

## Motions to Council November 2023

### Chief Executive's accompanying notes

<b>Motion 930</b>	<p><b>Notice of Motion – Free Bus Travel for Gloucestershire Veterans and Service Personnel</b></p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Cate Cody Seconded: Cllr Chris McFarling</p> <p>November is the month of remembrance; This Council seeks to do more than provide tacit support for Veterans and Service Personnel in our County by taking steps to make a positive difference to their lives in recognition of their service.</p> <p>Accordingly, this council calls on the Cabinet member to bring forward proposals for consideration as part of the 2024/25 draft budget process to provide a free bus pass to all Veterans and Service Personnel living within Gloucestershire, (based on the principles of the existing scheme for pensioners in the County, i.e. free travel on production of a valid identity card)</p>
Climate change implications	None directly arising from this motion, though any policies that increases use of public transport has the potential to have a positive impact on carbon reduction.
Resource implications	<p>From 2021 census data, the number of Veterans who are not already eligible for a concessionary bus pass is approximately 10,600.</p> <p>It is very difficult to estimate the cost of a locally negotiated Veterans Scheme, but it is likely to be in the range of £600 - £1400 per person per annum. Equally, take up levels are unknown, but 75% participation would cost between £5M and £11M.</p> <p>The immediate costs of developing proposals would need to be met from existing council resources.</p>
Human rights implications	None directly arising from this motion
Other implications relating to Council's	None directly arising from this motion

policy framework	
<b>Motion 931</b>	<p><b>Train Ticket pricing structure</b></p> <p><i>Proposed: Cllr Alan Preest</i> <i>Seconded: Cllr David Gray</i></p> <p>The cost of a rail Adult return day ticket from Lydney to Gloucester currently costs £11.60. (Chepstow-Gloucester £13.20). One price fits all, there are no off-peak concessions. Travelling by train is more than a journey, it is and should be the ready-made solution to make our roads quieter and safer and improve the air quality. Rail is an environmentally friendly way to travel and plays a critical role in helping to tackle climate change.</p> <p>Council resolves to write to the Transport for Wales overarching Authority, the Welsh Government, to ask them to explain their regulatory pricing structure particularly for the Chepstow -Lydney-Gloucester journeys and consider an overall fare reduction, but at the very least the creation of a more realistic off-peak day return fare, in anticipation of the potential economic benefits, tourism benefits and climate change.</p>
Climate change implications	None directly arising from this motion
Resource implications	None directly arising from this motion
Human rights implications	None directly arising from this motion
Other implications relating to Council's policy framework	None directly arising from this motion
<b>Motion 932</b>	<p><b>Sustainable Catering and Procurement Policy</b></p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Beki Hoyland Seconded: Cllr Chloe Turner</p> <p><b>Council notes:</b> We are experiencing climate breakdown, an obesity epidemic and a cost-of-living crisis. As a council we have declared a climate emergency, have council targets to reduce obesity, and have a multi-agency ongoing response to the cost-of-living crisis.</p>

What we eat, and how that food is produced, affects our health, the environment and our local economy .

The British food system contributes about 30% to global greenhouse gas emissions – more than transport or energy - and industrial farming is the leading cause of the decline of wildlife in the UK, antibiotic resistance and zoonotic diseases. Additionally, a third of the food we produce goes to waste. About a third of all human-caused greenhouse gas emissions is linked to food. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s43016-021-00225-9/>

The quality of our diets follows a social gradient, with those in poorer households consuming less fruit and vegetables and more ultra-processed food and drink produced by multinational industries. Many people struggle to afford diets that align with government minimum recommendations for a healthy and balanced diet. What we eat has become the biggest risk factor for preventable disease, taking a massive toll on our health, causing debilitating illness, and placing an unsustainable strain on the NHS.

Ensuring that procurement policies support and encourage local production will help create and maintain local jobs through the supply chains as well as grow the local economy.

**Council acknowledges:**

- Changing what we eat and where it comes from has the potential to benefit both the health of people and the planet.
- Locally produced food has the potential to support the wider local economy.
- Gloucestershire County Council is a key partner in Gloucestershire Food and Farming Partnership whose purpose, among others, is to create innovative approaches to transform the food and farming system through initiatives that deliver multiple health, environmental and economic outcomes.
- Gloucestershire is a member of Sustainable Food Places that celebrates the success of those places taking a joined up, holistic approach to food and that are achieving significant positive change on a range of key food issues.

**The council resolves to:**

- Produce a policy for catering and procurement for council events to ensure the food served is healthy and sustainable, committing to:
  - Locally produced and seasonal food
  - Increased plant based options
  - better quality meat, served less frequently
  - Nutritious and balanced options in line with the governments Eatwell Guide
- Work closely with Gloucestershire Food and Farming

	<p>Partnership and Sustainable Food places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use reusable and recyclable packaging and utensils</li> </ul> <p>Consider ensuring that all suppliers are signed up to:</p> <p>Food For Life served here <a href="https://www.foodforlife.org.uk">https://www.foodforlife.org.uk</a>  Food for the Planet <a href="https://www.foodfortheplanet.org.uk/faqs/">https://www.foodfortheplanet.org.uk/faqs/</a></p>
Climate change implications	Measures to increase use of locally sourced food and plant-based options and avoid the use of single-use plastics would have a positive effect on the Council's carbon footprint.
Resource implications	The cost of developing such a policy would have to be met from existing council resources and officer time.
Human rights implications	None directly arising from this motion
Other implications relating to Council's policy framework	<p>Gloucestershire County Council holds the following contracts for catering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shire Hall catering – expires July 2026</li> <li>- School meals – expires July 2028 (covering 173 schools)</li> </ul> <p>The following performance measures are used to track social value within these contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Percentage of supply chain contracts with social value commitments, measurement and monitoring</li> <li>- Savings in CO2 emissions on contract achieved through de-carbonisation</li> </ul>
<b>Motion 933</b>	<p><b>Policing in Gloucestershire</b></p> <p><b>Proposed: Cllr Jeremy Hilton</b>  <b>Seconded: Cllr Ben Evans</b></p> <p><b>Council Notes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gloucestershire Police was until very recently, in special measures, after His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire &amp; Rescue Services (HMICFRS) found them to be inadequate in six areas</li> <li>2. Whilst improvements have been made since the very sobering report was published, the HMICFRS noted that their response to domestic abuse incidents, behavioural crimes and Anti Social Behaviour were 'of particular concern'</li> </ol>

	<p>3. In the year 22/23, Gloucestershire Police had the worst response times to Category Two 999 incidents of any force in England or Wales, averaging 16.7 hours to respond against a target of 5.5 hours, with response times in Gloucester peaking at 23.9 hours</p> <p>4. 101 response times also continue to cause concern to Gloucestershire’s residents with many saying they are waiting up to 40 minutes to report a crime, and the online system not working</p> <p>5. Despite the promise by the PCC, Chris Nelson to provide 300 new officers, Gloucestershire Constabulary is still woefully under-staffed, putting huge pressure on existing officers and resulting in residents being vulnerable to crime</p> <p><b>Council Believes</b></p> <p>1. Gloucestershire residents deserve a swift and professional response service whenever they dial 999</p> <p>2. Problems with the force and with the call centre are undermining public confidence in the Police locally</p> <p>3. The current Police and Crime Commissioner ran on a central pledge to recruit more frontline Police Officers, and has now reneged on that solemn pledge</p> <p><b>Council Resolves</b></p> <p>1. To request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire and the Chief Constable for Gloucestershire Police, calling for an urgent meeting to discuss policing in Gloucestershire with all District Council Leaders and County Council Group Leaders, that he himself chairs</p> <p>2. To ask the Cabinet Member for Public Health to look into what the Council and its partners can do to work with Gloucestershire Police on improving their response to incidents of domestic violence.</p> <p>3. To ask the Police and Crime panel to consider at their next meeting what can be done to improve the response time to category 2 999 calls and 101 reporting in Gloucestershire, with the Chair of the panel reporting back to Full Council on their findings.</p> <p>4. To continue to put pressure on the PCC to deliver on his promise of 300 new officers</p>
Climate change implications	None directly arising from this motion
Resource implications	None directly arising from this motion

Human rights implications	None directly arising from this motion
Other implications relating to Council's policy framework	None directly arising from this motion
<b>Motion 934</b>	<p><b>Protection of Minchinhampton and Rodborough Commons</b>  Proposed: Cllr Chloe Turner  Secunder: Cllr John Bloxsom</p> <p>Council is distressed to hear of the death of cattle on the Minchinhampton and Rodborough Commons during the recent grazing season and of the continuous risk of death and injury from vehicle strikes posed to around 450 cows and horses.</p> <p>Council is aware that these deaths threaten the sustainability of grazing and hence the future of the commons which are internationally important areas rich in flora and fauna. We acknowledge that the Commons are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), both lie within the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Rodborough Common has additional designation as a Special Area of Conservation.</p> <p>We note that each year several cows are killed, the majority at certain points on the road and in the dark in autumn and that, in a finely balanced ecosystem, free-grazing cattle and horses play a critical role in biodiversity and sustainability of the commons. We commend the work of commoners, graziers, Natural England, National Trust and others in seeking to protect and conserve the commons.</p> <p>Council acknowledges that it has legal duties to have regard to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the AONB, to take reasonable steps to conserve and enhance the special features of sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) and that is a competent authority with a duty to help protect, conserve and restore a Special Area of Conservation.</p> <p>Furthermore, under the new provisions of the Environment Act 2021, and as the Lead Authority in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Gloucestershire County Council has a clear leadership role in preserving our natural habitats, of which our SSSIs and SACs are the most precious. Not taking remedial action, such that the graziers are forced to remove their</p>

	<p>animals and the Commons quickly degrade as a result, would be a clear abdication of these responsibilities.</p> <p>Measures taken by the County Council as the highway authority have regrettably not proven to be adequate to protect cattle and horses from death and injury, the burden of which is carried by farmers exercising their registered grazing rights. Council believes that to reduce this suffering, and sustain the nature of the commons, further road safety measures should be taken.</p> <p>Council therefore resolves to recommend to Cabinet that it establish a Task and Finish Group which it recommends should include the Divisional members for Minchinhampton, Nailsworth and Rodborough and the Cabinet Member for Highways, the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning and the Cabinet Member for Fire and Community Safety to address this situation, including addition road safety measures, and report back with recommendations to the Environment Scrutiny Committee.</p>
Climate change implications	None directly arising from this motion
Resource implications	The resources required to support a task and finish group would need to be met from existing council resources, including officer time.
Human rights implications	None directly arising from this motion
Other implications relating to Council's policy framework	<p>The current speed limit, 40mph, reflects the Department for Transport's guidance for rural routes through a National Park, reflecting its use for recreation and cattle grazing. Whilst every animal death is distressing, in traditional road safety terms, the Commons have lower personal injury levels than in the local villages or on other roads in Stroud District.</p> <p>Work is currently underway to install a Community Speedwatch Camera, with warning signs, on Minchinhampton Common. The camera, funded by the county council through the £600k Community Speedwatch Fund, has secured police approval and recently a road safety officer met with the parish council to agree the location. The officers is arranging for the camera and post to be installed in November. Once it is operational it will provide speed data to assist the police and to serve as a speeding deterrent.</p>

