

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY UPDATE

6 December 2017

1 Introduction

This report summarises the activities of each Overview and Scrutiny Committee during September and November. Individual reports from the scrutiny chairs are referenced as follows:

Section 2	Cllr Patrick Molyneux, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee
Section 3	Cllr Brian Robinson, Chair of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Section 4	Cllr Carole Allaway Martin, Chair of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Section 5	Cllr Robert Bird, Chair of the Environment and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Section 6	Cllr Dave Norman, Chair of Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Section 7	Cllr Will Windsor Clive, Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel

2 Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (29 September & 24 November) – Cllr Patrick Molyneux

29 September 2017

2.1 Performance Monitoring

Lead Members had suggested that before considering the quarterly strategic performance report, that specific scrutiny committees have an opportunity to feedback from their own discussions on performance. The Leader of Council was in attendance and members could ask questions of him informed by the reports and presentation. The Leader was happy to take these questions either during the presentation or during the allocated item. The Chairman acknowledged that this was a work in progress and asked if any of the Chairs had any points they wished to raise.

At the end of quarter 1, 73.5% of targets had been met. It was important to note that the data set had changed and members had a report within their pack outlining the new set. Nevertheless, the Council was reporting an improved

position on the previous quarter. A new indicator set was being developed for adult social care and members would expect to receive data on that in quarter 2.

Members discussed the performance data around children in care. Members queried why the numbers of children in care had grown so substantially over a relatively short period of time. In response it was explained that this reflected the national trend and that the Council was average across comparator groups. One member suggested that a decrease in preventative measures such as reductions in services at children's centres could be having an impact. The Leader explained that a substantial amount of work had been carried out on the effectiveness of children's centres and the conclusion had been that they were not reaching those vulnerable groups. The service had since been redesigned to provide a stronger focus on those children and families.

In Adult Social Care, after seeing a decrease in overdue re-assessments, this had now started to rise again. This was partly due to staff being diverted to meet demand in other areas. This was something for members to keep a watch on in subsequent performance reports.

2.2 Finance Update

Head of Financial Management, explained that the current forecast of the year end revenue position was an overspend of £1.873 million. Officers were working to reduce this figure but in the event that the outturn position matched this forecast, the overspend would be met from general reserves.

The forecast outturn position for Adult Social Care was to break even but there was with an underlying overspend of £5.54 million offset by the Adult Care Levy and grant funding and reserve transfers. For Children's, £3.05 million was being applied from the vulnerable children's reserve to reduce the overspend from £8.96 million to £5.91 million. The figures reflected the increased unit costs and demand in both Adults and Children's services.

2.3 Budget Scrutiny Proposals

The Chairman introduced the proposed approach to the budget scrutiny process. Lead Members had suggested that it should be a one day scrutiny process held on 10 January 2018. Sessions would be held with the Cabinet Member and Directors for each scrutiny committee to discuss the draft budget. OSMC members would then be in attendance throughout the day in order to identify any recurring themes and trends. OSMC members would then identify the key areas they wished to include in their report to Cabinet. The Committee agreed to the recommended process for budget scrutiny.

24 November 2017

2.4 Care Staff and the National Minimum Wage

The Committee received a comprehensive report detailing the review of 'employment practices of all those care providers being used by the council to ensure that all care staff are paid at or above hourly National Minimum wage rates'. This had been referred to the Committee following a motion at full Council. The report can be found at:

<http://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=264&MId=8546&Ver=4>

Members were provided with the context around the National Minimum Wage (NMW) and the National Living Wage (NLW) which was introduced on 1 April 2016. It was explained that the NLW is a new single hourly rate of the NMW for workers aged 25 and over. The report provided details around the legal responsibilities and relevant case law. The Committee understood that when considering the National Minimum Wage for carers, it was the average wage across the totality of the hours that was considered. Examples were included within the report identifying the types of shift patterns including 'sleep-in' nights. Members clarified that if an employee was paid a higher than minimum wage rate for day shifts, then sleep-ins could be paid at a lower rate as long as the average for the pay reference period was at the National Minimum Wage. In response to a question it was clarified that 'sleep-ins' were generally paid as a fixed fee per shift and that they accounted for a small proportion of the overall work load of a carer.

There was some discussion around the Domiciliary Care Market and on the information contained within the report of the number of providers in each 'zone' within Gloucestershire. Some members asked questions on this issue, recognising that there had been a recent Cabinet report on changes to contracting in the urban areas of Cheltenham and Gloucester.

The report concluded that officers were satisfied that in-house care workers were being paid appropriately to meet the National Living Wage. It stated that officers were satisfied that rates paid to independent sector providers are sufficient for them to ensure their workers are paid appropriately to meet National Living Wage. During annual compliance visits and unannounced visits, officers check pay records to satisfy the County Council that workers are receiving the appropriate remuneration. The report aimed to demonstrate the commitment the County Council and CCG have to ensure a financially viable and sustainable care workforce to support elderly and vulnerable people to receive care and support at home both now and in the future.

The Committee welcomed the report and having considered the information, members were satisfied with the summary provided. They noted questions raised by members on other aspects of Domiciliary Care and that these questions could be raised through Health and Care Scrutiny Committee.

2.5 Performance Reporting

The slides from the presentation on the strategic performance management committee report for the 2nd quarter had been circulated in advance. The presentation outlined the Performance Management Framework with it emphasised that performance management happened at all levels of the Council. The Committee also discussed the way in which performance was reported to all the scrutiny committees, emphasising the importance of consistency of format. All committees received the scorecard annex for their particular area with covering reports by the Director. Lead Members would be discussing this further.

The Council was meeting or exceeding 73% of targets at the end of quarter 2.

2.6 IT Briefing

The Head of ICT, introduced the report providing a high level summary of the ICT strategy as well as an overview of the service and how it was structured. The Committee understood that there were four key themes:

- Shared and Partnership Working
- Flexible, Mobile and Efficient Workers
- Compliance and Security
- Strong Infrastructure

Members were informed that there was an emerging fifth theme around developing a new strategy to enable digital transformation.

The Committee discussed the recent outages with Blackberry Work and were provided with assurances that work was being carried out, in conjunction with Blackberry, to ensure the solution was fit for purpose.

Members recognised the work that was being carried out in Children's Services around 'Social work not paperwork' providing social workers with the devices and options to work remotely as part of the Improvement Plan.

3 Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee (14 September & 17 November) - Cllr Brian Robinson

14 September 2017

3.1 The role of the local authority in achieving the best educational outcomes for Gloucestershire pupils

The Head of Education, Head of Education Performance and Inclusion, and Lead Commissioner for Education and Skills attended the committee to ensure that members received a full picture of the council's role in the delivery of education within the (ever) changing legislation landscape. It is interesting to note that throughout all of the changes the local authority's statutory duties have remained in place. The committee was informed that the latest announcement with regard to the national school funding formula was due to be made that day; and we expect a briefing will be sent to all members of council in due course on what this means for Gloucestershire's schools. This is a complex area and committee members recommend that this matter is included on the member development schedule to inform all members of council.

There was a shared concern with regard to the rising number of children and young people being home educated. A particular concern is safeguarding issues, and it was frustrating to hear that legislation relating to home education makes access to the child very difficult, and why working closely with partners who can more easily gain access (eg. health) is important. It was good to hear that the majority of Gloucestershire pupils were in good or outstanding schools, but of concern that in some areas of the county pupil's education outcomes remain a concern. There is also an excess of provision of school places in the Forest of Dean which presents funding challenges for those schools. Permanent exclusions remain a serious concern and the committee agreed that a detailed look at this issue is necessary and have therefore agreed to establish a task group. The one page strategy will be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Management as soon as possible so that work can begin promptly.

3.2 Court Judgement on the unlawful removal of a child from its mother

The Interim Director of Improvement and Operations explained that this case exemplified some of the shortcomings that had been highlighted by the Ofsted Inspection and that the council was trying to address. The Interim Director had undertaken a detailed look at this case and informed members how this situation had come about. Key issues were the changes in personnel managing this case which meant there was a lack of consistency; not reading the file properly and understanding the issues (eg. that the social worker had not

developed a good working relationship with the child's mother); and a general lack of appreciation of the court order previously imposed.

The Interim Director was clear that the concerns for the child's welfare were real, and that the Judge was not saying that the council was wrong to want to remove the child, but that it should have done so legally. This case is still within the court arena and was closely monitored. There was some disquiet that elected members had not been briefed before this matter had made it into the news media. The Interim Director of Children's Services explained to the committee that it was not known that the Judge would decide to place the judgement into the public domain until the actual day, and that members had then been briefed as soon as possible.

To gain a better understanding of the court process the committee has scheduled a workshop for February 2018.

3.3. Children's Services Improvement Plan

The committee welcomed the opportunity to receive the Improvement Plan. The committee will have a key role in scrutinising whether the Improvement Plan is making a difference and delivering the required change. The committee heard from the LGA Children's Improvement Advisor at its meeting on 13 July 2017 that the improvement journey could take two years. It is therefore important that the committee sets out a clear schedule of when it will receive reports on the work of the Improvement Board, and the type of reports that it will need to receive to be able to do its job, eg. Quality Audits.

It was questioned whether there were sufficient resources to deliver this plan given the significant pressure on services. The pressures were acknowledged. However the costs/resources required were being calculated and the council would benefit from the advice of its improvement partner, Essex County Council, as to the efficient targeting of resources. Work was also in place to try to address social worker retention issues. The committee will be able to explore this in more detail when it meets with the Chair of the Improvement Board on 25 September 2017.

3.4. Quarter 1 Performance Report

The committee agreed that it had discussed the issues relating to children's services within the wider committee agenda. The Ofsted Inspection Report had been clear that the council needed to improve and as already discussed the committee will be setting out a clear work plan of how it intends to scrutinise the improvement journey.

3.5 Revenue Monitoring

The committee noted the current financial position. Members repeated concerns raised by the committee in the previous council with regard to the pressure on the external placement budget. The committee would continue to monitor this situation.

17 November 2017

3.6 Early Help - Families First Plus

The committee was pleased to welcome the Head of Families, Communities and Partnerships, an Employment Advisor, a Family Support Officer, and a Family Group Conference Coordinator, to the meeting to discuss Early Help. Early intervention and prevention are important factors in supporting children and families. Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance (2015) says that 'providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later. Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years'.

It is important to understand that early help/families first plus is not a specific service. Early help identifies what is needed and puts together a plan of support, and coordinates this activity with the council and partners. Ofsted (2017) reported that 'the restructuring of services to a locality basis means that early help is becoming more responsive to local need; increasing numbers of children have an early help plan; and, social workers report that they have a clearer understanding of the services available for children and young families'. There are currently around 2000 referrals to the 'front door' a month. The 'front door' has been reconfigured to improve the process for customers, to enable timely decision making for children (within 24 hours). Work is also underway to enable better analysis of the flow so that it can be identified how many referrals met the threshold for help, how many are repeat referrals etc. The 'front door' telephone number has been widely publicised and a lot has been done to ensure that partners know where to go to get help/advice.

The Employment Advisor is employed by the DWP but is co-located with the council. This role provides financial expertise and a full understanding of the benefits system which aims to ensure that families are on a stable financial footing. The Employment Advisor can spend more intensive time with a family that at the Job Centre. Within this context it is important to be aware that the benefits of this approach may not be clear for several years; it is not just about getting people into work but providing a positive role model and aspirations to the younger generation.

Family conferences are about empowering the family to identify and provide their own solutions to their situation. The committee was pleased to hear that the child's voice is central to this process. The committee welcomed this work, but does want to get a more evidenced base understanding as to whether the restructuring of the service has created a better system for children and their families; that decisions are being made within the required timeline; and that there is a better understanding of the data and what this is telling us about our children and families.

3.7 Ofsted Improvement Letter

The committee had a detailed discussion regarding the content of this letter. A significant discussion point related to the recruitment and retention of social workers. This is an issue that will not be resolved quickly. The council is drawing on the same pool as neighbouring authorities, who have also been judged to be inadequate. Work is in place to create an attractive recruitment package. There is a lot of activity to reduce the size of caseloads, and these have reduced significantly since the inspection, but are still not at the level we would want them to be. It was of concern to read that although our social workers know and understand the children and families they work with, that they are not recording the information appropriately on the system. It was explained that this is part of practice improvement – understanding what a good assessment looks like. The experience and expertise of the council's improvement partner will support and improve this and the wider understanding of what good practice looks like.

The Improvement Board is leading on the Children's Improvement Plan, and the committee has requested regular updates from the Cabinet Member, Children and Young People. The committee will also receive future Ofsted monitoring letters. Some members of the committee have requested that the previous Cabinet Member, Children and Young People be invited to the committee to respond to questions.

4 Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee (12 September and 14th November) – Cllr Carole Allaway Martin

12 September 2017

4.1 Adult Safeguarding

The committee was pleased to welcome the Independent Chair of the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (GSAB), and the Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding to the meeting to discuss this important issue with members.

The Independent Chair presented the GSAB Annual Report 2016/17 and the GSAB Strategic Plan. He highlighted that a significant challenge going forward related to the risks associated with social isolation, hoarding and self-neglect. The committee also received a presentation of a safeguarding adult review of a self-neglect case where decisions made by the individual had led to a life threatening situation. The significant challenge in this case, and many others, was that when an individual has the mental capacity to make their own decisions (even though others might think that they were the wrong decisions) their right to do so must be respected; and this right was enshrined in law. In this particular case the only point at which the individual lost that ability was when they became unconscious and family members present made the decision to call 999.

The individual survived the situation and participated in the review of their case, and he does not apportion blame to any agencies. The review did highlight learning opportunities including raising awareness of safeguarding issues with private housing landlords. The committee was pleased to note that this individual is doing well, and welcomed the information that he is happy to work with the GSAB to help improve awareness of self neglect issues.

This review prompted a lot of debate and concern. It was good to note that the GSAB is working hard to try and reach vulnerable adults, and acknowledges that people may not wish to engage with social care professionals, and is working closely with the voluntary sector and the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) to access these people.

4.2 Health and Wellbeing for the Future: Community Hospital Services in the Forest of Dean

The committee was aware that the work to identify health needs in the Forest of Dean area and develop proposals had started two years ago, and was therefore pleased that consultation on the way forward was now beginning.

The committee received a detailed presentation from the Chief Executive of Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust on the proposal. Given that there are people resident in Gloucestershire but registered with a Welsh GP it was reassuring to hear that GPs in the Monmouth and Chepstow area are aware of this proposal and information will be available in their surgeries.

Committee members are aware that the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (GCCG) has already undertaken a lot of work with Forest of Dean communities, and felt that the level of consultation activity should reach most people. The GCCG would also be utilising social media. The committee will receive the outcome of this consultation at its meeting in January 2018.

The committee encourages all members of council to participate in this consultation. Information is available at this link www.fodhealth.nhs.uk. The consultation period ends on 10 December 2017.

4.3 Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (GHNHSFT) Independent Review of Financial Governance

Members will be aware that in September 2016 the GHNHSFT announced an unexpected and significant deterioration in its financial position. As a consequence of this, the GHNHSFT Board (in partnership with its regulator NHS Improvement), commissioned an independent review into the circumstances that contributed both to the financial decline and the fact that it had gone unreported for such a significant period of time.

The report by Deloitte was published on 7 July 2017. The Chair of GHNHSFT brought the committee up to date with progress against the report's recommendations, in particular the work to strengthen governance and finance reporting. There was a concern with regard to the potential impact on services but it was reiterated (from November 2016) that GHNHSFT was commissioned by the GCCG to provide specific services and it must deliver them.

The committee was pleased to note that the learning opportunities from this review have been shared with STP partners; and that NHS Improvement was also using this experience when working with other NHS Trusts.

The committee will continue to closely monitor this situation.

4.4 Remodelling Public Health Nursing Consultation

This was an opportunity for the committee to be informed about Public Health Nursing Services (PHNS) and to also participate in this consultation. The committee noted that the council was responsible for commissioning Health Visiting services for families expecting a baby until the child turns 5 years and also a School Nursing service for children aged 5 to 19 years. The PHNS are provided by Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust (GCSNHST). In December 2016, the Cabinet approved a remodelling of the PHNS to bring Health visiting and school nursing together into a single service for children and their families from pre-birth to age 19, which provides specific support at key development stages in a child's life.

The committee welcomed this consultation and in the main agreed that the direction of travel was appropriate. Members recognised that this service presented a good opportunity to identify safeguarding concerns and asked that

care was taken that this aspect was not diminished. The committee will be interested to see the outcome of this consultation.

14 November 2017

4.5 Winter Plan

The committee received a detailed presentation on the Winter Plan. The development of this plan built on experience from previous winters and from NHS Improvement (NHSI) publication on national priorities for acute hospitals 'Good practice guide: Focus on improving patient flow' (July 2017).

The system wide requirements for Gloucestershire are: -

- To achieve the national 4 hour standard for A & E
- To maintain elective and non-elective flow within the acute trust
- To maintain high quality care for all patients accessing Gloucestershire services
- To provide robust staffing by supporting staff to stay well alongside securing required staffing levels

Last year elective activity in the acute trust was significantly impacted by non-elective flow. To improve this position trauma and orthopaedic non-elective surgery will be at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital (GRH) with elective surgery at Cheltenham General Hospital (CGH). This is a pilot not a service change. The pilot will be evaluated and any future action will be discussed with the committee. Members were informed that one week after implementation the data was showing an improvement in patient experience.

What was very clear is that this is a system wide plan – no one partner can deliver this on their own. NHS England has informed the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group that this is a strong plan, and members of the committee agree with this view. The committee will need to closely monitor performance data through the winter period to see if the expected outcomes from the winter plan are being achieved, and that the escalation management actions work effectively. The roll out of the Ambulance Response Programme (ARP) also has an important role in this work. The committee will be meeting with the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT) on 9 January 2018 to discuss performance; and some members of the committee are visiting the SWASFT Clinical Hub in South Gloucestershire on 24 November 2017 to gain a better understanding of how 999 calls to SWASFT are managed. (The presentation slides and NHSI Good Practice Guide are available on the council website.)

4.6 One Gloucestershire STP Lead Report

This is the first report of the STP Lead to the committee. This brought the committee up to date with STP activity. The committee is expecting to receive STP proposals relating to Urgent Care in late Spring 2018. This will create a network of Urgent Care Centres (UCCs) across the county. It is anticipated that there will be UCCs in Cheltenham and Gloucester; there will also be UCCs in the rural areas. The detail of the proposals is still in development so the actual location of the UCCs in the rural areas is not yet clear.

This does lead to the question of where this leaves Minor Injuries and Illness Units, and whether this also leaves a question mark over the future of A & E at Cheltenham General Hospital. This will not become clear until the final proposals are presented to the committee at the start of the consultation period in late Spring 2018.

4.7 GCCG Chair/Accountable Officer Report

The committee was clear that it would be closely monitoring the development of the merger of Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust and the 2Gether NHS Foundation Trust.

5 Environment and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (20 September and 22 November) - Cllr Rob Bird

20 September 2017

5.1 Motion 772: Highways Customer Service Satisfaction Survey

Members received an update on the Highways Customer Service Satisfaction Survey from Scott Tompkins, Lead Commissioner: Highway Authority. The survey is sent out every autumn to all parish councils, town councils and elected members within the County, and the results are used as part of the key performance indicators for the highways term maintenance contract and to help inform improvements to the service.

The Committee was reminded that the 2016 survey was delayed following a motion at full Council in June 2016, which asked scrutiny to review highway satisfaction levels. The Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee considered the motion at its meeting in July 2016 and supported a proposal to commission a review of the Highways Customer Satisfaction Survey. Committee members agreed the recommended changes to the survey at the Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting in November 2016, which included rewording some of the questions, creating an on-line version of the survey, extending the survey to community groups in Gloucester and

Cheltenham, and offering a week's lengthsman time as a prize draw to encourage a better response rate. The surveys were to be issued in spring 2017 but were delayed due to election purdah periods. The survey was sent out in June 2017 to be completed by the end of July.

Members were informed that the number of responses received from parish councils, town councils and elected members had dropped compared to previous years. Members requested that a list detailing the parish and town councils that had responded to the survey be shared with them. The results indicated a significant improvement in customer satisfaction levels compared to the 2015 results, particularly in relation to the service provided by Amey Highways and the professionalism of staff. The Committee discussed the results in detail, and recognised that whilst satisfaction levels had improved, further work to raise satisfaction levels needed to be done. Members also considered whether the low response rate could have been due to an increase in satisfaction levels.

The Committee was asked to consider whether the survey should be issued again in autumn 2017. Members were informed that autumn was the preferred time to issue the survey as a significant amount of construction work is carried out over the summer, the survey had previously been issued in the autumn, and also because the results of the National Highways and Transport Survey are published at this time. Members compared the benefits of sending the survey out in autumn 2017 or summer 2018. It was agreed that officers and the Cabinet

Member for Highways and Flood would discuss the options, with reference to the thoughts of the Committee, and would provide the Committee with an update on their decision at a future meeting.

5.2 Commissioning Director's Report – Including the Quarter 1 Strategic Performance Report 2017/18

Nigel Riglar, Commissioning Director: Communities and Infrastructure, updated the Committee on current issues. In particular, members asked questions about the Local Growth Fund, Community Infrastructure Levy, LED Street Lighting Project, and the Gloucester South West By Pass. In response to a request, a private briefing on the status of Commons and Rights of Way applications will be provided to Committee members before the next meeting. Members also received an update from Cllr Nigel Moor, Cabinet Member for Fire, Planning and Infrastructure, on the Minerals Local Plan Cabinet Panel. Members considered the Quarter 1 Strategic Performance Report 2017/18. In response to a query, it was clarified that the quarterly figures for the number of killed and seriously injured children under road safety were cumulative. The Committee noted the report.

5.3 Chief Fire Officer Report

The Committee received a report from Stewart Edgar, Chief Fire Officer, detailing information on the portfolio of services provided by the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council. Members noted, in an update on the Fire and Police Governance Review, that the Police and Crime Commissioner has issued a formal response stating that the governance change process will now be put on hold indefinitely. It was agreed that it would be helpful if the Committee could be provided with an estimate of the costs to Gloucestershire County Council for contributing to the review.

It was also noted that the draft Statement of Assurance for 2016/17 will be reported to the Committee for comment at its meeting in November, and that Registration Services are currently monitoring new legislation. The Committee discussed the six Capital bids submitted by GFRS in detail, and clarification was sought on the disposal of assets.

5.4 Work Plan

The Committee queried how Motion 787 – Pavements, which requested that the Cabinet Member report back to the Highways Advisory Group on measures to improve the inspection and fixing of pavements, before reporting to the Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee with a positive action plan, can be addressed now that the Highways Advisory Group has been disbanded. This will be clarified at the next meeting.

It was requested that an update on the road safety review in Gloucestershire be provided as part of the Chief Fire Officer report at the next Committee meeting. Members discussed Motion 798 – Gloucestershire Flood and Community Resilience, which had been referred to the Committee by full Council at its meeting on 13 September 2017. It was agreed that a presentation would be given at the meeting on 17 January 2018 outlining Gloucestershire's flood resilience, Gloucestershire's role as lead local flood authority, and how the flood levy has been used. Cllrs Kate Haigh and Lesley Williams, the proposer and seconder of the motion, would be invited to attend the meeting to contribute to the debate.

The Committee is to receive a report on the Minerals Local Plan and the Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2018-21 at its meeting on 22 November 2017

22 November 2017

5.5 Minerals Local Plan

Members received a report on progress with the emerging Minerals Local Plan for Gloucestershire (2018-32), including an analysis of representations received to the draft plan consultation and proposed significant changes to be considered for incorporation into the Publication version of the plan. This plan will replace the existing Gloucestershire Minerals Local Plan which was adopted in 2003.

Over 2,500 individual representations were made to the draft plan consultation, which have been reviewed by officers. Members were informed that the comments raised through the draft plan consultation have resulted in a number of proposed changes, including:

- The removal of draft policy MW06 Oil and Gas and its supporting text;
- The expansion of the spatial portrait to explain the current circumstances surrounding the diminished likelihood of oil and gas resources in Gloucestershire being exploited. The spatial portrait will also include a new commitment to instigate a review of the plan if renewed interest is shown in oil and gas extraction in the future through any attempts to acquire new Petroleum Exploration and Developments Licences (PEDLs), if these are made available by the government;
- The removal of oil and gas development from the spatial strategy and the introduction of specific references to measures to support climate change mitigation and/or adaptation; and
- The removal of candidate allocation 07 – Preferred area at Redpool's Farm, Twyning, on the grounds of concern over deliverability and 'strategic' fit.

Members noted the proposed timescale for the emerging plan. The next step was for Cabinet, at its meeting on 31st January 2018, to consider making a recommendation to Full Council for the approval of the Publication version of the Minerals Local Plan for Gloucestershire (2018-2032) and to also enable the plan to be subsequently submitted to the Secretary of State.

The Committee discussed the proposed changes to the plan in depth, particularly in relation to oil and gas extraction, and noted the report.

5.6 Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2018-21

The Committee was informed of the development and progression for the next Integrated Risk Management Plan (2018-21) for Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service.

The draft IRMP was considered by Cabinet on 27 September 2017, where it was approved for public consultation. The consultation is open until 8 January 2018.

Members noted that the draft IRMP outlines three objectives that will be addressed by the Service between 2018 and 2021:

- Objective 1 – Increased focus on prevention and protection initiatives;
- Objective 2 – Explore, further develop, and maximise opportunities to collaborate with partners and other stakeholders; and
- Objective 3 – Reconfigure and reform the Service with the aim of driving efficiencies across the Service, delivering continual improvements in working practices, even greater levels of value for money than are already achieved, and a Service that is fit for purpose both now and in the years to come.

Members were asked to comment on the plan and consider a submission by the Committee to the public consultation. The Committee agreed to endorse the draft IRMP (2018-21), in addition to individual Committee members submitting representations to the consultation.

5.7 Local Risk Management Strategy – Annual Progress and Implementation Plan 2017/18

Members were informed that Gloucestershire County Council, as the Lead Local Flood Authority for Gloucestershire, adopted its Local Flood Risk Management Strategy in 2014, which sets out the Council's proposals to fulfil its role over the subsequent 10 years. The Council is also required to produce an Annual Progress and Implementation Plan to enable it to respond to any legislative, regulatory and financial changes that might occur during the delivery period of the Local Strategy.

Members considered the Annual Progress and Implementation Plan 2017/18. Clarification was sought on funding for schemes, collaboration with other local authorities on schemes, and on the collection of flooding data.

The Committee recognised the significant number of flood alleviation schemes which the Flood Alleviation Team has and continues to deliver for the County.

It was suggested that the Committee may wish to consider soft flood alleviation schemes as an item for scrutiny at a future meeting.

It was noted that a final version of the Plan, which will take into account the Committee's comments, will be added to the Flood Risk related pages on the Council's website.

5.8 Chief Fire Officer Report

The Committee received a report from Stewart Edgar, Chief Fire Officer, detailing information on the portfolio of services provided by the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council.

5.9 Commissioning Director's Report – Including the Quarter 2 Strategic Performance Report 2017/18

Nigel Riglar, Commissioning Director: Communities and Infrastructure, updated the Committee on current issues.

The Committee noted the report, including the Quarter 2 Strategic Performance Report 2017/18.

5.10 Work Plan

At its meeting on 17 January 2018, the Committee is to receive a presentation outlining Gloucestershire's flood resilience, Gloucestershire's role as lead local flood authority, and how the flood levy has been used, as part of its consideration of Motion 798: Gloucestershire Flood and Community Resilience. The Cabinet Member for Highways and Flood will also report to the Committee on measures to improve the inspection and fixing of pavements at the meeting in January, as part of the Committee's consideration of Motion 787: Pavements.

6 Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (19 October) – Cllr Dave Norman

At the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting on 21 June 2017, the committee endorsed a proposal by the former committee to arrange two of the six annual scheduled scrutiny committee meetings held at Shire Hall as 'stand alone meetings' at one of the district/borough council offices in Gloucestershire, (arranged on a rotational basis). At the committee meeting in

September, it was agreed that the first of the 'roadshow' meetings would be held at the Tewkesbury Borough Council Offices on 19 October 2017.

Cllr Dave Norman, as Chairman of the Committee, invited local members and lead officers from the Borough Council to present information on current issues and priorities relevant to the economic growth agenda for the authority, and for scrutiny members to ask questions on the measures in place to grow and sustain the local economy. There was also an opportunity for local members to consider the relationship between the District Authorities and the Gloucestershire First LEP, (Local Enterprise Partnership). Mike Dawson, Chief Executive of Tewkesbury Borough Council, and Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Promotion, Cllr Rob Bird, gave a very useful and informative presentation, before inviting local member and scrutiny committee members to ask questions.

The Chief Executive explained that the focus of the economic agenda for Tewkesbury was to work with the other districts in prioritising and promoting the economic development of Gloucestershire. As part of a new 'economic development and tourism strategy', the Borough Council's ambition was to become the 'growth engine' for Gloucestershire. Key aspirations included; identifying and delivering employment land; maximising the growth potential of Junctions 9 and 10 of the M5 motorway; regenerating Tewkesbury town centre, and delivering major housing development. Responding to questions about the relationship between the Borough Council and GFirst LEP, the Chief Executive advised of the commitment between the two organisations in developing more formal links of engagement at both member and strategic level. The Chief Executive confirmed that the relationship had recently benefitted from a number of improvements and was gaining in strength. During the meeting, it was suggested that the success of the relationship between the LEP and the seven local authorities was dependent on the individual council's commitment to supporting delivery of the programmes set out in the Strategic Economic Plan, and to the council's contributions to the wider growth ambitions for Gloucestershire.

Reflecting on the role of the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee, it was suggested that the purpose of the Joint Committee was to provide a mechanism for co-ordinating this commitment from the local authorities. In turn, the role of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee was to review the performance of the Joint Committee in fulfilling its responsibilities. The discussion provided a positive and encouraging outlook, with several suggestions made at the meeting noted by the Chief Executive for the council to pursue in more depth and consider as part of the economic agenda for Tewkesbury.

Overall, the meeting was considered a very useful exercise, providing an excellent starting point for meetings to be held locally. The next 'roadshow' meeting will be held at the Cotswold District Council Offices on Thursday 22 February 2018.

7. Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel (8 September and 8 November) – Cllr Will Windsor Clive

8 September 2017

7.1 Complaints and Crime Statistics

Paul Trott presented the report detailing Freedom of Information requests and Complaints. He explained that there had been a slight rise in complaints in comparison to the previous five years. The crime data was set out within the report and showed that crime had risen over the previous 6 months with a spike in March and April. This had been replicated across the Country. In most parts of the County, districts were performing well against comparators across the country; the exception was Cheltenham and the Constabulary was taking action to address that. In response to a question regarding Cheltenham, it was explained that there had been an increase in violent crime but that resources were being redeployed into that area.

7.2 Emergency Services Collaboration

The Panel discussed the recent update regarding 'Emergency Service Collaboration'. Members had been circulated a report from the consultants who had worked on behalf of the Commissioner to consider the viability of moving the governance of the service to the Commissioner's Office. In addition, the Commissioner had circulated his report with the conclusion that he would not be proceeding with the business case. There was a detailed discussion, with some members expressing their concern regarding what they saw as criticisms of the County Council within the report. It was clarified that the Council had a Medium Term Financial Strategy that included the Fire and Rescue Service and an estates strategy supported by government grants. It was also emphasised that the Service was scrutinised by Environment and Communities Scrutiny as well as by the relevant Cabinet Member. The reports were also in the public arena.

The Commissioner explained to the Panel that he had decided not to proceed because there had been too much opposition. He explained that if there were issues with the Fire and Rescue Service performance then it was something he would look at again.

Some members commented on the apparent ‘bad feeling’ that had been created by the discussion around the governance of the Fire and Rescue Service. It was felt that it was important to move on now that the reports had been made and conclusions drawn.

The Commissioner had informed the Chairman of the Panel earlier in the week that he needed to leave the meeting at 11am due to a meeting with the Home Secretary. One member asked why the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner would not be present to deputise for him for the remainder of the meeting. The Panel was informed that the Deputy was at the Podsmead and Matson Regeneration and could not attend. Officers would be present to respond and to take back questions where required. The Commissioner then left the meeting.

7.3. Safer Gloucestershire

Richard Bradley reminded the Panel of the review of community safety conducted the previous year. As a result of that review, Safer Gloucestershire had been created. The first meeting had been held in July and, from that meeting, a number of documents were being prepared. This was the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and developing a protocol to share information. The main thrust of the meeting was to ensure an integrated approach. At the next meeting on 8 October those documents would be brought forward. The meetings were ‘closed’ officer meetings held at police headquarters.

7.4 Young People Becoming Adults

Kate Langley, strategic lead for justice in Gloucestershire was the lead on the priority area for the Commissioner. Chief Inspector Paul Dutton was the head of emergency response for Gloucestershire and Chair of the youth justice partnership board. Paul outlined the six objectives:

- Raise awareness of young people – ensure young people have a voice,
- dignity and respect.
- Reduce first time entrants into the criminal justice system – reducing the
- time they spend with the police.
- Anti-social behaviour – supporting through early intervention
- Create strong and successful partnership for young people
- Communication strategy across Gloucestershire

The Panel were informed of the Overarching piece of work, ‘Children First – restorative intervention.’ The focus was to keep young people out of criminal justice system, based on the evidence that young people were more likely to continue to offend once in it.

Members were provided with the aim of Children First:

- To divert children and young people away from the formal criminal justice system wherever possible and reduce unnecessary criminalisation
- particularly of vulnerable groups e.g. children in care, learning difficulties, mental health problems.
- To encourage children and young people to take responsibility for their own actions and promote reintegration into their communities
- To ensure children and young people are offered the right support in order to prevent further offending at the earliest opportunity
- To make restorative Interventions the norm and default disposal for children and young people who offend.
- To see the child first and offender second
- To put the victim at the heart of the youth justice system

7.5 Items for upcoming meetings

- It was suggested that the Panel receive an item on wildlife crime, detailing the resources put into it and number of prosecutions. The Commissioner explained that this was part of the police and crime plan called the ‘compassionate approach’. He suggested the item could include the compassionate approach to animals and environmental footprint of the constabulary
- The consideration of the Annual Report was deferred until the next meeting as the Commissioner was not in attendance.
- Members requested an item updating on the Neighbourhood Policing Offer

8 November 2017

7.6 Chief Executive’s Report

Paul Trott, Chief Executive of the Commissioner’s Office introduced the report. This included a log on decisions that had been made since the previous Panel meeting in September. The Panel noted the crime statistics within the report with it being explained that although crime was increasing Gloucestershire was performing well in comparison to those areas deemed most geographically similar as well as in comparison with England and Wales. Despite recent increases in crime, it was emphasised that crime rates were actually low in Gloucestershire making it one of the safest places in the country The Commissioner did state his concerns about the continued impact of reductions

in funding across the public sector and the impact this could have on crime figures.

The Panel were informed that regional collaboration discussions had been initiated to explore potential opportunities. The Commissioner explained that he had entered into discussions with Gloucestershire County Council about future collaboration of governance arrangements and areas for potential exploration with the Fire and Rescue Service.

The Commissioner had started discussions with Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service regarding the possibility of building a new, multi-purpose courthouse within the Waterwells Campus. Architects had been asked to draw up some plans. There was some discussion around the impact of such an introduction. The Commissioner outlined that his question was 'Can we together design the court of the future?' The Commissioner was keen to engage with the County Council on this matter and was seeking support from the Panel. The Panel outlined that it was supportive of the Commissioner exploring this further with consultation with partners.

The Panel understood that the temporary Chief Constable's contract was due to expire in May 2018. The Commissioner had asked the Chief Executive to begin the process of recruitment for a permanent Chief Constable with a view to completing the process before Christmas. The Panel has a requirement to hold a confirmatory hearing at the end of this process.

7.7 Child Protection

Detective Chief Superintendent Steve Porter provided members with an update following the HMIC inspection of Safeguarding. The presentation included the national and local context, the key positive and key improvement themes arising from the inspection and the approach being taken to meet the challenges identified.

Nationally and locally there had been an increase in demand for child protection, CSE and CSE Online and was subject to more public and Government scrutiny. The Ofsted inspection themes included the link between missing children and CSE and the drift and delay of investigations. HMIC had identified that the teams were under resourced and carrying out too many investigations.

In terms of meeting the challenges the Constabulary would be ensuring providing effective strategic and tactical oversight to ensure good governance; to be more people focussed in leadership to provide support and effective direction; to introduce new processes and systems to deliver the hallmarks of

success; to develop a clear understanding of how we delivery providing effective oversight of quality; and collaborating and working together to safeguard children.

HMIC had been in for an effectiveness inspection and provided favourable comments on how the Constabulary had dealt with vulnerability. The report would be out in February 2018.

7.8 Annual Report

This item had been deferred from the previous meeting. The Commissioner introduced the Annual report for the Panel's comments. It was noted that it was the same style that had been used in the previous year which had been received well by the Panel. The Panel made no comment.

7.9 Force Control Room

Superintendent Rob Priddy updated the Panel on the restructuring of the Force Control Room, including details on the number of 999 and 101 calls. The Panel welcomed the measures being taken around changing staff shift patterns and employee development that appeared to be having positive results.

7.10 Police and Crime Plan Highlight Report

Richard Bradley introduced the highlight report providing information on progress against the priorities within the Commissioner's plan. The Panel asked that at the next meeting they receive some information on the Restorative Justice work being carried out.

7.11 The Compassionate Approach

The Commissioner provided an update on the Constabulary's approach towards animals and the environmental footprint. He focussed on the vehicles within the Constabulary's fleet which was under review. The Constabulary had been asked to carry out a 'root and branch' review of the environmental footprint which would be circulated to the Panel.

The Commissioner held the Constabulary to account on how to respond to rural crime. While the volume of rural crime was generally low, he acknowledged the high impact such crimes had in rural communities. There was some discussion around the badger cull and the work that had been carried out through the multi-agency group to help ease tensions and engage with all interested parties. The Commissioner stated that he would be

appointing someone to take the lead on the 'compassionate approach'.