

Cabinet	
Wednesday 24 April 2019 10.00 am	
Cabinet Suite - Shire Hall, Gloucester	
AGENDA	

Item	Discussion	Portfolio
4	<p>Questions at Cabinet Meetings (Pages 1 - 6)</p> <p>Up to 30 minutes is allowed for this item.</p> <p>Written questions</p> <p>To answer any written questions from a County Councillor, (or any person living or working in the county, or is affected by the work of the County Council), about any matter which relates to any item on the agenda for the meeting.</p> <p>The closing date for the receipt of questions was 4.00 pm on Tuesday 16 April 2019</p> <p>Please submit any questions to jo.moore@gloucestershire.gov.uk</p> <p>A written answer will be provided for each question and presented to the questioner and to Cabinet Members in advance of the meeting. The questions and answers will be taken as read at the meeting and need not be read out. At the discretion of the Leader of Council, each questioner in attendance at the meeting will be allowed to ask one supplementary question in response to the answer given to the original question.</p> <p>A copy of the questions and answers circulated at the meeting will be attached to the signed copy of the minutes of the meeting.</p> <p>Urgent questions</p> <p>An urgent written question may be asked by a member of the public about any item on the Cabinet agenda for that meeting which the Chairperson considers could not have been reasonably submitted by the deadline for the receipt of written questions, provided he or she gives notice of the question to the Chief Executive by 12 noon on the day before the meeting.</p>	<p>Leader of the Council</p>



MEMBER QUESTIONS

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<p>Question 1: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>Agenda item 11: Gloucestershire’s Sufficiency Strategy - Semi-Independent Project</p> <p>The report says the proposed remodelling of Trevone House will provide a resource centre for children and young people, provision of a health assessment unit, an educational day service and apartments for young people to be able to learn the skills of daily living to prepare them for adulthood.</p> <p>I agree that such a facility for young people in care is required in Gloucestershire, but what other properties in the county were considered and where are they located?</p>	<p>Children Services over the past few years have considered a number of options in relation to providing provision of placements for children and young people in county. This has included looking at existing buildings, as well as purchasing new provision, both in urban and more rural areas. Unfortunately, these searches did not identify any potential properties with the scope that is being offered from using Trevone House. This project is innovative in its design, offering a multi agency approach to our young people. Because of this, it needs to be centrally located, accessible both for young people to access community resources, but also for staff and partners.</p>
<p>Question 2: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>Agenda item 11: Gloucestershire’s Sufficiency Strategy - Semi-Independent Project</p> <p>I was only briefed about this proposal on the 11th of April 2019, the day before the cabinet report was published. Local residents haven’t been consulted.</p> <p>What plans do you have to fully consult local residents, other care institutions and local schools based in Kingsholm?</p> <p>And will they be listened too?</p>	<p>A communications plan will be implemented, to engage with and listen to local residents, so that everyone has an opportunity to share their views. Our young ambassadors will be part of this process, bringing to life their journeys, working together not only for the development of this project but also for the life time of the provision, to reduce anxiety, mitigate risks and promote community cohesion.</p>

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<p>Question 3: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>Agenda item 11: Gloucestershire’s Sufficiency Strategy - Semi-Independent Project</p> <p>In paragraph 3.2, the report says that this proposal will provide accommodation for 16-20 year olds.</p> <p>Can you provide me with an assurance that no person will be placed at Trevone House who is over the age of 20 years?</p>	<p>This project is to support young people moving onto independence from the age of 16 years, planning for them to move on to independent accommodation. In exceptional circumstances, where young people need more time or support due to their learning or emotional needs, consideration would be given for them to remain in placement post 20 years. These young people would have a robust transition plan in place.</p>
<p>Question 4: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>Agenda item 11: Gloucestershire’s Sufficiency Strategy - Semi-Independent Project</p> <p>Will the new young persons facility at Trevone House be a single gender provision?</p> <p>If not, what spilt in genders is expected?</p>	<p>The accommodation will be co-ed, but this will be in the context of a needs lead service and planned placements. Placement matching is key to the success of this project and a panel will be in place to review placement referrals. This will be multi agency, with colleagues from Health, Police, Children’s Services and the provider. The panel will not only review the placement referrals, it will also monitor the young people in placement.</p>
<p>Question 5: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>Agenda item 11: Gloucestershire’s Sufficiency Strategy - Semi-Independent Project</p> <p>On Radio Gloucestershire, (8am on 15th April 2019), Cllr Mark Hawthorne stated that there would be a minimum of 4 members staff on duty 24/7.</p> <p>Is this correct and how many staff will be on duty during the day and over the night?</p>	<p>The whole concept of this project is to support and enable our young people to flourish and be aspirational in developing their plans for adulthood. Therefore, staffing is critical, not only in the numbers but the quality and skills of the staff team. There will be a minimum of four staff on duty at any one time, across the whole project. At times, where needed, there will be more staff on duty for those young people who need higher levels of support. Parts of the tendering process will require potential providers to evidence their staffs skills and training and supervision standards to ensure they meet the requirements of this</p>

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	<p>project.</p> <p>Given the nature of the project, there will be additional staff during the day to deliver the day service provision. The project will also have capacity to bring in additional staff as required and to support young people in distress, particularly those in need of health assessments.</p>
<p>Question 6: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p>
<p>Agenda item 8: Corporate Asset Management Plan</p> <p>The covering report says that the carbon emissions implications are neutral.</p> <p>Surely, you will agree with me, that with the success of the refurbishment of Shire Hall, the council should be more ambitious and looking for a positive reduction in carbon emissions?</p>	<p>Carbon emissions are addressed within the Corporate Asset Management Plan under objective 4:</p> <p>Objective 4: To manage and maintain property effectively, efficiently and sustainably</p> <p>Reduce energy and water consumption and CO2 emissions and take opportunities to generate renewable energy where appropriate.</p> <p>Wider plans to reduce carbon are dealt with in the Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan. Cabinet have signed up to the Government’s emissions reductions pledge 2020 and are working towards reduction targets in this respect.</p>
<p>Question 7: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Vernon Smith</p>
<p>Agenda item 7: Financial Monitoring Report 2018/19 Page 41 - Point 31</p> <p>The report references ‘overspends in pothole repair owing to the severe weather’. The winter of 2017/18, was only the coldest in five years – hardly unpredictably cold. As such, is the overspend a result of not placing sufficient funds in the pot for predictable cold snaps?</p>	<p>During the winter of 2017/18. the county experienced severe winter conditions, including the ‘Beast from the East’ and there were several occasions of snowfall necessitating 24 hour winter maintenance activities. This included a late winter snowfall in March 2018. As a result the impact on the road network condition was felt most keenly from March to June during which time substantial additional resources were employed to tackle the peak in pothole numbers and this impacted on the 18/19 expenditure at the start of the year.</p>

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<p>Question 8: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Vernon Smith</p>
<p>Agenda item 7: Financial Monitoring Report 2018/19 Page 41 - Point 31</p> <p>The recent winter (2018/19) has been one of the warmest on record; on that basis, we can presumably expect significantly less potholes requiring repair.</p> <p>Can the cabinet member please provide a comparison between the number of potholes that have required repair this winter compared to last.</p>	<p>The county continues to carry out gritting operations until the end of April 2019. However whilst milder conditions have been experienced, there have still been many nights when road surface temperatures were forecast to be below freezing necessitating a gritting run to be called. It is this freeze-thaw cycle that causes damage to the network.</p> <p>The potholes as a result of the 17/18 winter manifested on the network during the early part of the 18/19 financial year. A direct comparison of the whole period when potholes (and other safety defects) were peaking on the network is therefore not currently available. However, the bullet points below show the safety defect repair figures for the Oct-Mar period in each year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October – 2017/18 = 2957 2018/19 = 3808 • November - 2017/18 = 3007 2018/19 = 2853 • December - 2017/18 = 1751 2018/19 = 2054 • January - 2017/18 = 7448 2018/19 = 4100 • February - 2017/18 = 8698 2018/19 = 3835 • March - 2017/18 = 11282 2018/19 = 4403 • April - 2017/18 = 9659 2018/19 = tbc
<p>Question 9: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Ray Theodoulou</p>
<p>Agenda item 8: Corporate Asset Management Plan</p> <p>Shire Hall Refurbishment. Can the cabinet member confirm whether there are any plans to modernise the remaining blocks within Shire Hall, (including the Council Chamber and surrounding buildings), to make them more energy efficient?”</p>	<p>Further works are planned to refurbish/replace the remainder of inefficient windows in parts of blocks 1, 2 and 3 including the Council Chamber. A programme of works is currently being drawn up. Works to upgrade the flat roofs to block 2 are currently planned for this summer, this will include upgrading insulation to modern standards thus making the building much more energy efficient.</p>

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Question 10: Cllr Colin Hay	Respondent: Cllr Lynden Stowe
<p>Agenda item 10: Children and Families Capital Programme (Page 111)</p> <p>We learned this week that only 15 per cent of new schools in the country are being built with sprinklers to tackle fires; a measure which the Fire Brigades Union say should be mandatory, as it is in Scotland and Wales.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm that all new schools or school extensions in Gloucestershire have been, (in the last ten years), or will be, fitted with sprinkler systems.</p>	<p>In accordance with Government Building Bulletin Guidelines (BB100: Design for Fire Safety in Schools), a detailed fire risk assessment is undertaken as part of the design process for any new schools or major extensions.</p> <p>In accordance with these national guidelines, sprinkler or misting systems are installed where appropriate.</p> <p>All schools have a fire risk assessment in place which is regularly updated and tested.</p>

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