



**COTSWOLD**  
District Council

Wednesday, 5 November 2025

Tel: 01285 623226

e-mail: [Democratic@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic@cotswold.gov.uk)

## **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, 17 November 2025 at 4.00 pm.**

Jane Portman  
Interim Chief Executive

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

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 13 October 2025.

5. **Matters Arising from Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (Pages 13 - 14)

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 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**

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** (Pages 15 - 16)

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

10. **Work Plan and Forward Plan** (Pages 17 - 20)

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

Cabinet Forward Plan to follow.

11. **Leisure Contract - Freedom Leisure – 4:20pm**

Purpose

Freedom Leisure will be present to respond to Members questions and to give a general update on their leisure centres in the district.

Freedom Leisure Representative: Lee Thomas and Nick Charlton

12. **Car Parking Strategy – 5:10pm**

Purpose

To present Cotswold District Council's Parking Strategy for 2025–2028 which outlines the approach to managing and delivering off-street parking services over the next three years. It is designed to meet user needs while supporting the council's strategic objectives through to 2028.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

Lead Officer

Susan Hughes

- Report to follow

13. **Local Government Reorganisation Proposal – 6:00pm**

Purpose

To note the two proposals for local government reorganisation in Gloucestershire that have been developed collaboratively with all seven Gloucestershire councils for consideration by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 17th November 2025, Council on 26th November 2025 and Extraordinary Cabinet on 26th November 2025. The options are:

- (a) creating a single unitary authority for the whole county and
- (b) creating two unitary authorities, based on an East / West division of existing districts.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Mike Evemy

Lead Officer

Jane Portman

- Reports to follow.

14. **Updates from Gloucestershire County Council Scrutiny Committees – 6:50pm**

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

(END)