



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**

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	Communications; Democratic Services; Executive functions and Corporate Plan delivery; Forward Planning and the Local Plan; Publica; Town and Parish Council liaison.
Mike Evely (Deputy Leader)	Finance	Council transformation; Financial strategy and management; Grant funding and Crowdfund Cotswold; Property and Assets; Revenues and Benefits.
Mike McKeown	Climate Change and Sustainability	Climate and biodiversity emergency response; Community energy; Council sustainability; Energy efficiency programme; Sustainable transport.
Juliet Layton	Housing and Planning	Cotswold Lakes (formerly known as Cotswold Water Park); Development Management, Heritage and Conservation; Homelessness; Neighbourhood Planning; Regulatory Services – planning and building control; Strategic Housing.
Paul Hodgkinson	Health, Leisure and Visitor Experience	Community Safety Partnership; Culture; Leisure Centres; Museums; Parking Strategy and Operations; Public Health; Tourism.
Claire Bloomer	Communities	Cost of living support; Diversity, inclusion and young people; Domestic Abuse; Liaison with 3 rd sector; Refugee and Asylum Response; Safeguarding.
Tristan Wilkinson	Economy and Environment	Economic Development; Flooding; Sewage; Street Cleaning; UBICO; Waste and Recycling.

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Exemption Class	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
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 Evey	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
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 Evey	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer David.Stanley@cotswold.gov.uk

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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 Evey	Emma Cathcart, Head of Service, Counter Fraud and Enforcement Unit emma.cathcart@cotswold.gov.uk
Corinium Museum Collections Development and Human Remains policies	No	Open	Cabinet	9 Jan 2025	Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience - Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	Joseph Walker, Head of Economic Development and Communities joseph.walker@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
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	Yes	Open	Council	22 Jan 2025	Leader of the Council -	Matthew Britton, Interim

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Working Group Membership					Cllr Joe Harris	Forward Planning Lead matthew.britton@cotswold.gov.uk
Programme of Meetings	No	Open	Council	22 Jan 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Andrew Brown, Head of Democratic and Electoral Services andrew.brown@cotswold.gov.uk
Amendments to the Constitution - Report of the Constitution Working Group	No	Open	Council	22 Jan 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Andrew Brown, Head of Democratic and Electoral Services andrew.brown@cotswold.gov.uk
6 February 2025 - Cabinet						
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 Evely	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer David.Stanley@cotswold.gov.uk
UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural	Yes	Open	Cabinet	6 Feb 2025	Cabinet Member for Economy and	Paul James, Economic Development Lead

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England Prosperity Fund update					Environment - Cllr Tristan Wilkinson	paul.james@cotswold.gov.uk
Focussed public consultation (regulation 18) on additional new Local Plan policies	Yes	Open	Cabinet Council	6 Feb 2025 26 Feb 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Matthew Britton, Interim Forward Planning Lead matthew.britton@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
Ubico Business Plan 2025-26	No	Open	Cabinet	6 Mar 2025	Cabinet Member for Economy and Environment - Cllr	Simon Anthony, Business Manager for Environmental Services

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					Tristan Wilkinson	Simon.Anthony@publicagroup.uk
19 March 2025 - Full Council						
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 Evely	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 – no items currently scheduled						
21 May 2025 - Full Council						
Record of Attendance 2024/25	No	Open	Council	21 May 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Andrew Brown, Head of Democratic and

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						Electoral Services andrew.brown@cotswold.gov.uk
Outside Body Appointments 2025/26	No	Open	Council	21 May 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Andrew Brown, Head of Democratic and Electoral Services andrew.brown@cotswold.gov.uk
Appointment of Committees 2025/26	No	Open	Council	21 May 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Joe Harris	Andrew Brown, Head of Democratic and Electoral Services andrew.brown@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)	Before 31 Dec 2025	Deputy Leader - Cabinet Member for Finance - Cllr Mike Evemy	Claire Locke, Interim Executive Director Claire.Locke@publicagroup.uk
UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural	Yes	Open	Chief Executive Officer	Before 31 Dec 2025	Cabinet Member for Economy and Council	Paul James, Economic Development Lead

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England Prosperity Fund update					Transformation - Cllr Tony Dale	paul.james@cotswold.gov.uk
Rural England Prosperity Fund	Yes	Open	Chief Executive Officer	Before 31 Dec 2025	Cabinet Member for Economy and Council Transformation - Cllr Tony Dale	Paul James, Economic Development Lead paul.james@cotswold.gov.uk
Disposal of Property in Bourton on the Water	Yes	Open	Deputy Chief Executive (Chief Finance Officer)	Before 31 Dec 2025	Deputy Leader - Cabinet Member for Finance - Cllr Mike Evey	Jasmine McWilliams, Estates Manager jasmine.mcwilliams@publicagroup.uk