



Shire Hall
Westgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2TG

Wednesday, 22 January 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 at the Civic Suite - North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP on **Thursday, 30th January 2020** at **6.30 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **MINUTES (Pages 9 - 26)**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 November 2019 and the Special Council Meeting held on 27 November 2019.

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 9-13) 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. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2020-21 (Pages 27 - 42)

To consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources seeking approval to amend the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020/21.

10. CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES (Pages 43 - 394)

To consider the report of the Head of Paid Service proposing a number of changes to the Council's Constitution to address issues or reflect reviews in relation to contract rules, the Councillor Code of Conduct, Employee Code of Conduct and Councillor/Officer protocol, petitions and procedures for dealing with the budget debate at Council.

11. APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE AND CHANGES TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (Pages 395 - 424)

To consider the report of the Head of Audit Risk Assurance seeking approval for the appointment of an Independent Member to the Audit and Governance Committee and to update the Committee's Terms of Reference.

12. POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES - REVIEW (Pages 425 - 428)

To consider the report of the Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer concerning changes to the size and membership of Committees to ensure statutory political balance following a change in the Conservative Group.

13. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS, MAY 2020-APRIL 2022 (Pages 429 - 458)

To consider the report of the Policy and Governance Manager seeking approval for a two-year programme of ordinary meetings of Council and other meetings for the period of May 2020 to April 2022.

MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HAIGH

"This Council has a responsibility to house young people leaving the care of the County Council who have a connection to Gloucester. The County Council supports care leavers until the age of 25 recognising that these young people often face extensive challenges for a variety of reasons and sometimes need extra support to assist them to transition to adulthood.

This Council recognises that we should also support them through their mistakes and provide guidance to help them make more positive choices in the future. Maintaining a stable home can be particularly difficult for care leavers and being

deemed intentionally homeless can mean that they slip through the net of support.

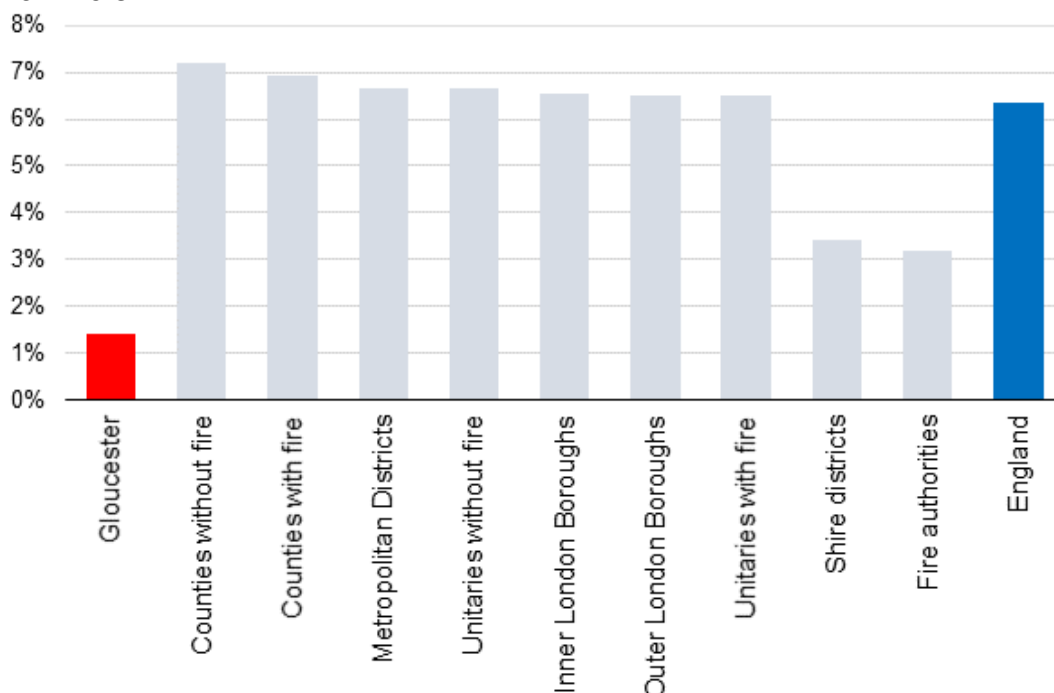
This Council resolves to change our housing policy to ensure that no care leaver with a connection to Gloucester is classed as intentionally homeless and that they are always supported back into accommodation and to work with the County Council to help to maintain that tenancy.”

2. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

“Council notes that the government has issued the provisional local government finance settlement for 2020/21.

Council further notes that the headline change for Gloucester is an increase of 1.4% in Core Spending Power and that without a one-off increase in New Homes Bonus Gloucester City Council would have again seen a negative change.

The chart below illustrates how we compare to other authorities and England as a whole.



Council is disappointed to note that we are well below the shire district average of 3.4% and significantly below England as a whole at 6.3%.

Historically Gloucester has received a bad deal from the government in terms of funding. The Centre for Cities 2019 outlook report set out the impact of austerity in the past decade; total spending in Gloucester has reduced by 23.4%, meaning the City ranks 9th in terms of total change. Gloucester is also the worst hit district council in the country.

The government produced Indices of Deprivation 2019 show that Gloucester has some of the most impoverished wards in the country. As an example, areas in

Matson, Robinswood and White City ranks in the worst 0.1% nationally for some issues.

The level of need in the City is clearly not reflected in the provisional local government finance settlement when compared to other similar authorities and Gloucester residents are severely disadvantaged by this.

Council resolves to:

1. Make urgent representations to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for a significant increase in funding for the City.
2. Seek the intervention of the City MP to lobby for a significant increase and fairer funding in the settlement available to Gloucester City Council.”

3. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR COOLE

“Council notes:

- That 2020 marks 20 years since Overview and Scrutiny was introduced to most councils in England
- That Gloucester remains at the forefront of innovation in Scrutiny, employing best practice that has been recognised both regionally and nationally through the LGIU and CFPS.
- That Overview and Scrutiny is a vital part of the decision-making process in Gloucester, and has added value to significant decisions affecting residents across the City.
- The nature of the decision-making process is changing as councils diversify how they operate and generate income in light of cuts to funding.

Council resolves:

- To ensure that Overview and Scrutiny has sufficient resource to carry out its duties effectively
- To ensure that Overview and Scrutiny maintains parity of esteem with the cabinet
- To ensure that, as decision making changes and becomes more time sensitive, with an increase in urgent decisions, that measures are put in place to maintain transparent and robust scrutiny of all decisions.”

4. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON

“This council notes the large number of empty commercial buildings that there are in or around the city centre and the negative impact these empty properties have on the city council’s regeneration plans.

This council agrees that too many land/property owners are failing to progress projects to either sell them, refurbish them or to build new positive buildings as

replacements.

This council asks the cabinet member to do more to tackle this problem and to provide a written report to this council on what he plans to do to improve the situation.”

5. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR WILSON

“This council notes the report that was presented to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee in relation to the organisational and financial failings of Marketing Gloucester Ltd, a company 100% owned by Gloucester City Council.

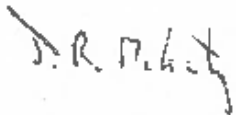
This council welcomes the recommendations in the report and the resolutions agreed by the OSC.

This council calls for a written apology from the former chair of the board and former leader of this council, who was responsible for the financial and organisational crisis that has hit MGL, which forced this council to bailout the company to the tune of £240,000 to help keep the company solvent.”

15. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Pages 459 - 470)

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.

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

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

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

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