



# Gloucestershire

COUNTY COUNCIL

## **County Council Meeting Papers**

**Wednesday, 7 December 2016**

**Council Chamber - Shire Hall, Gloucester**



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Wednesday, 7 December 2016 at 10am

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**Chief Executive**

## **A G E N D A**

### **Chairman's Opening of Council**

<b>1</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>MINUTES</b> (Pages 1 - 20) To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2016.
<b>3</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> Please see note (a) at the end of the agenda.
<b>4</b>	<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> Please see the briefing note, which does not accompany this agenda but will be circulated prior to the meeting.
<b>5</b>	<b>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</b> 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 questions is 10am on Wednesday, 30 November 2016.** Please send questions to the Chief Executive marked for the attention of Stephen Bace (email [stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto: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 CORPORATE PARENTING** (Pages 21 - 22)

For information and members' questions.

**7 PETITIONS**

To receive other petitions without discussion.

**8 MOTIONS**

For debate and decision.

The following motions had been received by the closing date at 10am on Tuesday, 29 November 2016.

**Motion 782 - Community Support Payments (Fracking) in Gloucestershire**

*Proposed by Cllr Barry Kirby*

*Seconded by Cllr Graham Morgan*

This Council notes that the Government have recently changed their 'fracking' policy to include a personal payment to households within the area of proposed 'fracking' sites.

This Council believes that this is fundamentally wrong, as it could lead to critical environmental decisions being taken away from communities as a whole. This Council reaffirms that the protection of Gloucestershire's environment is a key priority for this Authority.

This Council also notes its disappointment in the Government for abolishing the Department for Energy and Climate Change.



This Council asks that the Leader of the Council writes to Gloucestershire's six MPs and the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to urge them to re-evaluate Government policy over the proposed Community Support Payments for fracking.

### **Motion 783 – Open Contracting**

*Proposed by Cllr Sarah Lunnon*

*Seconded by Cllr Mike Sztymiak*

That Gloucestershire County Council commits to the Open Contracting Global Principles and takes action to ensure that:

- By the end of 2017 complete information for all contracting processes over £1m, including details of the tender, award and contract process, the full text of contracts and amendments, and performance information, are proactively published;
- By the end of 2018 complete information is available for all contracting processes, over £500\*, is proactively published

The presumption should be that the text of all contracts is open by default. Redactions should only be permitted: (a) at the explicit written request of the parties to the contract; (b) subject to the public interest tests of the Freedom of Information act; (c) with the minimum possible redactions; and (d) with full justifications for any redaction given.

Furthermore, to ensure public access to information on the operation of outsourced services, all future contracts of the Council should include a model clause providing full public access to performance reporting and other key information required to exercise effective scrutiny.

(\*This should be set the same as the threshold in the local government transparency code)

#### **Notes:**

The Open Contracting Global Principles were developed through an extensive consultation process involving governments, private sector and civil society. The UK Government has endorsed the principles in it's 2013-15 and 2016-18 Open Government Partnership National Action Plans.

The Council is required by the provision of the Local Government Transparency Code to disclose a log of all contracts entered into. This motion builds upon that practice, adding a requirement for enhanced disclosure of contract text, performance information and information about the whole contracting process.

This motion is proposed on a basic understanding of fairness, that those paying the bill be



allowed to see the itemised invoices, to understand exactly what they are buying. In terms of public interest it will also enable full scrutiny of how and what public money is being spent on and enable the public or their representatives to spot misuse of public funds, inept services delivery or bad contractual decision making. Open Contracting also promotes a level playing field in public contracting, bringing greater opportunities for SMEs, and ensuring government gets better value for money.

#### **Motion 784 – GFirst LEP**

*Proposed by Cllr Jeremy Hilton*

*Secoded by Cllr Joe Harris*

This Council notes that in England, local enterprise partnerships (LEPs) are voluntary partnerships between local authorities and businesses set up in 2011 by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to help determine local economic priorities and lead economic growth and job creation within the local area.

This Council notes that in Gloucestershire, GFirst is our Local Enterprise Partnership, of which the leader of Gloucestershire County Council is a member of the board.

The Council welcomes the work done so far by the GFirst LEP to help develop a thriving economy in Gloucestershire.

However, this Council notes that GFirst LEP holds its regular board meetings 'behind closed doors' when it decides on key economic priorities, including the awarding public funds to major infrastructure and investment projects.

This Council, therefore, calls on GFirst LEP in spirit of openness and public accountability to hold its regular board meetings in public and to publish its board papers in the public domain.

#### **Motion 785 – Grammar schools in Gloucestershire**

*Proposed by Cllr Richard Leppington*

*Secoded by Cllr David Prince*

This Council notes the Prime Minister's recent support for the UKIP policy to reintroduce grammar schools. We call on Gloucestershire MPs to support the creation of new grammar schools throughout Gloucestershire.

#### **Motion 787 – Pavements**

*Proposed by Cllr Paul Hodgkinson*

*Secoded by Cllr Chris Coleman*

This Council notes that there are many damaged pavements and footpaths across Gloucestershire in need of repair.



This Council is aware that only £800K a year in capital is used for resurfacing footways.

Given the poor state of our county's pavements, this Council calls not only for the creation of a dedicated revenue budget for 2017/2018 to focus specifically on pavement repair, but also asks the Cabinet Member to report back to the Highways Advisory Group on measures to improve the inspection and fixing of pavements, before reporting back to the Environment and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a positive action plan.

**Motion 788 – Bus services**

*Proposed by Cllr Klara Sudbury*

*Seconded by Cllr Nigel Robbins*

This Council recognises the essential role that bus services play in – a) enabling more active lives b) travel opportunities c) healthier lifestyles d) reducing rural isolation and e) tackling congestion especially in urban areas.

This Council notes the funded public transport consultation that ended in January of this year, but is concerned about both the reduction in budget and the decline in passenger numbers. This has resulted in the withdrawal of much valued public transport profoundly affecting people's lives by denying access to many services, jobs and independence.

This Council in its commitment to the bus service across Gloucestershire asks the Cabinet Member

a) to take steps to protect the Council's bus service budget in 2017/18 from any further reductions.

b) to lobby the government to fully fund the council's concessionary schemes and

c) to work with the districts on a campaign to increase passenger numbers headed up by this Council's Communications Team.

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**AMBULANCE RESPONSE TIMES (MOTION 759) (Pages 23 - 38)**

For debate and decision.

To consider the report from the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee in response to the motion agreed by Council on 2 December 2015 relating to ambulance response times. This item was deferred from the last meeting.



<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>MEMBER QUESTIONS</b></p> <p>Up to 30 minutes is allowed for this item.</p> <p>To answer any written member questions about matters which are within the powers and duties of the County Council.</p> <p><b>The closing date for receipt of questions is 10am on Wednesday, 30 November 2016.</b> Please send questions to the Chief Executive marked for the attention of Stephen Bace (email <a href="mailto:stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk">stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk</a>).</p> <p>Questions received and proposed responses do not accompany this agenda but will be circulated prior to the meeting.</p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT</b> (Pages 39 - 58)</p> <p>For information and members' questions.</p>
<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>SCRUTINY UPDATE REPORT - NOVEMBER 2016</b> (Pages 59 - 82)</p> <p>For information and members' questions.</p>
<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT</b> (Pages 83 - 86)</p> <p>For information and members' questions.</p>
<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS</b> (Pages 87 - 90)</p> <p>For debate and decision.</p>
<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>CABINET DECISION STATEMENT</b> (Pages 91 - 98)</p> <p>For Information and members' questions.</p>
<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION STATEMENTS</b> (Pages 99 - 100)</p> <p>For information and members' questions.</p>
<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE REPORT</b> (Pages 101 - 144)</p> <p>For debate and decision.</p>
<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHWAYS PERFORMANCE REPORT</b> (Pages 145 - 148)</p> <p>For information and members' questions.</p>

	<p>To note that senior highways officers from Amey, the Council's highways contractor, will be available immediately following the meeting to answer questions.</p>
<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION FUND ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16</b> (Pages 149 - 150)</p> <p>For debate and decision.</p>
<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>BRUNEL PENSION PARTNERSHIP</b> (Pages 151 - 158)</p> <p>For debate and decision. To consider the recommendation from the Pension Committee to be held on 2 December 2016.</p> <p><b>Exclusion of the press and the public</b></p> <p>Please note that if any exempt matters are raised during the debate (for example relating to the detailed business case and risk register), the following motion to exclude the press and public will need to be moved and seconded:</p> <p><i>In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following agenda items, because it is likely that if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.</i></p>

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(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](mailto:Jane.Burns@gloucestershire.gov.uk)) prior to the commencement of the meeting.

(b) **RECORDING MEETINGS, INSPECTION OF PAPERS AND GENERAL QUERIES** – Please note that full Council meetings are webcast and may be viewed on the Council's website ([www.gloucestershire.gov.uk](http://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 324202, email: [simon.harper@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:simon.harper@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

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**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.

