

MEMBER QUESTIONS

CABINET MEETING – 14 October 2020

<p>Question 1: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7 : Cabinet Response to Council Motion 848 Tree Planting</p> <p>I am delighted by this latest response to the Climate Emergency, and the target of planting 35 million trees. The Cabinet Member will recall that last year he dismissed the Lib Dem call to deliver more than six million trees over 10 years, claiming that it would not be possible to plant more than one million trees in that time. Can the Cabinet Member confirm why he’s had a change of heart?</p>	<p>I welcome your support for our approach. The targets set for tree planting have been set by the Local Nature Partnership (LNP) and the partners they have been working with which includes organisations such as the Woodland Trust in the development of the Gloucestershire Tree Strategy. The targets are very ambitious but our partners are committed to their delivery and we will work closely with them to help achieve the aims of the strategy.</p>
<p>Question 2: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7 : Cabinet Response to Council Motion 848 Tree Planting</p> <p>In reference to Option 2 on Page 50 of the Cabinet papers – can the Cabinet Member confirm where in the motion the word “unilaterally” is mentioned?</p>	<p>I’m sure Cllr Hodgkinson appreciates that we have to consider all ways of fulfilling council motions.</p>
<p>Question 3: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7 : Cabinet Response to Council Motion 848 Tree Planting</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm how the council’s one million tree commitment will interact with this new ambition? Will the Cabinet Member commit to delivering the Council’s independent target?</p>	<p>The Million Trees Challenge is a commitment in the Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy, where we will be encouraging individuals, communities, organisations, landowners and tenants to plant trees in the right place, at the right time, for the right reason. We will work with our fellow LNP partners to develop an approach to deliver the Tree Strategy Vision including where and how the council can best</p>

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	add value.
Question 4: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Agenda Item 7 : Cabinet Response to Council Motion 848 Tree Planting</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member please confirm the latest estimates for how much it will cost per year to plant 3.5 million trees, and how much GCC is planning to put in financially?</p>	<p>As the report points out, this ambitious vision can only be delivered by mobilising landowners in the county and attracting new investment. We are working with our fellow LNP partners to work up a costed delivery plan, including attracting new investment into the county to support its delivery, from Government, investors and through carbon offsetting; and where and how the council can best add value to achieve this.</p>
Question 5: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Agenda Item 7 : Cabinet Response to Council Motion 848 Tree Planting</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member please confirm his understanding of the estimated resources required to plant an average of 10,000 trees a day every day for ten years - i.e. how many people will be required to deliver this?</p>	<p>As the report points out, this ambitious vision can only be delivered by mobilising landowners in the county and attracting new investment. We are working with our fellow LNP partners to work up a costed delivery plan, including attracting new investment into the county to support its delivery, from Government, investors and through carbon offsetting; and where and how the council can best add value to achieve this. It is really important to understand that this isn't just about tree planting – it's about regenerating existing woodlands to allow more tree growth.</p>
Question 6: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
<p>Agenda Item 7 : Cabinet Response to Council Motion 848 Tree Planting</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm when these trees should be</p>	<p>The tree planting season typically runs from early September to late March.</p>

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<p>planted, and whether there will need to be a greater proportion planted at particular times of the year?</p>	
<p>Question 7: Cllr Bernie Fisher</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Real Time Passenger Information System</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm what proportion of bus stops have RTPi systems in place across the county?</p>	<p>There are around 5000 bus stops in Gloucestershire. We currently have 106 screens in the Central Severn Vale area including Gloucester Transport Hub and we are planning to invest in more market town locations such as Cirencester.</p>
<p>Question 8: Cllr Bernie Fisher</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8: Real Time Passenger Information System</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm what GCC's targets are for increasing public transport usage in its commitment to make Gloucestershire carbon neutral by 2050?</p>	<p>The adopted LTP has a target to increase use of bus (LTP PI-9). This is reported on in the annual LTP progress reports.</p>
<p>Question 9: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p>	<p>Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7 : Cabinet Response to Council Motion 848 Tree Planting</p> <p>What's the total number of trees on the county's highways?</p>	<p>The total number of highway trees is difficult to determine precisely – historical estimates put the figure around 30,000 but recent work to assess the level of ash die back (there are an estimated 36,000 ash trees which are highway trees) indicate that the overall figure is much higher. There are 13,059 trees which fall in our high priority inspections such as Cheltenham, Gloucester and the market town areas. On the remainder of the 3,300 mile network the majority of trees are not highway trees, they are the riparian responsibility of the adjacent landowner. These are visually inspected on a lower</p>

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	frequency.
Question 10: Cllr Jeremy Hilton	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
Agenda Item 7 : Cabinet Response to Council Motion 848 Tree Planting How many trees have been removed from the county's highways in 2017/18, 18/19 and 19/20?	Approximately 80 have been felled during 19/20. Figures for 17/18 and 18/19 are not immediately available and will be provided separately.
Question 11: Cllr Jeremy Hilton	Respondent: Cllr Nigel Moor
Of those trees removed, how many were replaced, and what is the net total?	For 19/20 over 200 trees were planted with the majority being within Cheltenham and Gloucester. Figures for 17/18 and 18/19 are not immediately available and will be provided separately.