



Wednesday, 21 September 2022

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, 29th September 2022 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 - 20)**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7 July 2022.

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 9-11) 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.

To ask a question at this meeting, please submit it to democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk by 12 noon on Friday 23 September 2022 or telephone 01452 396203 for support.

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 (45 minutes)

Any member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or any Cabinet Member any question 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

- b) Questions to Chairs of Meetings (15 Minutes)

Questions and responses will be published at least 24 hours before the meeting. Supplementary questions will be put and answered during the meeting, subject to the relevant time limit.

ISSUES FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL

9. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 2021/22 (Pages 21 - 34)

To consider the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee's annual report.

10. CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES (Pages 35 - 62)

To consider the report of the Head of Paid Service concerning proposed changes to the council's Constitution.

11. DESIGNATION OF MONITORING OFFICER (Pages 63 - 66)

To consider the report of the Head of Paid Service seeking approval for the designation of a Monitoring Officer for the council.

MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR CHAMBERS-DUBUS

"The rise in energy costs for the coming winter will put many people in Gloucester in a position where they will be unable to effectively heat their homes. It is predicted that many families will experience fuel poverty. There is serious concern for the impact this will have not just on vulnerable people and those already experiencing disadvantage but also on working families who are struggling to make ends meet due to the cost of living crisis.

Councils across the country are seriously concerned about the impact the increased energy costs will have and despite the price rises being beyond their control, councils are considering what they can do to help people in their areas.

A number of councils are taking a lead and setting up a 'Warm Places Scheme' where people can attend public buildings during the daytime to stay warm. The scheme would welcome those who cannot afford to heat their homes and venues could include council owned premises and community buildings as well as churches and places of religious worship. By visiting such places people would not only be able to stay warm but also access services who could help and support them with other energy related matters.

In order to establish a Warm Places scheme this council resolves to:

- Take the lead and act urgently and establish a Warm Places initiative across the city.
- Utilise its own premises and liaise with the County Council to make public venues available. This could include places such as libraries, museums and other appropriate council owned buildings.

- Enlist the support of community and voluntary sector organisations to include community centres and neighbourhood buildings.
- Contact churches and other religious organisations to include them in the scheme.
- Establish a Warm Places grant scheme to offer financial support costs to organisations prepared to get involved.”

2. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR PULLEN

“Relocating the office accommodation of this council to The Eastgate Centre is to be welcomed as a positive and progressive move. It places the Council in the heart of the city centre where its presence and services can be easily identified and accessed.

To complement the office relocation the council should also move The Gateway Customer Services Reception to The Eastgate Centre.

Prior to Covid, The Gateway was providing face to face services to the public from its Westgate Street base, near to the council offices in Shire Hall. However, once the council moves to Eastgate The Gateway will become remote from the rest of the Council, being located in a different part of the city. This has the potential to cause confusion among the public in identifying exactly where council services are located and accessed.

The office space formerly occupied by the UK DRIC on the first floor is currently unused and this location or somewhere close by would make an ideal location for The Gateway.

As the impact of Covid improves and services begin to return to normal steps should be taken to restore opening times and return The Gateway to a full face to face service.

Having all city council services at The Eastgate Centre, in a central location will be a positive move and make them more easily identifiable and accessible to all council customers.

This council therefore resolves to:

- Relocate The Gateway into The Eastgate Centre
- Utilise the former offices of the UK DRIC or somewhere nearby for this purpose
- Widely publicise and promote this new location to the public
- Return The Gateway to its pre Covid operating model with full face to face public access.”

3. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR WILSON

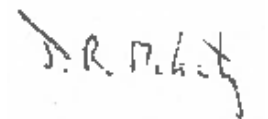
“Council recognises the importance of providing access to toilets across the city. This helps address issues such as healthy living and social inclusion. Older people, parents, those in advanced stages of pregnancy and those with health problems benefit from being able to access facilities easily.

For many years this council helped facilitate this via the Community Toilet Scheme. This scheme was popular with residents and helped the participating businesses who benefited from a rise in footfall.

Council notes that this scheme has now been discontinued.

Council calls on the cabinet to urgently consider restarting this scheme or produce proposals for a viable alternative which achieves the benefits listed above.”

Yours sincerely

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

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.