



COTSWOLD
District Council

**EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN
INCORPORATING NOTICE OF DECISIONS PROPOSED TO BE TAKEN IN PRIVATE
SESSION AND NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE A KEY DECISION**

Forward Plan – December – May 2025

The Forward Plan

By virtue of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, local authorities are required to publish a notice setting out the key executive decisions that will be taken at least 28 days before such decisions are to be taken. The Regulations also require notice to be given of any matter where it is proposed that the public will be excluded during consideration of the matter.

This Forward Plan incorporates both of these requirements. In the interests of transparency, it also aims to include details of those items to be debated by the Cabinet that relate to either policy/budget formulation, matters which will be subject to a recommendation to the Council, and other matters due to be considered by the Cabinet. This programme covers a period of four months, and will be updated on a monthly basis. The timings of items may be subject to change.

It should be noted that although a date not less than 28 clear days after the date of the notice is given in each case, it is possible that matters may be rescheduled to a date which is different from that given provided, in the cases of key decisions and matters to be considered in private, that the 28 day notice has been given. In this regard, please note that agendas and reports for Meetings of the Cabinet are made available on the [Council's Web Site](#) – five working days in advance of the Meeting in question. Please also note that the agendas for Meetings of the Cabinet will also incorporate a necessary further notice which is required to be given in relation to matters likely to be considered with the public excluded.

There are circumstances where a key decision can be taken, or a matter may be considered in private, even though the 28 clear days' notice has not been given. If that happens, notice of the matter and the reasons will be published on the Council's Web Site, and available from the Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 1PX.

Key Decisions

The Regulations define a key decision as an executive decision which is likely –

(a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or

(b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the authority.

In financial terms, the Council has decided that a key decision is any executive decision which requires a budget expenditure of £150,000 or more, or one which generates savings of £150,000 or more.

A key decision may only be made in accordance with the Cabinet Procedure Rules contained within the Council's Constitution.

Matters To Be Considered in Private

The great majority of matters considered by the Council's Cabinet are considered in 'open session' when the public have the right to attend.

However, some matters are considered with the public excluded. The public may only be excluded if a resolution is passed to exclude them. The grounds for exclusion are limited to situations where confidential or exempt information may be disclosed to the public if present and, in most cases involving exempt information, where in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. The definitions of these are set out in the Council's Constitution.

Documents and Queries

Formal reports presented relating to any executive decision will be available on the Council's Web Site at least five working days in advance of the Meeting at which the decision is to be made (except insofar as they contain confidential and/or exempt information).

The Decision Notice for each key decision will be published as soon as reasonably practicable after it has been made. We will seek to do this within five working days of the date of the decision. The Decision Notice will be available for public inspection on the Council's Web Site, and at the Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 1PX.

If you have any questions about the Forward Plan, or if you wish to make representations about any of the matters contained within it, please contact the Council's Democratic Services Team. The Democratic Services Team can also, on request, provide copies of, or extracts from, documents listed in the Plan and any which subsequently become available (subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure).

Contact Details:

Democratic Services, Cotswold District Council, Trinity Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1PX

E-mail: democratic@cotswold.gov.uk **Telephone:** 01285 623000 **Website:** www.cotswold.gov.uk

The Council's Executive Arrangements

The Council currently operates the Strong Leader and Cabinet form of governance.

By law, the Cabinet can comprise a Leader of the Council, together with up to nine other Members to be appointed by the Leader (one of whom has to be appointed as Deputy Leader). The Leader will be elected by the Council, for a four-year term; and the Deputy Leader appointment is also for a four-year term.

The Cabinet at Cotswold District Council currently comprises a Leader, a Deputy Leader, and six other Cabinet Members. The structure is as set out in the table below.

Executive decisions are taken either collectively by the Cabinet or individually by Cabinet Members.

The Cabinet generally meets monthly; whereas decision-making by individual Cabinet Members occurs on an 'as and when needed' basis.

Decisions of the Cabinet and individual Cabinet Members are subject to scrutiny by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Joe Harris	Leader	Coordination of executive functions, Policy framework including the corporate plan, Publica, Council communications, Democratic services, Housing and homelessness, Clean and green campaign and street cleaning, Town and Parish Council liaison
Mike Evemy (Deputy Leader)	Finance	Financial strategy and management, Property and assets, Waste and recycling, Revenues and benefits, Grants, Public toilets, UBICO
Mike McKeown	Climate Change and Sustainability	Climate and biodiversity emergency response, Community energy, Sustainable transport, Retrofit, Council sustainability
Tony Dale	Economy and Council Transformation	Business transformation, Local Enterprise Partnership and county-wide partnerships, Economic development, Tourism and visitor information centres, Chamber of Commerce liaison, Customer experience and channel shift
Juliet Layton	Planning and Regulatory Services	Development management, Forward planning and the local plan, Heritage and design management, Environmental and regulatory services, Cotswold Water Park
Paul Hodgkinson	Health, Leisure and Parking	Public health, Mental health, Car parking operations and strategy, Leisure centres, Museums, Culture, Young people
Lisa Spivey	Communities and Public Safety	Improving social mobility and social isolation, Flooding and sewage, Safeguarding, Domestic abuse, Police liaison and crime, Refugees, Crowdfund Cotswold, Member Development
Claire Bloomer	Cost of Living and Inclusion	Cost of living support, Liaison with 3 rd sector, Diversity and inclusion, Supporting women and minorities

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
5 December 2024 - Cabinet						
Service Performance Report 2024-25 Quarter Two	No	Open	Cabinet	5 Dec 2024	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Alison Borrett, Senior Performance Analyst Alison.Borrett@publicagroup.uk
Financial Performance Report 2024-25 Quarter Two	No	Open	Cabinet	5 Dec 2024	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation - Cllr Mike Every	Michelle Burge, Chief Accountant michelle.burge@publicagroup.uk
Low Income Families Tracker (LIFT)	No	Open	Cabinet	5 Dec 2024	Cabinet Member for Communities - Cllr Claire Bloomer	Mandy Fathers, Business Manager for Environmental, Welfare and Revenue Service Mandy.Fathers@publicagroup.uk
Asset Management Plan - Adoption of Asset Plans	Yes	Fully exempt Likely to contain	Cabinet	5 Dec 2024	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation - Cllr	Claire Locke, Interim Executive Director Claire.Locke@publicagroup.uk

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
		commercially and financially sensitive information			Mike Every	
9 January 2025 - Cabinet						
Business Rates Relief 2025/2026, retail, hospitality and leisure scheme	Yes	Open	Cabinet Council	9 Jan 2025 22 Jan 2025	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation - Cllr Mike Every	Mandy Fathers, Business Manager for Environmental, Welfare and Revenue Service Mandy.Fathers@publicagroup.uk
Disabled Facilities Grants Policy Update	No	Open	Cabinet	9 Jan 2025	Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning - Cllr Juliet Layton	Paula Massey, Customer Enabling Manager Paula.Massey@publicagroup.uk
Focussed public consultation (regulation 18) on additional new Local Plan policies	Yes	Open	Cabinet Council	9 Jan 2025 22 Jan 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Matthew Britton, Interim Forward Planning Lead matthew.britton@cotswold.gov.uk

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
Review of Parking Charges and Season Tickets	No	Open	Cabinet	9 Jan 2025	Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience - Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Maria Wheatley, Shared Parking Manager maria.wheatley@cotswold.gov.uk
Financial Performance Report - Q2 2024/25 (Update)	No	Open	Cabinet	9 Jan 2025	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation - Cllr Mike Evely	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer David.Stanley@cotswold.gov.uk
Counter Fraud and Enforcement Unit Collaboration Agreement	No	Open	Cabinet Council	9 Jan 2025 22 Jan 2025	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation - Cllr Mike Evely	Emma Cathcart, Head of Service, Counter Fraud and Enforcement Unit emma.cathcart@cotswold.gov.uk
Contract Award for the Parking ICT system	No	Fully exempt	Cabinet	9 Jan 2025	Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience - Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Maria Wheatley, Shared Parking Manager maria.wheatley@cotswold.gov.uk
Corinium Museum Collections	No	Open	Cabinet	9 Jan 2025	Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and	Joseph Walker, Head of Economic Development

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
Development and Human Remains policies					Visitor Experience - Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	and Communities joseph.walker@cotswold.gov.uk
22 January 2025 - Full Council						
Community Governance Review - Upper Rissington	No	Open	Council	22 Jan 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Sarah Dalby, Elections Manager sarah.dalby@cotswold.gov.uk
Moreton-in-Marsh Working Group Membership	Yes	Open	Council	22 Jan 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Matthew Britton, Interim Forward Planning Lead matthew.britton@cotswold.gov.uk
Programme of Meetings	No	Open	Council	22 Jan 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Caleb Harris, Senior Democratic Services Officer caleb.harris@cotswold.gov.uk
6 February 2025 - Cabinet						

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
Budget 2025/26 and Medium Term Financial Strategy	Yes	Open	Cabinet Council	6 Feb 2025 26 Feb 2025	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation - Cllr Mike Every	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer David.Stanley@cotswold.gov.uk
UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund update	Yes	Open	Cabinet	6 Feb 2025	Cabinet Member for Economy and Environment - Cllr Tristan Wilkinson	Paul James, Economic Development Lead paul.james@cotswold.gov.uk
26 February 2025 - Full Council						
6 March 2025 - Cabinet						
Publica Transition Plan - Phase 2	Yes	Open	Cabinet Council	6 Mar 2025 19 Mar 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Robert Weaver, Chief Executive robert.weaver@cotswold.gov.uk Chief Executive Officer
19 March 2025 - Full Council						

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
3 April 2025 - Cabinet						
Financial Performance Report 2024-25 Quarter Three	No	Open	Cabinet	3 Apr 2025	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation - Cllr Mike Every	Michelle Burge, Chief Accountant michelle.burge@publicagroup.uk
Service Performance Report 2024-25 Quarter Three	No	Open	Cabinet	3 Apr 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Alison Borrett, Senior Performance Analyst Alison.Borrett@publicagroup.uk
8 May 2025 - Cabinet						
21 May 2025 - Full Council						
Record of Attendance 2024/25	No	Open	Council	21 May 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Caleb Harris, Senior Democratic Services Officer caleb.harris@cotswold.gov.uk
Outside Body Appointments	No	Open	Council	21 May 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Caleb Harris, Senior Democratic Services

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
2025/26						Officer caleb.harris@cotswold.gov.uk
Appointment of Committees 2025/26	No	Open	Council	21 May 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Caleb Harris, Senior Democratic Services Officer caleb.harris@cotswold.gov.uk
Key decisions delegated to officers						
Decision on future regeneration of The Old Station and Memorial Cottages, Cirencester	Yes	Fully exempt Likely to contain commercially sensitive information	Deputy Chief Executive (Chief Finance Officer) Cabinet Council	25 Jul 2024 31 Jul 2024	Deputy Leader - Cabinet Member for Finance - Cllr Mike Evemy	Deputy Chief Executive (Chief Finance Officer) Claire Locke, Interim Executive Director Claire.Locke@publicagroup.uk
UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund update	Yes	Open	Cabinet Chief Executive Officer	11 Jan 2024 6 Mar 2024	Cabinet Member for Economy and Council Transformation - Cllr Tony Dale	Paul James, Economic Development Lead paul.james@cotswold.gov.uk

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
Rural England Prosperity Fund	Yes	Open	Cabinet Chief Executive Officer	17 Jul 2023 19 Mar 2024	Cabinet Member for Economy and Council Transformation - Cllr Tony Dale	Paul James, Economic Development Lead paul.james@cotswold.gov.uk Robert Weaver, Chief Executive robert.weaver@cotswold.gov.uk
Disposal of Property in Bourton on the Water	Yes	Open	Deputy Chief Executive (Chief Finance Officer) Cabinet	9 May 2024	Deputy Leader - Cabinet Member for Finance - Cllr Mike Evemy	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer David.Stanley@cotswold.gov.uk Jasmine McWilliams, Estates Manager jasmine.mcwilliams@publicagroup.uk