



**COTSWOLD**  
District Council

Friday, 20 February 2026

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, 2 March 2026 at 4.00 pm.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'J Portman'.

Jane Portman  
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 2 February 2026.
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. **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.
8. **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.

9. **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 but may not relate to applications for determination at the meeting.

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.

10. **Update on Local Government Reorganisation**

To receive an update on Local Government Reorganisation from the Chief Executive Officer.

11. **LGR - Joint Scrutiny arrangements**

Presentation by the Programme Sponsor for LGR Governance and Legal – Rob Ayliffe and Programme Lead for LGR Governance and Legal – Alice McAlpine on the Joint Scrutiny Panel options.

12. **Infrastructure Funding - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Policy** (Pages 17 - 26)

Purpose.

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge levied on development to help fund infrastructure. It is a vital mechanism for supporting the delivery of infrastructure to underpin sustainable growth across the District, while also creating opportunities for projects that enhance local communities.

The Council introduced a CIL charge in 2019; at which time a process for

stakeholders to apply for CIL funding was put in place. Now, with experience of operating the process, is an appropriate time to review it for best practice.

The existing process allows stakeholders to make 'bids' for CIL funding once a year, during the period of March – May. Concise guidance for making bids is available on our website. Once the bid period closes, an officer panel convenes to consider the bids, applying an existing high-level scoring system.

Having now completed two strategic bid rounds under the existing process, the Council has gained valuable insights—supported by stakeholder feedback—into how the process can be further strengthened. A review by officers has identified opportunities to enhance transparency, engagement, collaboration, and ensure ongoing alignment with the Council's strategic priorities and the Development Plan,. There are opportunities to improve the effectiveness of the bid cycle, ensuring that CIL funding continues to be allocated legally, responsibly, strategically, and accountably, and in line with the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) support development of our area.

The purpose of this report is to seek delegated authority for the Associate Director of Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing, to implement a programme of enhancements.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Juliet Layton – Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Lead Officer

Kim Langford-Tejrar – Infrastructure Delivery Lead (Shared)

\*Report to follow\*

13. **Updates from Gloucestershire County Council Scrutiny Committees**

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

14. **Work Plan and Forward Plan** (Pages 27 - 42)

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

(END)