

Cheltenham Borough Council Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Meeting date: 12 January 2026

Meeting time: 6.00 pm

Meeting venue: Council Chamber - Municipal Offices

Membership:

Councillor Tabi Joy (Chair), Councillor Jackie Chelin (Vice-Chair), Councillor Graham Beale, Councillor Julia Chandler, Councillor Chris Day, Councillor Juan Carlos Garcia Clamp, Councillor Sandra Holliday, Councillor Hannah Healy, Councillor Martin Horwood and Councillor Stan Smith

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Contact: democraticservices@cheltenham.gov.uk

Phone: 01242 264 246

1 Apologies

2 Declarations of interest

3 Minutes of the last meeting (Pages 5 - 12)

Minutes of the meeting held on 29th September 2025.

4 Public and Member questions, calls for actions and petitions

There have been none received.

5 Cabinet Briefing

18:10 15 mins

Briefing from Councillor Hay, Leader (if she has an update, or if O&S Members have questions for her)

Objective: An update from the Cabinet on key issues for Cabinet Members which may be of interest to Overview and Scrutiny and may inform the work plan
To include a regular update on the Household Recycling Centre from the Leader/Cabinet Member Waste, Recycling and the public realm.

6 Enforcement of Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy (Pages 13 - 16) 18:25 30 mins

Objective : To understand, following the review of the sexual entertainment policy, how matters that fall under the policy are enforced.

Briefing paper by Licensing and Public Protection Manager Michelle Bignall

7 Feedback from other scrutiny meetings attended (Pages 17 - 20)

Gloucestershire Health O&S Committee 14th October summary included – 18th November to follow – update from Councillor Bamford

Gloucestershire Economic Strategy Scrutiny Committee 28th November – update from Councillor Orme – to follow.

Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel 25th November– update from Councillor Atherstone – to follow.

8 Updates from scrutiny task groups

There are currently no active scrutiny task groups

9 Review of scrutiny workplan (Pages 21 - 24)

To consider and approve the draft scrutiny work plan 2025/26

10 Any other item that the Chair determines to be urgent

11 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 6pm on 2nd March 2026.

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Cheltenham Borough Council Overview & Scrutiny Committee Minutes

Meeting date: 29 September 2025

Meeting time: 6.00 pm - 7.10 pm

In attendance:

Councillors:

Jackie Chelin (Vice-Chair), Graham Beale, Chris Day, Juan Carlos Garcia Clamp, Sandra Holliday, Martin Horwood and Stan Smith

Co-optees: Harry Booty, Margaret Cheung

Also in attendance:

Paul Jones (Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer)), Victoria Bishop (Head of Governance, Risk and Assurance), James Mogridge and Richard King (Construction Manager, Major Developments & Regeneration)

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Chandler, Healy and Joy.

2 Declarations of interest

With reference to Agenda item 7, Councillor Horwood said that his portfolio as Gloucestershire County Council Cabinet Member for Nature, Climate and Waste Reduction covers flooding, but he did not consider this to be prejudicial would therefore remain in the Chamber for that item.

3 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 07 July 2025 were approved by those who attended as a true record, and signed accordingly.

4 Public and Member questions, calls for actions and petitions

There were none.

5 Cabinet Briefing

The Leader reported on the following items:

- most of her time is currently spent on Local Government Reorganisation, working collaboratively with county councillors and other districts, sharing thoughts and ideas, and moving towards submission of the final business case by 28 November;
- the sale of the airport is still on track and moving in the right direction with the preferred bidder, with due diligence hopefully completed by the end of October;
- negotiations are also progressing with the preferred bidder for the Municipal Offices, and it is hoped that the deal will be signed soon;
- the first round of consultation on the governance review is complete – thanks to Head of Governance, Risk and Assurance and Councillor Chelin for their input – and after analysis, the next stage will be decided, to ensure all residents are represented. Feedback will be provided at December Council for debate;
- the resident survey is now complete, and the outcomes will also be shared with Council. It is clear and interesting how stronger residents identify with Cheltenham as a place.

In response to Members' questions, she confirmed that:

- parish councils will be advised on the outcome of the first round of consultation once the feedback and views provided have been collated; the next round will set out potential options and invite further feedback. The Head of Governance, Risk and Assurance confirmed that the draft recommendations would be taken to Council on 13 October, with the second public consultation, based on those discussions, from 20 October to 19 December. This information will be reviewed, with the final recommendations to Council early in 2026;
- there is no definite target date for the airport sale at present, but this will be as soon as possible after due diligence is complete at the end of October. There will be no financial settlement or benefit for the council until the end of the year.

6 Preventative Maintenance on Council assets and Community Leased Buildings

The Vice-Chair said this subject had been discussed at a working group and sparked a lot of questions. In the absence of the report author, the Deputy Chief Executive presented the report; the interim Director of Property was present to help answer questions, with any they cannot answer taken away for written responses in due course.

The Deputy Chief Executive said the report and appendices were self-explanatory, and commented that local government reorganisation was causing some uncertainty in the workforce, with several vacancies currently out to advert. With the Director of Finance, Property and Climate Emergency on maternity leave, he advised that he

will concentrate on the finance aspects of her role, with Richard King of the Golden Valley team stepping in to manage Property Services.

The following questions were taken away for written responses:

- *[follow-up to written Question 2]* If inspections have been carried out historically on an ad-hoc basis but not written down, why is it six months to the target date for the action point? If it is a case of just writing down what is being done, it should be faster than that?
- *[follow-up to written Question 6]* The asset management document puts a value of £32.71m against community assets - larger than what is in the statement of accounts – and it is not clear from the answer whether the difference is because we are using a different valuation basis, so we actually think assets are worth 32.7m more than what we have in books, or whether it is a case of things being put in different categories between the two documents. Have we got hidden assets of £30+m?
- *[follow-up to written Question 7]* Noting the 28% increase in spend on unplanned maintenance in figures provided – why did this happen and is it expected to continue to rise?
- Following on from the previous question: in answer to a written question on year-by-year budgeted spend - ignoring 2025-26 - against those budgeted figures, it looks like we had an underspend £565k across years. The previous question noted significant amounts for unplanned maintenance over several years. Although we are budgeting 600k, are we looking to that budget to *not* spend if we need to as a council overall and that is why we have an underspend there? This might be storing up problems for the future – though it depends on whether that interacts with unplanned maintenance spends. If we underspend on one and spend a lot elsewhere, where do we end up overall?

A Member was reassured to see a lot of maintenance items listed which fall within the Cheltenham Trust's portfolio - includes some of Cheltenham's most important and iconic assets - following a history of misunderstanding about who is responsible for what, and asked if discussions have moved towards more agreement about how this is planned going forward or whether it still remains a challenge. The Deputy Chief Executive said it all comes down to affordability: the council has £600k to spend on preventative maintenance on an annual basis as part of the base budget, but one or two significant projects could use up two years' budget in one go. The property team identifies three categories for maintenance, but health and safety has been the dominant issue recently and cost more than £600k over the last few years, due in part to the identification of RAAC at Leisure@. The property team knows what has to be done, including replacement of the running track at the Prince of Wales Stadium, but this cannot be funded from the existing budget.

7 Flood Risk Management and Prevention

James Mogridge, Flood Risk and Drainage Engineer, presented his report, which highlights how Cheltenham fits into a complex national arrangement of stakeholders and flood risk management responsibilities; the importance of cross-boundary collaboration; and mitigation measures put in place since 2007 to ensure the borough is better prepared and protected. No two rainfall events are the same, and climate change presents further challenges, but more can be done to improve resilience, with nature-based solutions such as SuDs schemes being used to slow down the flow of water through Cheltenham catchments, at the same time complementing other aspects of the climate emergency. He said the standard protection offered by some of our flood defences is expected to decrease over time, and we need to ensure that our decision-making around choosing cost-effective schemes is robust and well-informed.

Members welcomed his report, the positive level of cooperation between the county and the borough, and the emphasis on natural solutions.

In response to questions from members of the committee, the Flood Risk and Drainage Engineer stated that:

- the greenspace team has submitted a bid to the county council's £100k fund for natural flood risk management at community level, for a project in one of the town's parks;
- providing the right level of flood risk mitigation in planning is a tough balance: developers are currently required to design up to and including a 1-in-100 year event, set at a national scale, plus 40% local rainfall allowance for climate change which is set by the Environment Agency, but 2007 saw two high magnitude events occur in two weeks. Developers do need to ensure exceedance events (ie events greater than 1-in-100 plus 40% climate change) are appropriately managed in their design. Over-engineering for larger events could contribute to the problem by creating more emissions, with additional concrete, pipes and machinery. The local 40% allowance will be reviewed against UK climate trajectory and revised by the Environment Agency if required.

The Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency confirmed that national guidance has to be followed but noted that the heavy rainfall in September 2024 which flooded roads and one house and threatened many others in St Mark's ward was classed as a 1-in-74 year event. There are clearly gaps in the flood mitigation schemes shown on the map, and he will be talking to the county council about this soon.

He went on to say that modelling is available – super Clausius-Clapeyron scaling calculates that with a 1° increase in global temperature since 1975, a 7% increase in moisture in the atmosphere – and therefore rainfall – is to be expected, and the projection is a 48% increase by 2050, potentially increasing annual rainfall from 900mm in 1975 to 1350mm in 2050. It is important to keep focused on this.

In response to further questions from Members, the Flooding and Drainage Engineer said that:

- when the surface water management plan was commissioned by the county council, it identified the highest risk areas, and the most cost-effective flood schemes that could be put in place. Residents in areas of localised flooding should use the online flood reporting tool;
- if highways drains are not being properly maintained and causing surface water issues, this should be raised with the highways authority. It could be that the underlying sewers are undersized and unable to cope with the level of rainfall we are seeing now. The flood risk management team at the county council and the flood team at CBC can look further into infrastructure upgrades, taking a more natural approach if possible;
- while recognising that there are areas of Cheltenham where heavy rainfall causes great concern to residents, CBC and GCC teams are only likely to get involved only when homes or commercial buildings are at risk of flooding. Flooding on the highway is a nuisance and a safety concern, but this is an issue for Highways drainage teams rather than for flood risk management teams
- regarding budget for flood management work, the team has a recurring budget, to cover maintenance of water courses and flood schemes amongst other things, and the flood alleviation reserve can also be used for schemes – although this tends to be spent on large asset repairs, an important part of flood risk mitigation work, rather than building more smaller-scale schemes to be maintained. Any new schemes would therefore usually rely on funding such as natural flood management fund mentioned earlier.

The Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency added that CBC's flooding and drainage team tracks and collects videos of problem areas for evidence, and he will soon be calling for an update to the 2011 surface water flooding plan. He said there is a network of flood wardens across the town, suggesting that if councillors knew any residents who might be able to help, they should direct them to the website, where advice is also available to residents who are concerned about the risk of flooding to their homes.

The Vice-Chair noted that some areas of Cheltenham don't appear to have any flood wardens, and reiterated the suggestion that councillors should encourage their communities to volunteer.

Returning to Members' questions, the Flood and Drainage Engineer confirmed that:

- Warden Hill is very familiar to his team, with its location and lack of natural greenspace making it susceptible to flash flooding. A working group including borough and county councillors has been set up, and has seen some successes and SuDS schemes delivered by the Wildlife Trust, with more work to be done by Severn Trent on undersized sewers which cannot cope with flash flooding. His team is working with the parish council and planning department on engagement regarding the planning rules around tarmacking of driveways as it is hard for planning enforcement to keep pace with the number of residents who perhaps unwittingly carry out this type of work, unaware that impermeable solutions over a certain size are not allowed. The CBC flooding team has previously worked with Warden Hill Parish Council to deliver 1000 leaflets promoting the use of permeable solutions and greening of properties, and there are plans in place for similar engagement next year.

The Vice-Chair wondered if a flooding supplementary planning document would help. The Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency suggested that, having walked around Warden Hill recently and compared it with his own ward (St Mark's) where some paved driveways have been replaced with grass and hedges, maybe the parish council could get some sort of rotation going, encouraging Warden Hill residents to do the same.

In response to further questions, the Flood and Drainage Engineer confirmed that:

- regarding the impact of building houses on greenspace and where the excess surface water will go, developments such as at The Folly in St Paul's ward have to present modelling with a consultant as part of the planning application. This must show that any new impermeable surfaces are balanced, in that case by a pond that will hold water and release it slowly. Even smaller developments of 1-10 houses must now use hydraulic modelling software to demonstrate drainage measures, such as attenuation tanks or ponds depending on the size of the development;
- following on from a written question and whether the complex relationship between different organisations works well in a crisis situation, a flood event such as that in 2007 as communication is well co-ordinated across all management authorities (emergency planners being the point of contact for CBC). A call to the wrong authority would be quickly passed on during the event; the one-call system suggested would be useful for issues outside flood events (such as bank collapses, debris in waterways or blocked drains) incorporating a system to identify who is responsible and directing the call to the correct authority, but it is hard to say how this would be done or who would implement it at the moment;
- regarding public perception that a lot of problems arise from floodwater running into the sewage systems, in new development on greenfield sites, surface water would not be connected to the combined network; where a site already drains to a combined sewer, all other options are considered before discharging surface water to a combined sewer as a last resort. A lot of attenuation would be required in such instances to better what is already there;
- regarding incidents such as the severe flooding in January 2025 which closed the A40, emergency planners and on-call officers collaborate with neighbouring districts during such events, and if one district is affected where its neighbour is not, will offer resources to help.

The Vice-Chair welcomed the very thorough scrutiny of this subject, and said it was helpful for unparished areas to hear about the grants and schemes available for flood mitigation.

8 Overview and Scrutiny (O & S) Annual Report

The Vice-Chair said the committee was being asked to note the contents of the report, which shares what it and other scrutiny committees have been doing over the past year, as well as highlighting some of the items to be considered in the coming year. It will go to Full Council for approval on 13 October.

There were no comments from members.

9 Feedback from other scrutiny meetings attended

No meetings have taken place since the last meeting of Overview and Scrutiny. Feedback will be provided at the next meeting in November.

A Member commented that the continued closure of the maternity unit at Cheltenham General Hospital is a huge concern, and it is not acceptable that, with a population of 120k, Cheltenham women and unborn babies are put at risk by having to travel to Gloucester Royal in labour, when seconds can count. The NHS decision was originally made on immediate safety grounds, which should have been challenged by now. He hoped that HOSC would raise the high level of concern.

The Vice-Chair said that the O&S representative on HOSC is an ardent scrutineer, and it was agreed that the Member would speak to him direct about this serious issue.

10 Review of scrutiny workplan

Members had nothing to add on this occasion. An O&S planning session is scheduled for 04 November at 6.00pm.

11 Any other item that the Chair determines to be urgent

There were none.

12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 24 November.

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Briefing Note

Committee name: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 12 January 2026

Responsible officer: Michelle Bignell, Licensing and Public Protection Manager

This note provides information to keep Members informed of matters relating to the work of the Cabinet or a committee but where no decisions from Members are needed.

If Members have questions relating to matters shown, they are asked to contact the officer indicated.

1. Why has this come to Overview and Scrutiny Committee?

The committee have asked that a briefing paper is prepared to understand the enforcement and compliance work that is carried out with regards to Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs) and the policy/conditions that are attached to licences.

2. Background to SEVs

On 11 October 2010, Council approved the adoption of the amended provision of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (as amended by section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009) to take effect in the borough on 1 December 2010.

Since the adoption, any premises that want to offer “relevant entertainment” on a frequent basis can only do so by obtaining a SEV licence.

Relevant entertainment is defined as any live performance or any live display of nudity which is of such a nature that, ignoring financial gain, it must reasonably be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience (whether by verbal or other means).

Under the Act, premises can provide relevant entertainment on an infrequent basis without the need for a SEV licence. An infrequent basis is defined under the Act as no relevant entertainment has been provided on more than 11 occasions within a 12-month period and no such occasion has begun within a period of one month beginning with the end of the previous occasion, and no such occasion has lasted longer than 24 hours.

CBC's current [policy](#) was adopted in July 2020. This outlines the standard conditions applied to licences. These conditions cannot be imposed on a premises utilising the infrequency exemption.

3. Current licences

CBC has licensed two premises. Hours are as follows:

Under the Prom:

- November: Friday and Saturday, 8pm to 5am

- March: Monday 8pm to 5am and 6pm to 5am on other days

Mr Cambray's:

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- October: Friday and Saturday, 8pm to 5am
- November: Friday and Saturday, 8pm to 5am
- December: Friday and Saturday, 8pm to 5am
- January: New Years Day & Festive Trials and Saturday, 8pm to 5am
- March: Monday 8pm to 5am and 6pm to 5am on other days
- April: Friday and Saturday, 8pm to 5am the day following
- May: Friday, 8pm to 5am

Although licensed for these hours, the premises do not operate to the extent of these. Currently, both operate during the March festival and Under the Prom operates in November as well.

Both premises have applied to amend two standard conditions. These are subject to consultation with the police and a 28-day public consultation. Both licences are renewed annually and, due to public objections, are subject to a licensing sub-committee determination.

4. Engagement with the licence holders

The operators of the SEVs work closely with the licensing authority and the police. They are engaging with nightsafe and attend the police briefings held on the evenings of race days.

Both premises have hosted visits by licensing committee members so that they can observe the set up of the premises and talk to performers about the work that they do and ensure that they feel safe.

The operators have also signed up to a voluntary code of practice over and beyond licence conditions. These can be seen at Appendix 2 of the policy.

5. Compliance inspections

The licensing team carry out proactive work over the period that the licensed venues are operating. The team inspect the premises to ensure that all conditions are being complied with, involving thorough inspections of records, CCTV and observing booths.

The team would usually be accompanied by the police licensing officer. However, this position has been vacant since 2024. It is planned to fill this position in the new year, and partnership working will be reinstated.

6. Unlicensed premises

The team have also worked with venues using the infrequency exemption meeting with the operators prior to the set up to educate them on the conditions imposed on licensed venues and to encourage them to promote these.

Operators are also open to notifying the licensing team when they will be operating so that we can update the police.

7. Differences between licensed/unlicensed premises

It has been observed by both officers and members the stark differences between the two types of venues. These include cash payments instead of being paid by cheque, tariffs agreed directly with the performer rather than a tariff which is the same for all, touching has been witnessed alongside lack of CCTV coverage and SIA presence. All of these jeopardise safety of the performers.

Whilst we have enforcement powers over the licensed venues and can ensure that the premises are run safely, there are no powers for the unlicensed venues.

8. Any breaches of the licence may result in enforcement action. This would be carried out in line with the [Corporate Enforcement Policy](#).

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Report to November 2025 Meeting of CBC Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Summary of 14th October 2025 Meeting of GCC Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

A full recording of this meeting is available in the meetings section of the GCC website. The agenda reports pack which includes presentations is also available on this website with the SWAST report attached separately. At the time of writing this report the minutes were not yet available.

1. Scrutiny Items –

1.1 South Western Ambulance Service Update

The ambulance service are using community first responders more frequently and fire co-responders less because the former are, on average, significantly quicker at getting to an emergency.

This is particularly significant in rural areas where category 1 & 2 response times from full ambulance crews are inevitably slower on average than in more built up areas. In these rural settings community first responders are invaluable with many lives having been saved as this service has developed

There are 33 (paid) fire co-responders but the plan is to phase their use by the ambulance service out as the community first responder network becomes complete. However, this does not mean the fire and ambulance services have stopped working together as has been suggested of the local media.

2. Information Items – see presentations for full details:

2.1 Gloucestershire Urgent and Emergency Care Winter Assurance Plan

See slide presentation for high level information about plans across all health services in the county. This came across as more like a description of aspirations rather than a detailed set of actions about how these will be achieved.

2.2 Gloucestershire Maternity Services Update

The committee received an update on the current delivery of services as well as a detailed presentation on the review of services and subsequent publication of the NHS Gloucestershire Neonatal & Maternal Mortality report (published on 8th Sept 2025).

The committee also received an update on the temporary closure of the Cheltenham Aveta Centre for Births (all other maternity are still provided there) as well as some post-natal maternity services at Stroud hospital.

These closures will remain in place whilst the ICB conducts a maternity health needs assessment to inform any case for change. The needs assessment involves a review of

nationally available data and trends, and the evidence base for what works in terms of quality and safety. Initial findings from the needs assessment include that overall birth rates are down, whilst the number of women having an induction has been increasing in Gloucestershire with 39% in May 2025 compared to 31% in April 2022, which is in line with national figures. The number of spontaneous vaginal births have been decreasing over time, whilst the number of elective and emergency Caesarean sections have been increasing, both nationally and within Gloucestershire (45.27% in May 2025 compared to 34.99% in April 2022). The change in Caesarean rates has required a significant change in the resource needed, such as an increase in obstetric consultant time and an increase in theatre sessions. Other changes have been seen in national demographic trends, such as an increasing age of women giving birth, leading to more complexity. In addition, studies suggest that up to 46.2% of pregnant women have multimorbidity (two or more long-term health conditions). The intention is to align maternity needs with national and local situation to improve outcomes and experiences, particularly by tackling health inequalities that continue to be a problem.

2.3 Gloucestershire Integrated Care System (ICS) Performance Report

National rankings for acute and community NHS providers have been published, with local providers achieving above average results. Gloucestershire Hospitals Foundation Trust has been ranked 17th out of 134 NHS Acute Trusts nationally, while Gloucestershire Health and Care Trust ranked 21st out of 61 community and mental health trusts

The Hospitals Trust has also received national recognition for being the 6th most improved in respect of long waits in A&E. At a time when figures have been generally getting worse and when demand has continued to escalate, 12 hour waits reduced from 14% of attendances in 2023/24 to 8.9% currently. Clearly still a horrible experience for a very large number of patients but it is vindication for the changes made to the A&E patient pathway which have at times received adverse comment including from HOSC members.

At the start of 2024/25 there were 3000 patients waiting over 52 weeks for their procedure that figure is now down to 137 or 0.2% of the total waiting list. However, only 71% of elective patients hit the 18 week wait which represented some movement towards the interim 73% target but is still some way away from the actual target of 92%

Performance against all the Cancer Waiting Times (CWTs) is good with the ongoing exception of the 62-day target from referral to first definitive treatment but even in this area there has been notable improvement with 78.0% of patients meeting the target in July against an interim target of 70%. The prostate pathway continues to be the most problematic with 31 of the 68 breaches in the most recent month for which information is available.

ICB and GCC are collaboratively developing the Gloucester City Dental Access Centre which will be made up of seven treatment rooms at Quayside House. The Centre will provide daytime, evening and weekend urgent care appointments for patients alongside

appointments to stabilise dental health with follow-up appointments where needed. These appointments will be accessible via NHS 111.

In diagnostics patients waiting over 6 weeks for investigations has increased from 2686 in 2024/25 to 4407 waiting now. Colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, echocardiography have seen the biggest rises recently. Improvement plans are in place but I'm aware of particular issues staffing in echocardiography. It should be noted that referrals for many diagnostic services have increased substantially since the pandemic, keeping pace with this growth is far from easy.

An astonishing 410,180 appointments were delivered in general practice in July 2025. Whilst the registered population has increased by 6% since 2019/20, appointment activity has increased by 26%.

2.4 NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board (ICB) Update – this report is divided into 3 sections

- Section 1 an update on national and local commissioning issues focusing mostly on this occasion on the new national 10-year health plan and its implication for Gloucestershire as well as the 3 temporary changes described in the appendices.
- Section 2 an update on primary care issues from the commissioner perspective, focussing this time on dental health provision
- Section 3 an update from the 2 provider Trusts; Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust (GHC), Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (GHT)

The 4 changes detailed in the appendices are as follows :

- i. The first temporary change relating to Community Hospitals is to develop services provided at Cirencester Hospital to provide care to patients with more complex needs.
- ii. The second temporary change also relating to Community Hospitals involves using ten existing community hospital beds to provide a short stay in a community hospital for people who have deteriorated at home and need a longer assessment and review by a multi-disciplinary team.
- iii. The third change involves testing whether by bringing together specialist teams, equipment and best practice in a more focused way in fewer locations care could be improved. • Tewkesbury will continue to undertake Ophthalmology, ENT and Orthopaedic day cases • Stroud will continue to undertake Breast Surgery, Gynaecology surgery with plans to introduce urology surgery during the test period • Other specialties which are currently performed at the three community theatre sites will be centralised during the test period at Gloucestershire Royal or Cheltenham General. To make this possible, theatre activity in Cirencester will pause for six months during the test.

- iv. In order to replace the fire infrastructure system in the Tower at GRH (which is outdated and no longer sustainable) there is a need to carry out works on each ward within the Tower. The plan is to empty two wards on a floor of the Tower and to use this as a decant space, enabling the contractors to upgrade two wards, one floor, at a time. It is estimated that the work will take approx. 4-6 months per floor (overall approx. 3-4 years to complete the Tower wards). To create the decant floor it is planned to:
- a) Temporarily move Neurology services (including the Neurology Ward, Brain Injury and Neuro therapy) from GRH to Prescott Ward at CGH.
 - b) Reconfigure existing medical wards at GRH to take some general medical patients currently housed in the Tower and
 - c) create a system to support patients who are fit to leave hospital to move to the most appropriate setting, whether that's at home or in another community setting.
- Once these actions are completed, each floor in the Tower will be temporarily moved into the decant floor to enable works to be carried out. Unfortunately, this will mean a reduction of approximately 20 to 30 medical beds at GRH and will undoubtedly place additional strain on an already very stretched flow of emergency patients in Gloucestershire requiring a medical bed in an acute setting.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Draft Work Plan 2025/2026

Title	Objective	Format	Officer/Interested Party/Partner			
12 th January 2026						
Enforcement of Sexual Entertainment Venue	To understand, following the review of the sexual entertainment policy, how matters that fall under the policy are enforced	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Licensing and Public Protection Manager or Head of Public Protection – Michelle Bignall or Louis Krog			
2 nd March 2026						
Update on the Golden Valley Social Value Strategy	To be established, follow up to previous update and social inclusion strategies for partners	Information/Dis cussion paper	Director of Major Developments and Regeneration – Paul Minnis			
Culture Board	To share the updated terms of reference for the culture board, and assessing success against this terms of reference	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Head of Communities, Wellbeing and Partnerships - Richard Gibson			
Youth Engagement Policy	To update O&S on progress being made by No Child Left Behind to deliver a year of youth action	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Head of Communities, Wellbeing and Partnerships - Richard Gibson			
30 th March 2026						
Community Governance Review	To receive an update on the progress of Cheltenham's community governance	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Director of Governance, Housing and Communities – Claire Hughes			

	review, the provisional recommendations, latest thinking on the prospects for a new town council and how we would resolve council tax discrepancies between this and the existing C5 if the new town council took on any townwide responsibilities such as twinning, arts and culture or the ceremonial mayoralty.					
6 th July 2026						
Equalities, Diversities & Inclusion Policy	An annual update and review of implementation	Information/Dis cussion paper	Director of Governance, Housing and Communities – Claire Hughes			
Safeguarding – Safety for Women and Girls in the Borough	To update O&S on the work being carried out by the Cheltenham community safety partnership in response to the “Your experiences, your voice – Life in Cheltenham for young women” report and event	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Safeguarding and Partnerships Manager – Tracy Brown			
September 2026 (TBC)						

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Draft Work Plan 2025/2026

UBICO Update	To receive the annual UBICO report and update	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Head of Environmental and Bereavement Services – Karen Watson			
Charging for replacement recycling bins and bags – update a year on	To receive an update on the implementation of the scheme and understand any community feedback. The report would look to cover the following: changes in volumes of receptacles being issued; any increase in fly tipping ; reasons for changes made to charging schedule (from 1 Jan 2025); lessons learned, and any unexpected challenges experienced and how they were overcome.	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Head of Environmental and Bereavement Services – Karen Watson			
November 2026 (TBC)						
2026						
Digital Roadmap for Customer Interaction	To understand what will be included in the Digital Roadmap for customer interaction and how this will improve the customer experience	Information/Dis cussion paper	Head of Commercial and Income Generation			
Draft Procurement Strategy	To consider the emerging CBC procurement strategy	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Strategic Procurement Manager			

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Strategic and Local Plan	To bring an update on the strategic and local plan	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Planning Policy Manager			
S106	To look at the process of consulting on, making, defending and enforcing section 106 agreements, particularly with reference to the April 2022 report by cabinet to build enhanced transparency and engagement with ward members (recommendation 6 relating to section 6 of the report Decision - Community Infrastructure Levy Governance & Section 106 engagement - Modern Council (cheltenham.gov.uk))	Information/Dis cussion Paper	Head of Planning or Director of Community and Economic Development - Chris Gomm or Tracey Birkenshaw			