

<b>Environment Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>Wednesday 17 July 2019 at 10.00 am</b>	
<b>Cabinet Suite - Shire Hall, Gloucester</b>	
<b>AGENDA</b>	

<b>1</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b> To note any apologies for absence.	Chairman
<b>2</b>	<b>MINUTES</b> (Pages 1 - 8) To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2019.	Chairman
<b>3</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> Members of the Committee are invited to declare any pecuniary or personal interests relating to specific matters on the agenda.  Please see note (a) at the end of the agenda.	Chairman
<b>4</b>	<b>DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY</b> (Pages 9 - 16) The Committee to consider a report on the draft Climate Change Strategy and proposed engagement approach.	Peter Wiggins
<b>5</b>	<b>DIRECTOR'S REPORT, COMMUNITIES &amp; INFRASTRUCTURE</b> (Pages 17 - 22)  Colin Chick, Strategic Adviser (Communities & Infrastructure) to update the Committee on current issues.	Colin Chick
<b>6</b>	<b>TASK GROUP REQUESTS</b> (Pages 23 - 26) The Committee to consider the following task group requests presented by Cllr Eva Ward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single-use Plastics</li> <li>• Javelin Park</li> </ul>	Chairman

<b>7</b>	<p><b>WORK PLAN</b> (Pages 27 - 28)</p> <p>To review the committee work plan and suggest items for consideration at future meetings.</p>	Chairman
<b>8</b>	<p><b>FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p> <p>18 September 2019 26 November 2019</p>	Chairman
<p><b>Membership</b> – <i>Cllr Robert Bird, Cllr Dr John Cordwell, Cllr Kevin Cromwell, Cllr Stephen Hirst, Cllr Sajid Patel, Cllr Eva Ward, Cllr Ray Theodoulou, Cllr Suzanne Williams and Cllr Keith Rippington</i></p>		

- (a) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Members requiring advice or clarification about whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact the Monitoring Officer, Jane Burns ☎01452 328472 /fax: 425149/ e-mail: [Jane.Burns@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Jane.Burns@gloucestershire.gov.uk)) prior to the start of the meeting.
- (b) **INSPECTION OF PAPERS AND GENERAL QUERIES** - If you wish to inspect minutes or reports relating to any item on this agenda or have any other general queries about the meeting, please contact: Sophie Benfield, Democratic Services Adviser ☎:01452 324094/e-mail: [sophie.benfield@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:sophie.benfield@gloucestershire.gov.uk)
- (c) **GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS**
- 1 Members are required to sign the attendance list.
  - 2 Please note that substitution arrangements are in place for Scrutiny (see page 81 of the Constitution).
- (d) Please note that photography, filming and audio recording of Council meetings is permitted subject to the Local Government Access to Information provisions. Please contact Democratic Services (Tel 01452 324202) to make the necessary arrangements ahead of the meeting. If you are a member of the public and do not wish to be photographed or filmed please inform the Democratic Services Officer on duty at the meeting.

**EVACUATION PROCEDURE** - in the event of the fire alarms sounding during the meeting please leave as directed in a calm and orderly manner and go to the assembly point which is **outside the main entrance to Shire Hall in Westgate Street**. Please remain there and await further instructions.



## ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**MINUTES** of the meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee held on Wednesday 22 May 2019 commencing at 10.00 am at the Cabinet Suite - Shire Hall, Gloucester.

### PRESENT

Cllr Robert Bird	Cllr Sajid Patel
Cllr Dr John Cordwell	Cllr Eva Ward
Cllr Kevin Cromwell	Cllr Suzanne Williams
Cllr Stephen Hirst	

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Keith Rippington and Ray Theodoulou.

### 2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2019 were approved and signed by the Chair subject to three minor typos on page 3.

### ACTION: DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

### 4. MOTION 828: MAKING GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S COUNTRYSIDE SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE

- 4.1 As the original proposer of the motion at full Council on 28 November 2018, the Chair invited Cllr Colin Hay to introduce this item and explain the background behind the motion.
- 4.2 The Committee heard that the equestrian industry in Gloucestershire is fit and well, this motion was not an attempt to revive an industry that wasn't working properly but rather to promote and improve this important sector for the County.
- 4.3 Gloucestershire is well known for its equine facilities in terms of; racing, the Hartpury University and riding for the disabled. It also benefits from an exceptional countryside which has significant economic and cultural benefits. There are however, improvements that can be done to solidify the County as a choice for country pursuits, especially for equine.

- 4.4 Members acknowledged that these improvements could include; making safer crossing points, improved gate access, better signage and safer walking/bridle paths that run alongside roads.
- 4.5 Promoting Gloucestershire in this way could see benefits both nationally and internationally, badging it as the safest place to walk and ride in the Country.
- 4.6 Cllr Loraine Patrick, as the seconder of the motion, informed the Committee that the equine industry in the County is huge. However, users experience missing safe links between bridle ways and gates are not suitably installed. The industry contributes a huge amount financially and better care is needed to allow it to flourish.
- 4.7 The Chair next invited Kath Haworth, Lead Commissioner for this area, to present the responding report.
- 4.8 The Committee were informed that the Public Rights of Way (PROW) network in Gloucestershire is over three and a half thousand kilometres, slightly more than the highways network. Keeping this network safe and accessible is part of the normal duties for the Council (especially points 1-3 in the motion).
- 4.9 Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) currently do a 10% inspection of the wider network to identify safety issues each year, meaning every 10 years the whole network will have been covered. Members were reassured however, that the Council is not working in a vacuum. It works closely with parishes, land owners and groups such as the AONB and horse riding associations to help keep track of any issues on the network throughout the year.
- 4.10 Officers advised that some members choose to use their Highways Local or Growing Our Communities funding to improve areas of PROW within their divisions.
- 4.11 It was also highlighted that bridle ways can be used by cyclist so this could be another key marketing tool for tourism in Gloucestershire.
- 4.12 On opening up to questions and feedback from the Committee, a member asked if these sorts of works could be funded by the Community Match Funding packages available from GCC. It was advised that as long as the works required were on the highway network, this would be a viable funding route for local areas. GCC would offer a 50/50 split with local town/parish/district councils to fund the works.

- 4.13 On questioning, officers advised the Committee that the department do receive a good amount of feedback and reports from the public throughout the year, although these only tend to be regarding the well used paths and areas. The reason for the 10% a year strategy as mentioned above is to make sure officers are reaching those less popular areas so these aren't neglected.
- 4.14 Members noted however, that a lot of the work carried out by the PROW tend to be negotiating and enforcing (where legally able) when the rights and responsibility for an area of the network falls to another landowner. They may face issues of restricted accessibility, padlocked or inappropriate gates installed for example.
- 4.15 Members discussed various ideas for taking this project of improvement works forward:
- The Committee highlighted their unease with requesting all members to use their Highways Local/Growing Our Communities funding. It was appreciate that each member will have different strains within their divisions, and may not even have bridle/walk paths to maintain.
  - There was a discussion about a bridle trail that runs from Great Barrington to Forthampton near Tewkesbury, called the Sabrina Way, which could be used as a starting point for identifying improvements and branching other routes off.
  - The creation of a leaflet locating all the bridle/cycle/walk ways which could be included in tourism booklets.
  - Working with specialised local groups who are keen to promote the equine industry and can help identify key improvements needed for horse riders when out on the network.
- 4.16 It became clear to the Committee that one of the main drivers for these improvement works would be economic growth, a lot of responsibility for which has been shifted from GCC to the GFirst LEP. Officers advised that the LEP have a capital projects programme, and currently bids were being produced for the 2019/20 submission for funding opportunities in the future.
- 4.17 It also became clear that currently officers were lacking the key data to be able to quantify a business case and produce bid for funds to do the extra works required. It was highlighted that for external organisations in the County such issues would be more mainstream and they would be aware of such data e.g. equine groups.
- 4.18 Cllr Hay and Cllr Patrick as proposer and seconder of the motion therefore agreed to liaise with external organisations involved in this industry to

produce a list for GCC officers of areas they have identified need improving. This will then enable officers to gauge the work/funding needed and produce a business case for improvement to PROW from an economic growth perspective and to form part of GCC's submissions to the 2019/20 LEP funding opportunities.

- 4.19 The Committee will receive an update on progress at their next meeting in July.

## **5. BIODIVERSITY TASK GROUP UPDATE**

- 5.1 The Chair invited Cllr Rachel Smith, as chair of the Biodiversity Task Group, to present the report. Members were reminded that a motion at full Council in June 2018 had been unanimously agreed to set up a task group to look at protecting and encouraging biodiversity in Gloucestershire.
- 5.2 Members heard the purpose behind the motion was to shift the base line from preserving what biodiversity the County has left, to working hard to regenerate and recapture what has been lost.
- 5.3 The Committee were informed the cross-party working group agreed its main focus would be on verge management (grass cutting) within the County, and agreed to hold a public workshop in January 2019. This event had been well attended by local parishes, district councils and ecological groups and was structured by three main questions: where are we now, where do we want to get to and how do we get there. This workshop then formed the basis of the task group's report and recommendations.
- 5.4 Cllr Smith summarised the recommendations, highlighting in particular the 'cut and collect' business case and engagement with local council's going forward. It was explained that a lot of the recommendations hinged on the need to reduce the fertility of soil which has become too nutrient rich.
- 5.5 An agreement was made between Cllr Moor, as the Cabinet Member responsible, Cllr Smith and the Committee that Cabinet would feedback on the recommendations in September.
- 5.6 Several members highlighted the need for effective communication if the recommendations were going to be successful. This would need to continue throughout the year, especially when wildflowers are reseeding.
- 5.7 One member informed the Committee of a successful project in their local division which allowed biodiversity to play a part in enforcing a parking issue. A patch of grass had been being used for parking and causing safety issues – it is now covered in wildflowers and has been really welcomed by the community.

- 5.8 Cabinet Member for Highways and Flood congratulated the group for all the good work done and reinforced the need for effective communication to the public.
- 5.9 Officers reinforced that things were not going to change overnight but it was important to begin taking steps. They also highlighted the positive financial impact for the Council especially when trying to manage major highways carriageways.

## **6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT, COMMUNITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE**

- 6.1 Colin Chick, Strategic Adviser (Communities & Infrastructure), updated the Committee on current issues. In particular, members noted that:
- The new highways contract is going very well.
  - Unfortunately the Chepstow Bypass bid for funding to the Western Gateway Sub-national Board submission was rejected as it did not meet the objectives. It will stay on the list and the Council can bid again if another funding route isn't found.
  - Under 3.6 the report should state 2020 not 2019.
  - In relation to the Local Transport Plan (LTP) – GCC and all district councils are in agreement that a co-ordinated approach on land allocations is the best way forward. The developing LTP will look forward to 2041, identifying long term aspirations through connections and transport schemes.
  - To highlight that the changes at Arle Court have been well received by the community.
- 6.2 Looking next at the submitted quarter 3 and 4 performance scorecards for the department, it was highlighted that almost all of the performance indicators were achieved or overachieved. This was despite numerous major projects such as junction 10 on top of the department's usual workload.
- 6.3 It was referenced that for completeness of the quartered reports, the Fire and Rescue Service had been included but this would not happen going forward due to the Committee's remit change following the scrutiny review.
- 6.4 On questioning of the Director's report, a member asked why they had heard Javelin Park would begin taking waste in around 3 weeks time via the media. Members were informed that there have been set up delays which keep altering the timeline. Both of the previous 20 days notices to GCC have been cancelled and there is doubt around the current one. To avoid confusion, officers are liaising with the districts constantly to make sure everyone is as up to date on progress as possible.
- 6.5 A local member to the area raised concern regarding the displaced traffic from GCHQ due to the changes at Arle Court. Officers reassured that as one

of the largest employers in the county, they're working closely with GCHQ on a travel plan refresh to try and improve numbers on walking, cycling and public transport use.

- 6.6 Members noted that currently, the Joint Waste Committee are in discussions about the future shape of the partnership. All are in agreement that there needs to be something that co-ordinates waste management on a county basis, and this was welcomed by members of the Committee also.
- 6.7 A member questioned the impact of the forthcoming decision on third party recycling credits. It was advised that as part of the department's savings, waste needed to carry a percentage of those savings and this is one option (not yet definite). The issue is that some organisations who claim the credits are branches of major national charities. Officers are currently trying to find a way of identifying smaller charities that benefit more from these credits.
- 6.8 Cllr Patel raised a concern regarding repeated requests for parking enforcement action and it was advised this concern would be passed on to the parking team to look into.

**ACTION: PHILLIP WILLIAMS**

- 6.9 There was a discussion about concerns over long queues at recycling centres across the county. The Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning advised they are actively looking to improve overall access at these sites.
- 6.10 A point was noted that due to the future change in materials being used e.g. the reduction of single use plastics, there will need to be a review of how recycle is weighed and calculated.
- 6.11 There was a discussion about the progress on critical improvements to junction 9 following Tewkesbury being awarded the 'Garden Town' initiative from Homes England meaning around 10,000 extra houses are due in the area. The Committee were assured that officers are making every effort to resolve this issue but as there is no infrastructure funding attached to the initiative, there are no specific funding streams currently available.
- 6.12 The Committee were reassured that officers are using every possible national/local funding streams:
- Junction 9 will be on GCC's funding submission to the GFirst LEP for 2019/20 project pipeline.
  - The project ended up ranking 1<sup>st</sup> within a bid for the western gateway allowance but the budget was too high for that particular stream.
  - It was also noted that the success of the junction 10 bid will give weight to the junction 9 case going forward.

*Minutes subject to their acceptance as a correct record at the next meeting*

## **7. WORK PLAN**

- 7.1 Members decided for the next meeting on 17 July, it would be a one item agenda on developing the revised Climate Change Strategy.
- 7.2 The September agenda would be:
  - The long-term review of local transport plan
  - Cabinet feedback on the Biodiversity Task Group report
- 7.3 In November they would look at the increase in costs of re-tendering public transport services.
- 7.4 Officers agreed to revisit at the July meeting to arrange a visit for the Committee to Javelin Park.

## **CHAIRPERSON**

Meeting concluded at 13:00.

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Environment Scrutiny Committee	
Report Title	<i>Responding to the Climate Emergency: Gloucestershire Draft Climate Change Strategy 2019/20 to 2024/25</i>
Meeting Date	17 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
Presenting Officer	Peter Wiggins, Outcome Manager – Community Infrastructure
Purpose of Report	To seek members' views on the draft Climate Change Strategy and proposed engagement approach
Key Dates	<p><b>15 May Council declares climate emergency</b> (Motion 836)</p> <p><b>21 May Climate Change Summit</b></p> <p>Jun-Jul Draft Climate Change Strategy and engagement plan</p> <p><b>17 Jul Environment Scrutiny Committee</b> – briefing on approach and engagement plan</p> <p><b>18 Jul Corporate Management Team</b> – draft Climate Change Strategy &amp; engagement plan, inc indicative likely resource implications</p> <p><b>23 Jul Air Quality &amp; Health Partnership</b> – draft Climate Change Strategy and potential joint working</p> <p><b>24 Jul Cabinet</b> – Climate Change Strategy &amp; Engagement Plan; information report, Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment</p> <p><b>Jul-Aug Public consultation</b> inc Youth Climate Panel recruitment</p> <p>Sep Consultation analysis &amp; draft Cabinet report</p> <p><b>13 Nov Cabinet</b> – Climate Change Strategy, for approval</p> <p><b>19 Dec Leadership Gloucestershire</b> – Climate Change Strategy, for adoption</p>
Background Documents	<p><a href="#">Corporate Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan: Responding to Climate Change</a>, July 2008, Gloucestershire County Council</p> <p><a href="#">Air Pollution Scrutiny Task Group</a>, Cabinet, 6 June 2018, Gloucestershire County Council</p> <p><a href="#">Gloucestershire Sustainable Energy Strategy</a>, January 2019, GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership</p> <p><a href="#">Motion 836 – Carbon action plan motion</a>, County Council minutes 15 May 2019, Gloucestershire County Council</p> <p><a href="#">Gloucestershire Climate Change Summit, notes and presentations</a>, 21 May 2019, Gloucestershire County Council</p>
Appendices	<p><a href="#">Annex 1</a> – Motion 836</p> <p><a href="#">Annex 2</a> – Youth Climate Panel, draft Terms of Reference</p>

## **Background**

On 15 May 2019 the council joined central government and 80+ other local authorities in declaring a Climate Change Emergency ([Annex 1](#)). The council committed to reduce its own corporate carbon emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2030; with the remaining being offset, resulting in a “net zero” organisation. These include carbon emissions from:

- Council buildings and estate
- Street lighting, park & ride sites lighting, signs, signals and bollards
- Fleet fuel use
- Staff and member business travel

At the Full Council meeting, the council committed to follow scientific advice of the Committee on Climate Change, and deliver a carbon neutral county (Gloucestershire) by 2050, and work with partners to identify what measures would be needed to deliver a stepped target of 80 per cent carbon reduction by 2030 to reflect the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report on climate change.

The council jointly hosted a Climate Change Summit on 21 May with GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership. Around 120 passionate and innovative people from across the county joined the discussion at the University of Gloucestershire to talk about taking action on climate change. The summit welcomed speakers from a variety of different points of view, including representatives from the planning, infrastructure, and construction industries, Public Health, young people and sustainable energy experts. The day looked at how everyone in the county can contribute to creating a sustainable future, calling on communities to help deliver the ambitions of the [Gloucestershire Sustainable Energy Strategy](#). This included a presentation on development of the Air Quality & Health Strategy, where there is a lot of cross-over with climate change issues and opportunities. Notes, presentations and other information from the day can be found [here](#).

## **Developing the Climate Change Strategy**

The council now needs to revise its Climate Change Strategy, in consultation with partner organisations, residents, and businesses. The council needs young people to inform the updated strategy, and will be forming a Youth Climate Panel alongside asking schools to engage their students on this important issue. The council’s Monitoring Officer and Head of Democratic Services have been consulted on the draft Terms of Reference for the Youth Climate Panel, which are attached for comment ([Annex 2](#)).

Following the consultation engagement, the campaign needs to raise awareness of the work the council is doing to tackle climate change/carbon emissions. The campaign also needs to use this as an opportunity to influence behaviours of all audiences, demonstrating these points.

There is a very tight timeline (see [Key Dates](#)) over which to draft, consult on and amend the Climate Change Strategy in time to be considered alongside the council’s budget setting process. The draft budget will be approved for public consultation by cabinet in December, for agreement by County Council in February 2020.

## **Presentation**

The presentation at this meeting of Environment Scrutiny will include:

- Climate Change Summit, outcomes summary
- What the council has done already
- Draft climate change strategy for public consultation, summary
- Engagement plan, summary

## **Contact Officer**

Peter Wiggins, Outcome Manager (Communities & Infrastructure)

[peter.wiggins@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:peter.wiggins@gloucestershire.gov.uk), 01452 328470; [glosclimate@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:glosclimate@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

## **GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL COMMITS TO BECOMING CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2030 (Motion 836: 15.05.19)**

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Gloucestershire County Council will play its part in global carbon reduction following a motion on climate change, which was unanimously supported at Full Council on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

As part of the motion, councillors agreed to:

- Welcome and endorse on behalf of Gloucestershire the declaration of a climate change emergency by parliament on behalf of the UK and urge other countries to do the same.
- Commit towards an 80 per cent reduction in the council's corporate carbon emissions no later than 2030, striving towards 100 per cent with carbon offsetting by the same date.
- Commit the council to following the scientific advice of the Committee on Climate Change, and deliver a carbon neutral county by 2050, and work with partners to identify what measures would be needed to deliver a stepped target of 80 per cent carbon reduction by 2030 to reflect the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report on climate change.
- To call on Central Government to provide additional powers and resources to support local and national action towards this 2030 target.
- Lobby national government to commit to 100 per cent carbon neutrality by 2050.
- Consider contracts going forward to oblige all contractors to report their carbon emissions and to place a 'carbon/environmental cost' on competing bids.
- Do all in the council's power to adopt, implement and strengthen the Gloucestershire Sustainable Energy Strategy.
- Ensure that the council's major plans, such as the local transport plan, have clearly identified strategies to reduce carbon emissions.
- Work with district and borough councils to reduce the districts' carbon footprint within their corporate strategies.
- Provide an annual report to the Environment Committee, with a performance update on a quarterly basis to the relevant committees including details of the resources required to meet the council's 2030 carbon neutral target.

It was also agreed that this Council notes:

- That humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world.
- That global temperatures have already increased by 1°C from pre-industrial levels and atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> far exceeds levels deemed to be safe for humanity.
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) special report on global warming of 1.5°C, published in January 2019, which tells us that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities.
- That the world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2050.
- That the consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are so severe that preventing this from happening must be humanity's number one priority.

And that the Council further notes that:

- The UK is responsible for 1% of the world's CO2 emissions, and whilst we have reduced those emissions more than any other developed country, this council notes that without global action we will not succeed.
- New Zealand, France, Belgium, Denmark, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden have all committed to zero carbon by 2050.
- This is the recommended position of the independent Committee on Climate Change.
- This is the position of parliament, as first laid out by Alex Chalk MP, and later supported by Jeremy Corbyn MP in an opposition day debate last month.
- The IPCC has acknowledged that we must immediately reduce the amount of carbon emissions by 2030.
- Gloucestershire County Council recently appointed a Cabinet Member with specific responsibilities tied to climate change.
- Gloucestershire County Council is on target to reduce corporate carbon emissions by 60% by 2020/21 against its 2006/07 baseline.
- Bold climate action can deliver economic benefits Councils around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and committing resources to address this emergency.
- The UK Parliament has recognised the climate emergency
- The County Council has a leadership role, along with other public sector bodies, in reducing Carbon emissions across the whole county.

Next steps:

The Council has committed to revising its existing Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan, building on the outcomes from the Climate Change Summit, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019:

- Draft Strategy by July 2019
- Public consultation, summer 2019
- Cabinet, for approval provisionally October 2019
- Inform the Council budget setting process up to February 2020

For more information contact:

[glosclimate@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:glosclimate@gloucestershire.gov.uk)  
[#glosclimate](https://twitter.com/glosclimate)

# **Youth Climate Panel Terms of Reference (draft v1)**

## **Vision**

The Youth Climate Panel will help to bring about a low carbon, resilient and attractive Gloucestershire where all people are proud to live.

## **Values**

- Accountability – we do what we say we will
- Integrity – we are honest, fair and speak up. We will keep each other's personal information confidential.
- Empowerment – we enable communities and each other to be the best they/ we can
- Respect – we value and listen to each other
- Excellence – we continually improve through listening, learning and innovation

## **1. Purpose of Group**

1.1. The purpose of the Youth Climate Panel is to:

- Give young people a voice on climate change issues, giving members the platform to influence and have their say on how we respond to the climate emergency together.
- Give Gloucestershire County Council feedback on their draft Climate Change Strategy.
- Give young people insight on how Leadership Gloucestershire organisations will tackle climate change issues.
- Help Gloucestershire County Council fulfil its climate commitments; working with partners to collectively reduce Gloucestershire's carbon emissions by 80 per cent by 2030, when compared to 2005, and secure a carbon neutral (net zero) county by 2050.
- Assist the council to empower residents to take action on Climate Change, providing insight into how to encourage people to take responsibility for their behaviours.

## **2. Terms of Reference**

2.1. The Youth Climate Panel will:

- Promote and provide opportunities for young people to learn, engage and give feedback on climate change issues.
- Provide a forum to consult young people and raise ideas about improvements to the draft Climate Change Strategy 2020 – 2025 and action plan.
- Act as ambassadors for the actions which the council and partner organisations are taking regarding climate change issues, and carbon neutral plans.
- Establish links with other community groups and external agencies representing young people
- Promote and demonstrate low carbon behaviours in their daily lives as much as possible

### **3. Membership**

- The Youth Climate Panel will be made up of 30 young people, ideally five from each district across the county.
- All Youth Climate Panel members will be aged between 16 and 25 years.
- All panel members will be expected to attend at least one face to face meeting with council officers, and respond to emails regarding meeting arrangements and actions.
- These positions will be held for a maximum of 2 years.
- Members will advocate for Gloucestershire's young people, representing thoughts and ambitions of the county's younger generation.
- We will seek to secure a diverse membership, as representative as possible of the demographics of young people in the county.

### **4. How the Panel will function**

- Council officers will endeavour to arrange meetings for the panel in central and convenient locations for its members.
- Inductions will be face to face, and will take place in each of the district areas to make sure all members have access to this face to face briefing with council officers
- Training and development for specific panel roles will be agreed as needed, for example, chairing meetings effectively.
- Council officers will seek to minimise the need to travel by utilising video conferencing facilities and social media such as WhatsApp and Facebook.
- Reasonable expenses to attend meetings will be covered. Members will be provided with a bus travel card. If meetings take place for three hours or more refreshments will be provided by the council.
- A Gloucestershire Youth Council is being created and the mechanisms for this are still being agreed.

### **5. Role Descriptions**

5.1. If the panel feel they are required, all roles have the following activities as part of their responsibilities:

- Attend & contribute to meetings
- Educate and raise awareness of related issues
- Act as a role model, lead, support and guide fellow panel members
- Be a public face of the Youth Climate Panel, taking part in promotion for the council where appropriate. Personal details will not be available to the public.

5.2. In addition to the above, individual roles have specific responsibilities as follows:

#### *5.2.1. Chair/Co-Chair*

- Direct and lead the panel, and act as the group's representative with the council and senior leaders. This may also involve negotiating a successful conclusion to issues raised;
- Agree a work program for the panel for the next year

- Provide council officers with monthly/regular updates on the panel's activities and actions
- Lead the feedback on the council's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan
- Chair meetings and represent the panel at key events and meetings with the council and partners, for example attending Environment Scrutiny Committee or presenting to Leadership Gloucestershire.
- Advise, guide and assist the council in securing views which are representative of Gloucestershire's young people
- Act as the Panel's point of contact and attend/facilitate meetings & events; and
- Answer queries and review & respond to relevant papers.

### *5.2.2. Vice Chair*

- Co-ordinate & lead projects and events as required;
- Support chair to produce feedback
- Support communications to the panel members; and
- To deputise for the Chair.

### *5.2.5. Secretary*

- Liaising with panel members and council officers to plan meetings
- Circulating agendas and notes
- Producing notes
- Making sure agreed actions are carried out by panel members
- Make sure the group is governed and meetings are run according to agreed Terms of Reference

## **6. Accountability**

6.1. The council will form the Panel and take part in initial governance and guidance. The longer term aim is for the panel to be a self-determined and self-sustaining group.

6.2. The Youth Climate Panel shall, at all times, be accountable to Gloucestershire County Council.

6.3. Panel meeting minutes will be made available upon request to any council officer. All other panel documentation will also be made available upon request.

July 2019

## Environment Scrutiny Committee

17<sup>th</sup> July 2019

### Director's Report, Communities & Infrastructure

This report summarises key areas likely to lead to decisions over the next 6 months, including updates on areas previously reported.

#### 1.0 Decisions

1.1 Relevant forthcoming decisions, by date due:

- [Tender and Award of Transport Contracts under the Dynamic Purchasing System for Transport](#) (24 July Cabinet)
- [A38 Bridges and Canal Improvements: Construction of two Highway Bridges, a towpath and a section of the Canal – Authority to receive funds and proceed to contract procurement](#) (24 July Cabinet)
- [Establishing a Dynamic Purchasing System for the Procurement of Transport contracts](#) (24 July Cabinet)
- [Delivery of Structural Maintenance Works 2020-2022](#) (24 July Cabinet)
- [Adoption of a Waste Tipping Away Policy](#) (9 October Cabinet)

1.2 For consideration at the Cabinet CoMT Meeting 23 September 2019:

- Gloucestershire Local Transport Plan Review (10 September 2019)

#### 2.0 Highways update

##### 2.1 Highways Contracts

- The new highway contracts (Ringway (maintenance) and Atkins (professional services)) are bedding in well. The Structural Maintenance contract (currently delivered by Tarmac) will be retendered later this year as this was awarded for a 2 year period. Street lighting (Skanska) and traffic signals (Telent) contracts are also in place.

##### 2.2 £150m Highways Improvement Programme

- Programmed works for year 2 (of 4) continue to be delivered on schedule. 4 lengthsmen teams were operational during May and June. These have now been stood down to test whether it is possible to integrate their work into the maintenance gang programme.

##### 2.3 A40 West Cheltenham Transport Improvement Schemes/ Cyber Business Park

- Project remains on track with the business case development ongoing for Phase 1 and 2 (Arle Court/Golden Valley A40). Public share events took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The business cases are scheduled for considered by the LEP board in Autumn 2019. Subject to approval the proposed start date on Phase 1 is February 2020 and Phase 2 Spring 2020.
- The acquisition of 2 properties on Hatherley Lane required for lane width design standards for Phase 1 is progress positively with Legal and AMPS.

## **2.4 A419 junction improvements (Stonehouse)**

- Project remains on track with works at Chipmans Platt roundabout programmed for completion during the Summer. Highway works will then move to Old Ends and finally Horse Trough roundabouts later in the year. Works are expected to be completed in early 2020.

## **2.5 A38 Cross Keys roundabout (Hardwicke)**

- Project remains on track with works starting on site in May 2019 and is currently on programme to be completed in the Autumn 2019.

## **2.6 A35 Cycle Scheme (Cheltenham to Bishop's Cleeve)**

- The Design Team is currently pricing the new foot/cycle bridge across GWSR tracks at Cheltenham Racecourse station and will be arranging meetings with GWSR and Cheltenham Racecourse shortly. Additional funding will be necessary to undertake the majority of construction works and an Expression of Interest has been submitted to the Gloucestershire Economic Growth: Capital Investment Pipeline.

## **3.0 Strategic Infrastructure Update**

### **3.1 A417 Missing Link**

- Highways England (HE) has commenced the planning permission process for the A417 Missing Link scheme. The first formal stage has been a consultation by the planning inspectorate (PINS) regarding the Environmental Statement scoping, which GCC has responded to.
- The HE statutory public consultation on the A417 Missing Link will commence on Tuesday 10 September and will last 6 weeks.
- It appears that the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) may be delayed. Road Investment Strategy (RIS) announcements usually take place alongside the CSR, and it is the RIS that needs to announce construction funding for the Missing Link scheme. If there is a delay to the RIS announcement there could be a delay with the scheme delivery. However, the HE Chief Executive, Jim O'Sullivan, has stressed the need for an Autumn RIS announcement, outside of the CSR process.

### **3.2 M5 Junction 10 – Housing Infrastructure Fund Bid**

- The J10 business case assessment has commenced, with clarification questions expected to be received by GCC w/b 24 June. A site visit and assessment meeting is scheduled to take place with Homes England and their assessment team on 11 July.  
Clarification questions from Homes England will continue to be issued throughout the summer with a funding decision expected in October 2019.
- Meanwhile work continues on environmental surveys and the preparation of a planning application for the scheme.
- If the bid is successful, the J10 improvements scheme is scheduled to be completed by 2024.

### **3.3 M5 Junction 9 and A46 (Ashchurch)**

- The Western Gateway Sub National Transport Body has prioritised the M5 J9/A46 scheme as a Large Local Major scheme regional priority. This scheme has been promoted by GCC.
- A pre- strategic outline business case (pre-SOBC) is being produced by GCC and will be submitted through the Western Gateway STB in July 2019 to the Department for Transport (DfT).
- A Strategic Outline Business Case will be produced by GCC and submitted to the DfT in December 2019.
- If successful, the scheme will begin construction before 2025.

### **3.4 Chepstow Bypass**

- GCC continues to engage at both an officer and member level to support the process of identifying a robust transport solution for Chepstow. GCC and Monmouthshire County Council jointly funded the Stage 1 WeITAG report which appraised transport options for the town. Due to other business case development priorities (A417 Missing Link, M5 Junction 10 and M5 Junction 9); GCC is unable to financially contribute towards the costs of the stage 2 study at this stage.
- GCC promoted the Chepstow Bypass to the Western Gateway Sub-national Transport Body with the aim of the scheme being funded through the Department for Transport's Large Local Majors delivery programme. However, the Western Gateway STB considered the scheme proposal not sufficiently developed to provide assurance of a construction start date before 2025 (a requirement of the funding stream). The STB recognised the complexity of the scheme in terms of achieving planning permission within the funding window and securing a joint funding package with Transport for Wales. Despite not being prioritised there is now recognition of the scheme at a Sub-national level and the bypass scheme has now been identified within a future pipeline of schemes for funding consideration post 2025.

### **3.5 Improved rail connectivity**

- A new Countywide Rail Investment Strategy is being scoped to inform the Local Transport Plan review and demonstrate the importance of rail especially in providing an alternative to the M5 between Bristol and Birmingham.
- On the 2<sup>nd</sup> July a meeting took place with Network Rail's Western Route Director and Great Western Railway to discuss a number of strategic matters including aspirations for service improvements from Gloucester within the new Great Western Franchise.
- The Western Gateway Sub-national Transport Body (STB) agreed at its June Board meeting to develop an area wide rail strategy. It will be essential for GCC officers to feed into this process to prioritise Gloucestershire's rail ambitions at a sub-national context. A meeting between STBs and Network Rail to discuss their new Strategic Planning Process is scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

### **3.6 Strategic cycle network**

- Highways England (HE) is promoting a £3.6M cycle improvements scheme between Gloucester and Cheltenham, which will be constructed along the B4063. Officers will continue to engage with HE, providing expertise around Member engagement, stakeholder management and design support. Other cycle improvements will be promoted and delivered as funding opportunities arise.

### **3.7 Local Plan making**

- Separate Transport Strategy working groups have been established to support the emerging JCS Review and Stroud Local Plan review. They include officers from the District authorities, GCC and Highways England, and will work to produce a transport strategy for the emerging strategic development sites.

### **3.8 Minerals and Waste Planning**

- The Minerals Local Plan (MLP) Hearing took place on 11-12th June 2019. The sessions were positive and the Inspector's report is now awaited.

### **3.9 Lead Local Flood Authority**

- Key flood alleviation projects continue. These include (not restricted to):
  - Property Flood Resilience in Churchdown
  - Natural Flood Management on the Churn and Daglingworth north of Cirencester
  - Podsmead Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS)
- District led and LLFA schemes completed, including Newent FAS
- Key local flood action groups initiated and maintained, e.g Frampton flood resilience technical working group
- Environment Agency National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management strategy consultation responded to as LLFA
- Consultation underway on flood risk impacts of the A417 'missing link'
- Staff changes:
  - David Graham has retired as Strategic Flood Risk Management Officer. Recruitment is underway for a successor
  - Julia Hall has been recruited to the vacant Flood Risk Management Officer post.

## **4.0 Community Infrastructure Update**

### **4.1 Cheltenham Transport Plan**

- Following the first 6 months of consultation and traffic monitoring, Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC) agreed, in January, to extend the trial to allow mitigation measures to address the broad themes of the objections received to the end of 2018. The amended Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs) came into effect on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. The amended ETROs allow unrestricted access to Clarence Street and Clarence Parade, and make them both two-way, simplifying the bus gate and restrictions and additional disabled parking spaces in Winchcombe Street. A new formal representation period on the amended

ETROs commenced on 3<sup>rd</sup> of June and the scheme will be considered at TRO committee later this year

#### **4.2 Public and Community Transport**

- Work has begun on the next version of the Dynamic Purchasing System used to procure and award all transport contracts. Consultation with operators is underway as is officers revise terms and conditions to ensure that matters such as GDPR compliance and tighter emissions standards are addressed. Subject to a decision by Cabinet this summer the new DPS will go live in March 2020.
- Work with our taxi and small vehicle operators to devise an appropriate CCTV continues, a forum was held in early June which was well received. New contract specifications have been issued and all forms of transport should have the required CCTV specification shortly.
- Alan Bently (ITU Manager) departs for a new role in Public Rights of Way on 5 July, work is in progress to find an interim replacement for Alan.
- The changes at Arle Court Park and Ride have now been operational for two months and in general have been very well received. There is now capacity at Arle Court to accommodate visitors to Cheltenham arriving at any time of the day and use of the park and ride is growing again. Before this scheme was implemented visitors were being turned away as the car park was full by 10am.

#### **4.3 Parking**

- A set of parking reviews have been programmed for the next two years. These evaluations will aim to effectively manage parking countywide by significantly contributing to reducing congestion, enabling access for residents, businesses and visitors whilst also aligning with District and Borough councils' off street parking strategies. The reviews will consider new parking zones and light touch improvements at the following locations:
  - Tewkesbury
  - Stroud
  - Cheltenham Zone 3 and All Saints
  - Gloucester permit zone
  - Stow on the Wold
  - Moreton in Marsh
  - Cheltenham St Lukes, Tivoli and Cheltenham Connect and the St Philip and St James' Area Residents' Association (SPJARA).

#### **4.4 Climate Change Summit**

- A successful Climate Change Summit with Gfirst Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) was held on 21st May, to which around 120 people attended from a range of public, private and community organisations. Presentations and a write up of the event have been published on the [Council's website](#). The outcomes from this event have been used to develop a revised Climate Change Strategy for the Council, which is an agenda item for this Scrutiny Committee meeting. The draft Strategy is planned to be published for public consultation in the summer, and to go on to Cabinet in November 2019.

#### **4.5 Highways Development Management**

- A Members Seminar was held after the last Committee meeting to introduce new staff and explain team changes in the pipeline. This highlighted the role of HDM in delivering economic growth and as a consultee in the planning process.

Copies of the presentation were sent to attendees and are available to others on request.

- Recruitment to fill vacant posts is underway with interviews later this summer. This will include additional capacity in the current financial year following a strategic review of the recruitment, retention and delivery pressures facing HDM, Highways and Strategic Planning. This capacity will enable the council to better support the delivery of new development and infrastructure to support Gloucestershire's economic growth agenda. In recent weeks HDM interims have also been attending planning committees and working on strengthening relations with district planning authorities.

#### **4.6 Air Quality**

- On 14<sup>th</sup> May Health and Wellbeing Board approved the Gloucestershire Air Quality and Health Strategy which includes key strategic areas for delivery. Board members were asked to consider how their organisation can make specific commitments to support its implementation.

### **5.0 Waste Update**

#### **5.1 Joint Waste Committee**

- Authorisation has been received from Cabinet to terminate the existing Food Waste Collection and Delivery Agreements in place with district councils and to renegotiate terms over the next 12 months. This is with a view to reduce expenditure, whilst continuing to support food waste recycling and providing a payment that is fair to all.
- Preparations are being finalised to ensure waste transfer is in place prior to commissioning of Javelin Park.
- The Joint Waste Team continues to support Cotswold District Council in the design and preparations for the new kerbside collection service. Communications funding and advice has been secured from WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme).
- Authorization has been obtained from Cabinet to procure a new garden waste composting contract. The new contract will commence in February 2020.
- Options for a future waste partnership are being considered ahead of the termination of the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee in December 2019. A report with recommendations has been provided by Local Partnerships. The Joint Waste Team will develop future objectives and governance proposals in consultation with each Gloucestershire local authority.

#### **5.2 Residual Waste Project**

- Waste deliveries started on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 from the HRCs, Gloucester City and Stroud District Councils and the remaining councils commencing waste deliveries on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

#### **Contact Officer**

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# Agenda Item 6

<b>SCRUTINY REVIEW – ONE PAGE STRATEGY</b>	
Broad topic area	Environment/Waste
Specific topic area	Single-use plastics (SUPs)
Ambitions for the review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To understand the current progress towards the elimination of SUPs within County Council managed buildings and facilities, including any promotional campaigns.</li> <li>• To understand the technical impact of different plastics on the environment.</li> <li>• To explore SUP initiatives at other county councils.</li> <li>• To work with and learn from local district councils on their SUP initiatives.</li> <li>• To understand how to effectively engage and enable Council partners, schools and the public to reduce their use of SUPs, taking account of projects run by ‘Surfers Against Sewage’: <a href="https://www.sas.org.uk/about-us/">https://www.sas.org.uk/about-us/</a></li> </ul>
How do we perform at the moment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have eliminated a significant amount of SUP from catering services contracts within Shire Hall, and the external school’s catering contract;</li> <li>• There is ongoing work with tenants on the rural estate, the wider farming community and major framework contractors in construction to reduce/eliminate the use of SUPs.</li> <li>• The Joint Waste Team has focused on reducing SUPs through promotional campaigns.</li> </ul>
Who and how should we consult?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilities and Joint Waste Management</li> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• District councils</li> </ul> <p>And any other department at GCC that may become relevant through further research.</p>
Background information	<p>At a meeting of full Council in March 2018, a motion was unanimously carried to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminate all SUP within County Council managed buildings and facilities by 2020, and seek to encourage the elimination of SUP within its supply chain by 2025.</li> <li>• Ask the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Partnership to consider how they could promote the reduction of SUP across the county and to highlight areas of further lobbying to central government by both collection and waste disposal authorities.</li> </ul>
Support	Sophie Benfield – Democratic Services
How long will it take?	6 months from approval
Outcomes	<p>To produce recommendations that enables the Council to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) complete its initial commitment to eliminate all SUP within County Council managed buildings and facilities by 2020, and within its supply chain by 2025; and</li> <li>b) better promote the elimination of SUPs within the county as a whole.</li> </ol>

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## Javelin Park Incinerator Scrutiny Task Group One Page Strategy

Broad Topic Area	Waste Management and Recycling
Ambitions for the Review	<p>To scrutinise the impacts of the incinerator contract structure on levels of waste and recycling in the county - both household waste, and additional waste from private sector, and out of county.</p> <p>To review, understand and monitor performance indicators relating to waste and recycling.</p> <p>To understand the budgetary impacts of the incinerator on the County Council, District councils and council taxpayers in Gloucestershire.</p> <p>To understand the sensitivity of the value for money of the contract according to different waste flows.</p> <p>To learn from the experience of large cost rises due to a poor negotiating position of the council during the Revised Project Plan process, and to identify and ensure lessons are learned so this doesn't happen in future.</p> <p>To understand the public perception of the incinerator and potential impact on recycling rates</p> <p>To understand potential impact of Greenhouse gas emissions</p> <p>To understand the potential impact on air quality</p>
How do we perform at the moment?	Information needed on waste and recycling figures and projections, third party waste and recycling rates, food waste collections, and all related costs.
Who and how should we consult?	<p>UBICO</p> <p>HRC managers</p> <p>Joint waste committee</p> <p>Districts councils</p>
Background Information	Gloucestershire County Council has procured an incinerator to burn residual household waste, as well as taking third party waste. The contract and financial structures are now in the public domain, but after a recent scrutiny committee, it became apparent that clarity about the project's implications on waste and recycling levels and budget implications remain unscrutinised and not widely understood within the council.
Support	<p>Democratic Services</p> <p>Waste Team and Finance for information regarding budgets and waste figures.</p>
How Long Will It Take?	I would suggest this takes place as a select committee style hearing, of 2 sessions of 3 hours, with an option to extend and recall presenters

Outcomes	<p>Clear understanding of the implications of the incinerator contract to future waste and recycling incentives and its effect on Council finances and those of district councils and council tax payers of Gloucestershire.</p> <p>Clear understanding of the environmental impacts of co2 emissions from the incinerator, and how these can be mitigated.</p> <p>Clear understanding of the impact of the incinerator on air quality levels and how this can be mitigated.</p>
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**ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**WORK PLAN 2019-20**

17 July 2019	18 September 2019	26 November 2019	15 January 2020
Climate Change Strategy	Local Transport Plan	The increase in costs of re-tendering public transport services	
	Cabinet feedback on the Biodiversity Task Group report		

4 March 2020	20 May 2020	15 July 2020	23 September 2020

Agenda Item 7

**FUTURE ITEMS**

<b>1</b>	<b>Lengthsmen Scheme</b> – To consider the effectiveness of the Scheme	6 months post April 2019	<b>7</b>	<b>Dynamic Purchasing System for Transport</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Footways (in relation to Motion 787: Pavements)</b> – to be revisited early 2019	6 months post April 2019	<b>8</b>	<b>Infrastructure South</b> – including the third river crossing	
<b>3</b>	<b>Air Pollution and its Impact on Public Health Task Group</b>	Members sent update report 23.5.19	<b>9</b>	<b>Infrastructure Planning</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Ringway mobilisation</b> – How the new term maintenance contract is going	8 months after April 2019	<b>10</b>	<b>Climate change reduction pledge</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Cotswold National Park Status</b> – To receive an update on the review of the proposal	On hold until after Glover review	<b>11</b>	<b>Visit to Javelin Park</b>	To discuss in July meeting
<b>6</b>	<b>DMMO</b> – To receive a report from the outreach post holder regarding application demand	6 months after budget 2019			