



Gloucestershire

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, 9 September 2020 at 10.00 am

Please note that this meeting will be held remotely and can be viewed on the County Council website at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

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 - 14) To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2020.
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.

4**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a) Virtual meeting protocol

To invite Simon Harper, Head of Democratic Services, to provide information on how the meeting will be run and provide guidance on how to use the WebEx remote meeting software.

b) Peter Clarke

The Chairman to advise that former County Councillor Peter Clarke has sadly passed away. He served on the County Council from 1995 to 2005 representing the Gloucester Division of Barton and was Leader of the Council from 2001 to 2004. He also served as a member of Gloucester City Council and Cotswold District Council. Before standing as a councillor, Peter held a senior position in the Youth Service at the County Council.

Peter had a particular interest in education and was the first chair of the G40 group of education authorities. The group was set up to lobby for fairer funding for the 40 lowest funded education authorities in the country and still exists today.

c) Cllr Rachel Smith

The Chairman to inform members that Rachel is currently on parental leave but can still be contacted by email or through Democratic Services.

d) Highways awards

Gloucestershire County Council's Highways Team has won a prestigious national award from the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (CIHT) for its work in partnership with Atkins and Ringway to deliver the county's highway services.

Seven entries were shortlisted for the award including HS2, Transport for Scotland, Transport for West Midlands and the partnership delivering the M23 Junction 8-10 scheme in Surrey.

e) Minerals Local Plan

The Council's recently adopted Minerals Local Plan has been shortlisted as a finalist in this year's Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) South West Awards for Planning Excellence.

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 questions is 10am on Wednesday, 2 September 2020. 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 15 - 50)</p> <p>Cllr Richard Boyles, Deputy Leader and 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 presented by members without discussion.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>MOTIONS (Pages 51 - 58)</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> <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.</p> <p>Motion 864 - Restoring our rivers <i>Proposed by Cllr Paul Hodgkinson</i> <i>Seconded by Cllr Bernie Fisher</i></p> <p>This Council notes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloucestershire is fortunate to have 28 rivers running through our county, including the River Severn and River Thames, Britain’s longest and second longest rivers. • However, many of these waterways are flooded with harmful pollutants, including raw sewage discharges from water treatment operators Thames Water, Severn Trent and Wessex Water.

- This pollution is causing extensive damage to the fragile ecosystems around our county.
- It can also prove a serious public health concern for those residents living near rivers or using them for leisure activities; with pathogens able to cause serious illnesses.
- Furthermore, traces of Covid-19 have been found in sewage outputs in global hotspots.

This Council recognises that dumping raw sewage into rivers is currently legal in extreme circumstances, but also recognises claims that the use of these measures has become routine for some operators.

This Council believes that the adverse impacts on the county's waterways are unacceptable and that water treatment operators need to adjust their behaviour and invest more in the networks to avoid damaging our county's public resources.

This Council also believes that the county's waterways are a resource that every resident should be confident in using safely, and that we should strive to have the country's first designated bathing waters in rivers, which could bring great economic and social benefits to Gloucestershire.

This Council therefore resolves to

- Call on the Cabinet to take urgent action with District Councils, the Environment Agency, local partners and communities to lead comprehensive monitoring of the county's waterways to determine the extent of the damage caused by raw sewage and pollutants.
- Call on the Cabinet to work with local partners, including The Rivers Trust and water treatment operators to promote better use of sewage facilities – recognising that everyone has a role to play in improving our waterways.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, to ban the routine dumping of raw sewage into our rivers, with the ultimate aim of restoring our rivers to a state where we can safely swim in them and to protect their environment and biodiversity.

Motion 865 – Public Health England

Proposed by Cllr Iain Dobie

Seconded by Cllr Nigel Robbins

This Council recognises the hard work of the County Council's Public Health officials when looking to tackle the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic in Gloucestershire.



This Council also notes that the team has had to work within the confines of a 25 per cent cut to the whole public health budget in England compared to 2015, which commentators have said limited the UK's ability to respond effectively to Covid-19.

This Council further notes, with dismay, that the current Government is seeking to dismantle Public Health England at a time when the Office of National Statistics estimate that some 2,400 people are still being infected every day.

This Council believes that the break-up of PHE at this time is politically motivated to shift the blame from this Government to unelected state officials, that it will take time and resources away from tackling the pandemic and that it will harm the country's recovery and ability to tackle local outbreaks as we move into the potentially dangerous winter months. This council is also concerned that doing so without any plan for preventative functions (such as tackling smoking) could leave these critical services rudderless.

This Council also believes that it will be essential, as soon as this pandemic is under control, to hold a thorough and transparent investigation into the Government's handling of the pandemic, which may well have implications for the agency responsible for pandemic planning – though only when appropriate – and will likely acknowledge the need for greater delegation to local public health experts.

This Council resolves to request the Chief Executive and Council Leader to write to the Secretary of State for Health to:

- Express this Council's grave concerns about the dismantling of Public Health England in the midst of a pandemic.
- Reiterate the need for a thorough and transparent enquiry into why the UK has one of the highest Covid-19 mortality rates in the world.
- Call for the 25 per cent cut in funding since 2015 to be reinstated.

Motion 866 – Rainbow flag crossings

Proposed by Cllr Kate Haigh

Seconded by Cllr Lesley Williams

This Council notes that the public realm can be used by local authorities to promote inclusivity and community cohesion and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Council further notes that long lasting and colourful road crossings can also enhance the design of the public realm and provide interesting and safer places to cross the road.



	<p>This Council resolves to call on the Cabinet to create an inclusive rainbow flag crossing in Gloucester City centre in time for Pride month 2021 and to enter into discussions with other districts about suitable locations for crossings to be located over the next 2 years. This will support Pride in Gloucestershire's bid for Europride 2026 to be held in the county.</p>
<p>9</p>	<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, 2 September 2020. 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>10</p>	<p>SCRUTINY (Pages 59 - 60)</p> <p>Cllr Shaun Parsons, Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to present a summary report from the July 2020 cycle of scrutiny committees.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>CABINET</p>
	<p>a) CABINET 17 JUNE 2020 (Pages 61 - 68)</p> <p>To note the Cabinet Decision Statement for the meeting.</p> <p>The recommendations to Council relating to the Council Strategy and the Second Review of the Statement of Community Involvement were approved by Council on 24 June 2020.</p>
	<p>b) CABINET 22 JULY 2020 (Pages 69 - 76)</p> <p>To note the Cabinet Decision Statement for the meeting.</p>

	<p>c) INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION STATEMENTS (Pages 77 - 90) To consider the decision statements for the period 1 February to 31 August 2020.</p>
12	<p>CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2021 (Pages 91 - 92) To approve the calendar of meetings for 2021.</p>

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:

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