



Gloucestershire

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING PAPERS

WEDNESDAY, 19 MARCH 2014

**COUNCIL CHAMBER - SHIRE HALL,
GLOUCESTER**

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TIME: 10am
DATE: Wednesday, 19 March 2014
VENUE: Council Chamber - Shire Hall, Gloucester

Chief Executive

A G E N D A

Chairman's Opening of Council

- 1. MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 22)
To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2014.
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
Please see note (b) at the end of the agenda.
- 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Please see the briefing note, which does not accompany this agenda, but will be circulated prior to the meeting.
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**
Up to 30 minutes is allowed for this item.

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

The closing date for receipt of question is 10am on Wednesday, 12 March 2014. Please send questions to the Chief Executive marked for the attention of

Stephen Bace (email stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk).

To answer any oral questions put by members of the public with the consent of the Chairman. Depending on the nature of the questions asked it may not be possible to provide a comprehensive answer at the meeting, in which case a written answer will be supplied as soon as reasonably possible after the meeting.

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

6. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Up to 30 minutes is allowed for this item.

To answer any written members' questions.

The closing date for the receipt of questions is 10am on Wednesday, 12 March 2014. 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.

7. PETITIONS

To receive petitions, if any, without discussion.

8. MOTIONS

For debate and decision on the day, unless the Chairman decides otherwise.

The following motion was submitted to the last meeting on 26 February 2014 but was deferred to this meeting at the request of the proposer and seconder.

Motion 701 - Female Genital Mutilation

This Council notes that the number of women and girls living with Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in the UK is more likely to be around 170,000 -almost three times the existing official figures – and that 65,000 girls aged 13 and under are at risk of mutilation in this country.

This Council is aware that in spite of the UK law in 1985 banning what was then termed 'female circumcision' there has not been a single successful prosecution in the country.

This Council is concerned that this abusive practice is being carried out in areas within our own county and that more needs to be done to raise awareness,



investigate concerns and secure prosecutions.

This Council recognises the importance of a multi-agency approach that primarily involves education, health and local authorities, the police and the CPS in appropriately coming together to share data and raise awareness.

This Council welcomes the decision that doctors and nurses in the UK are now to be told to log details of injuries suffered by victims of FGM. It has been reported that by September, all acute hospitals will have to report this data to the Department of Health, on a monthly basis.

This Council requests for these figures to be monitored and evaluated also by the Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee in order to see how big a problem these crimes really are in Gloucestershire and for this particular committee to determine what steps are being taken to stop the practice from happening to children in Gloucestershire.

Proposed by Cllr Colin Hay

Seconded by Cllr Sarah Lunnon

The following motions had been received by the deadline of 10am on Monday, 10 March 2014:

Motion 702 – Concessionary bus passes

The County Council has recently renegotiated a concessionary fares agreement with Stagecoach. However, it still remains the case that older people and people with disabilities will not be able to use their bus passes before 9.30 in the morning, causing considerable inconvenience to those who use their bus passes to attend medical appointments, work and training.

This Council recognises the significant inconvenience the 9.30 rule causes older people and people with disabilities living in Gloucestershire's rural and suburban areas. This Council mandates the Cabinet Member responsible to review the 9.30 rule and to renegotiate with Gloucestershire's bus service providers to allow older people and people with disabilities to use their bus passes from 8.30 onwards.

Proposed by Cllr Lesley Williams

Seconded by Cllr Tracy Millard

Motion 703 – Member questions

This Council notes the increasing number of questions submitted to Council and Cabinet meetings. There have been close to 100 questions submitted to the last two Council meetings alone.



The impact on the work of Cabinet Members and senior officers who prepare responses is of serious concern when they should be working on behalf of council taxpayers to deliver quality services to the residents of Gloucestershire.

The Constitution Committee should therefore be asked to consider making a recommendation to the Council that the current rules relating to member questions be amended to ensure that a question is only answered at Council or Cabinet if a member has previously submitted it in writing to the relevant Cabinet Member and, in the opinion of the member, a satisfactory response has not been received within 10 working days.

Proposed by Cllr Colin Guyton

Seconded by Cllr Alan Preest

Motion 704 – Hunting Act

The Hunting Act is the UK's most successful piece of wild animal legislation, with an average of one prosecution a week. However, this Council is troubled that this landmark piece of animal welfare legislation is now under real threat following confirmation from the Prime Minister that the Government is seeking to amend the law to allow the hunting of wild animals with dogs.

This Council opposes Coalition Government plans to amend the Hunting Act in order to legalise hunting of wild animals with dogs again in England and Wales.

This Council therefore asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State urging him not to amend the Hunting Act and not to relax the law regarding hunting with dogs in any way that would legalise the killing of wild animals in Gloucestershire.

Proposed by Cllr Lesley Williams

Seconded by TBC

Motion 705 – The International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia

This Council recognises the valuable contribution that LGBT people make to Gloucestershire and we welcome the annual International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia on 17 May 2014.

While attitudes towards LGBT have improved in our society, this Council recognises Homophobia and Transphobia remains a problem especially in schools and in sport. Internationally, this Council also recognises that in many parts of the world LGBT people are being persecuted and face violence because of their sexuality.



This Council is proud to be an LGBT friendly employer and we support the district council partners, the police, the NHS and voluntary organisations who will mark this day with events, campaigns and statements of support.

To raise awareness about the harm of Homophobia and Transphobia in our society, this Council resolves to raise the rainbow flag over Shire Hall on 17 May to reaffirm that Homophobia and Transphobia are unacceptable wherever they occur, whether in the UK or around the world. This Council also takes this opportunity to express its support for Gloucestershire Pride that will be held on Saturday, 14 June 2014.

Proposed by Cllr Lesley Williams

Seconded by Cllr Barry Kirby

Motion 706 – Regionalisation of Emergency Services

This Council notes that the national Labour Party is once again proposing regionalisation of emergency services. This Council notes that the failed regional fire control scheme cost taxpayers over £500,000,000 and that regionalisation of Gloucestershire's ambulance service has led to significant concerns about its performance. This Council notes that Labour's current plans would undermine policing in Gloucestershire and calls on all political parties to abandon plans for top-down regionalisation.

Proposed by Cllr Mark Hawthorne

Seconded by TBC

Motion 707 – EU funding for flood recovery

This Council is aware of the damage caused to farms and businesses during the recent floods costing small businesses in Gloucestershire, Somerset and other 'flood- hit' areas £830 million.

This Council notes that after the widespread flooding in 2007, Britain received £127 million from the EU's Solidarity Fund.

This Council supports those MEPs who are calling to secure help from the Solidarity Fund to alleviate the damage done during the recent floods in the South West of England.

This Council also knows that last month (February 2014) Gloucestershire's economic partnership GFIRST LEP applied for an additional £35.7million worth of EU funding to help support local businesses and jobs.

This Council recognises that such funding is one of the many benefits of being members of the European Union.



This Council believes that the UK's exit from the EU would adversely affect the farming industry and businesses operating in Gloucestershire.

This Council therefore requests for the Chief Executive to write to the MEPs in the South West supporting calls for extra funding to assist in the recovery to the recent floods from the EU Solidarity fund.

Proposed by Cllr Jeremy Hilton

Seconded by Cllr Bernard Fisher

- 9. CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE** (Pages 23 - 38)
For debate and decision.

- 10. CORPORATE PARENTING**
For information and members' questions.

The Cabinet Member for Children & Young People and Strategic Commissioning to provide an update for members.

- 11. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE** (Pages 39 - 52)
For debate and decision.

- 12. INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION STATEMENT** (Pages 53 - 54)
For information and members' questions.

NOTES

- (a) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Please declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests that you may have relating to specific matters which may be discussed at this meeting, by signing the form that will be available at the back of the Council Chamber. Completing this list is acceptable as a declaration, but does not, of course, prevent members from declaring an interest orally in relation to individual agenda items. The list will be available for public inspection. Members requiring advice or clarification about whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact the Monitoring Officer (Jane Burns ☎01452 328472, email: jane.burns@gloucestershire.gov.uk) prior to the commencement of the meeting.
- (b) **RECORDING MEETINGS, INSPECTION OF PAPERS AND GENERAL QUERIES** – Please note that audio recordings are taken of full Council meetings



and are available on the Council's website (www.gloucestershire.gov.uk). If you wish to inspect reports relating to any item on this agenda or have any other general queries about the meeting, please contact

Simon Harper, Head of Democratic Services

☎: 01452 425230, email simon.harper@gloucestershire.gov.uk

EVACUATION PROCEDURE - in the event of the fire alarms sounding during the meeting please leave as directed in a calm and orderly manner and go to the assembly point which is outside the main entrance to Shire Hall in Westgate Street. Please remain there and await further instructions.

