

Cabinet	
Friday 20 December 2019 at 10.00 am	
Cabinet Suite - Shire Hall, Gloucester	
AGENDA	

	Item	Portfolio
4	<p>Questions at Cabinet Meetings (Pages 1 - 16)</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 this meeting.</p> <p>The closing date for the receipt of written questions was 4.00 pm on Monday 16 December 2019.</p> <p>Please submit questions to Jo Moore, Democratic Services, Shire Hall, Gloucester, GL1 2TG or to jo.moore@gloucestershire.gov.uk</p> <p>A written answer will be provided for each written question and published on the council website. The questions and answers will be taken as read and need not be read out at the meeting. At the discretion of the Leader of Council, each questioner will be allowed to ask a supplementary question in response to the answer given to the original question. If the Cabinet member is unable to provide a response, a written response will be provided after the meeting. A copy of all written questions and answers will be attached to the signed copy of the minutes of the meeting.</p> <p>Urgent questions (Copies of the urgent questions received after the deadline for submitting questions will be published on the council website and circulated at the meeting).</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 the day before the meeting.</p>	<p>Leader of the Council</p>

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**PUBLIC QUESTIONS
CABINET MEETING – 20 December 2019**

<p>Question 1: Mr Adam Lillywhite</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 5: Cheltenham Transport Plan Phase 4</p> <p>In your decision report it states: -</p> <p><i>"2.1. The changes made in Phase 4 have been implemented as ETROs and public consultation since June 2018 has enabled the council to listen to public feedback and make adjustments, the most recent of which were made in June 2019.</i></p> <p><i>2.2. There has been significant public interest both in favour and against this scheme. 775 formal representations were received in respect of the original Phase 4 ETROs which were then amended by the council with the aim of addressing many of the concerns raised."</i></p> <p>So far in the statutory public consultations there has been as follows, 72% of response in objection, followed by 94% of responses in objection. These objections were not published and these results were only determined by a FOI by a member of the public who then analysed them.</p> <p>Since the trial started there has been over 1500 responses to the pre-amendments and 159 to the post amendment section. Of the 1500, you have only been made aware of 775, and these, despite some being long and detailed, have been whittled down to just over 5 pages. It is from this that the 'amendments' for the second section have been determined, which strangely appear to be more of a wish list for Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC). This seems suspicious as the Public have not been given access to these responses, despite a formal FOI request that was turned down and when taken up by the ICO, they upheld the complaint. GCC have then stalled for the maximum time before stating that they have had insufficient time to process the responses, when they had been in possession of many of them for over a year.</p>	<p>(Please see the responses below)</p>

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So, the true opposition to the scheme appears to be being subverted, with the statement made to you, "There has been significant public interest both in favour and against this scheme". Nobody knows this or will do until these documents are released and realistically, given the concern that GCC have "lost" many of them as responders have not had their submissions acknowledged, this may take some time. But it will happen.

We also have the situation of a CBC Full Council meeting, where the Council left due to opposition to the scheme and on their return refused to grant a public meeting despite a 6000 signature plus petition, which was even signed by the MP. There is outrage amongst the general population of Cheltenham over this and how they are being ignored.

There appears to be a considerable effort and resource being invested to subvert the influence of the weight of public opinion in this decision. Less than a working day before the TRO Committee some of the responses were released. From those released, it suggested that around 10% in the first and 8% in the second consultation were in favour of the scheme, allowing for spoilt responses. Duplicate this gives between 85 and 90% of respondents still being opposed to it.

- a) Please outline how this proportion of public opinion was reflected to the TROC, given the statement, 'Significant public interest is in favour and against'.
- b) How has this proportion been impartially reflected to the TROC, as the scheme would appear to be absolutely against current public sentiment?
- c) Do you believe that TROC members were made fully aware of this weight of public opinion, 1500 + and not just 775 'formal' responses and,
- d) Do you believe that a decision to 'make' this ETRO can be made

- a) The full text of formal representations to both the original and amended ETRO consultations was made available to Committee members when the meeting papers were published and the proportions in favour of, objecting to or neutral about the amended ETROs were confirmed by a senior officer at the TRC meeting.
- b) See my answer to (a)
- c) Yes.
- d) Yes I do.

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<p>until all the responses have released under the FOI as were requested in February 2019, The veracity of the amendments made after 12 months can only be checked with these responses?</p>	
<p>Question 2: Mr Adam Lillywhite</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 5: Cheltenham Transport Plan Phase 4</p> <p>Of the consultation responses released on 14th December 2019, they do not appear to include the substantive responses that were not submitted via the consultation portal as they were too large.</p> <p>a) Can you please outline where I can view these, and, b) How and when these were circulated to TROC members?</p>	<p>On the Cheltenham Transport Plan webpage the council invited consultation responses to be made using a link to the web portal or in writing to an address at Shire Hall. All formal representations submitted in these ways were included in the information given to traffic regulation committee members.</p>
<p>Question 3: Mr Adam Lillywhite</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 5: Cheltenham Transport Plan Phase 4</p> <p>It is difficult for Councillors whose towns benefit from this transfer of trade from Cheltenham, such as Gloucester with a 9.3% increase in traffic and suddenly one of the best performing High Streets in the UK. Should they really be put in the uncomfortable position of making this decision?</p> <p>This belongs at public inquiry, where the overwhelming public opinion is not redacted, but considered and scrutinized in a timely manner, and an impartial report produced that gives proportionate weight to the negative impact, and only claims the benefit that <u>it</u> achieves, the bias of CDTF being removed.</p> <p>Please outline why this sensitive decision was not sent to public inquiry?</p>	<p>A public inquiry is not required in this case.</p>

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS
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<p>Question 4: Jan Mallett (as Chairman/on behalf of The Teddington & Alstone A46 Advisory Group (TAAG))</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>In the strategy it states "As the lead highways authority (with connections to public transport) we will help to improve air quality in the six districts, encouraging a significant shift in travel behaviour, reducing car emissions in the county."</p> <p>Why does the strategy only refer to tackling car emissions and not other types of vehicle which are as bad if not worse at contributing to carbon emissions?</p>	<p>You are quite correct – the county council is committed to reducing all carbon emissions – no matter what the source.</p>
<p>Question 5: Jan Mallett (as Chairman/on behalf of The Teddington & Alstone A46 Advisory Group (TAAG))</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Item 8 of the Action Plan states "Review the Local Transport Plan (LTP) in view of the climate change emergency and consult on the revised LTP in January 2020 (including policies for all transport modes: public & community transport; cycle; freight; highways; rail; walk"</p> <p>a) Will this be a public consultation?</p> <p>b) How can we (TAAG) be included in the consultation process?</p>	<p>Yes, the planned consultation on the revised Local Transport Plan (LTP) in January 2020 will be public.</p> <p>Subject to Cabinet approval on 20th December 2019, we will publicly consult on the revised LTP between 16th January and 26th March 2020. You will then be able to find the revised LTP as well as other consultation materials and a questionnaire on the LTP consultation section of Gloucestershire County Council's website.</p> <p>We will also hold engagement events open to the public in Tewkesbury Borough and across Gloucestershire where members of the public and interest groups will be able to speak to GCC officers in person about the revised LTP. The dates of these events will be published on the County Council's website following GCC Cabinet approval to go out to consultation.</p>

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS
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<p>Question 6: Jan Mallett (as Chairman/on behalf of The Teddington & Alstone A46 Advisory Group (TAAG))</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Given your commitment to become carbon neutral by 2050, would the council agree that it is not a good idea to agree, in principle, road building schemes that would generate more traffic and CO2 emissions in our county?"</p>	<p>We need to ensure that all transport transitions to low and no carbon emissions. There will still be a need for roads in future.</p>
<p>Question 7: David Collins</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 5: Cheltenham Transport Plan Phase 4</p> <p>I do believe a trial was also to be conducted with Boots corner being open during the busy morning and evening periods and closed at other times. I believe this trial should be conducted as it would provide the best of both worlds.</p> <p>Why is this worthy trial not being conducted?</p>	<p>The county council has supported Cheltenham Borough council to trial their transport proposals for Cheltenham. This was not part of their proposals.</p>

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<p>Question 1: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Full Council Motion 836 recognising a Climate Emergency included a resolution for the Council to: "Consider its contracts going forward to oblige all contractors to report their carbon emissions and to place a 'carbon/environmental cost' on competing bids."</p> <p>a) How do the actions proposed in the strategy address this point?</p> <p>b) At what point can we expect obligations to be placed onto contracts as resolved by Council?</p>	<p>The strategy includes an '<i>Actions by April</i>' immediate action plan that, by March 2020, will be developed into a more detailed live 5-year rolling action plan.</p> <p>It is proposed that mechanism(s) for reporting carbon emissions from contracts be developed in Year 1 of the strategy.</p>
<p>Question 2: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Full Council Motion 836 recognising a Climate Emergency included a resolution to "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."</p> <p>How does the proposed strategy address this point?</p>	<p>The strategy states "We will report progress to our Environment Scrutiny Committee, Gloucestershire Youth Climate Panel, Leadership Gloucestershire, government and online."</p> <p>An annual report will be provided 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.</p>

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<p>Question 3: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Would the Cabinet consider amending Action #1 to explicitly include a reference to the stepped target goal of 80% reduction by 2030, and carbon neutral by 2050, to ensure these targets are at the forefront of our work with partners on a response to the Climate Emergency?</p>	<p>This is already stated in the vision – but I am happy to make this even more explicit. I will propose that cabinet amend Action #1 to read:</p> <p><i>1. Agree with Leadership Gloucestershire and other partners how we will work together to bring about a co-ordinated approach in response to the climate emergency to create a carbon neutral county by 2050, seeking to reduce our carbon emissions by 80% by 2030.</i></p>
<p>Question 4: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>When can we reasonably expect recommendation 23 - 'the implementation of climate change impact assessments in the council's decision making process' to be in place, and would it be possible to trial elements of this for the 2020 budget?</p>	<p>I would expect this to be developed early next year, and to be in place in time for the 2021 budget.</p>
<p>Question 5: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>a) Given the significance of climate change to Gloucestershire residents, as evidenced through the consultation responses, and the scale of work needed to take forward this strategy, will 1.5 FTE staff members be enough to support delivery?</p> <p>b) What level will the recruited staff member be operating at, and was consideration given to having a Director Level post to drive forward the strategy?</p>	<p>The 1.5 FTE staff members will support existing staff within Communities & Infrastructure, who cannot by themselves deliver the strategy. This will require officers across the council to make changes together with our partners, which staff leading the strategy will support.</p> <p>The Director for Economy, Environment & Infrastructure is the Corporate Management Team lead for climate change, led by the Outcome Manager - Community Infrastructure (a senior management position), reporting to the Lead Commissioner for Community Infrastructure.</p>

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Question 6: Cllr Rachel Smith	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Agenda Item 8: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Does the electricity generated from Javelin Park come fall under the definition of 100% renewable energy?</p>	<p>50% of the energy generated from the Energy from Waste plant is classified as renewable.</p>
Question 7: Cllr Rachel Smith	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Agenda Item 8: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>The Million Trees challenge is described in the strategy as a ‘Significant contribution to Net Zero by 2050’.</p> <p>What is the estimated carbon reduction impact of planting a Million Trees on the carbon emissions from the County?</p>	<p>The Million Trees Challenge is included in the ‘<i>Actions by April</i>’ immediate action plan that, by March 2020, will be developed into a more detailed live 5-year rolling action plan.</p> <p>The amount of carbon that would be sequestered by planting trees is being investigated with partners; more information on this will be available as part of the more detailed live 5-year rolling action plan.</p>
Question 8: Cllr Rachel Smith	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Agenda Item 8: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>a) How will progress towards the Million Trees challenge be monitored?</p> <p>b) Is this commitment additional to the 300 million trees nationally that the Conservative Manifesto committed to plant by 2030?</p> <p>c) Will the challenge include support or guidance to ensure biodiversity of the trees planted?</p>	<p>The Million Trees Challenge is being developed with the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and The Woodland Trust by April 2020. We are intending to open up a dialogue with Forestry England. The scheme will include mechanisms to monitor progress and guidance to ensure biodiversity of the trees planted.</p> <p>The Million Trees Challenge is included in the ‘<i>Actions by April</i>’ immediate action plan that, by March 2020, will be developed into a more detailed live 5-year rolling action plan.</p>

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<p>Question 9: Cllr Rachel Smith</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 11: Waste Collection Authority (WCA) Incentive Payments</p> <p>Given that the Climate Change Strategy (item 5) aims to improve recycling and food waste collection rates, what is the justification for reducing payments to the WCA's given that food waste collection saves the county council money?</p>	<p>We have to have a fair system, which encourages all the district councils to help us reduce residual waste, whilst allowing us to invest resources into environmental schemes that will make a significant difference. This proposal was carefully discussed with all district councils and takes their views into account.</p>
<p>Question 10: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Page 161, Page 177 (P8 Climate Change Strategy) and other references:</p> <p>I note with great interest the Climate Change Strategy and the reference to the “Million Trees Challenge” and ask the Cabinet Member to confirm that this should read the “Over Six Million Trees Challenge” following the unanimously passed motion on 27 November 2019 which explicitly recommended the “target of planting one tree per resident every year up to 2030...and to work with tenant farmers and encourage at least 2 trees per field for most pasture land”?</p>	<p>Council resolved to refer Motion 848 to Cabinet. Our proposal today is backed by a real plan to deliver 1,000,000 trees in our county – which is a very challenging target– and of course, if the opportunity presents, we will deliver even more.</p>

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Question 11 : Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Page 162, 164 Para 20 and other references:</p> <p>With reference to switching the County Councils electricity supply to 100 per cent renewable energy – can the Cabinet Member confirm if the council has also considered “green gas” and the potential emission and resource implications for this?</p>	<p>We did look into this – but there is not currently sufficient green gas supply available nationally to meet demand. We will keep this option under review though.</p>
Question 12:Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Page 162, 164 Para 20 and other references:</p> <p>With reference to switching the County Councils electricity supply to 100 per cent renewable energy – I am incredibly interested to read that switching electricity supply leaves residual emissions for GCC’s estate at just 2,270 tCO₂.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm whether the council has calculated the cost of offsetting this remaining figure and what this figure is?</p>	<p>The cost of offsetting the estimated remaining carbon emissions varies significantly and there is the issue of whether these should be offset locally. This will be considered as part of action 24: Look into developing a Gloucestershire carbon offsetting scheme along with Action 1: Million Trees Challenge.</p>

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<p>Question 13: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Page 162, 164 Para 20 and other references:</p> <p>With reference to switching the County Councils electricity supply to 100 per cent renewable energy – can the Cabinet Member confirm that this, on top of other initiatives, will lead to a reduction of 92 per cent on the 2006/7 baseline – as the GCC Communications Team reported on Monday 16/12/19 that this would only result in an 89 per cent reduction?</p> <p>Can you clarify where this confusion arose from?</p>	<p>This was a missed correction to the covering report, and should state an 89 per cent reduction as per the press release of 16/12/19.</p>
<p>Question 14: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm the reporting back procedures on the Climate Change Strategy, and the level of oversight the Council will have over performance against carbon reduction commitments?</p>	<p>The Strategy states that “We will report progress to our Environment Scrutiny Committee, Gloucestershire Youth Climate Panel, Leadership Gloucestershire, government and online.”</p> <p>An annual report will be provided 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.</p>

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<p>Question 15: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>																																								
<p>Agenda Item 11: Waste Collection Authority (WCA) Incentive Payments Page 300 Para 3.2</p> <p>The item references anticipated savings of £255k per year.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member please break this down to anticipated loses per district, including a percentage compared to existing arrangements.</p>	<p>Payment to each district will be determined by the amount of waste they successfully divert. Whilst the formula itself is complicated, it could be summarised in terms of food waste collection levels, (using the 2018/19 collection levels) as:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5" style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">Incentive payment / tonne of food waste</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%;">Current formula</th> <th style="width: 15%;">New formula</th> <th style="width: 15%;">change</th> <th style="width: 25%;">% change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cheltenham</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3.81</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3.24</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-£0.57</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-14.96%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cotswold</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9.96</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£6.62</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-£3.34</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-33.53%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Forest of Dean</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£6.71</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£7.71</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">14.90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gloucester</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3.36</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3.31</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-£0.05</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-1.49%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stroud</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£67.71</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£30.24</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-£37.47</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-55.34%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tewkesbury</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£33.67</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£36.27</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2.60</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7.72%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Incentive payment / tonne of food waste						Current formula	New formula	change	% change	Cheltenham	£3.81	£3.24	-£0.57	-14.96%	Cotswold	£9.96	£6.62	-£3.34	-33.53%	Forest of Dean	£6.71	£7.71	£1.00	14.90%	Gloucester	£3.36	£3.31	-£0.05	-1.49%	Stroud	£67.71	£30.24	-£37.47	-55.34%	Tewkesbury	£33.67	£36.27	£2.60	7.72%
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<p>Question 16: Cllr Ben Evans</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Patrick Molyneux</p>																																								
<p>Agenda Item 10: Fastershire Broadband Strategy Page 262/3</p> <p>The item references £133,500 in funding from the EU for the Fastershire scheme.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm that he has received guarantees this money will be provided instead by the UK Government after Brexit?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>																																								

MEMBER QUESTIONS

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<p>Question 17: Cllr Ben Evans</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Patrick Molyneux</p>
<p>Agenda Item 10: Fastershire Broadband Strategy Page 262/3</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm where the ERDF match funding will be received from and that this funding stream will still be available after Brexit?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p>Question 18: Cllr Ben Evans</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Patrick Molyneux</p>
<p>Agenda Item 10: Fastershire Broadband Strategy Page 278</p> <p>The revised Fastershire vision, that “Fastershire will enable <i>all residents and businesses</i> in Gloucestershire to access the connectivity they need” will be a relief to the many businesses, residents and public bodies in my district that still have no access to high speed broadband.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm that, in-line with the vision, everyone in my district, along with the rest of the county, will have access to high speed broadband by 2022 at the absolute latest?</p>	<p>Approximately 98% of premises in the county will have access to high speed broadband by 2022 as a result of the current measures being supported by the council. This revised Strategy puts in place a mechanism for communities that fall in the final 2-3% still to be enabled, who want and need faster broadband to access provision. This stage of the Strategy is, however, dependent on there being an appetite for high speed broadband, and a willingness to be proactive in working with the Council to source a solution.</p>
<p>Question 19: Cllr Ben Evans</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Patrick Molyneux</p>
<p>Agenda Item 10: Fastershire Broadband Strategy</p> <p>Has the Cabinet Member considered the potential implications of 5G and whether alternative technologies might enable more communities to access superfast broadband with reduced entry costs?</p>	<p>We don't expect 5G to extend beyond major cities during the roll out period of Fastershire – and it's not an area where government is allowed to invest directly at present. In fact, one of the obstacles to 5G roll out is often the lack of fibre to connect their masts to. It's certainly something that will be very important in the future though.</p>

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<p>Question 20: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Lynden Stowe</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7: Medium Term Financial Strategy</p> <p>Does the Cabinet Member believe any further funding will arise from the collection fund and the council tax base, between now and budget setting, that will have an impact on funds available?</p>	<p>The draft budget is based is the most up to date information available. As additional information becomes available – such as the provisional Finance Settlement or more up to date tax base information from the District Councils – then the budget will be adjusted accordingly.</p>
<p>Question 21: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Lynden Stowe</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7: Medium Term Financial Strategy</p> <p>Can you outline the various revenue streams that make up the £31million increase?</p>	<p>The additional £31.2m funding is made up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £6.3m - Social Care Levy • £9.7m – additional Social Care Grant • £6.3m – 1.99% Council Tax increase • £4.7m – Council Tax base increase (1.5%) • £4.2m – misc. additional grants / funding
<p>Question 22: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Richard Boyles</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7: Medium Term Financial Strategy</p> <p>We welcome the proposed additional funding going to vulnerable children in next year’s budget.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member give us an assurance that we are now sufficiently resourcing this sector, without the risk of further overspends?</p>	<p>I welcome Cllr Hilton’s support for our continuing investment into the most vulnerable children in this county. The children’s budget is inherently demand led, and can only ever be forecast of expected demand. If there is increased need to support the most vulnerable, beyond what we expect, that would lead to a higher spend.</p>

MEMBER QUESTIONS

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Question 23: Cllr Jeremy Hilton	Respondent: Cllr Lynden Stowe
Agenda Item 7: Medium Term Financial Strategy The identified General Fund Reserves, of £18.52 million, are predicted not to change between 31 March 2019 and 31 March 2020. In view of the potential overspend in the 2019/20 budget, how confident is the Cabinet Member that the reserves will stay within the 4 to 6 per cent target?	The current outturn forecast is that the 2019/20 budget will be balanced - no drawing on General Reserves is envisaged at the year end. Therefore the General Reserve balance is forecast to remain within the 4% to 6% of net revenue expenditure target.
Question 24: Cllr Lesley Williams	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
Agenda Item 8: Climate Change Strategy Had the effect of rising sea levels and the effect on the Severn Estuary, in the long term, been considered when writing this strategy.	As the Lead Local Flood Authority we will work with the Environment Agency, district councils and other risk management authorities to develop and deliver a programme of works to minimise flood risk and its wider impacts, and advise on major development applications to future-proof their climate resilience. We will advise residents how they can protect their properties against extreme weather events, which are becoming more common due to Global Warming. We will be working to develop specific actions as part of the 5-year rolling action plan.