



Council name	COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL
Name and date of Committee	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 30 NOVEMBER 2021
Report Number	AGENDA ITEM 12
Subject	EXTENSION TO SUPPORT SERVICES CONTRACT WITH PUBLICA GROUP (SUPPORT) LTD
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Cllr Joe Harris, Leader Email: joe.harris@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Robert Weaver, Chief Executive Officer Email: robert.weaver@cotswold.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	This report seeks the views of Overview & Scrutiny Committee at the “pre-decision” stage of an agenda item – “Extension to Support Services Contract with Publica Group (Support) Limited – that the Cabinet are due to consider on 6 December 2021.
Annexes	Cabinet Report - Extension to Support Services Contract with Publica Group (Support) Limited.
Recommendation(s)	<i>That Overview & Scrutiny Committee:</i> <i>(i) discuss the Cabinet report and identify any points to be presented before Cabinet, which could include alternative recommendations;</i> <i>(ii) delegates authority to the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee to provide the Committee’s feedback to Cabinet on 6 December 2021.</i>
Corporate priorities	The services provided by Publica Group (Support) Ltd support teams across the Council to deliver the Corporate Plan priorities.
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, interim Monitoring Officer, Interim Head of Legal Services,



1.0 MAIN POINTS

- 1.1** Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny recognise that in order for effective scrutiny to happen they need to work together for the benefit of the Council and to improve decision-making.
- 1.2** This report seeks the input of Overview & Scrutiny Committee at the “pre-decision” stage ie: before a decision is made by Cabinet.
- 1.3** The range of possible outcomes for this Committee may include support for a decision, a different view on the way forward, the flagging up of concerns, or a recommendation that the decision should be deferred pending further work. It does not mean that decisions will necessarily be changed or withdrawn, however it gives an opportunity for those decisions to be more informed.
- 1.4** Pre-decision scrutiny can be viewed as non-Cabinet Members performing a ‘critical friend’ role in relation to the Cabinet and their decision making process.
- 1.5** Pre-decision scrutiny does not replace decision-making. It is not intended to blur the lines of accountability, which will always rest with the Cabinet.

2.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 2.1** Service Specification for Support Services provided to Cotswold DC, Forest of Dean DC and West Oxfordshire DC, dated 25.10.2017