



Gloucestershire

COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
Meeting Papers**

Wednesday, 22 March 2017

Council Chamber - Shire Hall, Gloucester



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Wednesday, 22 March 2017 at 10am

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Chief Executive

A G E N D A

Chairman's Opening of Council

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2	MINUTES (Pages 1 - 26) To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2017.
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Please see note (a) 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.

	<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 question is 10am on Wednesday, 15 March 2017. Please send questions to the Chief Executive marked for the attention of Stephen Bace (email stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk).</p> <p>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.</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>PETITIONS</p> <p>To receive petitions presented by members without discussion.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>CORPORATE PARENTING</p> <p>For information and members' questions.</p> <p>Oral report from the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and Strategic Commissioning.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>MOTIONS</p> <p>For debate and decision.</p> <p>The following motions were received by the closing date of 14 March 2017:</p> <p>Motion 789 – Highways contract <i>Proposed by Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</i> <i>Seconded by Cllr Chris Coleman</i></p> <p>This Council notes that last year the Highways Commissioning Team prepared and carried out a review of the Amey highways contract to enable a decision to either extend the contract for a further 3 years or to terminate it in 2019.</p>

This Council is aware that it takes between 18 and 24 months to retender the highways contract. This Council is disappointed however that no engagement has yet to take place with local parish, town and district councils regarding the decision to [possibly] extend the highways contract with Amey.

This Council has previously expressed concerns over the disappointing satisfaction levels with service amongst both members and parish council. The issues of customer focus and communications have also been identified as needing significant improvement.

To head off any decisions being made behind closed doors, this Council requests that the Highways Commissioning Team through existing resources conducts a full consultation with local parish, town and district councils regarding the decision to either extend or to terminate the highways contract with Amey. The results of this consultation to be reported back for member discussion at the full Council meeting on 28 June 2017.

Motion 790 – Saving our NHS

Proposed by Cllr Iain Dobie

Seconded by Cllr David Brown

This Council notes that the NHS is going through the biggest crisis in its history.

The impact of this can be seen locally affecting ambulance response times, Accident and Emergency waiting times, the length of time it takes to get a GP appointment and changes to the Minor Injury and Illness Units (MIUUs) across the county.

This Council is concerned that with a sustained fall in NHS funding our local services in Gloucestershire will continue struggling to cope.

The Government has refused to give the NHS the extra funding that it needs with the percentage of our national income spent on the NHS set to fall between now and 2020. The UK is a relatively low spender on health care and this Council would therefore like to see adequate funding.

This Council resolves that the Leader of this Council and the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State for Health, the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, calling the Government to establish a cross-party NHS and Care Convention with the objective of obtaining a long-term settlement for NHS and Care Services.

Motion 792 - Blue badges

Proposed by Cllr Lesley Williams

Seconded by Cllr Tracy Millard

This Council recognises that regulations over who can and cannot get a blue badge are getting much stricter. As a Council we believe everyone who needs a blue badge should be able to get one.

This Council commits to review its Blue Badge Policy criteria and will invite all relevant community groups and interested partners to an open consultation over how we can make this service more accessible.

This Council asks that a report is produced with options on how to achieve this by the end of 2017 which is in turn given to Council to discuss.

Motion 791 – Public bus services

Proposed by Cllr Barry Kirby

Seconded by Cllr Steve Lydon

This Council notes:

- a) That the Bus Services Bill currently passing through Parliament includes Clause 21 that will effectively 'prohibit a local authority from forming a company for the purposes of providing a local bus service'.
- b) That the Localism Act (2011) provides general powers of competence to local authorities.
- c) That municipal bus companies like Reading and Nottingham provide some of the best bus services in the country and have a successful track record of increasing bus passenger numbers and providing high quality bus services.
- d) That polling by *We Own It* found that a majority of the public (57%) oppose clause 21, whilst just 22% support it. The opposition to Clause 21 is consistent across voters from all political parties.

This Council believes:

- a) Clause 21 contradicts the general powers of competence and the spirit of the Localism Act 2011.
- b) If there is a need and a demand from their public, then Councils should be able to provide their own bus services.
- c) Should they wish, Councils should be legally able to follow the model developed by Reading and Nottingham.
- d) Consequently Clause 21 should be omitted from the Bus Services Bill.

This Council resolves:

- a) To write to Lord Ahmad and to call on the Department for Transport to omit Clause 21 from the final legislation
- b) To write to our MPs in the county to ask them to oppose clause 21 when the Bus Services Bill reaches the House of Commons and ask them to write to Lord Ahmad and the Department of Transport to raise concerns about Clause 21.
- c) To work with any organisations such as ' We Own It' to publicise our opposition to clause 21 in local media.

Motion 793 - Grammar schools in Gloucestershire

Proposed by Cllr Richard Leppington

Seconded 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 794 – Bus services

Proposed by Cllr Nigel Robbins

Seconded by Cllr Klara Sudbury

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
- e) Tackling congestion especially in urban areas

This Council notes the funded public transport consultation that ended in January last 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 to undertake the following:

- a) Protect all existing Council bus services from any adverse changes to services in the 2017-18 financial year.
- b) Lobby the Government to fully fund the Council's Concessionary Scheme.



	<p>c) Work with the districts on a campaign to increase passenger numbers headed up by this Council's Communications Team.</p>
9	<p>MEMBER QUESTIONS</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>The closing date for receipt of questions is 10am on Wednesday, 15 March 2017.</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>
10	<p>SCRUTINY REPORT (Pages 27 - 68)</p> <p>For debate and decision.</p>
11	<p>APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT (Pages 69 - 80)</p> <p>For debate and decision.</p>
12	<p>CABINET MEMBER DECISION STATEMENT (Pages 81 - 84)</p> <p>For information and members' questions.</p>
13	<p>HIGHWAYS PERFORMANCE REPORT (Pages 85 - 88)</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>

(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 /fax: 425149/ 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 full Council meetings are webcast and may be viewed 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 324202, email 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.

