

# FOREWORD

Modern local government requires modern and effective governance. Given Gloucester City Council's ambition to be a leaner, more focused Council it is essential that we have a constitution, governance arrangements, and methods of working, that facilitate this.

This constitution is the product of consultation with members and officers of the Council and is written to help support the Council achieving its Corporate Priorities.

I believe this constitution offers the appropriate combination of certainty, clarity and flexibility, achieving the balance that enables swift and effective decision making, yet ensuring proper checks and balances.

However, this is not the end of the process. Local government will continue to change and this will apply to Gloucester as much as elsewhere. Annual review of the constitution is unlikely to be sufficient, and accordingly regular reports will be brought to improve and update the Council's controlling document, as appropriate.

**Jon McGinty**  
**Managing Director and Head of Paid Service**