



COTSWOLD
District Council

Friday, 21 November 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, 1 December 2025 at 2.00 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 - 20)
To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 5 November and 17 November 2025.
5. **Matters Arising from Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (Pages 21 - 22)
To consider actions outstanding from minutes of 5 November and 17 November 2025 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 23 - 26)

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

10. **Local Government Reorganisation - Reporting and Scrutiny arrangements**

Purpose

To consider and take advice on future arrangements for receiving information on the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) programme.

The discussion will cover:

Preferred frequency and depth of LGR reporting to the Committee.

The potential creation of a cross-council LGR Scrutiny Committee.

Lead Officer

Jane Portman – Interim Chief Executive Officer

11. **Public Toilet Update** (Pages 27 - 34)

Purpose

To provide and update on the public conveniences managed by Cotswold District Council.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience

Lead Officer

Maria Wheatley, Parking Manager

12. **Community Safety Partnership Update** (Pages 35 - 48)

Purpose

To update Overview and Scrutiny on Community Safety Activity and provide RAG rating against the 'Cotswold Community Safety Partnership' Plan for the period of November 2024 to November 2025.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience

Lead Officer

Joseph Walker, Head of Economic Development and Communities

13. **Long term empty homes/second homes strategy update** (Pages 49 - 72)

Purpose

To provide an update on the Long-Term Empty Property strategy work.

Cabinet Member

Councillor Juliet Layton, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Lead Officer

Mandy Fathers, Business Manager for Environmental, Welfare and Revenues

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