



DECISION RECORD

Gloucester City Council

Publication Date

12 December
2024

Decision Of

Cabinet

Date of Decision

11 December 2024

Item No.

8

Title

Treasury Management Update - Quarter 1 & Mid-Year Report
2024/25

Report Of

Cabinet Member for Resources (Councillor Declan Wilson)

Report Author

Hadrian Walters, Accountancy Manager

Wards Affected

All Wards

Key Decision

No

DECISION:

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) Code of Practice for Treasury Management recommends that members be updated on treasury management activities regularly (TMSS, annual and midyear reports). This report covers the six months 1st April 2024 to 30th September 2024 and therefore, ensures this Council is implementing best practice in accordance with the Code.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

None

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

None

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the publication of the decision.

Call-in Deadline: 19 December 2024

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 and is a true and accurate record of that decision:

Decision Maker:

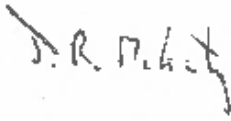
Councillor Jeremy Hilton
Leader of the Council



Date: 11 December 2024

Proper Officer:

Jon McGinty
Managing Director



Date: 11 December 2024



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Item No.

9

Title

Risk Management Policy Statement and Strategy

Report Of

Cabinet Member for Resources (Councillor Declan Wilson)

Report Author

Paul Brown, Senior Risk Management Advisor

Wards Affected

All Wards

Key Decision

No

DECISION:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the Risk Management Policy Statement and Strategy is adopted and endorsed;
- (2) following endorsement, the Strategy be disseminated to Members and officers in accordance with a communications plan to reaffirm the Council's risk management objectives.

REASON FOR DECISION:

In addition to the statutory requirements and codes of good practice as noted within paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 of the report, the council has responded to the above by incorporating these requirements into the Council Constitution, specifically within Part 3 which defines the members/officers responsibilities in relation to risk management and also within Financial Regulations - Audit and the Control of Resources.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

No other options have been considered.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

None

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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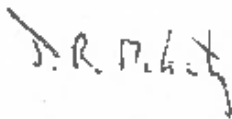
Councillor Jeremy Hilton
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Managing Director



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Item No.

10

Title

Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2025/26

Report Of

Cabinet Member for Resources (Councillor Declan Wilson)

Report Author

Hadrian Walters, Accountancy Manager

Wards Affected

All Wards

Key Decision

No

DECISION:

RECOMMENDED to Council that:

- (1) the Local Council Tax Support scheme for working age customers in Appendix 1 and summarised in Appendix 2 of the report is adopted as the approved scheme for 2025/26;
- (2) the scheme approved at (1) above be updated to align with any legislation changes in January 2025 and to be implemented from 1st April 2025;
- (3) any urgent amendments to the scheme approved at (1) above, in the event of a national emergency and authorised by the government, be adopted, and implemented immediately.

REASON FOR DECISION:

Gloucester City Council have managed to maintain the current scheme broadly mirroring the original Council Tax Benefit scheme for eleven years, to date. Whilst the Council are facing a range of financial pressures, it is not considered pertinent to amend the scheme at this time. The increased cost of living across the UK continues to impact households with increased food prices and energy bills; the current scheme offers a degree of financial support in uncertain financial times for our residents.

As government funding continues to decrease, we also need to strike a balance between a revised scheme that is fair and affordable for those who receive support, and for all our residents who receive council services. However, we do remain committed to providing support to our residents with low incomes.

On Thursday 19 September 2024 following a notice of motion Cabinet was asked to consider amending its Council Tax Support Scheme so that compensation awarded to members of the Armed Forces is disregarded when calculating council tax support, so

that Forces personnel and veterans are dealt with in the same way as civilians awarded compensation by courts.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The Council is required to approve a Local Council Tax Support Scheme for working age people by 11 March of the preceding financial year. If the proposed changes are not adopted certain vulnerable groups will not receive the same level of council tax support in 2025/26.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

None

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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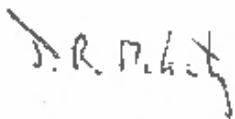
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Item No.

11

Title

National Non-Domestic Rates Discretionary Relief Policy

Report Of

Cabinet Member for Resources (Councillor Declan Wilson)

Report Author

Karen Haile, Service Delivery Manager (Revenues & Benefits)

Wards Affected

All Wards

Key Decision

Yes

DECISION:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the National Non-Domestic Rates Discretionary Relief Policy detailed at Appendix 1 of the report is approved and adopted;
- (2) the policy be reviewed every 3 years with the next review in 2027;
- (3) powers are delegated for discretionary relief as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Council's existing policy has not been reviewed since 2012.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

None. The Council is required, under The Local Government and Finance Act 1988 (LGFA 1988) and subsequent legislation to grant discretionary relief to premises occupied by charities or, to organisations that are non-profit making, that own or occupy a premises wholly or mainly for charitable purposes.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

None

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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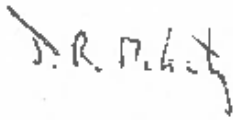
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Item No.

12

Title

Public Art

Report Of

Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure (Councillor Caroline Courtney)

Report Author

Louisa Davies, Head of Culture and Leisure

Wards Affected

All Wards

Key Decision

No

DECISION:

RESOLVED that the report is noted and next steps endorsed.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The report sets out next steps to implement the commitment to public art being made in the draft Corporate Plan 2025-2028. The recommended next steps are based on industry best practice in this field.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The alternative option would be to continue with the existing work being delivered in the public realm in 3.3.2 and 3.3.3 in the report, with the focus being mainly in Kings Square, the Gate Streets and Docks. This would not include any permanent public art and is limited by the budgets available. For example, the budget for programming creative and cultural activity into Kings Square will reduce to £25,000 from £50,000 in 2025/26 due to the 3-year agreement around utilising remaining Kings Square capital to animate the Square coming to an end. Given the scale of the space, this will result in a limited programme.

In addition, this would result in opportunities to commission permanent public art in the city, as and when they arise and are acted on, being delivered outside of an agreed public art framework and therefore less likely to bring the desired strategic outcomes for the city.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

None

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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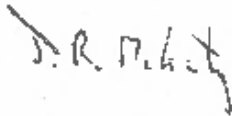
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Item No.

13

Title

Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) 2023/2024 and Annual Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Rate Summary Statement

Report Of

Cabinet Member for Planning (Councillor Sarah Sawyer)

Report Author

Paul Hardiman, CIL Manager for the Joint Core Strategy Authorities of Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury

Wards Affected

All Wards

Key Decision

Yes

DECISION:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement relating to the financial year ending 31st March 2024 (Appendix 1 of the report) is approved; and
- (2) it is noted that the annual Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Rate Summary Statement (Appendix 2 of the report) will be published alongside the Infrastructure Funding Statement by 31st December 2024.

REASON FOR DECISION:

Regulation 121A of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) require us to produce an IFS each year.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

None

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

None

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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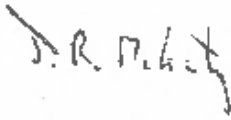
Councillor Jeremy Hilton
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Proper Officer:

Jon McGinty
Managing Director



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CALL-IN PROCEDURE

Call-in should only be used in exceptional circumstances, such as where Members have evidence which suggests that the Cabinet did not take the decision in accordance with the principles set out in Article 13 (Decision Making) of the Council's Constitution.

Call-in of a decision must be requested within five working days of the publication of an executive decision. The request must be communicated in writing to the Corporate Director of Resources by at least five Members of the Council.

Implementation of a decision that has been called-in is suspended until such time as it has been considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and re-considered by the Cabinet in light of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's conclusions and any recommendations.

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If you have any queries about the content of Decision Records please contact:

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