



Gloucestershire

COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council

Wednesday 23 March 2022 at 10.00 am

Quayside House at Shire Hall, Gloucester GL1 2TZ

Chief Executive

A G E N D A

Chair's Opening of Council

“May we find wisdom to carry out our duties, humanity to listen to all, the courage to do what is right and the generosity to treat each other with respect.”

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2	MINUTES (Pages 1 - 34) To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2022.
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Please declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests that you may have relating to any specific matters which may be discussed at the meeting.

<p>4</p>	<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>Ukraine</p> <p>To thank members for their efforts in supporting appeals for items for the Ukrainian people displaced as a result of the invasion by Russia. Food, clothing and other items from people in Gloucestershire have already reached Poland and been transported into western areas of Ukraine.</p> <p>To request that members stand in silence as a mark of respect to the Ukrainian people who have been killed, injured and displaced. The Ukrainian flag is flying over Shire Hall and will continue to be flown over coming days and weeks.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</p> <p>Up to 30 minutes is allowed for this item.</p> <p>To answer any written public questions about matters which are within the powers and duties of the County Council.</p> <p>The closing date for receipt of questions was 10am on Monday, 14 March 2022. However, questions that relate to reports on the agenda may be submitted up to 10am on Wednesday, 16 March 2022.</p> <p>Please send questions to the Chief Executive marked for the attention of Stephen Bace (email stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk)</p> <p>Questions received and proposed responses do not accompany this agenda but will be circulated prior to the meeting.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>CORPORATE PARENTING (Pages 35 - 40)</p> <p>Cllr Stephen Davies, Cabinet Member for Children’s Safeguarding and Early Years, to present the corporate parenting report.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>PETITIONS</p> <p>To receive petitions from members without discussion.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>MOTIONS (Pages 41 - 50)</p> <p>The Council’s Constitution provides for a maximum of two hours for debate on motions. The time limit for member speeches is three minutes and the time limit for proposing a motion is five minutes.</p>

In accordance with Procedural Rule 10.2 in Part 4 of the Council Constitution, the Chief Executive has prepared a short accompanying note for each motion in respect of any implications for climate change, resources, human rights and any other pertinent factors they may wish to include in accordance with the Council's Policy Framework.

Motion 895 – Ukraine

Proposed by Cllr Mark Hawthorne

Seconded by Cllr Paul Hodgkinson, Cllr John Bloxsom and Cllr Cate Cody

This Council:

- Wholeheartedly condemns the barbaric and illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces. As a democratic chamber, we are appalled by what we have seen unfold over recent weeks and we support the Ukrainian people in their fight to maintain democracy and self-determination as a nation.
- We applaud countries across the world who have come out to condemn the Russian regime and President Putin's leadership.
- Welcomes the sanctions placed on Russia by the Government of the United Kingdom and other nations to target those Russian individuals responsible for the aggression and the organisations which benefit from, and fund, the corrupt and oppressive Russian regime.
- Approves of the decision by our Pension Committee to prohibit new investments in Russian assets and to disinvest from all Russian-controlled and Russian-owned assets.

We also note that as of 8 March 2022, over 2 million people have fled Ukraine – a figure which will only increase further – and that Gloucestershire has a proud record of welcoming refugees.

This Council therefore agrees and affirms:

- We stand with Ukraine and offer our full support for the people and their government in the face of unprovoked aggression.
- To provide any reasonable help and support to all Ukrainian nationals living in Gloucestershire.
- To work with District colleagues and GARAS to provide support for all refugees who arrive in Gloucestershire.

Finally, this council extends its thoughts and prayers to members of the Gloucestershire Ukrainian community and pays tribute to the incredible generosity the people of Gloucestershire have shown in their personal efforts to support the humanitarian response to this crisis.

Motion 893 - Policing and anti-social behaviour

Proposed by Cllr Jeremy Hilton

Seconded by Cllr David Brown

This Council believes that improved police patrols, especially on foot, by Gloucestershire Constabulary would help reduce the incidence of petty crime and anti-social behaviour.

This Council notes that Chris Nelson, the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), committed in his manifesto to cut anti-social behaviour in our communities by 50% and to employ an additional 300 police officers during this term in office.

This Council notes however, with some concern, that the PCC's recently announced budget paper will only see 106 additional officers employed during this term.

This Council therefore:

- Invites the PCC to provide a public presentation to the County Council on how he intends to deliver on his commitment to halve anti-social behaviour in Gloucestershire over the next two years and explain why his manifesto commitment on officer numbers has been cut by nearly two thirds.
- Calls on the new PCC to deliver on all of his manifesto pledges by the end of his current term in office.

Motion 894 - Road Safety in Gloucestershire

Proposed by Cllr Paul Hodgkinson

Seconded by Cllr Roger Whyborn

This Council notes:

- That 2022 has seen a significant number of incidents with motor vehicles in Gloucestershire, resulting in 53 serious injuries and 8 deaths in just the first two months.
- That these serious incidents have not been confined to one road or area, but across the county's highways.
- That according to the incident data, our roads have seen a generally rising trend in serious injuries, with the number of deaths being stable at best, over the periods from 2010 to 2015 and 2016 to date.
- The falling trend in minor injuries, over the same periods, which is to be welcomed – though may be as much a result of changes to car design as improvements to road safety.

This Council believes that road safety needs to be proactively managed, with the emphasis on preventing deaths and serious injuries, and should not wait until tragedy strikes for changes to be made.

This Council welcomes the road safety policy review being undertaken but is concerned at the loss of County Council-led road safety partnerships across the county and districts – to be replaced by a much less transparent and more centralised Road Safety Forum held behind closed doors.

This Council resolves to:

- Ask officers to provide Environment Scrutiny with a thorough briefing on recent accidents and their causations.
- Call on Cabinet to ensure that communities and all levels of governance in Gloucestershire are thoroughly consulted on the refreshed Road Safety Policy.
- Call on Cabinet to work with Environment Scrutiny to develop a policy of ongoing dialogue with our residents to see road safety measures proactively installed in our communities.

Motion 896 - Knife crime

Proposed by Cllr Nick Housden

Seconded by Cllr Alastair Chambers

This Council notes the profound impact that the death of Ramarni Crosby had on the City of Gloucester. This Council never wants to see another of our young children harmed through knife crime. We want all of our children and young people to feel safe in their communities and for no one to carry a weapon – either with intent for violence or for perceived protection.

Therefore, this Council resolves to call on Cabinet to develop an action plan alongside our partners in the Police, schools and youth groups to ensure that the County Council is doing all that it can to deter young people from carrying knives. This action plan should focus on what we can ‘do differently’ to ensure we’re learning lessons from the past as well as successes from other council areas.

We will listen and work with partners in areas of high knife crime to learn what more we can be doing to support those communities and prevent young people from carrying knives in the first place.

Motion 897 - Violence against women and girls

Proposed by Cllr Kathy Williams

Seconded by Cllr Philip Robinson

This Council believes that women and girls deserve to live free from intimidation, violence and harassment. This Council condemns all violence against women and girls (VAWG) and notes that it can take many forms, including physical, financial, and emotional.

We want Gloucestershire to be the safest county in the UK for women and girls.

We welcome the launch of the Home Office's new 'Enough' campaign which seeks to educate the public by highlighting VAWG and its various forms.

We are also pleased that our Police and Crime Commissioner has made VAWG one of his top priorities in his Police and Crime Prevention Plan. We are particularly grateful to the work of the OPCC and Gloucestershire Constabulary to eradicate VAWG from Gloucestershire and note especially the introduction of the 'Flare App' which gives women the opportunity to report inappropriate behaviour directly to the police.

To ensure that this county is the safest in the country for women and girls, we propose that:

- The Council strives to become the first public body in Gloucestershire to receive a 'White Ribbon Accreditation' for its commitment and work to end male violence against women.
- We write to all District Councils and Head Teachers in the county asking them to become White Ribbon Champions to show a clear signal that Gloucestershire stands united against VAWG.
- We invite the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office and Gloucestershire Constabulary to run a session for all councillors on the nature of VAWG in Gloucestershire and what we can all be doing in communities to tackle it.
- We will also utilise our strong relationships with Head Teachers to invite them to a similar session to ensure that they are supported in combatting VAWG in schools so that we can prevent unhealthy and dangerous behaviours in young people.

We ask the Adult Social Care and Communities Scrutiny Committee to investigate and produce a report for Cabinet on any steps the County Council can be taking to end VAWG in Gloucestershire.

Motion 898 - County deals

Proposed by Cllr John Bloxsom

Seconded by Cllr Wendy Thomas

Council welcomes the widening of the prospects for devolution in the recent White

Paper. We support the view of the LGA that every part of England should be able to decide for themselves what form of devolution would best improve opportunities and life chances for local people.

We reaffirm the commitment in the Council Strategy to encourage the development of a single plan for Gloucestershire's future growth through partnership working between all local authorities and other stakeholders.

We note that it is up to the County Council to lead a devolution discussion for Gloucestershire, however, in line with our commitment to partnership working, we resolve to seek broad local support for any devolution deal which should include support of our District Councils.

Given opportunities for extra powers and funding, we should have an open mind. When entering discussions with government, we should consider the advantages and disadvantages of different options, the scope for bespoke arrangements and not take options off the table at this stage.

Council would not support negotiations over any devolution deal taking place privately behind closed doors through bilateral talks between this Council's leadership and Central Government and we therefore call for our District Councils and stakeholders to be partners in this dialogue.

We further believe that this dialogue should be widened, be beyond the public sector organisations represented in Leadership Gloucestershire and should include full public consultation with residents together with business, the voluntary sector and District, Town and Parish Councils.

9 MEMBER QUESTIONS (Pages 51 - 56)

Up to 45 minutes is allowed for this item.

To answer any written member questions about matters which are within the powers and duties of the County Council.

The closing date for receipt of questions was 10am on Monday, 14 March 2022. However, questions that relate to reports on the agenda may be submitted up to 10am on Wednesday, 16 March 2022.

Please send questions to the Chief Executive marked for the attention of Stephen Bace (email stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

Questions received and proposed responses do not accompany this agenda but will be circulated prior to the meeting.

As background information, the Cabinet Decision Statements for the meeting held on 23 February 2022 and the Cabinet Member Decision Statements over the period 16 February to 15 March 2022 are available at <https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/mgDelegatedDecisions.aspx?XXR=0&&DR=16%2f02%2f2022-15%2f03%2f2022&ACT=Find&RP=0&K=0&V=0&DM=3&HD=0&DS=2&Next=true&NOW=15032022175805&META=mgdelegateddecisions>

10 SCRUTINY REPORTS (Pages 57 - 58)

Cllr Phil Awford, Chair of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, will present the report which provides a summary of recent scrutiny committee activities. Scrutiny Committee Chairs to answer questions:

Cllr Philip Awford, Corporate Overview and Scrutiny

Cllr Andrew Gravells, Health

Cllr Stephen Hirst, Adult Social Care and Communities

Cllr Andrew Miller, Children and Families

Cllr Dom Morris, Environment

Cllr Matt Babbage, Economic Growth

Cllr Jeremy Hilton, Fire and Rescue

Cllr Steve Robinson (Vice-chair), Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel

11 APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE (Pages 59 - 74)

Cllr Mark Hawthorne, Chair of the Appointments Committee, to present the report from the meeting held on 11 March 2022.

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Simon Harper, Head of Democratic Services
Email 01452 324202, email simon.harper@gloucestershire.gov.uk

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