Jellyman, Intelligent Client Officer (Revenues and Benefits)</b>		
	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Stacey.jellyman@gloucester.gov.uk</b>	<b>Tel:</b>
	<b>396014</b>		
<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>None</b>		

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

### 1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek approval to retain the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) for 2018/19.

### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 **Cabinet** is asked to **RECOMMEND** that the current Local Council Tax Support scheme as the approved scheme for Gloucester City Council in 2017/18 be adopted for 2018/19.
- 2.2 **Council** is asked to **RESOLVE** that the current Local Council Tax Support scheme as the approved scheme for Gloucester City Council in 2017/18 be adopted for 2018/19.

### 3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Welfare Reform Act 2012 abolished Council Tax Benefit and a Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) was adopted from 2013 which also provides protection for pensioners. This localisation continues to have a reduction in support to local government of 10%.
- 3.2 The current Local Council Tax Support scheme was brought in line with reforms to Housing Benefit and Universal Credit for 2017/18 which has helped to simplify the system; staying up to date with the governments work incentives, alongside making it fairer and more sustainable for the claimant and the council.
- 3.3 Members will be aware that the current LCTS scheme was adopted and approved at the meeting of full Council of 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017 with a prior urgent decision of the

Managing Director on 26<sup>th</sup> January to enable a decision to be made by statutory deadlines.

3.4 With Universal Credit Full Service due to go live in Gloucester on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018, we are not yet able to anticipate the effects on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19.

3.5 Our neighbouring districts' plans have been considered whilst drafting this report and in consultation with them, they expressed intention to continue with existing schemes until 2019/20 when Universal Credit implementation impacts will provide us with more insight to better tailor our scheme for 2019/20 onwards.

3.6 **War pensions income:** To note, we will continue to disregard £10 of the War disablement pensions and war widows pensions and in addition will disregard the remainder of the War disablement element of a war pension and the war widows element of a war widows pension, when assessing a reduction under the local Council Tax Support scheme.

#### **4.0 ABCD Implications**

4.1 There are no anticipated ABCD implications from this report

#### **5.0 Alternative Options Considered**

5.1 An alternative option would be to consider changes for the 2018/19 scheme but in line with the approach of other local Districts this has not been carried out.

#### **6.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

6.1 Universal Credit is being introduced into Gloucester in February 2018 and it is not considered appropriate to change our scheme until the impacts of Universal Credit are known.

#### **7.0 Future Work and Conclusions**

7.1 Any changes in the level of LCTS claimed during 2018/19 will be monitored and if any changes to the new scheme are necessary they will be considered, and consulted upon, for the 2019/20 scheme.

#### **8.0 Financial Implications**

8.1 The financial implications are contained in the body of the report.

#### **9.0 Legal Implications**

9.1 The Local Government Finance Act 2012 abolished Council Tax Benefit and instead required each authority to design a scheme specifying the reductions which are to apply to amounts of Council tax. The prescribed regulations set out the matters that must be included in such a scheme.

The Local Council Tax Support 'LCTS' scheme is required under Section 9 of the Local Government Finance Act 2012.

- 9.2 Pensioners (those over state pension age) are protected from any changes, but otherwise the Council has discretion to decide how it wishes to design its scheme to cover any shortfall, in accordance with the prescribed requirements.

## **10.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications**

- 10.1 Potential risks as a result of this report are potential income shortfall.

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

- 11.1 A PIA screening assessment has been undertaken and the impact is neutral. A full PIA is not required.

## **12.0 Other Corporate Implications**

### Community Safety

- 12.1 None

### Sustainability

- 12.2 None

### Staffing & Trade Union

- 12.3 None

**Background Documents:** None

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