



COTSWOLD
District Council

Friday, 25 April 2025

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held in the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX on **Tuesday, 6 May 2025 at 4.00 pm.**

Rob Weaver
Chief Executive

To: Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
(Councillors Gina Blomefield, David Cunningham, Angus Jenkinson, Dilys Neill, Tony Slater, Lisa Spivey, Clare Turner, Michael Vann, Jon Wareing).

Recording of Proceedings – The law allows the public proceedings of Council, Cabinet, and Committee Meetings to be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings please let the Committee Administrator know prior to the date of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies – 1 minute**

To receive any apologies for absence. The quorum for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is 3 members.

2. **Substitute Members – 1 minute**

To note details of any substitution arrangements in place for the meeting.

3. **Declarations of Interest – 2 minutes**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members relating to items to be considered at the meeting.

4. **Minutes (Pages 5 - 14) – 5 minutes**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2025.

5. **Matters Arising from Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 5 minutes**

To consider actions outstanding from minutes of previous meetings.

6. **Chair's Announcements – 5 minutes**

To receive any announcements from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7. **Public Questions – 15 minutes**

A maximum of 15 minutes is allocated for an "open forum" of public questions at committee meetings. No person may ask more than two questions (including supplementary questions) and no more than two such questions may be asked on behalf of one organisation. The maximum length of oral questions or supplementary questions by the public will be one minute. Questions must relate to the responsibilities of the Committee but questions in this section cannot relate to applications for determination at the meeting.

The response may take the form of:

- a) A direct oral response (maximum length: 2 minutes);
- b) Where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) Where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to the questioner.

8. **Member Questions – 15 minutes**

A maximum period of fifteen minutes is allowed for Member questions. Questions must be directed to the Chair and must relate to the remit of the committee.

Questions will be asked in the order notice of them was received, except that the Chair may group together similar questions.

The deadline for submitting questions is 5.00 pm on the working day before the day of the meeting unless the Chair agrees that the question relates to an urgent matter, in which case the deadline is 9.30 am on the day of the meeting.

A member may submit no more than two questions. At the meeting the member may ask a supplementary question arising directly from the original question or the reply. The maximum length of a supplementary question is one minute.

The response to a question or supplementary question may take the form of:

- a) A direct oral response (maximum length: 2 minutes);
- b) Where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) Where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to the questioner.

9. **Report back on recommendations – 1 minute**

There were no recommendations arising from the previous Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 31 March 2025.

10. **Public Toilets (Pages 15 - 24) – 35 minutes**

Purpose

To provide an update on the public toilets.

Recommendation

That Overview and Scrutiny resolves to:

Note actions and progress since the Cabinet meeting on 1 February 2024 (Annex A)

11. **District Homelessness Update (Pages 25 - 48) – 35 minutes**

Purpose

To update the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on emerging homelessness pressures, and the plan to address these through the Preventing Homelessness Strategy and the Action Plan to Prevent Homelessness.

Recommendation

That Overview and Scrutiny resolves to:

1. Note the update on emerging homelessness pressures

2. Agree on any recommendation it wishes to submit to Cabinet regarding the draft Preventing Homelessness Strategy
3. Agree on any recommendation it wishes to submit to Cabinet regarding the draft Preventing Homelessness Action Plan

12. **Updates from Gloucestershire County Council Scrutiny Committees – 35 minutes**

Purpose

To receive any verbal updates on the work of external scrutiny bodies:

Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Angus Jenkinson
Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Dilys Neill

13. **Progress Review - Task & Finish Group IHT Farming (Pages 49 - 52) – 10 minutes**

Purpose

To receive a verbal update on progress to date and note the agreed Terms of Reference.

14. **Work Plan and Forward Plan (Pages 53 - 76) – 10 minutes**

Purpose

For the Committee to note and review its work plan and to select Cabinet decisions for pre-decision scrutiny at future committee meetings.

(END)