



COTSWOLD
District Council

Wednesday, 8 October 2025

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CABINET

A meeting of the Cabinet will be held in the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX on **Thursday, 16 October 2025 at 6.00 pm.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jane Portman'.

Jane Portman
Interim Chief Executive

To: Members of the Cabinet

(Councillors Mike Every, Juliet Layton, Patrick Coleman, Andrea Pellegram, Claire Bloomer, Paul Hodgkinson, Mike McKeown and Tristan Wilkinson)

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 Cabinet is 3 members.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest from Members relating to items to be considered at the meeting.
3. **Minutes** (Pages 7 - 18)
To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 September 2025.
4. **Leader's Announcements**
To receive any announcements from the Leader of the Council.
5. **Public Questions**
To deal with questions from the public within the open forum question and answer session of fifteen minutes in total. Questions from each member of the public should be no longer than one minute each and relate to issues under the Cabinet's remit. At any one meeting no person may submit more than two questions and no more than two such questions may be asked on behalf of one organisation.

The Leader will ask whether any members of the public present at the meeting wish to ask a question and will decide on the order of questioners.

The response may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- 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.

6. **Member Questions**
No Member Questions have been submitted prior to the publication of the agenda.

A Member of the Council may ask the Leader or a Cabinet Member a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the Cotswold District. A maximum period of fifteen minutes shall be allowed at any such meeting for Member questions.

A Member may only ask a question if:

- a) the question has been delivered in writing or by electronic mail to the Chief Executive no later than 5.00 p.m. on the working day before the day of the meeting; or
- b) the question relates to an urgent matter, they have the consent of the Leader to whom the question is to be put and the content of the question is given to the Chief Executive by 9.30 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

An answer may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- 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.

7. **Schedule of Decisions taken by the Leader of the Council and/or Individual Cabinet Members** (Pages 19 - 22)

To note the decisions taken by the Leader and/or Individual Cabinet Members since the agenda for Cabinet 4 September 2025 was published. The following non-key decisions have been taken by individual Cabinet Members under delegated authority:

1. Cabinet Member for Finance - Decision meeting 6 October 2025

Decisions taken regarding:

- a) The allocation of funds collected from the Rissington Road Car Parking Tourism Levy in Bourton-on-the-Water for 2025/26.
- b) The determination of ten new applications and thirteen renewal applications for Discretionary Rate Relief submitted under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for the financial years 2023/2024, 2024/2025 and 2025/2026

Date decisions effective: 15 October 2025.

8. **Issue(s) Arising from Overview and Scrutiny and/or Audit and Governance**

To receive any recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to consider any matters raised by the Audit and Governance Committee.

9. **Safeguarding Policy Update - July 2025** (Pages 23 - 54)

Purpose:

To inform Members of the updated Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

Recommendation(s):

That Cabinet resolves to:

1. Agree and adopt the updated Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

10. **Council Tax Support Scheme 2026/2027** (Pages 55 - 68)

Purpose:

To consider and recommend to Full Council the revised Council Tax Support Scheme for the financial year 2026/2027.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet recommends to Full Council to:

1. Agree the increase to income bands as detailed within paragraphs 3.2, 3.3 and Annex A of this report from 1 April 2026. Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer, in Consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, to amend the income bands by the September 2025 CPI rate due to be published on 22 October 2025, should this be different to the assumed increase set out in the report and annex A.
2. Agree that any balance remaining in the earmarked reserve 'Hardship Fund' be made available in 2026/27 financial year for reasons detailed in paragraphs 3.6 and 3.7 of this report.

11. **Cotswold District Local Plan (2011-31) Regulation 18 Consultation** (Pages 69 - 132)

Purpose:

To seek approval to consult on the Preferred Options for development in the Cotswold District for the Regulation 18 consultation, and further technical documents as and when necessary; and to approve the updated Local Development Scheme to progress the Plan to submission in winter 2026 and adoption in winter 2027.

Recommendation(s):

That Cabinet resolves to:

1. Approve the Cotswold District Council Local Plan Review Regulation 18 Consultation Preferred Options (November 2025) document and commence a six-week public consultation on this and a call for sites from 5 November 2025 to 18 December 2025.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Communities and Place, the Accountable Officer and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning to agree any minor amendments or additions to the Consultation Document prior to the Regulation 18 Consultation.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of Communities and Place and the

Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning to approve for consultation any supporting technical documents for the Regulation 18 consultation.

4. Delegate authority to the Director of Communities and Place and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning to approve additional technical documents for further Regulation 18 consultation as and when necessary.
5. Approve the Local Development Scheme.

12. **Budget Strategy and Medium Term Financial Strategy Update** (Pages 133 - 202)

Purpose:

To set out the Budget Strategy to support the preparation of the 2026/27 revenue and capital budgets and present an updated Medium Term Financial Strategy forecast.

Recommendation(s):

That Cabinet resolves to:

1. Approve the 2026/27 Budget Strategy as outlined in the report.

13. **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting of Cabinet is scheduled for 20 November 2025 at 6.00pm.

(END)