



COTSWOLD
District Council

Friday, 27 June 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 **Monday, 7 July 2025 at 4.00 pm.**

Rob Weaver
Chief Executive

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

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**
To receive any apologies for absence. The quorum for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is 3 members.
2. **Substitute Members**
To note details of any substitution arrangements in place for the meeting.
3. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest from Members relating to items to be considered at the meeting.
4. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 12)
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2025.
5. **Matters Arising from Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
To consider actions outstanding from minutes of previous meetings.
6. **Chair's Announcements**
To receive any announcements from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
7. **Public Questions**
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 two minutes. 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**

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 5.00pm 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 9.30am 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**

For the Committee to note the Cabinet's response to any recommendations arising from the previous Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

10. **Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report for 2024/25** (Pages 13 - 52)
– 15 minutes

Purpose

To receive the annual report of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Recommendation

That Overview and Scrutiny committee:

Recommend that the report be received by Full Council at the meeting on 16 July 2025.

11. **Financial Performance Report 2024-25 Quarter 4** (Pages 53 - 100) – 30 minutes
This report sets of the outturn position for the 2024/25 financial year.

Purpose

That the Committee scrutinises the report and agrees any recommendations it wishes to submit to Cabinet on 9 July 2025.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Patrick Coleman

Lead Officer

David Stanley – Deputy Chief Executive

Michelle Burge – Chief Accountant

12. **Service Performance Report 2024-25 Quarter 4** (Pages 101 - 176) – 30 minutes

To provide an update on progress on the Council's priorities and service performance.

Purpose

That the Committee scrutinises the report and agrees any recommendations it wishes to submit to Cabinet on 9 July 2025.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Mike Evemy

Lead Officer

Gemma Moring

Alison Borrett

13. **Farming Motion Working Group Update** (Pages 177 - 194) – 30 minutes

Purpose

To report back from the Task & Finish Group the evidence they received from stakeholders during their inquiry into the proposed changes to Inheritance Tax (IHT) for farmers and that the messages they recommend are included in the Council's representations to Government.

14. **Updates from Gloucestershire County Council Scrutiny Committees** (Pages 195 - 196) – 15 minutes

Purpose

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

Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Angus Jenkinson

Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Cllr Dilys Neill

15. **Work Plan and Forward Plan** (Pages 197 - 218)

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