



## CABINET

**MEETING** : Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**PRESENT** : Cllrs. Cook (Chair), Norman (Vice-Chair), S. Chambers, Lewis and Padilla

**Others in Attendance**

Managing Director

Monitoring Officer

Director of Policy and Resources

Head of Culture

Democratic and Electoral Services Officer

**APOLOGIES** : None

**80. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**81. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 are confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**82. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)**

There were no public questions.

**83. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)**

There were no petitions or deputations.

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

There were no questions to the Leader or Cabinet Members.

**85. CULTURAL STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure that provided an overview of progress made against the Cultural Strategy for the period April 2022 to March 2023.

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The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure reminded Members that the Cultural Strategy was not just for the Council but for the whole city including the Gloucester Culture Trust and other organisations. He expressed his pleasure in the positive delivery report (Appendix 1) as every single area had been improved upon, and that the events staged had become more diverse and numerous. The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure advised that the progress would continue with the National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) status awards (3.9 Objective 7) which would bring a slight shift towards young people. He drew Members' attention to the improvements revealed in the resident's survey (4.2) and commented that these demonstrated that people were noticing that Gloucester is on the up.

The Cabinet Member for Environment emphasised the huge amount of both internal and external investment being brought in to enable cultural events across the city and that there were opportunities for people to get involved wherever he looked.

**RESOLVED** that the report is accepted and progress against the objectives and actions is noted.

**86. PERFORMANCE MONITORING QUARTER 3 - 2022/23**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that informed Members of the Council's performance against key measures in Quarter 3 of 2022/23.

The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources underlined some of the improving and declining trends. She noted that the report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (27 February 2023 Minute 104).

The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure pointed to the rate of increase in Museum of Gloucester/Tourist Information Centre footfall (Appendix 1 CD & VE-1). He commented that this reflected the shift towards people accessing tourist information online and drew Members' attention to the increase in visitors to visitgloucester.co.uk (Appendix 1 TM-6). The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy placed the increase in homelessness preventions (Appendix H-4) within the context of the vital work done by the Housing Team to help residents. She took the opportunity to encourage people finding difficulty with their rent to contact the team so that they can find ways to assist.

**RESOLVED** that the Quarter 3 Performance Report 2022/23 at Appendix 1 of the report is noted.

**87. CAPITAL STRATEGY 2023/24**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that sought Members to recommend that Council approves the Capital Strategy 2023-24.

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The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources outlined the background to the report (3.1, 5.1). She reminded Members that this strategy necessarily overlapped various other strategies and plans in order to serve the objectives of the Council.

**RECOMMENDED** that the Capital Strategy be approved.

**88. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2023/24**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that sought Members to recommend that Council approves the Treasury Management Strategy and the prudential indicators, and notes the Treasury activities.

The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources highlighted the key features of the report including the recommendation to continue to operate within an under borrowed position (3.2). She advised that the strategy enabled flexibility for either debt rescheduling or new long term fixed rate borrowing while allowing the Council to benefit from lower interest rates on temporary borrowing.

The Cabinet Member for Environment expressed his gratitude to the Director of Policy and Resources and the Financial Services Manager for their detailed explanation of the Strategy and the Council's position to Members before the meeting. The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy added her own thanks and informed Members that she had found that session to have been highly useful.

**RECOMMENDED** that the Treasury Management Strategy be approved.

**89. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2023/24**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that sought Members to recommend that Council approves the Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24.

The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources summarised the report and drew Members' attention to the details of the statement in the appendix.

**RECOMMENDED** that the Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24 attached as Appendix 1 of the report be approved.

**90. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the following item of business (Agenda item 12) on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of 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 Paragraph (3) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

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**91. 'GLOUCESTER FEED THE HUNGRY' LEASE AGREEMENT - TO APPROVE  
THE DRAFTING OF A LEASE TO OCCUPY 24 THE OXBODE**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, and the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods that sought to secure approval to enter into a one-year lease for Gloucester Feed the Hungry Community Interest Company (CIC) to continue their work in the local community as a community coffee shop, food bank and donation centre for the homeless and vulnerable within the City.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (1) delegated authority is granted for the Investment Manager, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods to complete a one year lease for 24 The Oxbode for Gloucester Feed the Hungry CIC
- (2) it is noted that the lease will have mutual provisions for breaking the lease giving not less than 3 months' notice on either side.

**Time of commencement: 6.00 pm**

**Time of conclusion: 6.17 pm**

**Chair**