

Public Document Pack



COTSWOLD
District Council

Tuesday, 12 May 2026

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COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026 at 6.00 pm.**

Jane Portman
Chief Executive

To: Members of the Council

(Councillors Mark Harris, Ray Brassington, Gina Blomefield, Claire Bloomer, Nick Bridges, Patrick Coleman, Daryl Corps, David Cunningham, Tony Dale, Paul Evans, Mike Evemy, David Fowles, Laura Hall-Wilson, Joe Harris, Paul Hodgkinson, Nikki Ind, Angus Jenkinson, Julia Judd, Juliet Layton, Helene Mansilla, Mike McKeown, Dilys Neill, Andrea Pellegram, Tony Slater, Lisa Spivey, Tom Stowe, Jeremy Theyer, Craig Thurling, Clare Turner, Michael Vann, Jon Wareing, Ian Watson, Len Wilkins 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.

Cotswold District Council, Trinity Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1PX
Tel: 01285 623000 www.cotswold.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. **Election of a Chair**

Purpose

To fulfil Council's obligation to elect a Chair for a term of office until the start of the Annual Council meeting in May 2027. The Chair cannot be a member of the Cabinet.

2. **Appointment of a Vice-Chair**

Purpose

To fulfil Council's obligation to appoint a Vice-Chair for a term of office until the start of the Annual Council meeting in May 2027. The Vice-Chair cannot be a member of the Cabinet.

3. **Apologies**

Purpose

To receive any apologies for absence.
The quorum for Council is 9 members.

4. **Announcements from the Chair, Leader or Chief Executive**

Purpose

To receive any announcements from the Chair of the Council, the Leader of the Council or the Chief Executive.

5. **Declarations of Interest**

Purpose

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

6. **Announcement of the Leader on Cabinet Appointments**

Purpose

For the Leader to update Council on the appointment of the Deputy Leader, the appointment of Cabinet members and the allocation of portfolio responsibilities.

7. **Appointment to Committees 2026-27** (Pages 7 - 14)

Purpose

This report sets out those matters reserved to Council at its Annual Meeting:

- To make appointments to Committees for the Civic Year 2026/27.
- To make appointments to the positions of the Chair and Vice-Chair of Committees for the Civic Year 2026/27.

Recommendations

That Full Council resolves to:

1. DETERMINE that, in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 ("the Act"), the Council shall continue to apply the political balance provisions under the Act to committees as shown in Annex A;
2. APPOINT Councillors to serve on the Council's Committees and working groups as set out in Annex B for a term of office expiring at the next Annual Meeting of the Council;
3. APPOINT Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the Council's Committees and working groups as shown in Annex B
4. NOTE the arrangements for substitutions set out in part 4 of the report.

Annex B to be circulated separately.

8. **Record of Attendance 2025/26**

Purpose

For Council to note the record of attendance for Members in the Civic Year 2025/26.

A Member Attendance report will be published as a supplement once Council meetings for the Civic Year 2025/26 are completed.

9. **Appointments to Outside Bodies 2026-27** (Pages 15 - 18)

Purpose

This report provides Council with a current list of appointments to Outside Bodies for the civic year 2026/27.

Recommendations

That Council resolves to:

1. CONFIRM the appointments to the Gloucestershire County Council Economic Strategy Scrutiny Committee and the Gloucestershire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in Annex A Table 1.
2. NOTE the appointments to outside bodies by the Leader of the Council in respect of executive functions, as set out in Annex A Table 2;

Annex A to be circulated separately.

10. **Notice of Motions** (Pages 19 - 20)

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, the following Motion has been received:

Motion 2026/003:

Protecting our Cotswolds hospitals

Proposed by: Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

Seconded by: Councillor Claire Bloomer

Motion:

Rural community hospitals in the Cotswolds at Cirencester, Moreton, Fairford and Tetbury provide essential, accessible healthcare close to home. They ease pressure on larger hospitals such as Cheltenham and Gloucester, support older and recovering patients, and ensure that people in rural areas are not forced into long, difficult journeys for routine treatment and rehabilitation.

Any cuts, closures or "temporary" service changes at any of the Cotswolds' hospitals undermine this lifeline. When community hospitals lose services, patients face longer waits, families take on increased travel burdens and already stretched NHS services become even more strained. With thousands of new homes planned and an ageing population in the Cotswolds, we need *greater* investment in our rural hospitals, not further reductions.

We call on this Council to show its support for the future of Cotswolds' NHS services, for the Leader of the Council to write to Gloucestershire's NHS emphasising that all temporary withdrawals of services should be just that - temporary, not permanent and for our local hospitals to be used as much as possible.

Recognising this, Full Council resolves to:

1. Request that the Leader of the Council write formally to Gloucestershire's NHS to seek assurances regarding the long-term future and sustainability local community hospital facilities emphasising that all temporary withdrawals of services should be just that - temporary, not permanent and to advocate for maximum utilisation of local community hospital facilities;
2. Agree the vital role played by rural community hospitals in Cirencester, Moreton-in-Marsh, Fairford and Tetbury in providing accessible healthcare to residents of the Cotswolds.

11. **Next meeting**

The next meeting of Council will be held on 15 July 2026.

(END)

Agenda Item 7



COTSWOLD
District Council

Council name	COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL
Name and date of Committee	ANNUAL COUNCIL – 20 MAY 2026
Subject	APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES
Wards affected	None
Accountable member	Councillor Mike Evely, Leader of the Council Email: mike.evely@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Angela Claridge, Director of Governance & Development (Monitoring Officer) Email: angela.claridge@cotswold.gov.uk
Report author	Nickie Mackenzie-Daste, Senior Democratic Services Officer Email: nickie.mackenzie-daste@cotswold.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	This report sets out those matters reserved to Council at its Annual Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To make appointments to Council committees and working groups for the Civic Year 2026/27.• To make appointments to the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of Committees for the Civic Year 2026/27.
Annexes	Annex A – Political proportionalities Annex B – Committee nominations 2026/27 (to follow)
Recommendation(s)	That Full Council resolves to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. DETERMINE that, in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (“the Act”), the Council shall continue to apply the political balance provisions under the Act to committees as shown in Annex A;2. APPOINT Councillors to serve on the Council’s Committees and working groups as set out in Annex B for a term of office expiring at the next Annual Meeting of the Council;



	<p>3. APPOINT Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the Council's Committees and working groups as shown in Annex B;</p> <p>4. NOTE the arrangements for substitutions set out in part 4 of the report;</p>
Corporate priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivering Good Services
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	Political groups have been asked to nominate members to seats on committees and working groups.



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1** The report sets out the statutory requirement that Council agrees on an annual basis its committee membership for the forthcoming civic year 2026/27.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 ("the Act") requires the Council to allocate Committee seats to political groups in proportion, as far as is reasonably practicable to the size of those groups on the Council and that the Council review that allocation each year at the Annual Meeting. The requirement is for representation to be proportional on each Committee and across the relevant Committees taken as a whole, subject to Section 15 (5) (b) of the Act which provides that where the majority of seats on the Council are held by one political group, that group shall have a majority on all bodies to which appointments are made.
- 2.2** Under the Council's political groups scheme, if the Council is unable to make appointments or matters change during the year the Chief Executive is authorised to consult with the group leaders and following that consultation to adjust the number and allocation of seats to each group to give effect to the rules on proportionality and to make appointments as necessary, in accordance with the nominations of the group leaders.
- 2.3** It is open to the Council or a Committee or other relevant council body carrying out a review, to adopt some other arrangement and allocate seats on a different basis other than that prescribed by the Act. Notice of such a proposal must be given in the Council summons, and a decision would have to be made without any member voting against the arrangement. This is known as a 'nem con vote' by the Council. Abstentions from voting do not invalidate the 'nem con vote'. Notice has been given on the Agenda so that Council is not denied that opportunity.
- 2.4** Committee membership is for one year with the appointments made at the Annual Meeting and will expire at the next Annual Council meeting on 26 May 2027.
- 2.5** Members who serve on Cabinet cannot serve on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.



- 2.6** Under the Constitution, Members cannot serve on the Planning and Licensing Committee unless they have attended the required training.
- 2.7** It is expected within the Constitution that the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be from an opposition group.

3. MAIN POINTS

- 3.1** Under Section 15 of the Act, the Council must review the representation of the different political groups on Committees and other relevant Council bodies at the Annual Council Meeting or as soon as practicable after that meeting. The statutory provisions have been added to by the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 as amended in 1991. The allocation of seats to political groups is set out in Annex A.
- 3.2** The Constitution requires the Annual Meeting of Council to appoint Councillors to serve on the Council's Committees and other Council bodies for the Civic Year 2026/27. The members nominated by groups are shown in Annex B and Council is recommended to approve these appointments.
- 3.3** Council may appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair of each committee or if Council does not do so the Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected at the first scheduled meeting of each committee. It is the custom and practice of the Council for this to be done at the Annual Meeting. Council is recommended to appoint Chairs and Vice-Chairs of committees and working groups as shown in Annex B.

4. SUBSTITUTIONS

- 4.1** Where a member is unable to attend a meeting of a committee of which they are a member, they may arrange for a substitute member to attend in their place. Notification of substitution can be made by the member appointing the substitute, the substitute Member, or in the case of a substitution within a political group by the Leader or Deputy Leader of the relevant political group.
- 4.2** The Constitution states that for each committee where substitution is applicable, substitutes are permitted in respect of each political group, and across non-aligned members as if those members were to have formed a grouping. Substitution is only permitted within each political grouping, or within the non-aligned members (i.e. a



member of a political group cannot substitute for a member of another political group or a non-aligned member; and a non-aligned member cannot substitute for a member of a political group).

- 4.3** Notification of substitution can be made by the member appointing the substitute, the substitute member, or in the case of a substitution within a political group by the Leader or Deputy Leader of the relevant political group.

5. WORKING GROUPS

- 5.1** Full Council has previously agreed to set up a number of working groups to cover a variety of issues which require member input. Some of these working groups report to Council and provide recommendations for approval whilst others are to provide member input for the work of officers or Cabinet Members. Working Groups do not need to be appointed based on political proportionality.

- 5.2** In addition to Working Groups established by Council the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may establish Task and Finish Groups. These groups will be appointed by the Committee when required.

6. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1** If Council wishes to alter the size or general remit of any committee, it could pass a resolution requesting that officers produce a report to a future Full Council meeting with alternative proposals.
- 6.2** If Council wishes to make further changes to the terms of references of working groups, it could delegate authority to the Chief Executive to do so.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1** There are none arising.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1** None in addition to those mentioned within the report.

9. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 9.1** An effective Committee structure and decision-making process is critical for the Council to deliver its corporate priorities.



9.2 If appointments were not made, this could delay decision-making within the Council.

10. EQUALITIES IMPACT

10.1 Council is advised of the need to promote equality when appointing to committees.

11. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 None.

(END)

Annex A: Political proportionalities on committees – May 2026

Seats on committees are allocated based on the principles set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (Section 15). The allocation of seats to political groups has been reviewed based on the political composition of the Council following the by-elections held on 22 January 2026 and 12 March 2026:

- Liberal Democrats Group: 22
Conservative Group: 10
- Green (non-grouped*): 1
- Independent (non-grouped*): 1

*Non-grouped members do not have an automatic entitlement to seats on committees but do stand to be offered any seats that remain unallocated once all groups have received their full proportional entitlement of seats.

Table 1: Final seat allocation as at Full Council 18 March 2026.

Committee	Seats	Lib Dems	Con	Green	Ind	Total	Balance
Overview and Scrutiny	10	6	3	1	0	10	0
Planning and Licensing	11	7	3	0	1	11	0
Performance and Appointments	7	5	2	0	0	7	0
Audit and Governance	7	5	2	0	0	7	0
Appeals	5	3	2	0	0	5	0
Total seats allocated	40	26	12	1	1	40	0
Rounded entitlement		26	12	N/A	N/A	38	-2
Real entitlement		25.88	11.76	N/A	N/A	37.64	-2.36
% of seats allocated		65.00	30.00	2.50	2.50	(100)	(0)

(End)

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Agenda Item 9



COTSWOLD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council name	COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL
Name and date of Committee	ANNUAL COUNCIL – 20 MAY 2026
Subject	APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2026/27
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Councillor Mike Evely, Leader of the Council Email: mike.evely@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Angela Claridge, Director of Governance (Monitoring Officer) Email: angela.claridge@cotswold.gov.uk
Report author	Nickie Mackenzie-Daste, Senior Democratic Services Officer Email: nickie.mackenzie-daste@cotswold.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	This report provides Council with a current list of appointments to Outside Bodies for the civic year 2026/27.
Annexes	Annex A – Representatives on Outside Bodies 2026/27 (to follow)
Recommendation(s)	That Council resolves to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirm the appointments to the Gloucestershire County Council Economic Strategy Scrutiny Committee and the Gloucestershire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in Annex A Table 1; 2. Note the appointments to outside bodies by the Leader of the Council in respect of executive functions, as set out in Annex A Table 2.
Corporate priorities	Supporting Communities
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO



COTSWOLD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Consultees/ Consultation	N/A
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report sets out the appointment to outside bodies.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Appointments to most outside bodies are the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, who makes such appointments annually in May.

2.2 The exception is the appointment to the Gloucestershire County Council Economic Strategy Scrutiny Committee and the Gloucestershire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee as these are non-executive committees for appointment by Council.

3. MAIN POINTS

3.1 The proposed appointments for 2026/27 are included in Annex A to this report.

4. GLOUCESTERHIRE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (LGR) JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL

4.1 Following engagement with Overview and Scrutiny Committees and their equivalents at all seven Gloucestershire councils between February and April this year, the majority preference was for the establishment of a Joint Scrutiny Panel, and this has been agreed by the Portfolio Board and LGR Steering Group.

4.2 A Joint Scrutiny Panel is a temporary cross-council scrutiny body established during LGR to provide democratic oversight of the transition to new authorities. It exists to ensure that major decisions taken during the reorganisation are properly scrutinised, even though existing councils are being abolished.

4.3 Constitutionally the panel will be hosted by Cheltenham Borough Council, but this will be supported, if required, by officers from across councils.

4.4 The agreed key principles for the Panel are:

- There is a clear commitment to meetings held in public while reserving right to meet in private if necessary
- The request is that each council nominates two representatives with the recommendation that these should include one representative from each of the two main parties (nominations are solely at the discretion of each council)
- There will be clear lines of reporting/feedback set out in Terms of Reference. Work on the Terms of Reference is starting imminently.



5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1** The Leader is free to make such appointments as they consider appropriate in respect of executive functions.
- 5.2** Council is free to appoint any non-executive member to the external non-executive committees.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1** Travel and subsistence allowances will be payable in respect of the majority of appointments made, if claimed.
- 6.2** Provision for this is included in the Council's budget.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1** None.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 8.1** None.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.1** None.

10. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1** There may be climate change implications arising from car travel to meetings of the outside bodies.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1** None.

(END)



COUNCIL MOTION FORM

Title of Motion: Protecting our Cotswolds hospitals

Motion: 2026/003

Proposer: Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

Seconder: Councillor Claire Bloomer

Rural community hospitals in the Cotswolds at Cirencester, Moreton, Fairford and Tetbury provide essential, accessible healthcare close to home. They ease pressure on larger hospitals such as Cheltenham and Gloucester, support older and recovering patients, and ensure that people in rural areas are not forced into long, difficult journeys for routine treatment and rehabilitation.

Any cuts, closures or "temporary" service changes at any of the Cotswolds' hospitals undermine this lifeline. When community hospitals lose services, patients face longer waits, families take on increased travel burdens and already stretched NHS services become even more strained. With thousands of new homes planned and an ageing population in the Cotswolds, we need *greater* investment in our rural hospitals, not further reductions.

We call on this Council to show its support for the future of Cotswolds' NHS services, for the Leader of the Council to write to Gloucestershire's NHS emphasising that all temporary withdrawals of services should be just that - temporary, not permanent and for our local hospitals to be used as much as possible.

That Full Council resolves to:

1. Request that the Leader of the Council write formally to Gloucestershire's NHS to seek assurances regarding the long-term future and sustainability local community hospital facilities emphasising that all temporary withdrawals of services should be just that - temporary, not permanent and to advocate for maximum utilisation of local community hospital facilities
2. Agree the vital role played by rural community hospitals in Cirencester, Moreton-in-Marsh, Fairford and Tetbury in providing accessible healthcare to residents of the Cotswolds

Council Meeting Date: 20 May 2026

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