

# Cheltenham Borough Council Council

**Meeting date:** 20 July 2026

**Meeting time:** 2.30 pm

**Meeting venue:** Council Chamber - Municipal Offices

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## **Membership:**

Councillors Martin Horwood (Chair), Glenn Andrews, Victoria Atherstone, Paul Baker, Adrian Bamford, Garth Barnes, Graham Beale, Angie Boyes, Jackie Chelin, Barbara Clark, Julia Chandler, Flo Clucas, Mike Collins (Vice-Chair), Ashleigh Davies, Chris Day, Cathy Dearden, Iain Dobie, Callum Eldridge, Jan Foster, Steve Harvey, Rowena Hay, Cecily Henderson, Sandra Holliday, Jamie Jamieson, Peter Jeffries, Tabi Joy, Richard Lawler, Alisha Lewis, Tony Oliver, Dr Helen Pemberton, Richard Pineger, Karen Priest, Julie Sankey, Stan Smith, Arthur Snell, Dr Steve Steinhardt, Izaak Tailford, Julian Tooke, Simon Wheeler and Suzanne Williams

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**Contact:** [democraticservices@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@cheltenham.gov.uk)

**Phone:** 01242 264 246

**1 Apologies**

**2 Declarations of interest**

**3 Minutes of the last meeting (Pages 3 - 34)**

Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2026

**4 Communications by the Mayor**

**5 Communications by the Leader of the Council**

**6 To receive petitions**

**7 Public Questions**

These must be received no later than 12 noon on Thursday, 8 July 2026

**8 Member Questions**

These must be received no later than 12 noon on Thursday, 8 July 2026.

**9 General Fund & Housing Revenue Account Outturn Report 2025-26 (Pages 35 - 74)**

Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Assets

**10 Delegation of planning enforcement to Gloucestershire County Council (Pages 75 - 88)**

Report of the Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control

**11 Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026-28 (Pages 89 - 112)**

Report of the Cabinet Member for Safety and Communities

**12 Notice of Motions (Pages 113 - 120)**

Motion received from Councillor Foster

**13 Any other item the Mayor determines as urgent and which requires a decision**

Gareth Edmundson  
Chief Executive



# Cheltenham Borough Council Council Minutes

**Meeting date:** 22 June 2026

**Meeting time:** 2.30 pm - 3.45 pm

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**In attendance:**

**Councillors:**

Martin Horwood (Chair), Glenn Andrews, Victoria Atherstone, Paul Baker, Adrian Bamford, Graham Beale, Angie Boyes, Jackie Chelin, Barbara Clark, Julia Chandler, Flo Clucas, Mike Collins (Vice-Chair), Chris Day, Cathy Dearden, Iain Dobie, Callum Eldridge, Jan Foster, Steve Harvey, Rowena Hay, Sandra Holliday, Jamie Jamieson, Peter Jeffries, Richard Lawler, Alisha Lewis, Richard Pineger, Karen Priest, Arthur Snell, Dr Steve Steinhardt, Izaak Tailford, Simon Wheeler and Suzanne Williams

**Also in attendance:**

Claire Hughes (Director of Governance, Housing and Communities), Gareth Edmundson (Chief Executive) and Adele Taylor (Interim Director of Finance and Operations (S151 Officer))

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## 1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Barnes, Davies, Henderson, Joy, Pemberton, Sankey, Smith and Tooke.

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor sent sympathy to Councillor Smith, following his recent bereavement.

## 2 Declarations of interest

The Mayor declared an interest in Agenda item 10, having been involved in the process from the start. He said he would withdraw during the debate.

Councillor Beale also declared an interest in Agenda item 10, as a Member of the parish council.

### **3 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 04 June were approved without amendments, and signed by the Mayor as a true record.

### **4 Communications by the Mayor**

The Mayor reported on a full first month in office, having attended more than 12 events, including meetings with Cheltenham Housing Aid Centre, the Samaritans and the Ukrainian Business Forum, and celebrations of D-Day and the launch of the Heritage Action Plan and map, a great initiative which celebrates Cheltenham's history and heritage. The Cheltenham Education Partnership event on climate change was a fantastic collaboration with schools from all sectors, and a fashion show at the University of Gloucestershire a stunning showcase of talented young people. He also attended degree shows and prize-givings, and the U3A Open Day.

### **5 Communications by the Leader of the Council**

The Leader shared the following updates:

- OneLegal has been highly commended in the 'Excellence in Training' category for lawyers in local government; it is good to be acknowledged nationally and publicly, and a credit to the investment of the legal team, led by Shahzia Daya, in 'growing our own';
- it is exciting to have reached an important milestone in the Golden Valley journey, with all primary conditions met and work ready to commence in July. Huge thanks to all the officers and Members involved;
- a recent networking event at the MX brought many businesses and charities together under the Golden Valley Social Value Charter, with over 100 participants making valuable connections to help drive this forward. Thanks to Jack at HBD and Amy from CBC for pulling this together;
- Members were briefed at the last Council meeting on the government's decision on the statutory change order and its invitation to councils to submit their thoughts by 16 July. The seven Gloucestershire councils have collated their thoughts in one document, which is being shared with Members (attached); all responses reflect a consistent preference for a clear, collaborative and streamlined approach to LGR across the county. Summarising the response, she said that CBC supports:
  - in the case of a single unitary, the creation of a new council operating through the joint committee model rather than a preparing council and implementation executive, with balanced representation between the county and district/ borough/city councils and clear leadership arrangements;
  - a single implementation team, led by the county council chief executive, alongside aligned election arrangements and a single returning officer at county level;

- across all the options, including two-unitary models, joint committee structures and consistent governance, principles and practical arrangements that ensure smooth transition, clarity of leadership and strong local representation;
- measures to preserve Cheltenham's civic identity, including the use of charter trustees where necessary and a clear, county-wide approach to naming and electoral alignment.

She concluded saying that her overall preference is for a pragmatic and collaborative model that balances county leadership with meaningful district/borough/city involvement, to ensure stability and effective governance throughout that transition period. She said whatever the government does, CBC will continue to serve the people of Cheltenham first.

## **6 To receive petitions**

There were none.

## **7 Public Questions**

The following public question and response were taken as read:

### **Question from Emma Nelson to Cabinet Member for Housing and Customer Services, Councillor Flo Clucas**

I see there now a Security Guard at the main entrance to the Municipal Offices. Why is this now deemed necessary, when was the change made, and what is the total annual cost to CBC for provision of this service?

### **Cabinet Member response**

A security officer has been introduced in response to verbal and physically aggressive incidents in the public areas of the Municipal Offices, often targeted at staff. The frequency of incidents of this nature has increased over a period of time and notably so over the past six months. The presence of a security officer is intended to support the wellbeing of both colleagues and members of the public who work in and visit the offices.

This is a temporary six-month trial which commenced on 11 May 2026 and is part of a wider programme of improvements to enhance safety in the building. The cost will be a maximum of £23,000

## 8 Member Questions

One Member question had been received, with the response provided as follows:

### **Question from Councillor Chris Day to Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control, Councillor Paul Baker**

The Planning Protocol which was in place prior to the updated Protocol approved by the Council on 18 May says: “A schedule of all requests [for referral to the Planning Committee], together with the reasons as to whether they [sic] why they were accepted or declined will be maintained by the Head of Planning”

Could the Cabinet Member please supply a list of ward councillor requests for a Planning Committee decision that have been declined over the last three years. I would be grateful if the list would identify the planning application reference, and whether the request was declined because (a) it was received outside of the 21 day time limit, (b) did not contain valid planning reasons or (c) for other reasons.

I would also be grateful if the date range covered by the response could be identified.

### **Cabinet Member response:**

The following table relates to the time-period 01 April 2023 – to date.

| Ref. No.        | Proposal and Location                                         | Committee Requested by | Decision   | Chair of Planning Reason for Decision                                                                                       | Date delegated decision issued |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 26/00442/FUL    | Self-build dwelling at Charlton Manor, Ashley Road.           | Cllr Chris Day         | Not called | Clear technical officer concerns that can be dealt with through officer decision.                                           | 27.05.26                       |
| 26/00483/CONDIT | Variation of Con2. of 24/00399/FUL at The Folley Swindon Road | Cllr Flo Clucas        | Not called | The variation does not affect the original decision. Layout and wildlife issues are being dealt with through officer input. | LIVE                           |

|                 |                                                                                                  |                     |            |                                                                                                                            |            |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 26/00447/FUL    | Rear balcony at 53 Leckhampton Road                                                              | Cllr Julia Chandler | Not called | Satisfied that visual impact will be mitigated by screening and vegetation and can be dealt with through officer decision. | 22.05.26   |
| 25/00930/CONDIT | Variation of conditions 21 and 22 of planning permission ref. 20/01788/FUL land Shurdington Road | Cllr Martin Horwood | Not called | Councillor missed deadline 21-day deadline.                                                                                | 12.11.25   |
| 25/01712/FUL    | Erection of 2no. Dwellings at former co-op Leckhampton Road.                                     | Cllr Julia Chandler | Not called | Councillor missed deadline 21-day deadline.                                                                                | LIVE       |
| 25/00286/CONDIT | Further extended use of vehicular construction access from Manor Road (Swindon Farm Phase 1)     | Cllr Flo Clucas     | Not called | Insufficient reasons given                                                                                                 | 09.04.2025 |
| 24/00073/FUL    | 12 months vehicular construction access from Manor Road (Swindon Farm Phase 1)                   | Cllr Flo Clucas     | Not called | Insufficient reasons given                                                                                                 | 15.03.2024 |
| 24/00167/DISCON | Discharge of conditions 3 (design details) and 5 (minor ancillary works) at The Lodge, College   | Cllr Garth Barnes   | Not called | Outside remit of Planning Committee (discharge of conditions are always delegated)                                         | 27.06.2024 |

|                 |                                                                                           |             |            |                                                                  |            |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
|                 | Bath Road.                                                                                |             |            |                                                                  |            |
| 23/001102/CLEUD | Use of land as a residential caravan site for 19 caravans at Woodlands Park, Swindon Lane | Cllr Fisher | Not called | Outside remit of Planning Committee (CLEUDS are always delegated | 22.08.2023 |

Councillor Day thanked the Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control for his response. He did not have a supplementary question.

## 9 Revisions to Sexual Entertainment Venue (SEV) Licensing policy

The Leader presented the report as published, saying it was the job of local authorities to administer the licensing regime in accordance with the law, taking no moral stand and recognising that sex establishments are a legitimate part of the retail and leisure industries. Licensing and regulation of SEVs is the preferred approach, minimising public protection and public safety risks. She said the licensing committee undertook informal engagement sessions with a wide range of key stakeholders before commencing the formal policy review, with outcomes from these sessions fully considered and some of them incorporated in the policy proposals. Proposed changes, and those rejected, are set out with full reasons in the report. A working group was set up in late 2025, and a short consultation on two further amendments (the designated permitted area (DPA) and changes to the list of relevant considerations for licensed premises) has been run; these have subsequently been included in the policy, with reasons set out in the report.

She said this is a sensitive subject and the council is fully committed to protecting residents and visitors, adding that it is heartening to see that the government has now committed to building a safer society for women and girls.

There were no Member questions.

In debate, Members welcomed the public consultation and introduction of the strongest, safest policy that the council can take forward at this time. They made following comments:

- thanks to the Leader, Cabinet, and licensing officers for the huge amount of time spent on this, and the former Chair of Licensing Committee for his proactive approach;
- Cheltenham is a proud festival town, and with the requirements for SEVs driven by visitors and operators coming to the town specifically for this. A nil approach would not be practical, but the proposed activity is limited to the town centre, away from residential areas;
- the exemption allows operators to set up without a licence, as long as they don't use the same venue more than once a month, for more than 24 hours in one session, or more than 11 times a year. This is not ideal but is hopefully being prioritised under the government's Violence against Women and Girls strategy, to ensure the safety of everyone, not just the performers;
- Cheltenham is rightly proud of its accredited Purple Flag area, which promotes a safe and welcoming town centre;
- the new chair of Licensing Committee and the newly-appointed Cabinet Member for Safety and Communities are urged to continue work around the exemption rules.

The Cabinet Member for Safety and Communities thanked the Leader and Members for their comments and agreed with all the conclusions of this long and methodical process, which protect performers' welfare, ensure premises are properly inspected, and make sure operators are aware of their legal responsibilities, whilst maintaining good professional working relationships with CBC.

The Leader added thanks to Louis Krog and Michelle Bignell for all their hard work.

Members voted unanimously to approved the recommendations.

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

- **the consultation feedback is noted;**
- **the revised policy document attached at Appendix 6 is adopted.**

### **10 The 'making' of the Leckhampton with Warden Hill Neighbourhood Plan**

Having declared an interest in this item, the Mayor handed the Chair to the Deputy Mayor.

Introducing the report, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control said that, on behalf of the parish council, the Mayor has been a huge driver of this process, which started its journey in 2015. The outcome is testimony to the determination, focus and commitment of everyone involved – parish councillors, borough councillors and officers – and, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, will allow the community to play a greater part in the planning process, focussing on its priorities and ensuring its local character is preserved. He noted the high level of public approval, which demonstrates the strong connection between the community and the parish council, and was delighted to propose that the neighbourhood plan be adopted.

There were no questions.

In debate, Members welcomed the report and made the following comments:

- the Neighbourhood Plan has been ten years in the making and involved many people, with thousands taking part in the consultations. The community's aspirations, together with its character and heritage, will now have to be taken into account in planning decisions; this is a great result;
- this experience and outcome should be used as a model going forward to other areas of the town with similar aspirations;
- from a climate and environmental point of view, this is a great result and will make a positive difference. It shows that the parish council takes environmental issues seriously, and it will help with CBC's mission going forward;
- this is an enormous and outstanding achievement – congratulations to all in Leckhampton with Warden Hill parish – but anywhere in Cheltenham can do the same, not just parished areas. A neighbourhood forum needs to be created first, which can be a challenge, but hopefully this success will make it a little bit easier going forward.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control thanked Members for their positive comments, and added that another key positive is that the neighbourhood share of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) receipts increase from 15 to 25% with the neighbourhood plan in place – a significant benefit for the community.

**RESOLVED THAT:**

- a) Council approves the request to 'make' the Leckhampton with Warden Hill Neighbourhood Plan at Appendix 3, as part of Cheltenham Borough Council statutory Development Plan following the outcome of the positive referendum result;**
- b) authority is delegated to the Director of Planning and Building Control, in agreement with the Qualifying Body (Parish Council), to correct any minor errors such as spelling, grammar, typographical formatting, and clarify policy mapping that do not materially affect the substantive content of the Plan;**
- c) authority is delegated to the Director of Planning and Building Control, to prepare the decision statement for publication.**

Unanimous

Returning to the chair, the Mayor thanked Members for their support, saying the last eight years have been an amazing exercise and great learning process for him, helping to create the first neighbourhood plan in Cheltenham.

**11 Notice of Motions**

There were no motions.

**12 Any other item the Mayor determines as urgent and which requires a decision**

There were none.

**13 Local Government Act 1972 -Exempt Information**

**RESOLVED THAT:**

- in accordance with Section 100A(4) Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining agenda items as it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, if members of the public are present there will be disclosed to them exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 5, Part (1) Schedule (12A) Local Government Act 1972, namely:

**Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)**

**Paragraph 5: Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings**

**14 Exempt Minutes**

The exempt minutes of the meeting held on 04 June were approved and signed as a true record.

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## REPRESENTATION IN THE CASE OF A SINGLE UNITARY AUTHORITY FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE

| Question                                                                                                                                                            | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Would you prefer a preparing council and implementation executive model (where geographies align) or a new council model with a joint committee?                    | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer a new council with a Joint Committee</p> <p>Cotswold District Council would prefer a preparing council with an Implementation Executive</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| How many members from each relevant council would you prefer to sit on the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee, including the balance from different councils? | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer a Joint Committee of 12 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 6 persons from the County Council<br/> 6 persons from the City, Borough, District Councils (1 from each)</p> <p>Stroud District Council would prefer a Joint Committee of 14 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 2 persons from each of the County Council, City, Borough, District Councils (2 from each)</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |
| Would you prefer for any individuals to be specified for the Chair/Deputy Chair roles, and if so, who?                                                              | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer for individuals to be specified for the Chair/Deputy Chair roles and these individuals should be<br/> Chair: Leader of the County Council<br/> Deputy: Leader of one of the City/District or Borough Councils</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                                                                                                              |

| Question                                                                                                                                    | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <p>What are your views on any requirement for political balance in the implementation executive/joint committee(s)?</p>                     | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Stroud District Council do not believe there should be a requirement for political balance in the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee.</p> <p>Tewkesbury Borough Council did not provide a view on the requirement for political balance in the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p>                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p>What would be your preferences for the membership of the Implementation Team and whether roles should be specified?</p>                  | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer that there is one Implementation Team comprising officers from county council and chief executives from each of the district councils.</p> <p>The leader of the Implementation Team should be the Chief Executive of the County Council and the deputy leader of the Implementation Team should be one of the Chief Executives from one of the City/District/Borough councils.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |
| <p>Who should be the returning officer for the first election to each of the new unitary councils that proposals would see established?</p> | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the returning officer should be the Gloucestershire County Council Chief Executive.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

| Question                                                                                                 | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <p>Would you prefer the SCO to align future parish council elections with those of the new councils?</p> | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer that the SCO aligns future parish council elections with those of the new council.</p> <p>There is an expectation that government will seek a view from Town and Parish Councils as separate legal entities to the seven existing county, city, borough and district councils.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |
| <p>What are the current legal names of the councils?</p>                                                 | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council confirm that the current legal names of the councils are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheltenham Borough Council</li> <li>• Cotswold District Council</li> <li>• Forest of Dean District Council</li> <li>• Gloucester City Council</li> <li>• Gloucestershire County Council</li> <li>• Stroud District Council</li> <li>• Tewkesbury Borough Council</li> </ul>                                                 |
| <p>What would be your preferred name for the new council?</p>                                            | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the preferred name for the new council is Gloucestershire Council.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Question                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>If different to proposals, has there been any further modelling of your preferred councillors for each new council that you would like the Secretary of State to consider, alongside any information on the rationale for the numbers?</p> | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council confirm that no further modelling has been undertaken.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>Question for 17 August or before:<br/>What are your suggested wards, that reflect the proposal and councillor numbers decided, and that best meet the LGBCE guidance, for inclusion in the SCO?</p>                                        | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council suggest that warding is based on existing county council divisions – 55 divisions, 2 members per division making 110 members</p> <p>Gloucester City Council has not provided a response to this question as at the date of submission.</p> <p>Stroud District Council has not provided a response to this question at this time but will respond to this question by the deadline of 17 August 2026.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |

### Additional Question asked of all Gloucestershire Councils

| Question                                                                              | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| What arrangements are required for the transfer of any civic or ceremonial functions? | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Stroud District Council agree that in the event of alternative arrangements not being in place by Vesting Day (i.e. through the creation of town councils) the SCO should establish Charter Trustees to preserve the civic and ceremonial functions of the City of Gloucester and the Borough of Cheltenham.</p> <p>Tewkesbury Borough Council did not raise this question when seeking agreement of their response.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |

**REPRESENTATION IN THE CASE OF TWO UNITARY AUTHORITIES FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE (EAST and WEST)**

| Question                                                                                                                                         | Response                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Would you prefer a preparing council and implementation executive model (where geographies align) or a new council model with a joint committee? | The option of a preparing council is only available in the case of one unitary authority |

| Question                                                                                                                                                                   | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <p>How many members from each relevant council would you prefer to sit on the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee, including the balance from different councils?</p> | <p><b>EAST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer a Joint Committee for East Gloucestershire of 12 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 6 persons from Gloucestershire County Council each of whom shall be a member for a division within the area for East Gloucestershire<br/> 2 persons from Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council</p> <p>Stroud District Council would prefer a Joint Committee of 12 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 3 persons from each of Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> | <p><b>WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer a Joint Committee for West Gloucestershire of 12 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 6 persons from Gloucestershire County Council each of whom shall be a member for a division within the area for West Gloucestershire<br/> 2 persons from Gloucester City Council, Forest of Dean Council and Stroud District Council</p> <p>Stroud District Council would prefer a Joint Committee of 12 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 3 persons from each of Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucester City Council, Forest of Dean Council and Stroud District Council.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |

| Question                                                                                                                | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Would you prefer for any individuals to be specified for the Chair/Deputy Chair roles, and if so, who?</p>           | <p><b>EAST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer for this to be a decision for each Joint Committee but with the principle of the Chair being from either the County or relevant district/borough council with the Deputy Chair being from the opposite tier to that of the selected Chair</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> | <p><b>WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer for this to be a decision for each Joint Committee but with the principle of the Chair being from either the County or relevant district/borough council with the Deputy Chair being from the opposite tier to that of the selected Chair</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |
| <p>What are your views on any requirement for political balance in the implementation executive/joint committee(s)?</p> | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Stroud District Council do not believe there should be a requirement for political balance in the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee.</p> <p>Tewkesbury Borough Council did not provide a view on the requirement for political balance in the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p>                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

| Question                                                                                                                                    | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p>What would be your preferences for the membership of the Implementation Team and whether roles should be specified?</p>                  | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer that there is one Implementation Team comprising officers from county council and chief executives from each of the district councils.</p> <p>The leader of the Implementation Team should be the Chief Executive of the County Council and there will be two deputy leaders of the Implementation Team one being the Chief Executive of a district/borough/City council within the area of East Gloucestershire and one being the Chief Executive of a district or borough council within the area of West Gloucestershire.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>Who should be the returning officer for the first election to each of the new unitary councils that proposals would see established?</p> | <p><b>EAST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the returning officer should be a Chief Executive from one of the Borough or District Councils within the area of East Gloucestershire</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p><b>WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the returning officer should be a Chief Executive from one of the Borough, District or City Councils within the area of West Gloucestershire</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |

| Question                                                                                                 | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <p>Would you prefer the SCO to align future parish council elections with those of the new councils?</p> | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer that the SCO aligns future parish council elections with those of the new council.</p> <p>There is an expectation that government will seek a view from Town and Parish Councils as separate legal entities to the seven existing county, city, borough and district councils.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |
| <p>What are the current legal names of the councils?</p>                                                 | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council confirm that the current legal names of the councils are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheltenham Borough Council</li> <li>• Cotswold District Council</li> <li>• Forest of Dean District Council</li> <li>• Gloucester City Council</li> <li>• Gloucestershire County Council</li> <li>• Stroud District Council</li> <li>• Tewkesbury Borough Council</li> </ul>                                                 |

| Question                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| What would be your preferred name for the new council?                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>EAST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b><br/> Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the preferred name for the new council is East Gloucestershire Council.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> | <p><b>WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b><br/> Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the preferred name for the new council is West Gloucestershire Council.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |
| If different to proposals, has there been any further modelling of your preferred councillors for each new council that you would like the Secretary of State to consider, alongside any information on the rationale for the numbers? | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council confirm that no further modelling has been undertaken.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| Question                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <p>Question for 17 August or before:</p> <p>What are your suggested wards, that reflect the proposal and councillor numbers decided, and that best meet the LGBCE guidance, for inclusion in the SCO?</p> | <p><b>EAST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council suggest 26 wards, based on existing County Council divisions, each electing 2 councillors (52 in total).</p> <p>Existing division names to be retained.</p> <p>Stroud District Council have not provided a response to this question at this time but will respond to this question by the deadline of 17 August 2026.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> | <p><b>WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council suggest 29 wards, based on existing County Council divisions, each electing 2 councillors (58 in total).</p> <p>Existing division names to be retained.</p> <p>Stroud District Council have not provided a response to this question at this time but will respond to this question by the deadline of 17 August 2026.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |

#### Additional Question asked of all Gloucestershire Councils

| Question                                                                              | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| What arrangements are required for the transfer of any civic or ceremonial functions? | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Stroud District Council agree that in the event of alternative arrangements not being in place by Vesting Day (i.e. through the creation of town councils) the SCO should establish Charter Trustees to preserve the civic and ceremonial functions of the City of Gloucester and the Borough of Cheltenham.</p> <p>Tewkesbury Borough Council did not raise this question when seeking agreement of their response.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |

**REPRESENTATION IN THE CASE OF TWO UNITARY AUTHORITIES FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
(GREATER GLOUCESTER AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE)**

| Question                                                                                                                                         | Response                                                                                 |
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| Would you prefer a preparing council and implementation executive model (where geographies align) or a new council model with a joint committee? | The option of a preparing council is only available in the case of one unitary authority |

|                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| <p>How many members from each relevant council would you prefer to sit on the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee, including the balance from different councils?</p> | <p><b>GREATER GLOUCESTER</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer a Joint Committee for East Gloucestershire of 12 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 6 persons from the County Council each of whom shall be a member for a division within the area of Greater Gloucester<br/> 3 persons from Gloucester City Council one of whom must be the Leader of the Council<br/> 1 person from Forest of Dean Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council</p> <p>Stroud District Council would prefer a Joint Committee of 9 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 3 persons from Gloucestershire County Council,<br/> 3 persons from Gloucester City Council<br/> 1 person from each of Forest of Dean Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> | <p><b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer a Joint Committee for West Gloucestershire of 10 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 5 persons from the County Council each of whom shall be a member for a division within the area for Gloucestershire<br/> persons from Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Forest of Dean Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council</p> <p>Stroud District Council would prefer a Joint Committee of 12 persons comprised as follows:<br/> 2 persons from Gloucestershire County Council<br/> 2 Persons from each of Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Forest of Dean Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |
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| Question                                                                                                                | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <p>Would you prefer for any individuals to be specified for the Chair/Deputy Chair roles, and if so, who?</p>           | <p><b>GREATER GLOUCESTER</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer for individuals to be specified for the Chair/Deputy Chair roles and these individuals should be:</p> <p>Chair: Leader of the Gloucester City Council</p> <p>Deputy: Cabinet Member of Gloucestershire County Council representing a ward from within the Greater Gloucester Area</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> | <p><b>WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer for individuals to be specified for the Chair/Deputy Chair roles and these individuals should be:</p> <p>Chair: Leader of the County Council (on the basis they represent a ward outside the Greater Gloucester Council area)</p> <p>Deputy: Leader from district/borough council within the Gloucestershire Council area</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |
| <p>What are your views on any requirement for political balance in the implementation executive/joint committee(s)?</p> | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Stroud District Council do not believe there should be a requirement for political balance in the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee.</p> <p>Tewkesbury Borough Council did not provide a view on the requirement for political balance in the Implementation Executive/Joint Committee.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p>                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

| Question                                                                                                                                    | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| <p>What would be your preferences for the membership of the Implementation Team and whether roles should be specified?</p>                  | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer that there is one Implementation Team comprising officers from county council and chief executives from each of the district councils.</p> <p>The leader of the Implementation Team should be the Chief Executive of the County Council. There should be two deputy leaders – one should be the Chief Executive of Gloucester City Council; the other should be one of the Chief Executives from one of the remaining District/Borough councils.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>Who should be the returning officer for the first election to each of the new unitary councils that proposals would see established?</p> | <p><b>GREATER GLOUCESTER</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the returning officer should be the Chief Executive from Gloucester City Council</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the returning officer should be the Chief Executive of Gloucestershire County Council</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |

| Question                                                                                                 | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| <p>Would you prefer the SCO to align future parish council elections with those of the new councils?</p> | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council would prefer that the SCO aligns future parish council elections with those of the new council.</p> <p>There is an expectation that government will seek a view from Town and Parish Councils as separate legal entities to the seven existing county, city, borough and district councils.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p>What are the current legal names of the councils?</p>                                                 | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council confirm that the current legal names of the councils are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheltenham Borough Council</li> <li>• Cotswold District Council</li> <li>• Forest of Dean District Council</li> <li>• Gloucester City Council</li> <li>• Gloucestershire County Council</li> <li>• Stroud District Council</li> <li>• Tewkesbury Borough Council</li> </ul> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government and therefore have not confirmed the legal name of Forest of Dean District Council.</p> |

| Question                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| What would be your preferred name for the new council?                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>GREATER GLOUCESTER</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the preferred name for the new council is Greater Gloucester Council.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p>                                           | <p><b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council agree that the preferred name for the new council is Gloucestershire Council.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |
| If different to proposals, has there been any further modelling of your preferred councillors for each new council that you would like the Secretary of State to consider, alongside any information on the rationale for the numbers? | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council confirm that no further modelling has been undertaken.</p> <p>Gloucester City Council is undertaking some further modelling and may submit additional information by separate cover.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

| Question                                                                                                                                                                                               | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <p>Question for 17 August or before:<br/>What are your suggested wards, that reflect the proposal and councillor numbers decided, and that best meet the LGBCE guidance, for inclusion in the SCO?</p> | <p><b>GREATER GLOUCESTER</b></p> <p>Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council and Tewkesbury Council suggest wards based on 18 existing City Council wards for the surrounding parishes coming in (based on parish council building blocks)</p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council understand that Gloucester City Council is undertaking further work on warding proposals and may make further representations by 17 August deadline.</p> <p>Gloucester City Council have not provided a response to this question as at the date of submission.</p> <p>Stroud District Council have not provided a response to this question at this time but will respond to this question by the deadline of 17 August 2026.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> | <p><b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b></p> <p>Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council and Tewkesbury Council suggest wards based on County Council divisions, two members per division with one division only having one member as will be split with Greater Gloucester.</p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council understand that Gloucester City Council is undertaking further work on warding proposals and may make further representations by 17 August deadline.</p> <p>Gloucester City Council have not provided a response to this question as at the date of submission.</p> <p>Stroud District Council have not provided a response to this question at this time but will respond to this question by the deadline of 17 August 2026.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government.</p> |

#### Additional Question asked of all Gloucestershire Councils

| Question                                                                                     | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| <p>What arrangements are required for the transfer of any civic or ceremonial functions?</p> | <p>Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Gloucester City Council and Stroud District Council agree that in the event of alternative arrangements not being in place by Vesting Day (i.e. through the creation of town councils) the SCO should establish Charter Trustees to preserve the civic and ceremonial functions of the City of Gloucester and the Borough of Cheltenham.</p> <p>Tewkesbury Borough Council did not raise this question when seeking agreement of their response.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Council decided to delay submitting a representation pending further information or clarity from Government</p> |

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## Cheltenham Borough Council

### Cabinet - 14 July 2026

## General Fund & Housing Revenue Account Outturn Report 2025-26

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**Accountable member:**

Cllr Peter Jeffries, Cabinet Member for Finance and Assets

**Accountable officer:**

Adele Taylor, Interim Director of Finance and Operations (Section 151 Officer)

**Ward(s) affected:**

All

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**Key Decision:** No

**Executive summary:**

This report summarises the Council's financial performance and sets out the General Fund (GF) and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue and capital outturn position for 2025/26. The information contained within this report has been used to prepare the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2025/26.

For the financial year 2025/26 the Council's general fund position is a £16,159 underspend that will be transferred to general balances. The HRA position is a surplus of £141,669 for the year.

This report details variances by service area, with a more detailed explanation for any over or underspends above £50k in the general fund.

Whilst preparing the final year end position, we have reviewed areas where planned underspends of revenue budgets could be allowed, with the agreement of the Section 151 Officer, to meet the needs of approved service delivery. This is often due to the timing of commitments and expenditure needing to be matched. Any other carry forward requests, including budget underspends that have been carried forward in previous financial years are subject to full Council approval at the financial outturn meeting held after the year end.

This report compares our outturn position to the revised budget that was set alongside the

budget setting report for 2026/27 approved by full council in February 2026. At that time, it was anticipated that we would need to take £662k from our general fund reserves against an original plan of adding £560k to general fund reserves. With the underspend in-year of £16k, this has reduced this to an overall use of reserves of £646k.

This leaves the General Fund balance at £1.459m with a plan to add just below £316k during 2026/27 to bring these reserves to an optimum level. It should be noted that assumes during 2026/27 delivery of savings totalling £1.054m as well as cover off any emerging financial pressures during the year in full.

In addition to the General Fund reserve balance, we hold a number of earmarked reserves which are held for specific purposes and often recognise that the timing of income and expenditure and future commitments where they are not always aligned. At year end a total of £1.336m has been added to specific earmarked reserves, including £379k of carry forward requests and approvals.

This report also provides information on the Council's capital programme including any budgets required to be slipped into 2026/27 from 2025/26.

For the HRA, the actual Capital expenditure for 2025/26 is a total of £27.874m against a budget of £33.122m. The Capital profile has been revised and any underspends are slipped into future years to recognise when projects are actually being delivered.

As part of the management of our budget within 2026/27 the Capital programme for 2026/27 will be reviewed and any amendments will form part of the first quarter monitoring reports in September 2026.

Finally, the Council's Treasury Management Policy requires the Section 151 Officer to report to members annually, by the 30 September, on the treasury management activities and treasury management indicators for the previous financial year. This report also seeks to meet this requirement.

**Recommendations: That Cabinet notes and recommends Council:**

- 1. to note the General Fund revenue outturn position for 2025/26 after the application of carry forward requests and following the use of earmarked reserves, of an underspend of £16,159 against the 2025/26 revised budget approved by Council on 27 February 2026**
- 2. to note the General Fund carry forward requests detailed in Appendix 5.**
- 3. to note the reserve movements detailed in Appendix 6.**
- 4. to note the Treasury Management Outturn report in Appendix 7.**
- 5. to note the capital outturn position and financing arrangement in Appendix 8**

- 6. to note the Council Tax and Business Rates collection performance in Appendix 9.**
- 7. to note the Housing Revenue Account outturn position in Appendix 10.**
- 8. to note the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme detailed in Appendix 11.**
- 9. to note the Section 106 monitoring information in Appendix 12.**

**Recommendations: That Cabinet agrees and recommends that Council:**

- 10. approves the carry forward from 2025/26 into 2026/27 of Capital budgets as detailed in Appendix 8**

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## **1. Implications**

### **1.1 Financial, Property and Asset implications**

The whole of this report is about ensuring that we provide detailed analysis of our revenue and capital income and expenditure for the financial year 2025/26 for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue account. Financial information is as detailed throughout the report.

**Signed off by:** Adele Taylor, Interim Director of Finance and Operations (Section 151 Officer) [adele.taylor@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:adele.taylor@cheltenham.gov.uk)

### **1.2 Legal implications**

As detailed in the body of the report, the Council has adopted and complied with the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services. This provides assurance that investments are, and will continue to be, within its legal powers.

**Signed off by:** One Legal, [legalservices@onelegal.co.uk](mailto:legalservices@onelegal.co.uk)

### **1.3 Environmental and climate change implications**

Key elements of the budget are aimed at delivering the corporate objectives in the Corporate Plan, including the climate change and net zero carbon priorities. The sustainability of general balances and earmarked reserves is vital to continue to work towards this objective.

**Signed off by:** Maizy McCann, Climate Officer [maizy.mccan@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:maizy.mccan@cheltenham.gov.uk)

#### 1.4 Corporate Plan Priorities

The actions outlined in this outturn report to support general balances, implement savings and grow commercial income will help ensure that the Council can continue to deliver its corporate objectives as set out in the Corporate Plan 2025 - 2028.

**Signed off by:** Ann Wolstencroft, Director of Corporate Services  
[ann.wolstencroft@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:ann.wolstencroft@cheltenham.gov.uk)

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## 2 Background

- 2.1. On 21 February 2025, Council approved the budget for 2025/26, including setting the Council Tax. This was the resources required to deliver the Council's identified objectives in its Corporate Plan 2025-2028. This covered revenue and capital expenditure for both the General Fund budget and also the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). A revised budget for 2025/26 was then identified and approved at Full Council on 27 February 2026. This report details our performance against that revised budget.
- 2.2. In accordance with financial rule A11.3, the Section 151 Officer is responsible for providing regular reports to the Cabinet on the Council's finance and financial performance and this has been complied with throughout the year. This is the outturn report and information contained within has been used to prepare the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2025/26 which are now subject to external audit.
- 2.3. These are unprecedented times for local government alongside many of our residents and businesses within our town. We are facing rising service delivery costs and the challenge of supporting a growing number of residents affected by the cost-of-living crisis. These pressures come on top of nearly a decade of year-on-year cuts to the Council's government funding.
- 2.4. After a period of financial instability in 2022/23 and 2023/24, partly due to the continued impact of the global pandemic that started in 2020 which had long-lasting impacts on some of our income and expenditure, we began to see a stabilisation of our financial position. 2024/25 and 2025/26 have seen a need to continue to rely on usage of general fund balances, but for both financial years a small underspend has been reported at year end. This indicates that the general fund is starting to stabilise although there is further work that needs to be done to ensure that future years savings are identified and delivered and ensure that planned contributions are made.

- 2.5. This report draws together the financial outturn position for 2025/26 for the General Fund against the Revised 205/26 budget. It also summarises the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue and capital budgets, details reserve movements and summarises requests for carry forward of budgets approved by the Section 151 Officer under delegated powers.
- 2.6. This report also provides explanations for more significant variances and provides an assessment of the potential ongoing impacts into 2026/27 and future financial years.
- 2.7. Finally, this report also ensures that the requirement of the Council's Treasury Management Policy to report on treasury management activities and treasury management indicators for the previous financial year by 30 September has been complied with.

### **3 General Fund Outturn 2025/26 (Appendix 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)**

- 3.1 The outturn position as at 31 March 2026 is an underspend of £16,159 against the revised budget approved in February 2026. A summary of the General Fund outturn position by directorate is contained in Appendix 2 and by service area in Appendix 3. Information is presented in the same format as used in the draft statement of accounts, in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice 2025/26.
- 3.2 It should be noted that this outturn performance forms the basis of our Statement of Accounts, which are currently subject to external audit. If this position changes following that audit, we will ensure that this is reported at the first available opportunity as part of our regular, ongoing financial management reporting to cabinet and full council.
- 3.3 In Appendix 4, there is a more detailed explanation of any variances over £50k. This includes overspends, underspends and variances on expected income levels. It is important to note, that whilst the £50k threshold has been identified, the percentage variance has also been included to give an indication on the proportionality of the variance when considered against the overall budget for that area. All variances, including those detailed here, will be considered for their ongoing impact into the new financial year and beyond and relevant action taken to either mitigate pressures, or identify areas where reduced expenditure or increased income could continue. This is an important part of our identification of savings for 2026/27 and we will report on this in the first quarterly report at cabinet in September 2026.
- 3.4 As part of the overall year end position, a total of £379k of carry forward requests have been identified. Appendix 5 provides details for each of these requests. The most significant of these relates to Homelessness services, at £310k, whereby grant funding received in 2025/26 has been ringfenced to contribute to services

being re-procured in 2026/27. The other carry forward requests relate to areas where commitments have been made in 2025/26 and either not yet invoiced or have slipped into the new financial years. They also include amounts of grant funding which have been allocated but not yet taken up by their intended beneficiaries.

- 3.5 These have been reviewed by the Executive Leadership Team and approved by the Section 151 Officer under delegated powers (financial rule B10.1). A transfer has been made to a carry forward reserve in 2025/26 before appropriate transfers are made to the relevant cost centres in 2026/27 for budget managers to have clarity over their total in-year resources.
- 3.6 The general balance at 31 March 2025 is £1.459m which is just below the optimum level assessed by the Section 151 Officer in the Section 25 report to Council in February 2026 of £1.5m. The medium-term financial strategy approved by Council in February 2026 outlines the strategy for recovering this position. Appendix 6 shows the movement in the reserves for both Earmarked reserves and also the General Fund balance.
- 3.7 Earmarked Reserves have increased by £2.1m during 2025/26 of which £1.336m relates to adjustments required at year end. This includes the £379k of carry forward requests highlighted in paragraph 3.4.
- 3.8 During the review of the outturn position two significant additions to the Earmarked reserves were identified, to ensure that resources are available in the correct year. The largest of these relates to £600k added to the Business Rates Equalisation Reserve to recognise the cashflow impact of business rate changes. This recognises that additional revenues received in 2025/26 will need to be paid out in future financial years, and is therefore ensuring that cashflows are properly accounted for. £224k has also been added to the Environmental Services reserve due to a timing difference around when fleet will be required to deliver the service. There are other small movements totalling £133k.

#### **4 Treasury Management Outturn (Appendix 7)**

- 4.1. Treasury Management in Local Government is governed by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services. This Council has adopted the code and complies with its requirements, one of which is the receipt by Cabinet and Council of an Annual Review Report after the financial year end. The detailed treasury report is attached at Appendix 7.

#### **5 Capital Outturn and Financing (Appendix 8)**

- 5.1. The outturn position in respect of General Fund capital programme is contained in Appendix 8. This provides information for individual schemes and Members are asked to note the outturn position, and where there is slippage Full Council

are asked to approve the budgets to be carried forward into 2026/27.

- 5.2. It should be noted that in the first quarterly budget management report in September 2026 a review of the whole Capital programme will be undertaken as part of the work to consider in-year savings for 2026/27 and future financial years.

## **6 Collection Fund Performance (Appendix 9)**

- 6.1. The monitoring report for the collection of council tax and business rates (NNDR) income is shown in Appendix 9. This shows the position at the end of March 2026. The collection rate for council tax has decreased very slightly from 98.18% in 2024/25 to 98.01% in 2024/25. The cost of living crisis continues to have an impact on households and our team are continuing to work with any customers who are struggling to pay. The collection rate is well above the national average at 95.62% for all Councils.
- 6.2. The collection rate for business rates collection has also decreased from 97.64% to 97.19% in the same period. This is again well above the national average of 96.77% for all English Councils and this remains an area of challenge given the national economic challenges. In 2026/27 there has been a rest of business rate values by the Valuation Office and significant changes in the rates being applied to local businesses so we expect this to remain an area of significant challenge going forwards.

## **7 Housing Revenue Account Outturn (Appendix 10 and 11)**

- 7.1 Appendix 10 and 11 provide more detailed information about the ring-fenced Housing Revenue Account (HRA). These provide information on the HRA Operating Account for 2025/26 and also the summary information on the Capital programme.
- 7.2 The overall surplus for 2025/26 is £141k which is an improvement of £11k on the revised budget that was set in February 2026. This means that the overall HRA reserves now stand at £789k which is an improvement on the year end position from 2025/26 of almost £142k. This aligns with our strategy to build back the HRA reserves.
- 7.3 In summary we underspent on expenditure by £584k against the revised budget but also received £541k less income against the revised budget. There has been considerable work to identify savings within the HRA, particularly recognising the ability to be more efficient across the General Fund and the HRA now that the operations are delivered in house and reduce duplicated effort. There is a savings target within 2026/27 of £650k and a review of the outturn position will assist with identifying opportunities against this target.

7.4 The Capital programme has also underspent in year, £27.874m against a revised budget of £33.122m although this will be around timing and profile of spend on some of the major scheme delivery. This means that the HRA has benefitted from a reduction in revenue costs associated with borrowing required to fund the overall Capital programme.

7.5 In the budget that was agreed for the HRA in February 2026 for 2026/27 onwards, the focus remains on building back HRA reserves given the need to ensure ongoing investment in our housing stock.

## **8 Section 106 Monitoring (Appendix 12)**

8.1 A position statement in regard to the activity of S106 receipts is contained in Appendix 12. This shows that at the start of the financial year we held £3.533m in S106 of which £1.034m has been applied to schemes throughout the year.

## **9 Key risks**

9.1 The key risks are set out in Appendix 1.

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### **Appendices:**

1. Risk Assessment
2. Summary General Fund Outturn 2025-26
3. Service Level General Fund Outturn 2025-26
4. Significant General Fund Variances 2025-26
5. General Fund Carry Forward Requests 2025-26
6. Reserve Movements 2025-26 & 2026-27
7. Treasury Management Outturn Report 2025-26
8. General Fund Capital Programme Outturn 2025-26 & Revised Programme 2026-27
9. Council Tax and NNDR Collection 2025-26
10. Housing Revenue Account Operating Account 2025-26
11. Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2025-26
12. Section 106 Monitoring 2025-26

**Appendix 1: Risk Assessment**

| Risk ref | Risk description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Risk owner | Impact score<br>(1-5) | Likelihood score<br>(1-5) | Initial raw risk score<br>(1 - 25) | Risk response | Controls / Mitigating actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Control / Action owner                            | Deadline for controls/ actions |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 52       | If the Council is unable to come up with long term solutions which close the gap in the medium term financial strategy then it will find it increasingly difficult to prepare budgets year on year without making unplanned cuts in service provision. | Cabinet    | 5                     | 4                         | 20                                 | Reduce        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commercial strategy &amp; activities</li> <li>- Quarterly budget management reports</li> <li>- Cabinet engagement - budget proposals</li> <li>- Increased capacity in the finance team</li> <li>-Ongoing monitoring of targets for workstreams/service s</li> <li>-Identification of 4 savings pillars that will be monitored and managed during 2026/27</li> </ul> | Interim Director of Finance and Operations (S151) | Ongoing                        |
| 403      | Prioritisation of capital resources – If CBC are unable to prioritise medium term projects and programmes which require significant                                                                                                                    | Cabinet    | 5                     | 4                         | 20                                 | Reduce        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ongoing review and alignment of the capital programme with the Corporate Plan</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Interim Director of Finance and Operations (S151) | Ongoing                        |

| Risk ref | Risk description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Risk owner                            | Impact score<br>(1-5) | Likelihood score<br>(1-5) | Initial raw risk score<br>(1 - 25) | Risk response | Controls / Mitigating actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Control / Action owner                            | Deadline for controls/ actions |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|          | capital financing, then it will increasingly have to rely of borrowing to fund service investments increasing the pressure on our revenue budgets to fund repayments.                                                                                                           |                                       |                       |                           |                                    |               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quarterly budget management reports</li> <li>- Cabinet engagement - budget proposals</li> <li>- Gateway reviews of all projects through the Corporate Programme office</li> </ul> Business case and approval for all new projects, including allocation of resource and budgets |                                                   |                                |
| 53       | If General Balances are not strengthened then insufficient reserves will be available to cover unanticipated spend or deficits resulting in the levels which will consequently fall below the minimum required level as recommended by the Section 151 Officer in the council's | Head of Finance (Deputy S151 Officer) | 5                     | 3                         | 15                                 | Reduce        | The MTFS is clear about the need to enhance reserves and identifies a required reserves strategy for managing this issue. In preparing the budget for 2026/27 and in ongoing budget monitoring                                                                                                                           | Interim Director of Finance and Operations (S151) | Ongoing                        |

| Risk ref | Risk description               | Risk owner | Impact score<br>(1-5) | Likelihood score<br>(1-5) | Initial raw risk score<br>(1 - 25) | Risk response | Controls / Mitigating actions | Control / Action owner | Deadline for controls/ actions |
|----------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
|          | Medium Term Financial Strategy |            |                       |                           |                                    |               | and management,               |                        |                                |

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APPENDIX 2: GENERAL FUND REVENUE OUTTURN 2025/26

|                                                     | A<br>2025/26<br>Revised<br>Budget | B<br>2025/26<br>Outturn<br>per Ledger | overspend /<br>(underspend)<br>before adjustments |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     | £                                 | £                                     | £                                                 |
| Chief Executive                                     | 3,255,018                         | 3,334,197                             | 79,179                                            |
| Communities & Place Directorate                     | 13,312,265                        | 12,897,644                            | (414,621)                                         |
| Finance, Assets & Regeneration Directorate          | 7,816,411                         | 6,938,477                             | (877,934)                                         |
|                                                     | 24,383,694                        | 23,170,318                            | (1,213,376)                                       |
| Capital Charges                                     | (3,865,790)                       | (3,823,135)                           | 42,655                                            |
| Interest and Investment Income                      | (1,709,465)                       | (1,592,178)                           | 117,287                                           |
| Use of balances and reserves - Appendix 6           | 903,407                           | 903,407                               | 0                                                 |
| NET BUDGET                                          | 19,711,846                        | 18,658,412                            | (1,053,434)                                       |
| Deduct:                                             |                                   |                                       |                                                   |
| National Non-Domestic Rate                          | (2,633,807)                       | (3,144,998)                           | (511,191)                                         |
| National Non-Domestic Rate - 2023/24-24/25 Deficits | 966,162                           | 966,162                               | 0                                                 |
| National Non-Domestic Rates - S31 Grants            | (4,043,950)                       | (3,991,191)                           | 52,759                                            |
| New Homes Bonus                                     | (87,479)                          | (87,479)                              | 0                                                 |
| Revenue Support Grant                               | (190,053)                         | (190,053)                             | 0                                                 |
| Funding Guarantee                                   | (756,789)                         | (756,790)                             | (1)                                               |
| EPR Grants                                          | (1,516,000)                       | (1,516,710)                           | (710)                                             |
| NICs Grant                                          | (219,405)                         | (219,405)                             | 0                                                 |
| Council Tax (Surplus)/deficit                       | (98,051)                          | (98,051)                              | 0                                                 |
| Other                                               | (150,000)                         | 10,189                                | 160,189                                           |
| NET SPEND FUNDED BY COUNCIL TAX                     | (10,880,964)                      | (10,880,965)                          | (1)                                               |
| TOTAL INCOME                                        | (19,610,336)                      | (19,909,291)                          | (298,955)                                         |
| Net Transfer to/From General Balances               | 101,510                           | (1,250,879)                           | (1,352,389)                                       |

KEY

A - Revised budget approved by Full Council in February 2026

B - Outturn net expenditure before year end adjustments

C - Operational transfers to / (from) reserves approved by the S151 officer under delegated powers - Appendix 6

D - Carry forward requests approved by the S151 Officer under delegated powers - Appendix 5

E - Net variance after adjustments in columns C to D

F - Carry forward requests requiring Member approval - Appendix 5

G - Net variance on cost centres taking into account all carry forward requests - see detail at Appendix 5

| C<br>Trf to / (from)<br>Other<br>Reserves<br>Appendix 6<br>£ | D<br>C/F requests<br>approved by<br>S151 Officer<br><br>Appendix 5<br>£ | E<br>Variance<br>net of S151<br>c/f approvals<br><br>£ | F<br>C/F requests<br>to be approved<br>Members<br><br>Appendix 5<br>£ | G<br>Variance<br>net of all<br>c/f requests<br><br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                              |                                                                         | 79,179                                                 |                                                                       | 79,179                                               |
| 224,133                                                      | 68,169                                                                  | (122,319)                                              |                                                                       | (122,319)                                            |
| 283,399                                                      | 310,529                                                                 | (284,006)                                              |                                                                       | (284,006)                                            |
| 507,532                                                      | 378,698                                                                 | (327,146)                                              | 0                                                                     | (327,146)                                            |
|                                                              |                                                                         | 42,655                                                 |                                                                       | 42,655                                               |
|                                                              |                                                                         | 117,287                                                |                                                                       | 117,287                                              |
|                                                              |                                                                         | 0                                                      |                                                                       | 0                                                    |
| 507,532                                                      | 378,698                                                                 | (167,204)                                              | 0                                                                     | (167,204)                                            |
| 450,000                                                      |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | (61,191)                                             |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | 0                                                    |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | 52,759                                               |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | 0                                                    |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | 0                                                    |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | (1)                                                  |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | (710)                                                |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | 0                                                    |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | 0                                                    |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | 160,189                                              |
|                                                              |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | 0                                                    |
| NET OVER/(UNDER) SPEND AFTER APPLICATION OF RESERVES         |                                                                         |                                                        |                                                                       | (16,159)                                             |

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**APPENDIX 3 - GENERAL FUND REVENUE OUTTURN 2025/26**

|                             |                                           | Revised Budget<br>2025/26<br>£ | Actual Spend<br>2025/26<br>£ | (Under)/<br>Overspend<br>2025/26<br>£ | Carry Forward<br>Request<br>£ | Other Reserve<br>Movements<br>£ | Adjusted<br>(Under)/Overspend<br>£ |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 111COR                      | Corporate Resources                       | 810,412                        | 868,803                      | 58,391                                |                               |                                 | 58,391 *                           |
| 112ICT                      | Information & Communications Technolog    | 599,007                        | 565,619                      | (33,388)                              |                               |                                 | (33,388)                           |
| 113SUP                      | Support Services                          | 1,204,278                      | 1,269,696                    | 65,418                                |                               |                                 | 65,418 *                           |
| 121DEMO                     | Democratic Services                       | 641,321                        | 630,080                      | (11,241)                              |                               |                                 | (11,241)                           |
| <b>1CEXEC</b>               | <b>Chief Executive</b>                    | <b>3,255,018</b>               | <b>3,334,197</b>             | <b>79,179</b>                         | <b>0</b>                      | <b>0</b>                        | <b>79,179</b>                      |
| 211CC                       | Climate Change                            | 160,990                        | 148,237                      | (12,753)                              |                               |                                 | (12,753)                           |
| 212PARKS                    | Parks, Gardens & Green Spaces             | 2,469,329                      | 2,518,456                    | 49,127                                |                               |                                 | 49,127                             |
| 213TOWN                     | Townscape                                 | 243,396                        | 245,141                      | 1,745                                 |                               |                                 | 1,745                              |
| 214WRSC                     | Waste, Recycling & Street Cleaning        | 6,455,164                      | 6,210,262                    | (244,902)                             | 33,819                        | 224,133                         | 13,050                             |
| 221COMMS                    | Communications & Marketing                | 223,660                        | 277,990                      | 54,330                                |                               |                                 | 54,330 *                           |
| 231BUSSUP                   | Business Support & Customer Services      | 884,134                        | 926,197                      | 42,063                                |                               |                                 | 42,063                             |
| 232LIFE                     | Lifelines                                 | (40,480)                       | (51,174)                     | (10,694)                              |                               |                                 | (10,694)                           |
| 233PEST                     | Pest Control                              | (86,308)                       | (114,094)                    | (27,786)                              |                               |                                 | (27,786)                           |
| 234LAND                     | Land Charges                              | (94,730)                       | (81,321)                     | 13,409                                |                               |                                 | 13,409                             |
| 241CWP                      | Communities, Wellbeing & Partnerships     | 783,250                        | 756,228                      | (27,022)                              | 34,350                        |                                 | 7,328                              |
| 242MARK                     | Marketing & Inward Investment             | 318,831                        | 301,665                      | (17,166)                              |                               |                                 | (17,166)                           |
| 243PLAN                     | Planning & Enforcement                    | 828,674                        | 628,057                      | (200,617)                             |                               |                                 | (200,617) *                        |
| 251EMP                      | Emergency Planning                        | 11,150                         | 12,771                       | 1,621                                 |                               |                                 | 1,621                              |
| 252LIC                      | Licensing                                 | (87,767)                       | (116,752)                    | (28,985)                              |                               |                                 | (28,985)                           |
| 253PSH                      | Private Sector Housing                    | 196,229                        | 208,483                      | 12,254                                |                               |                                 | 12,254                             |
| 254COMF                     | COMF                                      | 0                              | 0                            | 0                                     |                               |                                 | 0                                  |
| 255ENVH                     | Enviromental Health                       | 1,046,743                      | 1,027,499                    | (19,244)                              |                               |                                 | (19,244)                           |
| <b>2COMMPL</b>              | <b>Communities &amp; Place</b>            | <b>13,312,265</b>              | <b>12,897,644</b>            | <b>(414,621)</b>                      | <b>68,169</b>                 | <b>224,133</b>                  | <b>(122,319)</b>                   |
| 311BER                      | Bereavement Services                      | (751,556)                      | (726,266)                    | 25,290                                |                               |                                 | 25,290                             |
| 312ROY                      | Royal Well                                | 49,924                         | 46,396                       | (3,528)                               |                               |                                 | (3,528)                            |
| 313COMM                     | Commercial & Income Generation            | 277,070                        | 226,042                      | (51,028)                              |                               |                                 | (51,028) *                         |
| 314LEG                      | Legal                                     | 568,900                        | 598,583                      | 29,683                                |                               |                                 | 29,683                             |
| 321ELEC                     | Elections & Electoral Registration        | 310,078                        | 288,696                      | (21,382)                              |                               |                                 | (21,382)                           |
| 331CFUAUD                   | CFY & Audit                               | 211,695                        | 214,910                      | 3,215                                 |                               |                                 | 3,215                              |
| 332FIN                      | Finance                                   | 2,870,996                      | 2,865,124                    | (5,872)                               |                               |                                 | (5,872)                            |
| 333PROP                     | Property & Assets                         | 5,788,571                      | 5,872,416                    | 83,845                                |                               |                                 | 83,845 *                           |
| 341HOUS                     | Housing & Communities                     | 548,265                        | 18,109                       | (530,156)                             | 310,529                       |                                 | (219,627) *                        |
| 352GOLD                     | Major Dev and Building Control            | (502,005)                      | (514,062)                    | (12,057)                              |                               | 58,399                          | 46,342                             |
| 361BRCTAX                   | Business Rates & Council Tax              | 605,226                        | 622,666                      | 17,440                                |                               |                                 | 17,440                             |
| 362CARP                     | Car Parking                               | (2,866,815)                    | (3,205,867)                  | (339,052)                             |                               | 150,000                         | (189,052) *                        |
| 363HOUBEN                   | Housing Benefits                          | 706,062                        | 631,729                      | (74,333)                              |                               | 75,000                          | 667                                |
| <b>3FINAR</b>               | <b>Finance, Assets &amp; Regeneration</b> | <b>7,816,411</b>               | <b>6,938,477</b>             | <b>(877,934)</b>                      | <b>310,529</b>                | <b>283,399</b>                  | <b>(284,006)</b>                   |
| 91COR                       | Capital Charges                           | (3,865,790)                    | (3,823,135)                  | 42,655                                |                               |                                 | 42,655                             |
| 92COR                       | Interest and Investment Income            | (1,709,465)                    | (1,592,178)                  | 117,287                               |                               |                                 | 117,287 *                          |
| 93COR                       | Use of balances and reserves              | 903,407                        | 903,407                      | 0                                     |                               |                                 | 0                                  |
| 99COR                       | Funding                                   | (19,610,336)                   | (19,909,291)                 | (298,955)                             |                               | 450,000                         | 151,046 *                          |
| <b>Net Outturn Position</b> |                                           | <b>101,510</b>                 | <b>(1,250,880)</b>           | <b>(1,352,390)</b>                    | <b>378,698</b>                | <b>957,532</b>                  | <b>(16,159)</b>                    |

\*Significant Variences over £50k after carry forwards are explained in Appendix 4

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## Appendix 4 - Significant Variances 2025/26

| Ref                                                   | Over/(under)spend after transfers to/(from) reserves £ | Revised Budget 2025/26 | Percentage Over/(Under) spend | Service Area                   | Budget Holder              | Explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chief Executive Directorate</b>                    |                                                        |                        |                               |                                |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| CE1                                                   | 58,391                                                 | 810,412                | 7.21%                         | Corporate Resources            | Ann Wolstencroft           | This service area is reporting an overspend of £58,391. Of this, £50,000 relates to a review of the allocation of costs shared between the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), resulting in a greater proportion of costs being held within the General Fund. The service area contains all Director costs and a range of corporate overheads, including corporate subscriptions, professional fees, audit fees and other central corporate expenditure. The remaining variance reflects other minor pressures across these corporate cost areas during the year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| CE2                                                   | 65,418                                                 | 1,204,278              | 5.43%                         | Support Services               | Ann Wolstencroft           | This service area is reporting an overspend of £65,418. Of this, £60,000 is primarily due to increased staffing costs within the Health and Safety team, reflecting additional resource requirements to support the Council's health and safety responsibilities and compliance obligations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Communities and Place Directorate</b>              |                                                        |                        |                               |                                |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| CP1                                                   | 54,330                                                 | 223,660                | 24.29%                        | Communications & Marketing     | Katie Sandey               | The Communications and Marketing service area is reporting an overspend as a result of changes to the allocation of costs shared between the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The recharge methodology has been reviewed based on service activity during 2025/26 to better reflect the level of support provided to each area. As a result, a lower proportion of costs are now being recharged to the HRA, with a greater share being held within the General Fund.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| CP2                                                   | -200,617                                               | 828,674                | -24.21%                       | Planning & Enforcement         | Chris Gomm                 | The Planning service area is reporting an underspend of £200,617. This variance is primarily due to higher-than-anticipated planning fee income, with a significant level of income received during Quarter 4 of the financial year. Due to the timing and unpredictable nature of planning applications, it can be difficult to accurately forecast both the value of income and the financial year in which it will be received.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Finance, Assets &amp; Regeneration Directorate</b> |                                                        |                        |                               |                                |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| FAR1                                                  | -51,028                                                | 277,070                | -18.42%                       | Commercial & Income Generation | Sanjay Mistry              | The Commercial and Income Generation service area is reporting an underspend of £51,028 as a result of changes to the allocation of costs shared between the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The service is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Council's in-house Netcall system, together with the management and support of the corporate cash receipting system, both of which are utilised by HRA services as well as the General Fund. As a result, a greater proportion of costs are now being recharged to the HRA. This revised approach represents a fairer and more appropriate allocation of costs between the General Fund and the HRA, based on actual service usage and the benefits derived during the year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| FAR2                                                  | 83,845                                                 | 5,788,571              | 1.45%                         | Property & Assets              | Louise Eite & Richard King | The Property and Assets service area is reporting an overspend of £83,845. This variance is primarily due to an overspend of £110,000 utility costs across the Council's operational assets, together with overspends on property management staffing costs and legal costs associated with the planned sale of assets. These pressures have been partially offset by an underspend of £120,000 following the opening of Minister Exchange and the inclusion of the associated Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) costs within the base budget. The remaining variance relates to a number of smaller underspends across the service area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| FAR3                                                  | -219,627                                               | 548,265                | -40.06%                       | Housing & Communities          | Martin Stacy               | Housing & Communities received homelessness grant funding of £1,016k for the 2025/26 financial year (this includes an additional 'windfall' payment of £76k received in the final quarter of 2025/26). The grant funding conditions mean that part of the work required was already funded by our base budget. Whilst this grant funding increased by £405k in 2025/26 we already anticipated changes in the funding formula for 2026/27 onwards. In particular, from 26/27 Cheltenham will be required to make a direct contribution to the provision of county-wide rough sleeping services from its homelessness prevention grant of up to around £425k, whereas for 2025/26 and in previous years these costs were met from a separate pot of grant funding. Our approach for 2025/26 means that approximately £220k of the 2025/26 grant will be available to support general balances within the Housing Options Service at year end, whilst ensuring that Cheltenham can meet all of its rough sleeping commissioning commitments for 26/27 without adversely affecting general balances. |
| FAR4                                                  | -189,052                                               | -2,866,815             | -6.59%                        | Car Parking                    | Jayne Gilpin               | The Car Parking service area is reporting an underspend as a result of strong income performance and cost savings achieved during the year. Car parking fee income remained robust throughout 2025/26 and was £113,000 higher than forecast at the re-budget stage, reflecting continued demand across the Council's car parking facilities. In addition, the service achieved a number of expenditure savings, most notably a £67,000 saving on service charges at Regent Arcade Car Park.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Interest, Investment Income</b>                    |                                                        |                        |                               |                                |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| INT1                                                  | 117,287                                                | -1,709,465             | 6.86%                         | Interest and Investment Income | Jon Whitlock               | The Interest and Investment Income service area is reporting an overspend of £117,287. This variance is primarily due to a £224,000 reduction in recharges to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) as a result of slippage within the HRA capital programme during 2025/26, leading to a lower recovery of debt financing costs from the HRA. This pressure has been partially offset by additional investment income of £52,000, reflecting higher balances held in investment accounts during the year, and an additional £55,000 surplus from the investment property portfolio, driven by a reduction in property vacancies and improved rental occupancy levels.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Funding</b>                                        |                                                        |                        |                               |                                |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| FUN1                                                  | 151,046                                                | -19,610,335            | 0.77%                         | Funding                        | Jon Whitlock               | Funding is reporting an adverse variance of £151,046. Of this, £150,000 relates to a planned contribution from a small percentage of capital receipts generated during the year. Due to the timing of capital receipts being received and the conditions required for this contribution to be applied, the anticipated funding could not be recognised in 2025/26.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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Appendix 5: 2025/26 CARRY FORWARD REQUESTS

| Ref | Amount £<br>(Net of VAT) | Service Area                 | Reason for carry forward                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Service Manager | A (i)                                                                          | A (ii)                                                                            | B                                 |
|-----|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|     |                          |                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 | Base Budgets<br>Amounts agreed<br>by S151 Officer<br>under delegated<br>powers | One-Off Budgets<br>Amounts agreed<br>by S151 Officer<br>under delegated<br>powers | Amounts<br>for member<br>approval |
| 1   | 310,529                  | Homelessness                 | During 26-27, the Council will be seeking approval to re-procure our Advice & Inclusion Service, currently provided by Citizens' Advice. This service includes debt advice, welfare benefits advice, financial inclusion support, and housing rights advice. The estimated annual cost of this service is likely to increase by about £50k/year (after taking account of changes in CPI). Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) conditions means that this must be ringfenced for homelessness prevention services and statutory homelessness costs. The advice service is an early intervention homelessness prevention initiative, and therefore falls within the HPG grant conditions. It is therefore proposed that this funding is now ringfenced to contribute towards the increase in the cost of the Advice and Inclusion Service over the period of the future contract. This will help to ensure that any agreed uplift to the value of the contract has minimal impact on the General Fund.                                                                                    | Martin Stacey   |                                                                                | 310,529                                                                           |                                   |
| 2   | 33,819                   | Street Cleansing             | A carry forward of £33,819 to be used to fund the replacement and installation of new litter bins across the borough. The funding will be met from the underspend achieved within the Street Cleaning service during 2025/26. Carrying this budget forward will enable the Council to continue its investment in the street scene environment, improving the quality and capacity of litter bin provision in key locations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Karen Watson    |                                                                                | 33,819                                                                            |                                   |
| 3   | 19,350                   | Community Grants             | A carry forward of £23,325 to enable the Council to honour commitments made through the 2025/26 Community Pride Grant programme. Grant awards were approved on 3 February 2026 and formal grant agreements have subsequently been entered into with successful applicants from 2025/26 grant monies. Whilst the Community Pride Grant programme would ordinarily be delivered during the spring, the 2025/26 programme timetable was amended to allow the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) grant round to be undertaken during Spring 2025. As a result, the Community Pride Grant programme was moved to the autumn, with applications opening at the end of September and closing on 10 November 2025. This revised timetable resulted in grant awards being approved later in the financial year than is normally the case. Approval of this carry forward request will ensure that sufficient budget remains available in 2026/27 to meet these commitments and fulfil the grant agreements already entered into with successful Community Pride Grant recipients. | Richard Gibson  |                                                                                | 19,350                                                                            |                                   |
| 4   | 4,000                    | Community Grants             | As above                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Richard Gibson  |                                                                                | 4,000                                                                             |                                   |
| 5   | 11,000                   | Leisure & Culture Services   | A carry forward of £11,000 to support the ongoing Leisure and Culture Contract Project. The original growth allocation was approved to support the future procurement of the Council's leisure and culture services and comprised funding for both an options appraisal of the leisure centre and Prince of Wales Stadium, and the development of a procurement strategy. The options appraisal was completed during the previous financial year at a cost of approximately £24,000. However, the procurement strategy element of the project was not progressed during 2025/26, resulting in an unspent balance of £11,000 which will be used to support the next phase of this proeject during 2026/27                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Richard Gibson  |                                                                                | 11,000                                                                            |                                   |
|     | 378,698                  | TOTAL CARRY FORWARD REQUESTS |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 | -                                                                              | 378,698                                                                           | -                                 |

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Appendix 6 - Outturn Reserve Movements 2025/26 & 2026/27

|                                                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | <u>2025/26</u>                   | <u>2025/26</u>     | <u>2025/26</u>  | <u>2025/26</u> | <u>2025/26</u>     | <u>2025/26</u>     | <u>2026/27</u>  | <u>2026/27</u>  | <u>2026/27</u> | <u>2026/27</u>     |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
|                                                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | <u>1st April</u>                 | <u>Movement</u>    | <u>Movement</u> | <u>Revised</u> | <u>Outturn</u>     | <u>31st March</u>  | <u>Movement</u> | <u>Movement</u> | <u>Outturn</u> | <u>31st March</u>  |
|                                                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | <u>2025</u>                      | <u>Revenue</u>     | <u>Capital</u>  | <u>Budget</u>  | <u>Changes</u>     | <u>2026</u>        | <u>Revenue</u>  | <u>Capital</u>  | <u>Changes</u> | <u>2027</u>        |
|                                                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | £                                | £                  | £               | £              | £                  | £                  | £               | £               | £              | £                  |
| <b><u>EARMARKED RESERVES</u></b>                |                                                    |                                                                                           | <b><u>Purpose of Reserve</u></b> |                    |                 |                |                    |                    |                 |                 |                |                    |
| <b><u>Other</u></b>                             |                                                    |                                                                                           |                                  |                    |                 |                |                    |                    |                 |                 |                |                    |
| RES002                                          | Pension & Restructuring Reserve                    | To fund future reorganisational changes                                                   | (157,761)                        | (50,000)           |                 |                |                    | (207,761)          | 207,761         |                 |                | (0)                |
| RES008                                          | House Survey Reserve                               | To fund cyclical housing stock condition surveys                                          | (5,617)                          |                    |                 |                |                    | (5,617)            | 5,617           |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES009                                          | Twinning Reserve                                   | Twinning towns civic visits to Cheltenham                                                 | (8,366)                          |                    |                 |                |                    | (8,366)            | 8,366           |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES010                                          | Flood Alleviation Reserve                          | To fund future flood resilience work, delegated to the Flood working group for allocation | (235,959)                        |                    |                 |                |                    | (235,959)          | 235,959         |                 |                | (0)                |
| RES016                                          | Joint Core Strategy Reserve                        | To fund Joint Core Strategy                                                               | (41,780)                         |                    |                 |                |                    | (41,780)           | 41,780          |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES020                                          | Environmental Services Reserve                     | To fund environmental services provided by Ubico                                          | 0                                | (255,000)          |                 |                | (224,133)          | (479,133)          |                 |                 |                | (479,133)          |
| RES022                                          | Homelessness Reserve                               | To cover future homelessness prevention costs                                             | (41,100)                         |                    |                 |                |                    | (41,100)           | 41,100          |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES023                                          | Transport Green Initiatives Reserve                | To fund Transport Green Initiative Schemes                                                | (33,825)                         |                    |                 |                |                    | (33,825)           |                 |                 |                | (33,825)           |
| RES024                                          | Transformation & Change                            | To fund the transformation & change                                                       | (127,059)                        | 22,915             |                 |                |                    | (104,144)          | (895,856)       |                 |                | (1,000,000)        |
| RES025                                          | Budget Strategy (Support) Reserve                  | To support budget strategy                                                                | (9,452)                          |                    |                 | (153,000)      |                    | (162,452)          | (162,000)       |                 |                | (324,452)          |
| RES026                                          | Social Housing Marketing Assessment (SHMA) Reserve | To fund Social Housing Marketing Assessment work                                          | (49,034)                         | (2,500)            |                 |                |                    | (51,534)           | 51,534          |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES030                                          | Major Developments Reserve                         | To fund major Developments                                                                | (334,937)                        | (200,000)          |                 |                | (38,549)           | (573,486)          |                 |                 |                | (573,486)          |
| RES208                                          |                                                    |                                                                                           | 0                                |                    |                 |                | (19,850)           | (19,850)           |                 |                 |                | (19,850)           |
|                                                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | <b>(1,044,890)</b>               |                    |                 |                |                    | <b>(1,965,007)</b> |                 |                 |                | <b>(2,430,746)</b> |
| <b><u>Repairs &amp; Renewals Reserves</u></b>   |                                                    |                                                                                           |                                  |                    |                 |                |                    |                    |                 |                 |                |                    |
| RES201                                          | Commuted Maintenance Reserve                       | Developer contributions to fund maintenance                                               | (12,175)                         | 12,172             |                 |                |                    | (3)                | 3               |                 |                | (0)                |
| RES204                                          | I.T. Repairs & Renewals Reserve                    | Replacement fund                                                                          | (32,037)                         |                    | 32,037          |                |                    | 0                  | (117,963)       |                 |                | (117,963)          |
| RES205                                          | Property Repairs & Renewals Reserve                | 20 year maintenance fund                                                                  | (168,000)                        | 102,000            |                 |                |                    | (66,000)           | 66,000          |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES206                                          | Delta Place Reserve                                | maintenance fund                                                                          | (274,226)                        | (50,000)           |                 |                |                    | (324,226)          |                 |                 |                | (324,226)          |
|                                                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | <b>(486,438)</b>                 |                    |                 |                |                    | <b>(390,229)</b>   |                 |                 |                | <b>(442,189)</b>   |
| <b><u>Equalisation Reserves</u></b>             |                                                    |                                                                                           |                                  |                    |                 |                |                    |                    |                 |                 |                |                    |
| RES029                                          | Council Tax Appeals Equalisation Reserve           | To fund fluctuations in overpayment of court costs                                        | (53,926)                         |                    |                 |                |                    | (53,926)           | 53,926          |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES101                                          | Housing Benefit Audit                              | To pay for Housing Benefit audits that are due                                            | 0                                |                    |                 |                | (75,000)           | (75,000)           |                 |                 |                | (75,000)           |
| RES102                                          | Planning Appeals Equalisation                      | Funding for one off appeals cost in excess of revenue budget                              | (76,612)                         |                    |                 |                |                    | (76,612)           | 76,612          |                 |                | (0)                |
| RES105                                          | Local Plan Equalisation                            | Fund cyclical cost of local plan inquiry                                                  | (8,095)                          |                    |                 |                |                    | (8,095)            |                 |                 |                | (8,095)            |
| RES106                                          | Elections Equalisation                             | Fund cyclical cost of local elections                                                     | (95,832)                         | (65,000)           |                 |                |                    | (160,832)          | 160,832         |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES107                                          | Car Parking Equalisation                           | To fund fluctuations in income from closure of car parks                                  | (100,000)                        |                    |                 |                |                    | (100,000)          | 100,000         |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES108                                          | Business Rates Retention Equalisation              | To fund fluctuations in income from retained business rates                               | (571,015)                        | (253,985)          |                 | (233,541)      | (600,000)          | (1,658,541)        | 558,541         |                 |                | (1,100,000)        |
| RES109                                          | Cemetery income Equalisation reserve               | Additional Crematoria income to 2nd chapel build scheme                                   | (50,000)                         |                    |                 |                |                    | (50,000)           | 50,000          |                 |                | 0                  |
| RES112                                          | Legal Services Equalisation                        | To fund one-off legal Expenditure                                                         | (600,000)                        |                    | 24,575          |                |                    | (575,425)          |                 |                 |                | (575,425)          |
|                                                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | <b>(1,555,480)</b>               |                    |                 |                |                    | <b>(2,758,431)</b> |                 |                 |                | <b>(1,758,520)</b> |
| <b><u>Reserves for commitments</u></b>          |                                                    |                                                                                           |                                  |                    |                 |                |                    |                    |                 |                 |                |                    |
| RES301                                          | Carry Forwards Reserve                             | Approved budget carry forwards                                                            | (422,532)                        | 422,532            |                 |                | (378,698)          | (378,698)          |                 | 378,698         |                | 0                  |
| <b><u>CAPITAL</u></b>                           |                                                    |                                                                                           |                                  |                    |                 |                |                    |                    |                 |                 |                |                    |
| RES402                                          | Capital Reserve - GF                               | To fund General Fund capital expenditure                                                  | 0                                | (200,000)          |                 |                |                    | (200,000)          | 200,000         |                 |                | 0                  |
| <b>TOTAL EARMARKED RESERVES</b>                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | <b>(3,509,341)</b>               |                    |                 |                |                    | <b>(5,692,366)</b> |                 |                 |                | <b>(4,631,456)</b> |
| <b><u>GENERAL FUND BALANCE</u></b>              |                                                    |                                                                                           |                                  |                    |                 |                |                    |                    |                 |                 |                |                    |
| B8000 - B8240                                   | General Balance - RR                               | General balances                                                                          | (1,544,483)                      | (560,803)          |                 | 662,313        | (16,159)           | (1,459,131)        | (315,988)       |                 |                | (1,775,119)        |
|                                                 |                                                    |                                                                                           | <b>(1,544,483)</b>               |                    |                 |                |                    | <b>(1,459,131)</b> |                 |                 |                | <b>(1,775,119)</b> |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND RESERVES AND BALANCES</b> |                                                    |                                                                                           | <b>(5,053,824)</b>               | <b>(1,077,669)</b> | <b>56,612</b>   | <b>275,772</b> | <b>(1,352,389)</b> | <b>(7,151,497)</b> | <b>366,224</b>  | <b>0</b>        | <b>378,698</b> | <b>(6,406,575)</b> |

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# Treasury Management Outturn Report 2025/26

## 1. Introduction

1.1 In February 2011 this Council adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's *Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice* (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Authority to approve a treasury management annual report after the end of each financial year.

1.2 The financial year was largely dominated by two periods of significant uncertainty and volatility. The first being the US trade tariff 'Liberation Day' in April 2025 and the second was the US/Israel war with Iran at the end of February 2026.

1.3 After the initial fallout from US trade tariffs, the following months saw some improvements as equity markets made gains and bond yields eased modestly. However, in the UK this trend in bond yields reversed somewhat as an uncertain economic outlook together with concerns around the government's fiscal position and autumn Budget saw 'term premia' rise as investors demanded a higher return for holding gilts. This impacted significantly the borrowing rates offered from the PWLB, making it very expensive to borrow.

1.4 Having begun the financial year at 4.50%, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) reduced Bank Rate by 0.75% to 3.75% by the close of March 2026.

## 2. Main Points

2.1 Investment and borrowing interest for 2025/26 have produced a net deficit of £172k against the revised budget. Borrowing rates in the local authority increased significantly in the last quarter of 25/26, but due to the US/Iran war, investment rates remained higher than estimated for the last quarter of the financial year as further rate reductions were forecast at the revised budget time in January 2025. The HRA capital expenditure was well below estimated spend and this resulted in less debt recharged to the HRA for 2025/26.

2.2 Pooled Funds have returned dividends that were budgeted at the start of the financial year starting against lower capital values, returned 4.36% against the £7m invested, resulting in over £305k received.

2.3 The capital values of the Pooled Funds realised gains of over £15k for 2025/26.

2.4 The Council had debt of £217.435m as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 at an average rate of 3.86%.

2.5 Investments returned an average rate of 4.27% on an average £17.970m for 2025/26 on

2.5 All treasury prudential indicators were within their permitted limits for 2025/26.

## 3. Local Context

3.1 On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, the Authority had net borrowing of £199.200 arising from its revenue and capital expenditure, an increase on 2025/26 of £12.480m. The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), while usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment.

3.2 The Council's strategy was to maintain borrowing and investments below their underlying levels, sometimes known as internal borrowing, to reduce risk and keep interest costs low. The treasury management position as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 and the year-on-year change is shown in table 1 below.

Table 1: Balance Sheet Summary

|                                  | <b>31.3.25<br/>Actual<br/>£m</b> | <b>31.3.26<br/>Actual<br/>£m</b> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| General Fund CFR                 | 120.328                          | 119.942                          |
| HRA CFR                          | 95.512                           | 109.435                          |
| <b>Total CFR</b>                 | <b>215.840</b>                   | <b>229.377</b>                   |
| External borrowing               | 204.409                          | 217.435                          |
| <b>Internal (over) borrowing</b> | <b>11.440</b>                    | <b>11.950</b>                    |
| Less: Balance sheet resources    | 19.375                           | 18.240                           |
| <b>Net borrowing</b>             | <b>186.720</b>                   | <b>199.200</b>                   |

3.4 The treasury management position as 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 and the change during the year is shown in table 2 below.

Table 2: Treasury Management Summary

|                           | <b>31.3.25<br/>Balance<br/>£m</b> | <b>2025/26<br/>Movement<br/>£m</b> | <b>31.3.26<br/>Balance<br/>£m</b> | <b>31.3.26<br/>Rate<br/>%</b> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Long-term borrowing       | 151.359                           | (8.430)                            | 142.930                           | 3.40                          |
| Short-term borrowing      | 53.050                            | 21.450                             | 74.500                            | 5.10                          |
| <b>Total borrowing</b>    | <b>204.409</b>                    | <b>13.020</b>                      | <b>217.430</b>                    | <b>3.86</b>                   |
| Long-term investments     | 17.693                            | 0.542                              | 18.235                            | 4.27                          |
| Short-term investments    | 0                                 | 0                                  | 0                                 | -                             |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 0                                 | 0                                  | 0                                 | -                             |
| <b>Total investments</b>  | <b>17.693</b>                     | <b>0.542</b>                       | <b>18.235</b>                     | <b>4.27</b>                   |
| <b>Net borrowing</b>      | <b>186.720</b>                    | <b>12.480</b>                      | <b>199.200</b>                    |                               |

3.5 Borrowing Activity as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, the Council held £217.435m of loans, an increase of £13.020m on the previous year. All new borrowing undertaken in 2025/26 was temporarily from the LA market, since PWLB rates were much higher as they were affected by higher gilt rates. As outlined in the treasury strategy, the Council's chief objective when borrowing has been to strike an appropriate risk balance between securing lower interest costs and achieving cost certainty over the period for which funds are required, with flexibility to renegotiate loans should the Council's long-term plans change being a secondary objective. The Council's borrowing strategy continues to address the key issue of affordability without compromising the longer-term stability of the debt portfolio.

3.6 In May 2025, the one remaining LOBO loan (Lenders Option, Borrowers Option) the Council had with Bayerische Landesbank, was repaid in full as the lender exercised their right to increase the loan

rate from 3.95% to 7%. It was decided to repay the loan after seeking advice from Arlingclose and replaced the loan with short term debt.

Table 3: Borrowing Position

|                                | <b>31.3.25<br/>Balance<br/>£m</b> | <b>2025/26<br/>Movement<br/>£m</b> | <b>31.3.26<br/>Balance<br/>£m</b> | <b>31.3.26<br/>Rate<br/>%</b> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Public Works Loan Board        | 137.459                           | (3.430)                            | 134.030                           | 3.38                          |
| Banks (LOBO)                   | 5.000                             | (5.000)                            | 0                                 | 3.95                          |
| Banks (fixed term)             | 8.900                             |                                    | 8.900                             | 3.82                          |
| Local authorities (short-term) | 53.050                            | 21.450                             | 74.500                            | 5.10                          |
| <b>Total borrowing</b>         | <b>204.409</b>                    | <b>13.020</b>                      | <b>217.430</b>                    | <b>3.86</b>                   |

3.7 After cutting Bank Rate to 3.75% in December 2025, the BoE's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) voted 5-4 to hold rates in February 2026 and then unanimously to do so again in March. Until the war started, financial markets were expecting Bank Rate to be cut to 3.5% at the March meeting. However, the conflict in the Middle East quickly changed this. The MPC noted the risks to both inflation and growth and indicated they could move rates either up or down depending on the conditions. Financial markets quickly responded to this by pricing in rate hikes.

3.8 The cost of short-term borrowing from other local authorities has generally tracked Base Rate at around 4%-4.5%. However, from late 2025 rates began to rise, peaking at around 7% in February and March 2026.

3.9 CIPFA's 2021 Prudential Code is clear that local authorities must not borrow to invest primarily for financial return and that it is not prudent for local authorities to make any investment or spending decision that will increase the capital financing requirement, and so may lead to new borrowing, unless directly and primarily related to the functions of the Council. PWLB loans are no longer available to local authorities planning to buy investment assets primarily for yield unless these loans are for refinancing purposes.

3.10 The Council currently holds PWLB debt of £38.500m for commercial investments that were purchased prior to the change in the CIPFA Prudential Code.

#### **4. Investment Activity**

4.1 The Council holds invested funds, representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. During 2025/26 the Council's investment balance ranged between £16m and £36.2m due to timing differences between income and expenditure. The year-end investment position and the year-on-year change is show in table 3 below.

Table 4: Investment Position (Treasury Investments)

|                                     | <b>31.3.25<br/>Balance<br/>£m</b> | <b>2025/26<br/>Movement<br/>£m</b> | <b>31.3.26<br/>Balance<br/>£m</b> | <b>Interest<br/>Rate<br/>%</b> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Banks & Building Societies          | 0                                 | 0                                  | 0                                 | -                              |
| Government (inc. Local Authorities) | 0                                 | 0                                  | 0                                 | -                              |
| MMF's/Call Accounts                 | 0                                 | 0                                  | 0                                 | -                              |
| Pooled Funds                        | 7.000                             | 0                                  | 7.000                             | 4.36                           |
| Other Investments                   | 10.693                            | 0.550                              | 11.235                            | 4.69                           |
| <b>Total Investments</b>            | <b>17.693</b>                     | <b>0.550</b>                       | <b>18.235</b>                     | <b>4.39</b>                    |

4.2 £7m of the Council's investments are held in externally managed strategic pooled (bond, equity, multi-asset and property) funds where short-term security and liquidity are lesser considerations, and the objectives instead are regular revenue income and long-term price stability. These funds generated a total return of £305k (4.36%), with the capital value of these funds increased by £15k, which is treated as an unrealised capital gain. See table 4 below for a breakdown of the individual returns for each fund.

Table 5: Current Pooled Funds

| <b>Fund Manager</b>             | <b>Investment</b> | <b>Capital<br/>Value as at<br/>31<sup>st</sup> March<br/>2025</b> | <b>Capital<br/>Value as at<br/>31<sup>st</sup> March<br/>2026</b> | <b>Dividends<br/>Received<br/>2025/26</b> | <b>2025/26<br/>Gain/(Loss)</b> | <b>Gain/(Loss) v<br/>Original<br/>Investment</b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                                 | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>                                                          | <b>£</b>                                                          | <b>£</b>                                  | <b>£</b>                       | <b>£</b>                                         |
| CCLA Property Fund              | 3,000,000         | 2,649,166                                                         | 2,648,975                                                         | 123,558                                   | (191)                          | (351,025)                                        |
| Schroders Income Maximiser Fund | 2,000,000         | 1,640,687                                                         | 1,762,194                                                         | 125,024                                   | 121,507                        | (237,806)                                        |
| CCLA Diversified Income Fund    | 2,000,000         | 1,870,964                                                         | 1,764,380                                                         | 56,622                                    | (106,584)                      | (235,620)                                        |
| <b>Total –current Funds</b>     | <b>7,000,000</b>  | <b>6,160,816</b>                                                  | <b>6,175,549</b>                                                  | <b>305,204</b>                            | <b>14,732</b>                  | <b>(824,451)</b>                                 |

4.5 The nature of these funds is that values can fluctuate from one year to another. Their performance and suitability in meeting the Council's investment objectives are monitored and discussed with Arlingclose on a regular basis. Because these funds have no defined maturity date, but are available for withdrawal after a notice period, their performance and continued suitability in meeting the Council's investment objectives are regularly reviewed. Strategic fund investments are made in the knowledge that capital values will move both up and down on months, quarters and even years; but with the confidence that over a long period total return will exceed cash interest rates.

## 5. Financial Implications

5.1 The outturn for debt interest paid in 2025/26 was £7.538 million (3.7%) on an average debt portfolio of £203.728 million against a budgeted £7.479 million. A deficit of £53k was recorded for the financial year after considering the re-imbursement of £3.718m for the debt associated to the HRA for 2025/26. The reason for the variance is mainly due to the higher rates available towards the back end of the financial year added with additional borrowing to cover the daily cashflow.

5.2 The outturn for investment income received in 2025/26 was £1.496m which equates to a 4.62% return (24/25 – 4.92%) on an average investment portfolio of £22.410 million against a budgeted £1.444m. The General Fund reimbursed the HRA £28k for revenue balances held within investment balances during 2025/26. A General Fund surplus of £52k was made on investment income. The council were able to hold higher balances within the MMF's for longer periods which resulted in better interest returns, and due to the HRA Reserves being lower than expected, resulted in less interest being re-paid to the HRA.

5.3 Net loans and investments budget for 2025/26 which also includes leasing and third-party loans repayments, was a budgeted cost of £2.323m but made an actual cost return of £2.324, a deficit of £1k. See table 6 below for a breakdown.

Table 6 – Borrowing and Investment Costs

| <b>Borrowing Costs</b>   | 2025/26 Revised<br>£ | 2025/26 Actual<br>£ | Variance<br>(surplus)/loss<br>£ |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Temp Borrowing           | 2,515,788            | 2,576,330           | 60,542                          |
| LT Borrowing             | 4,963,145            | 4,961,759           | (1,386)                         |
| HRA Share                | (3,711,500)          | (3,546,209)         | 165,291                         |
| <b>Total GF Cost</b>     | <b>3,767,433</b>     | <b>3,991,880</b>    | <b>224,447</b>                  |
|                          |                      |                     |                                 |
| <b>Investment Income</b> | 2025/26 Revised<br>£ | 2025/26 Actual<br>£ | Variance<br>(surplus)/loss<br>£ |
| Pooled Funds             | 312,000              | 305,204             | 6,796                           |
| Short term/call          | 378,678              | 400,360             | (21,682)                        |
| Other Loans/Lease        | 820,327              | 818,798             | 1,529                           |
| HRA Share                | (67,000)             | (28,283)            | (38,717)                        |
| <b>Total GF Income</b>   | <b>1,444,005</b>     | <b>1,496,079</b>    | <b>(52,074)</b>                 |
|                          |                      |                     |                                 |
| <b>NET COST (Saving)</b> | <b>2,323,428</b>     | <b>2,495,801</b>    | <b>172,373</b>                  |

## 6. Compliance Report

6.1 The Council can confirm that it has complied with its Prudential Indicators for 2025/26, which was set in March 2025 as part of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and Capital Strategy. In compliance with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice this report provides members with a summary report of the treasury management activity during 2025/26. None of the Prudential Indicators have been breached and a prudent approach has been taking in relation to investment activity with priority being given to security and liquidity over yield.

The Prudential Indicators include:

- Authorised and Operational Boundary for External Debt
- Average Credit rating
- Upper limits for fixed interest rate exposure and variable interest rate exposure
- Upper limit for total principal sums invested over 364 days.

Table 7: Debt Limits

|           | 2025/26<br>Maximum<br>£m | 31.3.26<br>Actual £m | 2025/26<br>Operational<br>Boundary<br>£m | 2025/26<br>Authorised<br>Limit<br>£m | Complied |
|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Borrowing | 231.359                  | 217.430              | 294                                      | 304                                  | ✓        |

6.2 Since the operational boundary is a management tool for in-year monitoring it is not significant if the operational boundary is breached on occasions due to variations in cash flow, and this is not counted as a compliance failure. Total debt was never above the operational boundary during 2025/26.

## 7. Treasury Management Indicators

The Authority measures and manages its exposures to treasury management risks using the following indicators.

### 7.1 Maturity Structure of Borrowing

This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing were:

Table 8 Maturity structure of borrowing

|                                   | 31.3.26<br>Actual | Actual<br>Debt Due | Upper<br>Limit | Lower<br>Limit | Complied |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Under 12 months                   | 38%               | £82.500m           | 50%            | 0%             | ✓        |
| Over 12 months and within 5 years | 28%               | £61.597m           | 100%           | 0%             | ✓        |
| 5 years and within 10 years       | 5%                | £10.617m           | 100%           | 0%             | ✓        |
| 10 years and above                | 29%               | £62.720m           | 100%           | 0%             | ✓        |

Time periods start on the first day of each financial year. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment. The actual maturity percentages for 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 are calculated on the debt outstanding of £217.430m.

### 7.2 Principal Sums Invested for Periods Longer than 364 days

The purpose of this indicator is to control the Authority's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments. The limits on the long-term principal sum invested to final maturities beyond the period end were:

Table 9 Principal invested over 364 days

|                                             | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Actual principal invested beyond year end   | 7m      | 7m      | 7m      |
| Limit on principal invested beyond year end | 10m     | 10m     | 10m     |
| Complied                                    | ✓       | ✓       | ✓       |

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| Code   | Directorate / Scheme                                                                | Scheme Description                                                                                                                                                                                              | Budget<br>2025/26<br>£ | Forecast<br>2025/26<br>£ | Outturn 2025/26<br>£ | Original Budget<br>2026/27<br>£ | Adjusted<br>Budget after<br>Outturn<br>2026/27<br>£ | Budget<br>2027/28<br>£ | Budget<br>2028/29<br>£ | Total<br>Programme<br>£ |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| CAP014 | <u>Funded from Capital Receipts or Borrowing</u><br>Digital Platform for Cem & Crem | To develop a digital platform to replace the current records system used by Bereavement Services                                                                                                                | -                      | 5,539                    | 5,539                |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP015 | Excavator Purchase                                                                  | To purchase an excavator for the cemetery to deliver a revenue saving in the existing cost of hiring plant.                                                                                                     | 33,250                 | 33,250                   | 33,250               |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP026 | IT Infrastructure                                                                   | 5 year ICT infrastructure strategy                                                                                                                                                                              | 100,000                | 150,000                  | 234,800              | 175,000                         | 175,000                                             | 100,000                | 100,000                |                         |
| CAP030 | Carbon Neutral agenda                                                               | Seed funding to deliver the actions needed, as outlined in the report to Full Council in October 2019, to facilitate the Council's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030.                                   | 68,691                 | -                        |                      | 68,691                          | 68,691                                              |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP035 | Civic Events Space                                                                  | Funding for an event space to become a potential Council Chamber and meeting space following the sale of the Municipal Office building.                                                                         | 500,000                | -                        |                      | 500,000                         | 500,000                                             |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP036 | Resurfacing of the Regent Arcade Car park                                           | To meet the obligations of the lease, resurfacing of the car park.                                                                                                                                              | 13,379                 | 4,103                    | 13,379               | 17,482                          | -                                                   |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP037 | Decarbonisation of Leisure@                                                         | To finance the investments in LED lighting and pool covers.                                                                                                                                                     | 327,365                | 327,365                  | 13,083               |                                 | 314,282                                             |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP038 | Fixed Power Installation in Festival Gardens                                        | To deliver a fixed power supply and distribution in the Festival Gardens.                                                                                                                                       | 500,000                | 4,550                    | 21,392               | 495,450                         | 478,608                                             |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP039 | Recreation Centre Waterproofing                                                     | Waterproofing and propping scheme for at recreation centre.                                                                                                                                                     |                        |                          |                      | 141,000                         | 141,000                                             |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP102 | Play Areas Enhancement                                                              | We are tendering one large playground improvement contract.                                                                                                                                                     | 159,522                | 159,522                  | 68,797               | 80,000                          | 120,725                                             | 80,000                 | 80,000                 |                         |
| CAP113 | Desilting of Hatherley Lake                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 55,000                 |                          | 6,158                | 48,842                          | 48,842                                              |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP135 | Commercialisation opportunities within the Cheltenham Trust                         | Invest a sum of £1m to pump prime the commercial opportunities identified by The Cheltenham Trust (including investment which both sustains and grows income at the Town Hall);                                 | 87,990                 | 104,922                  | 104,922              |                                 | -                                                   |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP158 | Pest Control Van Replacement                                                        | To replace one of the existing end of life vans with a more efficient model.                                                                                                                                    | 25,000                 | -                        |                      |                                 | -                                                   |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP201 | CCTV                                                                                | Additional CCTV in order to improve shopping areas and reduce fear of crime                                                                                                                                     | 75,000                 | 1,185                    | 72,131               | 50,000                          | 2,869                                               | 23,815                 |                        |                         |
| CAP207 | Public Realm Improvements - High Street Phase 2                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 49,619               |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP209 | Asset Management Strategy Implementation                                            | To provide funding for the implementation of strategies to increase the profitability and longevity of our fixed assets.                                                                                        | 100,000                | -                        | 112,562              | 100,000                         | 100,000                                             | 100,000                | 100,000                |                         |
| CAP223 | H&S, vacant property & renovation grants                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 59,000               |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP227 | Housing Delivery                                                                    | Enabling the delivery of Private Rented Sector (PRS) Housing.                                                                                                                                                   | 4,500,000              | -                        |                      | 4,500,000                       | 4,500,000                                           | 4,500,000              |                        |                         |
| CAP229 | Noise Monitoring Equipment                                                          | The replacement of two noise monitoring systems required for the Council to undertake it's statutory duty to survey noise.                                                                                      | 24,000                 | 24,000                   |                      |                                 | 24,000                                              |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP301 | Vehicles and recycling equipment and receptacles                                    | Replacement vehicles and recycling equipment                                                                                                                                                                    | 4,803,523              | 4,086,709                | 3,331,260            | 2,050,100                       | 2,805,549                                           | 675,000                | 74,500                 |                         |
| CAP306 | In Cab Technology                                                                   | The introduction of an In-Cab system would reduce the mileage required to be completed by Ubico, because it would guide the crew around their collection route and would largely eliminate mistakes.            | 20,000                 | 20,000                   | 37,842               |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP501 | Allotments                                                                          | Allotment Enhancements - new toilets, path surfacing, fencing, signage, and other improvements to infra-structure.                                                                                              | 154,608                | 20,000                   | 3,014                | 134,608                         | 151,594                                             |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP513 | Smart Working Project                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 118,837              |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP515 | Minster Innovation Exchange                                                         | 20,000 sq ft purpose-built commercial space adjacent to the Minster                                                                                                                                             | 14,600                 | 14,837                   | 14,837               |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP518 | Sandford Park toilets                                                               | Provide for new public toilet provision at Sandford Park                                                                                                                                                        | 150,000                | -                        |                      | 150,000                         | 150,000                                             |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP516 | Airport Loan Interest Capitalised                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 422,429              |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP521 | Montpellier Toilets Refurbishment                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 250                  |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP527 | Delta Place Renovations                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 31,550               | 3,538,226                       | 3,538,226                                           |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP529 |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 258,720                | 258,720                  | 202,046              |                                 | 56,674                                              |                        |                        |                         |
|        | Floor strengthening work and survey at the Pittville Pump Rooms                     | To strengthen the sprung flooring and ensure the appropriate surveys can be carried out on the ceiling of the Pump Rooms                                                                                        |                        |                          |                      |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP606 | Crematorium Scheme - existing chapel                                                | Redevelopment of existing chapel                                                                                                                                                                                | 50,000                 | 50,000                   | 16,603               |                                 | 33,397                                              |                        |                        |                         |
|        |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 12,020,648             | 5,256,496                | 4,973,301            | 12,049,399                      | 13,209,457                                          | 5,478,815              | 354,500                | -                       |
|        | <u>Funded From Levelling Up and Borrowing/Capital Receipts</u>                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          |                      |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP402 | National Cyber Innovation Centre Delivery                                           | Delivery of the National Cyber Innovation Centre at Golden Valley.                                                                                                                                              | 28,643,752             | 430,012                  | 430,012              | 32,848,023                      | 32,848,023                                          | 65,696,047             |                        |                         |
| CAP402 | Interest - National Cyber Innovation Centre Delivery                                | Interest costs for Delivery of the National Cyber Innovation Centre at Golden Valley.                                                                                                                           | -                      | 6,050                    |                      | 440,000                         | 440,000                                             | 2,322,000              | -                      |                         |
|        |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 28,643,752             | 436,062                  | 430,012              | 33,288,023                      | 33,288,023                                          | 68,018,047             | -                      | -                       |
|        | <u>Funded from Capital Grants</u>                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          |                      |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP034 | UKSPF Projects                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 24,920               |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP101 | Play areas (Section 106)                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 11,194               |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP107 | Public Art                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 7,500                |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP228 | Housing Enabling                                                                    | Expenditure in support of enabling the provision of new affordable housing in partnership with registered Social Landlords and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)                                           | 252,746                | 252,746                  |                      |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
|        |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 252,746                | 252,746                  | 43,614               | -                               | -                                                   | -                      | -                      | -                       |
|        | <u>Funded from Better Care Fund</u>                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          |                      |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
| CAP221 | Disabled Facilities Grants                                                          | County Council Grant funding for the provision of building work, equipment or modifying a dwelling to restore or enable independent living, privacy, confidence and dignity for individuals and their families. | 500,000                | 1,225,902                | 961,362              | 500,000                         |                                                     | 500,000                | 500,000                |                         |
| CAP224 | Warm & Well                                                                         | A Gloucestershire-wide project to promote home energy efficiency, particularly targeted at those with health problems                                                                                           | 58,600                 | -                        | 300,000              | 77,000                          |                                                     | 18,400                 | 18,400                 |                         |
| CAP528 | Chelt Lido - Solar Panel Grant                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                          | 19,504               |                                 |                                                     |                        |                        |                         |
|        |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 558,600                | 1,225,902                | 1,280,866            | 577,000                         | -                                                   | 518,400                | 518,400                | -                       |
|        | <b>TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b>                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 41,475,746             | 7,171,206                | 6,727,793            | 45,914,422                      | 46,497,480                                          | 74,015,262             | 872,900                | -                       |

\*A capital budget was also approved by Council on 21 July 2025, which was exempt due to the nature of the capital project.

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# Council Tax and Business Rates Collection Rates 2021-22

## Appendix 9 - Council Tax and NNDR Collection 2025/26

| Current Year Charges - 2025/26 |                           |                   | The annual collection rate is just below the target. 98.01% of 2025/26 council tax collected within the financial year is still a very good result, especially in the backdrop of rising living costs. It is well above the national average for all England councils, which is 95.62%. The council tax team continue to work with those customers struggling to pay and where appropriate maximise entitlement to benefits or discounts. Robust recovery action will continue against those avoiding payment |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monitoring Period              | % Collected at 31/03/2026 | Target 31/03/2026 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                | 98.01%                    | 98.20%            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Comparison with 2024/25        | As at 31/03/2025          |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                | 98.18%                    |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Previous Years Charges Outstanding in 2025/26 |                                  |                   | The arrears outstanding at the end of 2025/26 have reduced by more than the target level. The council tax team continue to work closely with those customers struggling to pay and robust recovery action will continue against those avoiding payment |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monitoring Period                             | Amount outstanding at 31/03/2026 | Target 31/03/2026 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                               | £2,531,064                       | £2,700,000        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Comparison with 2024/25                       | Amount outstanding at 31/03/2024 |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                               | £2,360,311                       |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

## Business Rates 2025/26

| Current Year Charges - 2025/26 |                           |                   | The annual collection rate is below the target. 97.19% of 2025/26 business rates collected within the financial year is still a very good result and is above the national verage for all England councils, which is 96.77%. The business rates team continue to work with those business rate payers struggling to pay. Robust recovery action using all legal powers available will continue against those avoiding payment |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monitoring Period              | % Collected at 31/03/2026 | Target 31/03/2026 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                | 97.19%                    | 97.50%            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Comparison with 2024/25        | As at 31/03/2024          |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                | 97.64%                    |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Previous Years Charges Outstanding in 2025/26 |                                  |                   | The arrears outstanding at the end of 2025/26 have not quite reduced to the target level. The business rates team continue to work closely with businesses struggling to pay and robust available enforcemnt powers are being utilised against those businesses avoiding payment |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monitoring Period                             | Amount outstanding at 31/03/2026 | Target 31/03/2026 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                               | £1,231,182                       | £1,200,000        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Comparison with 2024/25                       | Amount outstanding at 31/03/2024 |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                               | £595,851                         |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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**Appendix 10****HRA OPERATING ACCOUNT**

|                                            | <b>2025/26</b>         |                       |                   |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
|                                            | <b>Original Budget</b> | <b>Revised Budget</b> | <b>Outturn</b>    |
|                                            | <b>£</b>               | <b>£</b>              | <b>£</b>          |
| <b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>                  |                        |                       |                   |
| General & Special Management               | 6,265,990              | 6,272,367             | 5,598,853         |
| Supervision & Management                   | 4,152,600              | 4,361,152             | 4,635,409         |
| Rents, Rates, Taxes and Other Charges      | 158,900                | 222,400               | 353,279           |
| Repairs & Maintenance                      | 5,810,710              | 5,248,541             | 5,086,035         |
| Provision for Bad Debts                    | 250,000                | 250,000               | 153,920           |
| Interest Payable                           | 3,711,499              | 3,696,227             | 3,546,209         |
| Depreciation of Dwellings                  | 5,819,700              | 5,819,700             | 5,967,476         |
| Depreciation of other Assets               | 315,200                | 315,200               | 339,922           |
| Debt Management Expenses                   | 116,000                | 116,000               | 97,452            |
| Efficiency Savings                         | -650,000               | -374,000              | -374,000          |
| Strategic management                       | 874,200                | 874,200               | 813,083           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>26,824,799</b>      | <b>26,801,787</b>     | <b>26,217,637</b> |
| <b><u>INCOME</u></b>                       |                        |                       |                   |
| Dwelling Rents                             | 25,018,500             | 25,018,500            | 24,561,279        |
| Non Dwelling Rents                         | 273,200                | 288,476               | 257,124           |
| Charges for Services and Facilities        | 1,276,300              | 1,287,000             | 1,215,071         |
| Contributions towards Expenditure          | 278,300                | 278,300               | 297,549           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>26,846,300</b>      | <b>26,872,276</b>     | <b>26,331,024</b> |
| <b>NET INCOME FROM SERVICES</b>            | <b>21,501</b>          | <b>70,489</b>         | <b>113,386</b>    |
| Interest Receivable                        | 60,000                 | 60,000                | 28,283            |
| <b>NET OPERATING SURPLUS</b>               | <b>81,501</b>          | <b>130,489</b>        | <b>141,669</b>    |
| <b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in reserves</b> | <b>81,501</b>          | <b>130,489</b>        | <b>141,669</b>    |
| <b>Revenue Reserve brought forward</b>     | <b>647,427</b>         | <b>647,427</b>        | <b>647,427</b>    |
| <b>Revenue Reserve Carried Forward</b>     | <b>728,928</b>         | <b>777,916</b>        | <b>789,096</b>    |

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**Appendix 11****HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

|                                          | 2025/26           |                   |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                          | Forecast          | Actual            |
|                                          | £                 | £                 |
| <b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>                |                   |                   |
| <b>EXISTING STOCK</b>                    |                   |                   |
| Property Improvements & Major Repairs    | 16,106,000        | 14,857,521        |
| Adaptions for the Disabled               | 1,000,000         | 701,017           |
| Repurchase of Shared Ownership Dwellings | 185,000           | 120,061           |
|                                          | <b>17,291,000</b> | <b>15,678,598</b> |
| <b>NEW BUILD &amp; ACQUISITIONS</b>      | 15,831,000        | 12,195,929        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                             | <b>33,122,000</b> | <b>27,874,528</b> |
| <b><u>FINANCING</u></b>                  |                   |                   |
| Capital Receipts                         | 3,935,500         | 3,523,231         |
| HRA Revenue Contribution                 | -                 | -                 |
| Leaseholder & Other Contributions        | 100,000           | 90,530            |
| Major Repairs Reserve                    | 6,134,900         | 6,248,576         |
| Grants & Shared Ownership Sales          | 1,271,900         | 3,486,085         |
| Borrowing                                | 21,679,700        | 14,526,105        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                             | <b>33,122,000</b> | <b>27,874,528</b> |

**MAJOR REPAIRS RESERVE**

|                                    | 2025/26          |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                    | Forecast         | Actual           |
|                                    | £                | £                |
| Balance brought forward            | -                | -                |
| Depreciation of Dwellings          | 5,819,700        | 5,967,476        |
| Depreciation of Other Assets       | 315,200          | 339,922          |
|                                    | <b>6,134,900</b> | <b>6,307,398</b> |
| Utilised to fund Capital Programme | -6,134,900       | -6,307,398       |
| Balance carried forward            | -                | -                |

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**APPENDIX 12: SECTION 106 STATEMENT 2025/26**

| Detail                                                        | Contributions                                          | YEAR<br>of receipt | Balance<br>@ 1/4/25<br>£ | Accounting<br>Adjustment | Receipts/<br>Refunds<br>in year<br>£ | Amounts<br>Applied<br>to fund<br>Cap expend<br>£ | Transferred<br>to Revenue<br>£ | Grants &<br>Contributions<br>@ 31/3/26<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>RECEIPTS IN ADVANCE</b>                                    |                                                        |                    |                          |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                |                                             |
| <b>Long Term</b>                                              |                                                        |                    |                          |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                |                                             |
| DEV008                                                        | Newland Homes Prestbury Road - affordable housing      | 20/21              | (1,637.20)               |                          |                                      | 1,637.20                                         |                                | -                                           |
| DEV009                                                        | Vistry Homes- Starvhall Farm-affordable homes          | 22/23              | (2,184,947.30)           |                          |                                      | 67,176.47                                        |                                | (2,117,770.83)                              |
| DEV010                                                        | Bromford Dev Ltd - Village Road                        | 22/23              | (5,000.00)               |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                | (5,000.00)                                  |
| DEV011                                                        | Pate Court S106 Contribution                           | 22/23              | (397,995.61)             |                          |                                      | 397,995.61                                       |                                | -                                           |
| DEV012                                                        | Miller Homes re Shurdington Road                       | 23/24              | (4,000.00)               |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                | (4,000.00)                                  |
| DEV013                                                        | Brookworth Homes Ltd - Parabola Rd development         | 23/24              | (209,640.72)             |                          |                                      | 209,640.72                                       |                                | -                                           |
| <b>B7410 CAPITAL</b>                                          |                                                        |                    | <b>(2,803,220.83)</b>    |                          | -                                    | <b>676,450.00</b>                                | -                              | <b>(2,126,770.83)</b>                       |
| <b>TOTAL GRANTS RECEIPTS IN ADVANCE</b>                       |                                                        |                    | <b>(2,803,220.83)</b>    | -                        | -                                    | <b>676,450.00</b>                                | -                              | <b>(2,126,770.83)</b>                       |
| <b>CAPITAL GRANTS UNAPPLIED</b>                               |                                                        |                    |                          |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                |                                             |
| <b>SECTION 106</b>                                            |                                                        |                    |                          |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                |                                             |
| <b>Housing Enabling (affordable housing)</b>                  |                                                        |                    |                          |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                |                                             |
| DEV004                                                        | Pegasus Life - John Dower House                        | 16/17              | (468,550.00)             |                          |                                      | 338,950.23                                       |                                | (129,599.77)                                |
|                                                               |                                                        |                    | <b>(468,550.00)</b>      |                          | -                                    | <b>338,950.23</b>                                | -                              | <b>(129,599.77)</b>                         |
| <b>Public Art</b>                                             |                                                        |                    |                          |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                |                                             |
| DEV101                                                        | Dunalley St-Public Art                                 | 10/11              | (3,299.47)               |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                | (3,299.47)                                  |
| DEV106                                                        | 12/13 Hatherley Lane (B&Q) - Public Art                | 12/13              | (7,371.68)               |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                | (7,371.68)                                  |
| DEV107                                                        | Devon Avenue - Public Art                              | 12/13              | (1,414.96)               |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                | (1,414.96)                                  |
| DEV110                                                        | Spirax Sarco St Georges Road                           | 13/14              | (6,500.00)               |                          |                                      | 6,500.00                                         |                                | -                                           |
| DEV111                                                        | Public Art - Midwinter site                            | 14/15              | (50,000.00)              |                          |                                      | 1,000.00                                         |                                | (49,000.00)                                 |
| DEV112                                                        | Wayfinding - University Pittville Campus               | 14/15              | (1,257.05)               |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                | (1,257.05)                                  |
| DEV113                                                        | Taylors Yard, Gloucester Road - Public Art             | 17/18              | (30,000.00)              |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                | (30,000.00)                                 |
|                                                               |                                                        |                    | <b>(99,843.16)</b>       |                          | -                                    | <b>7,500.00</b>                                  | -                              | <b>(92,343.16)</b>                          |
| <b>PlaySpaces</b>                                             |                                                        |                    |                          |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                |                                             |
| DEV010                                                        | Bromford Dev Ltd - Village Road                        | 23/24              | (153,351.00)             |                          |                                      | 11,194.32                                        |                                | (142,156.68)                                |
|                                                               |                                                        |                    | <b>(153,351.00)</b>      |                          | -                                    | <b>11,194.32</b>                                 | -                              | <b>(142,156.68)</b>                         |
| <b>Other</b>                                                  |                                                        |                    |                          |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                |                                             |
| DEV302                                                        | Former Gas Club flood defence maintenance contribution | 18/19              | (8,000.00)               |                          |                                      |                                                  |                                | (8,000.00)                                  |
|                                                               |                                                        |                    | <b>(8,000.00)</b>        |                          | -                                    | -                                                | -                              | <b>(8,000.00)</b>                           |
| <b>Section 106 Totals - Capital Grants Unapplied (BAL101)</b> |                                                        |                    | <b>(729,744.16)</b>      |                          | -                                    | <b>357,644.55</b>                                | -                              | <b>(372,099.61)</b>                         |
| <b>TOTAL Section 106</b>                                      |                                                        |                    | <b>(3,532,964.99)</b>    |                          | -                                    | <b>1,034,094.55</b>                              | -                              | <b>(2,498,870.44)</b>                       |

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## **Cheltenham Borough Council**

### **Council - 20 July 2026**

#### **Delegation of Planning Enforcement to Gloucestershire County Council in respect of:**

- 1. Golden Valley Development (northern Parcel) planning application 23/01874/OUT, and**
  - 2. Land Off Shelley Road (Monkscroft) planning application 25/00837/FUL**
- 

#### **Accountable member:**

Cabinet Member Planning and Building Control, Councillor Paul Baker

#### **Accountable officer:**

Tracey Birkinshaw, Head of Planning

#### **Ward(s) affected:**

Benhall, The Reddings and Fiddlers Green, Hesters Way, Springbank, St Peters, St Marks

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**Key Decision:** No

#### **Executive summary:**

A local planning authority generally cannot enforce against itself due to a combination of legal, procedural, and constitutional principles. Enforcement powers are designed to be exercised against third parties, not the authority itself. Consequently, a request was made to Gloucestershire County Council by Cheltenham Borough Council to discharge these duties as appropriate in line with provisions of the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000.

The purpose of the report is therefore to seek formal approval for the delegation of planning enforcement powers to Gloucestershire County Council enabling them to

act on behalf of Cheltenham Borough Council in relation to land owned by this authority to support the delivery of:

- Golden Valley Development (northern parcel), planning application 23/01874/OUT, and
- Land Off Shelley Road (Monkscroft) planning application 25/00837/FUL.

This report is being presented to Council to ensure the Local Planning Authority can deliver its statutory functions effectively in respect of land in the Borough Councils' ownership. Gloucestershire County Council will be required to formally accept the delegation arrangements. The constitutional mechanism for acceptance of the delegated functions, execution of the delegation agreement and authorisation of the exercise of those functions will be determined by Gloucestershire County Council in accordance with its Constitution and Scheme of Delegation.

This report is a procedural item to ensure we meet our constitutional responsibilities in respect of decision making. The delegation sought is not an executive function and therefore requires the approval of Full Council.

**Recommendations: That Council:**

- 1. approves the delegation of planning enforcement powers to Gloucestershire County Council under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Section 9D of the Local Government Act 2000.**
  - 2. authorises the Director of Planning and Building Control, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, to finalise and enter into a formal delegation agreement with Gloucestershire County Council.**
  - 3. agrees that the arrangement be reviewed annually by the Director of Planning and Building Control in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control to ensure effectiveness and continued alignment with strategic planning and land management objectives.**
- 

#### **4. Implications**

##### **1.1 Financial, Property and Asset implications**

Gloucestershire County Council have advised that the responsibility for enforcement as set out in this report can be absorbed by the Gloucestershire County Council Enforcement Team with provisions in place for Cheltenham Borough Council to compensate Gloucestershire County Council for any 'reasonable' expenses incurred. It is not considered likely that this will place significant resource burden on

Gloucestershire County Council.

**Signed off by:** Ela Jankowska, Finance Business Partner,  
[ela.jankowska@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:ela.jankowska@cheltenham.gov.uk)

## 1.2 Legal implications

Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 makes provision for the delegation of council functions to other authorities.

Pursuant to Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 a local authority may arrange for the discharge of any of their functions by a committee, a subcommittee or an officer of the authority or by any other local authority. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 permits a local authority to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions. These powers are considered appropriate to enable Cheltenham Borough Council to delegate its functions as the enforcing local planning authority to Gloucestershire County Council.

Section 9D of the Local Government Act 2000 together with the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) Regulations 2012 govern how local authorities can delegate their responsibilities to other bodies, such as another local authority, an executive of another authority, or joint committees. These regulations allow for arrangements where a local authority can arrange for another authority's executive or committee to perform its functions

The approval of this delegation will facilitate the delivery of the development on this land and the proper enforcement of any future planning breaches in the defined area set out in this report.

The delegation sought is not an executive function and therefore requires the approval of Full Council.

**Signed off by:** Alison McKane, Interim Deputy Monitoring  
Officer, [alison.mckane@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:alison.mckane@cheltenham.gov.uk)

## 1.3 Environmental and climate change implications

N/A this report details a process issue.

**Signed off by:** Maizy McCann, Climate Officer, [Maizy.mccann@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:Maizy.mccann@cheltenham.gov.uk)

## **1.4 Corporate Plan Priorities**

This report contributes to the following Corporate Plan Priorities

- Securing our future
- Quality homes, safe and strong communities
- Reducing carbon, achieving council net zero, creating biodiversity

## **1.5 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Implications**

The delegation as recommended by this report will not adversely affect any protected groups. It is expected to enhance service delivery and responsiveness to community concerns regarding any future planning breaches in the defined area set out in this report.

## **1.6 Performance management – monitoring and review**

Should Council support the delegation as recommended by this report a joint review will be conducted annually by the Director Planning & Building Control (Cheltenham Borough Council) and Director of Growth (Gloucestershire County Council) to assess the effectiveness of the delegation arrangement and identify any necessary adjustments, the Councils Monitoring Officer and Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control will be engaged in this review.

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## **2 Background**

2.1 Cheltenham Borough Council owns land within the strategic allocation of West Cheltenham allocated by the [Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy](#). This land ownership is detailed on plan A below.

2.2 In addition, Cheltenham Borough Council owns land off Shelley Road, known as Monkscroft. This land ownership is detailed on plan B below.

**Plan A - Golden Valley Development (northern parcel), planning application 23/01874/OUT**



**Plan B - Land Off Shelley Road (Monkscroft) planning application 25/00837/FUL**



2.3 On 23<sup>rd</sup> April July 2026, Cheltenham Planning Committee permitted application 23/01874/OUT subject to:

- a) the conditions as set out or substantially similar as may be agreed under

delegated authority given to the Head of Planning; and

- b) completion of a S106 obligation and/or other legal document to deliver the infrastructure and other mitigation, as set out in this report at paragraphs 7.265 to 7.278, and for alterations to s106 heads of terms as may be agreed under delegated authority given to the Head of Planning in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee.
- c) In the event that the S106 obligation and/or other legal document remains unsigned nine months after this resolution, that the application be reviewed by the Head of Planning in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee, and if no progress is being made delegated authority is given to the Head of Planning to refuse the application in the absence of an agreed S106 Agreement.

2.4 On 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026, Cheltenham Planning Committee permitted application 25/00837/FUL subject to conditions and s106 agreement. At paragraph 6.12.16 of this report it stated;

*“In this case, as the council is both the local planning authority (the decision-maker) and the applicant/landowner, and consequently cannot covenant with itself (required as s106 obligations are entered into as a deed), alternative options would need to be explored. The most likely option would be a two-tier authority approach, whereby it is possible for the planning authority to enter into an agreement with another tier authority (the county council) to make the s106 obligations enforceable”.*

2.5 As noted in the extract of the committee report above, a local planning authority generally cannot enforce against itself due to a combination of legal, procedural, and constitutional principles - Enforcement powers are designed to be exercised against third parties, not the authority itself. The purpose of this report is therefore to:

- Ensure impartiality should there be a need for any enforcement decisions in respect of the delivery of the planning consent 23/01874/OUT and any future reserved matters applications and the planning consent 25/00837/FUL.
- Facilitate the conclusion of the S106 Agreement to ensure that the Council has suitable provisions in place to meet its statutory responsibilities in respect of planning enforcement.
- Ensure effective oversight and timely enforcement action on this land—particularly where development, use, or breaches may occur—it is proposed that enforcement powers be delegated to Gloucestershire County Council.

This will allow them to act on our behalf in accordance with planning legislation and local enforcement protocols.

2.6 This arrangement will support the responsible management of our landholdings and ensure that planning control is maintained in line with both authorities' strategic objectives.

### **3 Summary of Enforcement Responsibilities**

3.1 This summary outlines the scope and nature of planning enforcement responsibilities to be delegated to Gloucestershire County Council in relation to land owned by Cheltenham Borough Council as detailed above. The final scope as recommended by this report is delegated to the Director of Planning & Building Control and Monitoring Officer. The following summaries the activities in enforcement. For the avoidance of doubt, Cheltenham Borough Council will continue to undertake any monitoring of the developments, conduct the initial investigation of any alleged breaches and compile evidence. Gloucestershire County Council will act as the independent authority should formal enforcement action ultimately become necessary.

**Investigation of Alleged Breaches:** Including unauthorised development, change of use, non-compliance with conditions, and breaches of planning control on council-owned land.

**Site Inspections and Evidence Gathering:** Authority to enter land, take photographs, and collect evidence in accordance with statutory powers under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

**Issuing Formal Notices:** Including Planning Contravention Notices (PCNs), Enforcement Notices, Breach of Condition Notices (BCNs), and Stop Notices where appropriate.

**Negotiation and Resolution:** Authority to engage with occupiers, developers, and other stakeholders to resolve breaches through informal means where possible.

**Prosecution and Legal Action:** Initiating legal proceedings for non-compliance, subject to prior consultation with Cheltenham Borough Council and in accordance with agreed protocols.

**Monitoring Compliance:** Ensuring compliance with enforcement notices and conditions, including follow-up inspections and reporting

3.2 The following responsibilities will remain with Cheltenham Borough Council:

- Strategic decisions regarding land use and future development of council-

owned land.

- Authorisation of enforcement action that may have significant financial, reputational, or legal implications.
- Oversight of enforcement priorities and alignment with corporate land management objectives.

These requirements will be formally documented in a delegation agreement to be entered into between Gloucestershire County Council and Cheltenham Borough Council. The Section 106 Agreement will also include a schedule setting out the delegation of enforcement of any breaches of the obligations owed to Cheltenham Borough Council under the Section 106 Agreement and including an indemnity clause which will indemnify Gloucestershire County Council for any proper and reasonable costs incurred by them in undertaking the above functions on behalf of Cheltenham Borough Council.

### **Reasons for recommendations**

3.3 Delegating planning enforcement powers to Gloucestershire County Council in respect of land owned by Cheltenham Borough Council is a practical and legally sound solution which provides transparency and impartiality. It supports effective land management and ensures planning enforcement is carried out in a timely and coordinated manner.

## **4 Alternative options considered**

4.1 An alternative option would be to request support on this matter from another local authority.

## **5 Consultation and feedback**

5.1 In the preparation of this report consultation has taken place with:

- Team Manager Planning Development – Gloucestershire County Council
- Chief Executive – Cheltenham Borough Council
- Interim Monitoring Officer – Cheltenham Borough Council
- Cabinet Member for Planning & Building Control

## **6 Key risks**

6.1 See Appendix 1.

**Report author:**

Tracey Birkinshaw, Director Planning & Building Control,  
[tracey.birkinshaw@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.birkinshaw@cheltenham.gov.uk)

**Appendices:**

- i. Risk Assessment
- ii. Equality Impact Assessment – Screening

\*To note a climate impact assessment is not relevant to this report as it details a process issue.

**Background information:**

N/A

## Appendix 1: Risk Assessment

| Risk ref | Risk description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Risk owner                           | Impact score<br>(1-5) | Likelihood score<br>(1-5) | Initial raw risk score<br>(1 - 25) | Risk response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Controls / Mitigating actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Control / Action owner                                                                                                | Deadline for controls/ actions                                             |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01       | Should an appropriate solution not be agreed to delegate planning enforcement powers in respect of land holdings in the ownership of Cheltenham Borough Council as detailed in this report then the local planning authority will not have appropriate controls in place to enforce against any future breaches in planning arising related to permitted applications (once S106 signed) and any future reserved matters applications. | Director Planning & Building Control | 4                     | 2                         | 8                                  | <p>Active engagement with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gloucestershire County Council</li> <li>Monitoring Officer</li> <li>Chief Executive</li> </ul> <p>Avoid risk by working proactively on a suitable solution for delegation.</p> | <p>Report to Cheltenham Council 20/07/2026 requesting authorisation to delegate enforcement Delegation of Planning Enforcement to Gloucestershire County Council</p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council will be required to formally accept the delegation arrangements. The constitutional mechanism for acceptance of the delegated functions, execution of the delegation agreement and authorisation of the exercise of those functions will be determined by</p> | <p>Director Planning &amp; Building Control – Cheltenham Borough Council</p> <p>Team Manager Planning Development</p> | <p>Report to Council 20/07/2026</p> <p>GCC constitutional arrangements</p> |

| Risk ref | Risk description | Risk owner | Impact score<br>(1-5) | Likelihood score<br>(1-5) | Initial raw risk score<br>(1 - 25) | Risk response | Controls / Mitigating actions                                                               | Control / Action owner | Deadline for controls/ actions |
|----------|------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
|          |                  |            |                       |                           |                                    |               | Gloucestershire County Council in accordance with its Constitution and Scheme of Delegation |                        |                                |

## Appendix 2: Equality Impact Assessment (Screening)

### 1. Identify the policy, project, function or service change

#### a. Person responsible for this Equality Impact Assessment

|                                             |                                                |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Officer responsible: Tracey Birkinshaw      | Service Area: Planning                         |
| Title: Director Planning & Building Control | Date of assessment: 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 |
| Signature: Tracey Birkinshaw                |                                                |

#### b. Is this a policy, function, strategy, service change or project?

Function

If other, please specify:

#### c. Name of the policy, function, strategy, service change or project

Planning Enforcement

Is this new or existing?

Other

#### Please specify reason for change or development of policy, function, strategy, service change or project

This is a specific change given that local planning authorities generally cannot enforce against themselves due to a combination of legal, procedural, and constitutional principles - Enforcement powers are designed to be exercised against third parties, not the authority itself. Given landownership by Cheltenham Borough Council in respect of the sites detailed in this Council report, an appropriate delegation to another local planning authority to undertake any enforcement activities arising is required to ensure communities are supported and there is clear transparency and impartiality.

#### d. What are the aims, objectives and intended outcomes and who is likely to benefit from it?

|             |                                                                                                            |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aims:       | To fulfil statutory responsibilities of Cheltenham Borough Council in its role as local planning authority |
| Objectives: | As above.                                                                                                  |

|           |                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Outcomes: | To effectively address any future breeches in planning related to permitted applications detailed in this report (once S106 signed)      |
| Benefits: | Supporting local communities by actively addressing any future breeches in planning related to permitted applications (once S106 signed) |

| e. What are the expected impacts?                                                                                                                                      |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Are there any aspects, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could have an impact on the lives of people, including employees and customers.                 | <b>Yes</b>      |
| Do you expect the impacts to be positive or negative?                                                                                                                  | <b>Positive</b> |
| Please provide an explanation for your answer:                                                                                                                         |                 |
| By delegating defined responsibilities to a neighbouring local planning authority, Cheltenham Borough Council can ensure its statutory responsibilities are fulfilled. |                 |

**If your answer to question e identified potential positive or negative impacts, or you are unsure about the impact, then you should carry out a Stage Two Equality Impact Assessment.**

| f. Identify next steps as appropriate    |           |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Stage Two required                       | <b>No</b> |
| Owner of Stage Two assessment            |           |
| Completion date for Stage Two assessment |           |

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## **Cheltenham Borough Council**

### **Full Council – 20 July 2026**

### **Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026-2028**

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#### **Accountable member:**

Councillor Jamie Jamieson, Cabinet Member for Safety and Communities

#### **Accountable officer:**

Claire Hughes, Director of Governance, Housing and Communities

#### **Ward(s) affected:**

All

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#### **Key Decision:** No

#### **Executive summary:**

The Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has developed a new strategy covering the period 2026–2028. The strategy fulfils the statutory responsibilities placed upon Community Safety Partnerships under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and sets out the partnership's collective approach to reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and vulnerability in Cheltenham.

The strategy identifies three key priorities:

- Serious Organised Crime and Exploitation (SOCE);
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB);
- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG); and

Alongside these priorities, the strategy recognises the importance of wider partnership work through initiatives such as No Child Left Behind, Night Time Economy and Harm Outside the Home

At a time when national and international events can contribute to increased tensions

within communities, it is important that the Council and its partners clearly articulate their commitment to inclusion, mutual respect and community cohesion. The proposed Gloucestershire Anti-Hate Statement has been developed to provide a clear and consistent position across partner organisations and aligns with the aims of the Community Safety Partnership.

### **Recommendations: That Council**

- 1. notes the Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026–2028 (Appendix 2) as the strategic framework for partnership activity to improve community safety, reduce crime and disorder, protect vulnerable people and build safer communities across Cheltenham.**
  - 2. approves the adoption of the Gloucestershire Anti-Hate Statement as set out in Appendix 3 as a public expression of the Council’s commitment to equality, community cohesion and the prevention of hate crime**
- 

## **1. Implications**

### **1.1 Financial, Property and Asset implications**

There are no direct financial implications arising from noting the Community Safety Partnership Strategy or approving the Anti-Hate Statement.

Delivery of activities contained within the strategy will be met through existing partner resources, commissioned services and external funding opportunities where available

**Signed off by:** Ela Jankowska, Finance Business Partner  
[ela.jankowska@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:ela.jankowska@cheltenham.gov.uk)

### **1.2 Legal implications**

The Council is a statutory responsible authority under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and is required to participate in the Community Safety Partnership and contribute to the development and delivery of community safety strategies.

Approval of the Anti-Hate Statement does not create new legal obligations but represents a public policy statement reflecting the Council's commitment to community cohesion, equality and the prevention of hate crime.

The statement should be interpreted consistently with the Human Rights Act 1998, including protections relating to freedom of expression and freedom of assembly.

**Signed off by:** Claire Hughes, Monitoring Officer [claire.hughes@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:claire.hughes@cheltenham.gov.uk)

### **1.3 Environmental and climate change implications**

There are no environmental and climate change implications associated with this report.

**Signed off by:** Maizy McCann, Climate Officer [maizy.mccann@cheltenham.gov.uk](mailto:maizy.mccann@cheltenham.gov.uk)

### **1.4 Corporate Plan Priorities**

This report contributes to the following Corporate Plan Priorities:

- Quality homes, safe and strong communities
- Reducing inequalities, supporting better outcomes

### **1.5 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Implications**

The recommendations are expected to have a positive impact on equality, diversity and inclusion by reinforcing the Council's commitment to ensuring that all residents feel safe, respected and included.

The Anti-Hate Statement supports work to challenge discrimination and foster positive relations between different communities.

### **1.6 Performance management – monitoring and review**

The strategy will be managed via the Community Safety Partnership.

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## **2 Background**

2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on responsible authorities to work together through Community Safety Partnerships to develop and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder, tackle anti-social behaviour, reduce substance misuse and support the reduction of reoffending. Responsible authorities include local authorities, police, probation, health partners and fire and rescue services.

2.2 The Cheltenham CSP brings together these statutory partners alongside a range of voluntary, community and business representatives to identify local issues and coordinate partnership responses.

2.3 The 2026–2028 strategy has been informed by local intelligence, strategic assessment work, performance data and engagement with partners. It aligns with the priorities of the Gloucestershire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Gloucestershire Constabulary.

### **3 Reasons for recommendations**

#### **Community Safety Partnership Strategy**

- 3.1 The strategy provides a clear framework for joint action over the next two years and reflects the issues identified as presenting the greatest risk and impact within Cheltenham. It incorporates measurable actions and performance indicators intended to improve community safety outcomes and public confidence.
- 3.2 Noting the strategy demonstrates Full Council's support for the partnership approach being taken by responsible authorities and confirms awareness of the priorities which will guide community safety activity during the life of the strategy.

#### **Gloucestershire Anti-Hate Statement**

- 3.3 The Council has a well-established commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion. Hate crime and discrimination can have a significant impact on victims, communities and perceptions of safety. The Anti-Hate Statement provides a clear public commitment to:
- Promote inclusive and respectful communities;
  - Challenge hate crime and prejudice;
  - Support community cohesion;
  - Recognise democratic rights to peaceful protest; and
  - Condemn intimidation, fear and division.
- 3.4 The statement complements the objectives of the Community Safety Partnership Strategy, particularly those relating to vulnerability, safeguarding, violence reduction and public confidence.

### **4 Alternative options considered**

- 4.1 None

### **5 Consultation and feedback**

- 5.1 The strategy has been developed through the Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership, comprising statutory and voluntary sector partners. The priorities reflect local intelligence, strategic assessment work and ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders.
- 5.2 The proposed Anti-Hate Statement has been developed through Leadership Gloucestershire

## **6 Key risks**

6.1 See Appendix 1

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### **Report author:**

Claire Hughes, Director of Governance, Housing and Communities

### **Appendices:**

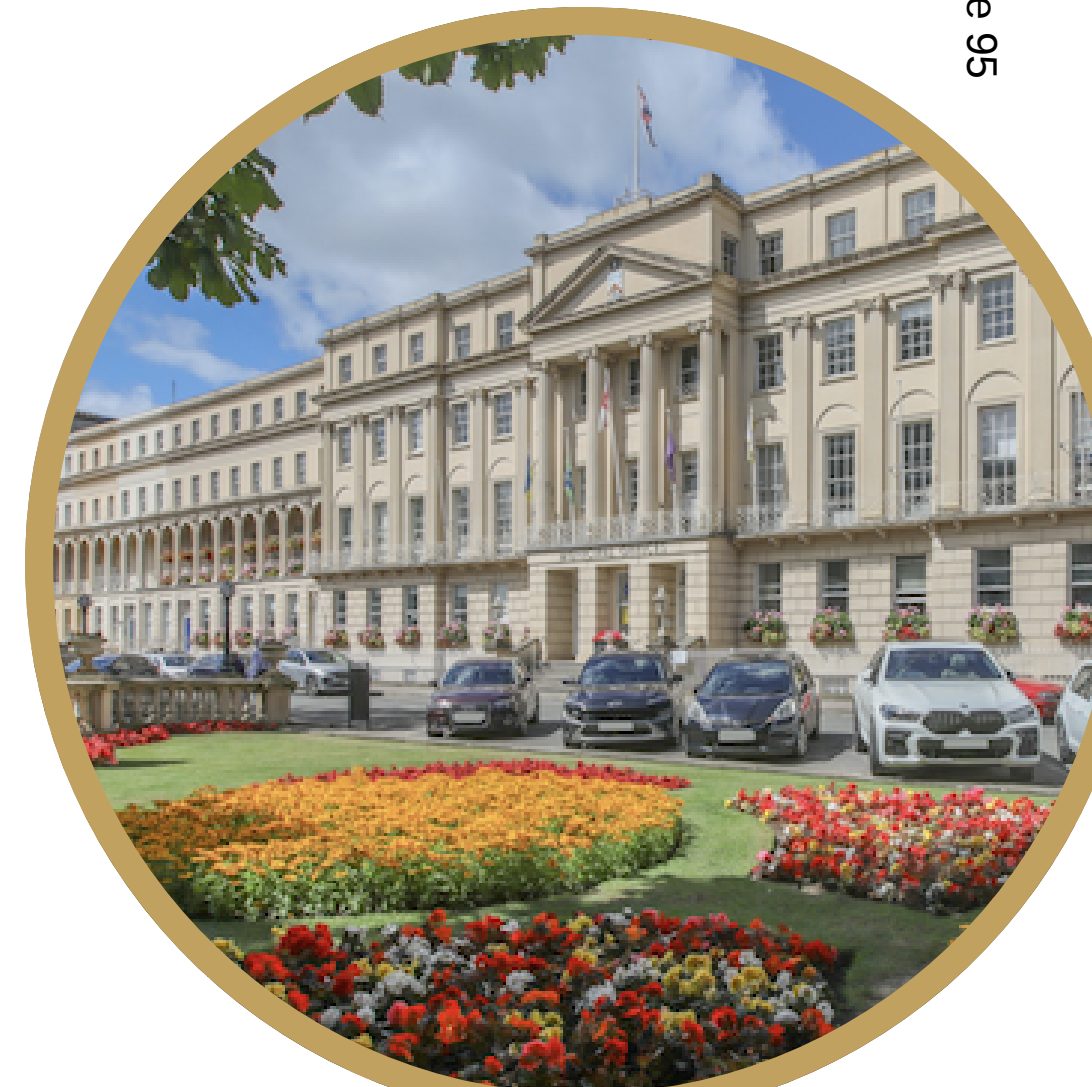
- i. Risk Assessment
- ii. Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026–2028
- iii. Gloucestershire Anti-Hate Statement

## Appendix 1: Risk Assessment

| Risk ref | Risk description                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Risk owner    | Impact score<br>(1-5) | Likelihood score<br>(1-5) | Initial raw risk score<br>(1 - 25) | Risk response | Controls / Mitigating actions                                                                | Control / Action owner | Deadline for controls/ actions |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1        | If the council fails to support and promote community safety priorities then this could reduce public confidence and weaken partnership approaches to addressing crime, anti-social behaviour and vulnerability.              | Claire Hughes | 4                     | 2                         | 8                                  | Reduce        | Noting the CSP strategy will ensure that the risk remains under control                      |                        | Page 94                        |
| 2        | If the council fails to provide a clear and consistent position on hate crime and community cohesion then this could undermine the Council's ability to reassure communities during periods of heightened tension or concern. | Claire Hughes | 4                     | 2                         | 8                                  | Reduce        | Approving the anti-hate statement will provide a clear message to support community cohesion |                        |                                |

# Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership STRATEGY

2026 – 2028



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# Foreward

*Cheltenham is a vibrant, welcoming and ambitious town. It is a place where people want to live, work, study and visit, and where strong communities play a vital role in supporting the wellbeing of residents. Maintaining and enhancing community safety is therefore fundamental to the success of our town and to the quality of life of everyone who calls Cheltenham home.*

*I am therefore pleased to introduce the Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026–2028. This strategy sets out our shared commitment to preventing crime, reducing harm, protecting vulnerable people and creating safer communities through effective partnerships. It reflects the collective efforts of local authorities, Gloucestershire Constabulary, health services, probation, fire and rescue services, the voluntary and community sector, businesses and many other partners who work together to improve safety across our borough.*

*Community safety is not the responsibility of any single organisation. The challenges we face are increasingly complex and interconnected: requiring coordinated responses that combine prevention, early intervention, enforcement and support. Taking this approach, we have identified the areas where partnership action can have the greatest effect: tackling serious organised crime and exploitation, reducing anti-social behaviour and preventing violence against women and girls.*

*We recognise the importance of wider initiatives that contribute to community wellbeing and resilience, including supporting children and young people through No Child Left Behind, addressing harm outside the home, and strengthening community engagement.*

*The strategy is ambitious yet practical. It is underpinned by measurable outcomes, clear accountability and a commitment to continuous learning and improvement. The Community Safety Partnership will monitor local data, emerging risks and community concerns to ensure our approach remains responsive and effective throughout the life of this strategy.*

*I look forward to all of us in Cheltenham feeling its benefits in the coming years.*

*I would like to thank all our partners, community organisations, businesses, volunteers and residents who contribute to making Cheltenham a safer place. Working together, sharing knowledge and taking collective responsibility for our communities, we shall continue to build a town where everyone feels safe, respected and able to thrive.*

**Councillor Jamie Jamieson**

Cabinet Member for Safety and Communities

# Introduction

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 requires responsible authorities to work together as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in formulating and implementing strategies on a local level to:

- *Reduce crime and disorder (Anti Social Behaviour)*
- *Reducing the misuse of drugs and alcohol*
- *Reduce reoffending*
- *Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR)*

The main responsible bodies are Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire Police, Probation Services, Gloucestershire Fire Rescue Service, Social Care and Health partners. In addition to statutory partners CSP members include Gloucestershire County Council, Cheltenham BID and Volunteer and Community Sector representatives.

## **Related links**

Serious Violence Duty (SVD) Act 2023

Crime & Policing Act 2026

# Strategic Assessment

The Community Safety Partnership work closely with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Gloucestershire Constabulary to deliver shared priorities for reducing crime, disorder and vulnerability. Through joint problem-solving, information sharing, commissioning and community engagement, partners will support early intervention, prevention and enforcement activity that improves community safety and public confidence across Cheltenham.

- Alignment with the Police and Crime Prevention Plan and the local Police ASB Action Plan.
- OPCC Perception of Crime Survey
- Regular performance monitoring through CSP governance structures.
- Joint strategic needs assessments and data sharing arrangements.
- Collaborative funding opportunities through the OPCC to support local initiatives.

The production of a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) is a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships. Its purpose is to highlight significant threats and issues that impact on community safety which can then be used to inform the CSP priorities and sub-groups.

In Gloucestershire, Safer Gloucestershire undertake a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to establish countywide priorities. The current SNA was undertaken in 2023 and is in place until 2026.

In addition to the statutory priorities, the following priorities were recommended as a result of the SNA:

- Violence against women and girls · Hate crime · Road safety · Prevent · Urban street gangs & organised crime

# Community Safety Priorities

## Priority 1



### **Serious Organised Crime & Exploitation (SOCE)**

Multi-agency response to SOCE affecting the local area focusing on threats such as drug supply, exploitation, organised acquisitive crime, knife crime, fraud, cyber-enabled crime, and community infiltration (e.g. cuckooing).

## Priority 2



### **Multi Agency Problem Solving Forum (Anti-social Behaviour)**

Police led multi agency subgroup with a holistic approach to tackling anti-social behaviour, reducing reoffending and improving community safety in Cheltenham. Within this priority there are area-based task groups including Scott & Edward Wilson House and the Town Centre that are tackling specific localised challenges.

## Priority 3



### **Violence Against Women and Girls Forum (VAWG)**

A collective of organisations working in solidarity to support, raise awareness, influence change and challenge processes to tackle crimes that disproportionately effect women and girls.

# Supporting areas of work

The Community Safety Partnership has also identified the following areas of work which actively support the delivery of our priorities.



## **Evening & Nighttime Economy**

Supporting the development of the ENTE Charter and maintaining a safe and thriving evening and nighttime economy.



## **No Child Left Behind (NCLB)**

Working in partnership with No Child Left Behind to give young people and families hope for the future so they can achieve their potential and helping to create thriving and safer communities within our town.



## **Harm Outside the Home (HOTH)**

Harm Outside the Home is a safeguarding approach to tackle the risks of harm faced by children outside their home, this includes harm which occurs online.

CSP supports the HOTH agenda by tackling contextual safeguarding issues raised by safeguarding partners and working on reducing child exploitation.

# Priority 1

## Serious Organised Crime & Exploitation

| Action                                                                                                         | KPI Measure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Deliverables                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mapping Serious Organised Crime &amp; Exploitation within the locality</b><br>Lead – Gloucestershire Police | % increase of multi-agency intelligence submissions<br><br>Mapping of existing SOCE groups, individual and locations<br><br>Annual completion of SOCE Local Profile                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>Information Sharing</b><br>Oversight of multi-agency meetings coordinating information sharing and intelligence. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Endeavour Bronze</li><li>• Operation Caspian</li><li>• Weekly Partners Meeting</li></ul><br>Bi-monthly problem profiling updates from SOCU                                                                      |
| <b>Engagement, Disruption &amp; Enforcement</b><br>Lead – all partners                                         | Number of engagement activities within locality and target groups (surveys, focus groups, event and projects)<br><br>Number of engagements with at-risk young people (diversion referrals, attendance)<br><br>Number of coordinated disruption activities (warrants, closures, tenancy actions).<br><br>Reduction of MORiLE scoring for mapped OCGs | <b>Operational Impact</b><br>Endeavour Bronze Action plan and themes <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Young People</li><li>• Environmental</li><li>• Health &amp; Wellbeing</li><li>• Communication</li></ul><br>Police and SOCU operations to tackle OCG and SOCE activities                                                                                        |
| <b>Safeguarding</b><br>Lead – Social Care and Police                                                           | Successful safeguarding interventions for exploited children and adults.<br><br>Reduction in repeat victimisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Reducing Exploitation</b><br>Social Care interventions<br>St Giles Trust Exploitation workers cases and outcomes.<br><br><b>Victim Support</b><br>Review Police victimisation data<br>Promote and signpost to Victim Support Services                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Community Awareness and Resilience</b><br>Lead – all partners                                               | Delivery of SOCE awareness training to all partners<br><br>Number of awareness raising campaigns directed at community e.g.. Crimestoppers, Fearless)                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Community Development</b><br>Working in partnership with St Giles Trust to continue the development of a training programme to provide partners, community and families with the tools to understand behaviours and exploitation.<br><br>Develop a communications programme aligning with national and localised campaigns and operations to raise awareness and educate |

# Priority 2

## Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

| Action                                                                                                                                                                                        | KPI Measure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Deliverables                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Reducing anti social behaviour, criminal acts and environmental crimes in Cheltenham.</b><br>Lead – Police and CBC                                                                         | <b>Incident &amp; Crime –</b><br>Bi-monthly ASB & Crime report data.<br>Bi-monthly Environmental Crime report data.<br>Bi-monthly CBC Housing ASB report data.<br><b>Enforcement &amp; Response –</b><br>Bi-monthly logged patrols / joint patrols.<br>Bi-monthly logged Police actions inc. Solace.<br>Bi-monthly logged local authority actions.<br><b>Outcomes –</b><br>Quarterly % ASB & Crime incidents overall.<br>Quarterly % Environmental Crimes overall.<br>% of responses to the Perception of Crime Survey & improved performance of Local Authority & the Police dealing with ASB. | <b>Partnership working –</b><br>Data led deployments.<br>Visibility patrols in identified hotspots.<br>Regular joint patrols and business engagement.<br>Regular Multi Agency meetings agreeing actions and responsibilities.<br>Extraordinary meetings in relevant cases.<br><br><b>Enforcement</b><br>Consistent, visible enforcement and interventions inc. warnings, notices, ABC’s and injunctions.<br>Deployment of mobile CCTV cameras in identified hotspot locations.<br>Consistent mechanisms for reporting. |
| <b>Partnership support to victims of crime and working together to reduce reoffending utilising out of court resolutions where appropriate.</b><br>Lead – Victim Support and Police           | <b>Victim Support –</b><br>% of victims offered support within 48 hours.<br>% of victims offered support within 48 hours.<br>% satisfied with the support provided.<br><b>Repeat offenders &amp; victims –</b><br>Quarterly no. of reported repeat offenders.<br>Quarterly no. of repeat victims and locations.<br>% reoffending rate Out of Court Resolutions.<br>% Our of Court Resolution cases with multi agency plans.                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Partnership Working</b><br>Maintain a strong multi agency framework through regular meetings, named lead organisation and clear governance and accountability.<br>Work to a consistent framework for when and how OOCR’s are used and outcomes.<br>Collect feedback from victims & offenders.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Improving public perception and awareness raising to communities, businesses and visitors on reporting anti social behaviour and responses to it.</b><br>Lead – Cheltenham Borough Council | <b>Awareness raising–</b><br>No. of awareness campaigns per annum.<br>Quarterly % Crimestoppers reporting.<br><b>Perceptions –</b><br>OPCC Public Perception survey results.<br>Cheltenham Purple Flag survey results.<br>CBC Housing Tenant satisfaction survey results<br>Cheltenham BID business satisfaction results.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Communication</b><br>Promote public safety & perception surveys<br>Awareness campaigns & events e.g. Crimestoppers.<br>Clear & consistent process for reporting and recording incidents.<br><br><b>Public Perception</b><br>Increase high visibility patrols and public engagement.<br>PCSO community based drop in sessions.<br>Work with Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.<br>Share good news stories through posititve social media engagements.                                                                      |

# Priority 3

## Preventing Violence Against Women & Girls

| Action                                                                                                                                                                                           | KPI Measure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Deliverables                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Development of safety pledge to challenge &amp; prevent incidents of sexual violence as a key priority of the Evening and Nighttime Economy Charter.</b><br>Lead – Cheltenham Borough Council | <b>Incidents and prevention</b><br>% reduction in no. of sexual offences reported.<br>% reduction from Perception of Crime Survey of women reporting feeling unsafe outside their home or public spaces.<br><br>No. of venues completed required licensing training e.g. Ask Angela.<br><br><b>Engagement</b><br>No. of businesses that have adopted ENTE charter and the safety pledge.<br><br>Successful award of the annual Purple Flag status. | <b>Partnership</b><br>Work with the Evening and Nighttime Economy Charter Working Group to develop safety pledge element.<br><br>Promote finalised Charter to wider partners to raise awareness and share impacts and outputs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Awareness raising of national and local campaigns, school outreach programmes and consistent training offer.</b><br>Lead – Cheltenham Borough Council and St Giles Trust                      | <b>Raising Awareness</b><br>No. of campaigns delivered through local communications plan.<br><br><b>Engagement</b><br>No. of female students engaged in St Giles Trust SOS+ school outreach 6 week programme.<br><br><b>Training</b><br>No. of training sessions delivered each year.<br>No. of training attendees each year.                                                                                                                      | <b>Communication</b><br>Local comms plan aligning with the Gloucestershire Sexual Violence Strategy<br>Delivery of a minimum of four awareness campaigns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 16 Days of Action</li><li>• Sexual Violence week</li><li>• Freshers Week</li><li>• Showcase – ‘Her Voice, Her Cheltenham’ Report</li></ul><br><b>Engagement</b><br>Delivery of SOS+ outreach programme in All Saints and Pittville School by St Giles Trust VAWG Worker<br>Consistent training programme including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bystander Intervention</li><li>• Safeguarding</li><li>• Ask for Angela / Ask for Clive</li></ul> |
| <b>Domestic Abuse policy and training development support for workplace management &amp; staff</b><br>Lead – Support services partners                                                           | <b>Training &amp; development</b><br>No. of DA training sessions delivered.<br>No. of businesses attendees to training events.<br><br><b>Business Engagement</b><br>Feedback from managers and staff on awareness of domestic abuse.<br>No. of businesses engagement in policy support.                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Educating businesses</b><br>Develop accessible training and support programme, providing workplace staff with the understanding of domestic abuse.<br><br>Offer expert support for the development and review of domestic abuse workplace policies and procedures.<br><br>Work in partnership with Cheltenham BID to engage and educate businesses on domestic abuse.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

# Monitoring, Review & Governance

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) will oversee the delivery of this strategy through performance monitoring and review. KPI's will be a standing agenda item at quarterly CSP meetings to ensure that delivery remains on track and that emerging risks and opportunities are identified at an early stage.

Monitoring will include:

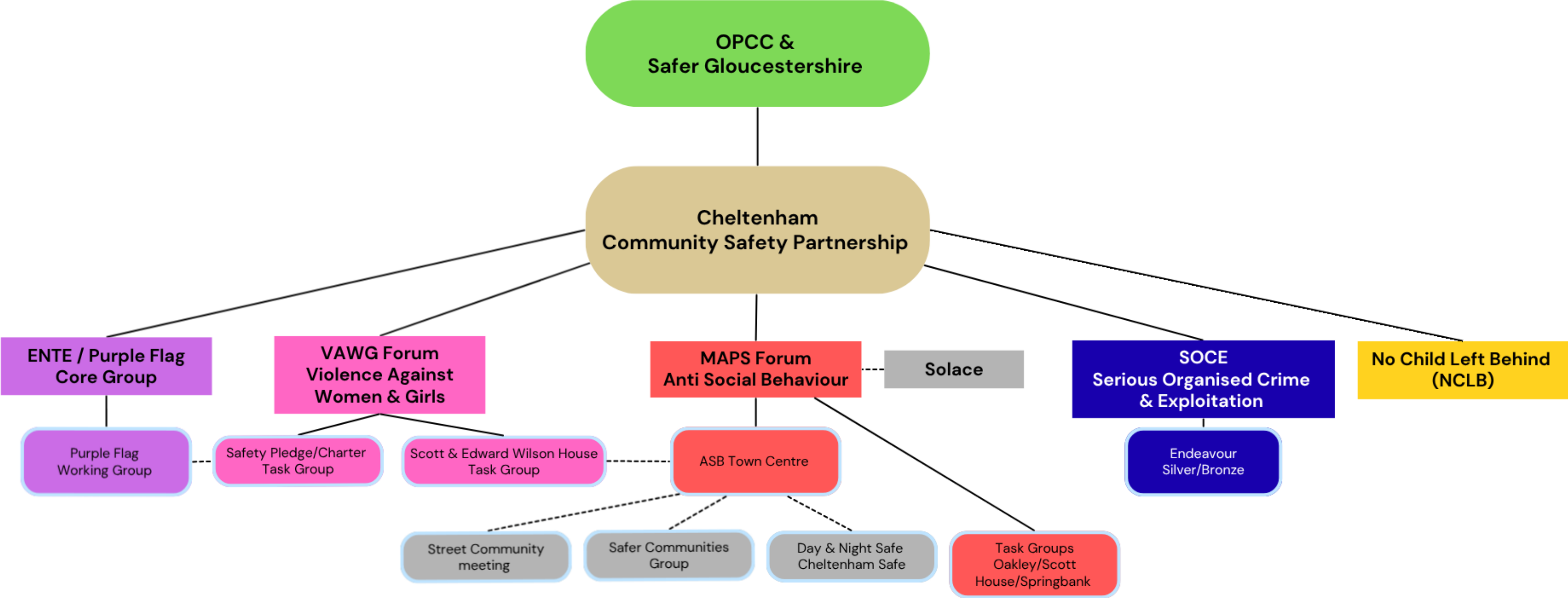
- Quarterly performance reports from each subgroup, outlining progress, challenges, and emerging issues.
- Six-monthly reviews of progress against the strategy's key performance indicators (KPIs), including analysis of performance trends, outcomes, and areas requiring additional focus.
- Review of partnership data and community feedback to identify emerging issues.
- Review of local, regional, and national developments, and legislation changes.

This strategy will be responsive to changing local needs and emerging issues using performance data, partner intelligence, and community engagement. The CSP may revise delivery plans, reallocate partnership resources where appropriate, or update strategic priorities to ensure that the strategy remains effective, evidence-led, and focused on achieving the best outcomes for our communities.

An annual review will reflect on the overall progress, celebrate successes, assess our partnership performance, and identify any future learnings.

Appendix 1

Cheltenham Community Safety Meeting Structure



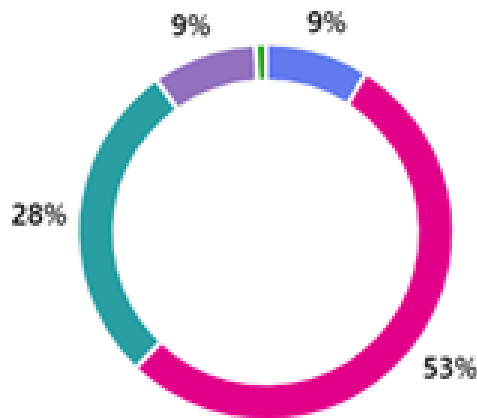
# Appendix 2

## Community Feedback

Feedback from the 2026 Evening and Nighttime Economy Public Perception Survey which was included in the Purple Flag Assessment and contributed to achieving a successful 11<sup>th</sup> Year award.

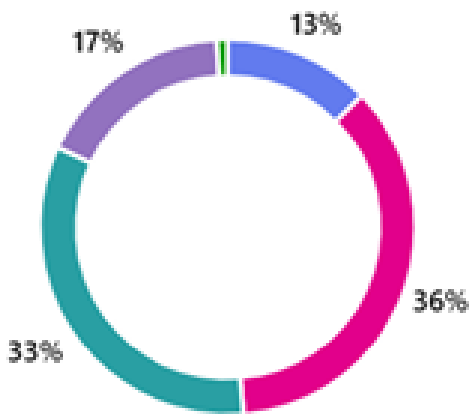
7. How would you rate your overall experiences of the Cheltenham evening and night-time economy?

|           |    |
|-----------|----|
| Excellent | 10 |
| Good      | 59 |
| Average   | 31 |
| Poor      | 10 |
| Very poor | 1  |



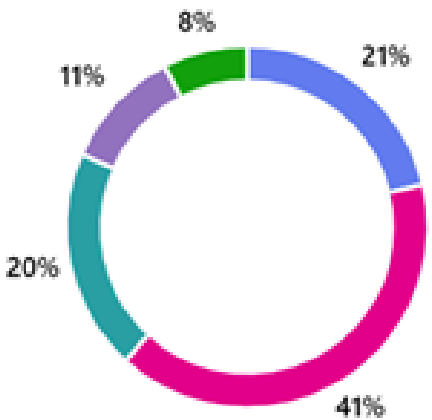
12. How safe do you feel when out in the evening and night-time economy?

|             |    |
|-------------|----|
| Very safe   | 14 |
| Safe        | 40 |
| Neutral     | 37 |
| Unsafe      | 19 |
| Very unsafe | 1  |



13. What are your main concerns about safety in the evening and night-time economy? (tick all that apply)

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Poor lighting in public areas | 45 |
| Anti-social behaviour         | 86 |
| Lack of police presence       | 42 |
| Poor transportation options   | 23 |
| Other                         | 16 |







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### **Appendix 3: Gloucestershire Anti- Hate Statement**

Gloucestershire is committed to being a welcoming, inclusive, and respectful county where everyone feels safe and valued.

Hate crimes, discrimination, and actions motivated by hostility have no place in our county. We are committed to challenging all forms of hate and promoting respect and cohesion within our communities.

We recognise the right to peaceful protest. However, we strongly condemn any behaviour or rhetoric that creates division, fear, or intimidation.

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## MOTIONS TO COUNCIL – MOTION TEMPLATE

|                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Date of Council Meeting</b>                                                                                  | 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Title of Motion</b>                                                                                          | To increase parking charges for heavy, over-sized vehicles in Cheltenham Borough Council-owned car parks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Proposer</b>                                                                                                 | Councillor Jan Foster                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Seconder</b>                                                                                                 | Councillor Tabi Joy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Recommendation for Council to vote on</b>                                                                    | Council requests the Leader and Chief Executive to work with officers and members to develop a scheme where heavier domestic vehicles are charged more for parking in Cheltenham, with an exception made for essential trade vehicles used for work that cannot substitute smaller and lighter alternatives. This would be implemented in borough council-owned car parks as we recognise that street parking is the responsibility of the county council. Weight is the best overall proxy for the harms caused by oversized vehicles. <sup>1</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Context for the motion (i.e. why is the motion being submitted – what is the proposer aiming to achieve)</b> | <p>There are a number of persistent problems associated with heavier vehicles. To decarbonise transport, we need to switch to low carbon vehicles and cut car mileage by at least 20%.<sup>2</sup> Bigger, heavier cars largely nullify the carbon benefits being achieved from the take-up of electric vehicles <sup>3</sup>, require more space and are more dangerous to other road users – making walking and cycling less attractive alternatives. To rebalance our road space, we need policies that discourage the purchase and use of larger vehicles, often called SUVs (sports utility vehicles), and that ensure that the owners of oversized cars pay fairly for their greater negative impacts.</p> <p><b><i>Carbon emissions and air pollution:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bigger, heavier cars use more resources to manufacture, emit more carbon and air pollution, and shed more tyre particulates.<sup>4</sup> Tyre wear pollution causes lung and circulatory problems.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>• In the 2010s SUVs were the second-largest contributor to increases in global CO2 emissions, <sup>6</sup> and in 2022 their worldwide emissions reached almost 1 billion tonnes.<sup>7</sup></li> <li>• Even electric SUVs require larger batteries and have lower efficiencies than smaller models.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Danger to other road users:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Injuries inflicted from SUV collisions tend to be more severe because of the greater height</li> </ul> |

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <p>and width of the front of the vehicle. A 10cm increase in vehicle front bonnet height can increase pedestrian fatality risk by 22-30%, with women, children and older people most at risk.<sup>9</sup> A meta-study earlier this year showed that adults hit by an SUV were 44% more likely to be killed than if they were hit by a smaller car while the likelihood for children rose to 82%.<sup>8</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over-sized vehicles reduce space for cyclists to manoeuvre and reduce visibility generally for other road users and pedestrians.<sup>10</sup></li> </ul> <p><b><i>Damage to our roads</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potholes are a perennial problem on Cheltenham's roads. Although sitting water and ice play a part in the formation of potholes, this year the Institution of Civil Engineers published evidence that the cumulative effect of SUVs exacerbates the problem on urban roads, which are not designed to accommodate increased average weight of traffic.<sup>11</sup></li> <li>• A Cheltenham cyclist on Leckhampton Hill in 2022 suffered broken ribs, a collapsed lung and a broken collar bone when she was thrown over her handlebars after hitting a pothole.<sup>12</sup></li> </ul> <p><b><i>Reduction of on-street parking places and threat to the safety of multi-storey car parks</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Towns and cities are predicted to lose 8.5–14% of their on-street car parking by 2040 if current trends continue. The average new car is getting 1cm wider and 1cm taller every two years.<sup>13, 14</sup></li> <li>• The Institute of Structural Engineers has said that older multi-storey car parks are at risk of collapse due to the increase in heavier cars.<sup>15</sup></li> </ul> <p><b><i>Evidence of public and expert support for curbing 'car-spreading'</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action is needed locally, nationally and internationally to curb sales of new Sports Utility Vehicles (SUVs) to reduce their potential harms to health and the environment, according to The British Medical Journal.<sup>16</sup></li> <li>• More than six out of ten motorists (61%) want to see UK cities follow the lead of Paris and raise parking charges for big, heavy SUVs.<sup>17</sup></li> <li>• A YouGov survey shows that four times as many UK car owners agree (71%) that more SUVs "will make parking more difficult"</li> </ul> |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>compared to those who disagree (15%); and a majority of UK car owners (59%) also agree that SUVs are not necessary in towns and cities, compared to just 20% who disagree. <sup>18</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased parking charges for oversized vehicles are in place in many European towns and cities, have recently been introduced in Cardiff, and are under consideration in a range of other UK towns/cities.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>Motions must be about matters for which the Council has responsibility or which affect Cheltenham – please confirm how this criterion is met</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>The Council is responsible for many car parks in the town and has commitments to many goals which the motion aligns with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Climate Emergency Action Plan</b> which targets a reduction in car use, and a review of car parking strategy. Section C9 specifically suggests '<i>economic nudge mechanisms to help disincentivise car use, particularly for shorter journeys</i>'.</li> <li><b>Air Quality Action Plan</b> which in its summary prioritises '<i>a behavioural shift within the population to promote more sustainable and less polluting methods of transport</i>'.</li> <li><b>Cheltenham Town Centre Road Safety Scheme</b> which aims to reduce casualties and improve road safety.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Which Corporate Priority does the Motion support?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Key priority 2: Quality homes, safe and strong communities</a></li> <li><a href="#">Key priority 3: Reducing carbon, achieving council net zero, creating biodiversity</a></li> <li><a href="#">Key priority 4: Reducing inequalities, supporting better outcomes</a></li> <li><a href="#">Key priority 5: Taking care of your money</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p><b>Does the motion have potential financial implications for the council? If yes, advise what these might be</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parking metering systems would need to be overhauled to identify and appropriately charge heavier vehicles. This could be done through Automatic Number Plate Recognition linking with the DVLA database. This initial cost would be offset through the increased charges, and over time there is a strong likelihood of other associated costs being alleviated, including health impacts related to air quality and traffic collision injuries, as well as highway maintenance.</li> <li>It would be important to allocate resources towards measuring the progress of the programme in order to identify both successes and limitations of the scheme, for full transparency.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p><b>Does the motion have potential legal or constitutional implications for the council? If yes, advise what these might be</b></p> <p>The council would have to act within Road Traffic and Parking Regulations and take care that any profits were not used inappropriately.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

**Are there any Environmental or Climate Change Implications that the Council should be aware of? If yes, advise what these might be**

There are positive implications in that smaller petrol and diesel vehicles contribute less greenhouse gases and shed fewer particulates from their tyres. Smaller electric cars require smaller batteries which use a smaller amount of minerals, having a knock-on effect on environmental degradation and child labour at source.

**Are there any equalities impacts associated with the motion? If yes, an equalities impact assessment will be required.**

Some mobility aid users require larger mobility equipment, but special permits could easily be issued where this required a larger vehicle.

Larger vehicles exacerbate social inequality. The risk and damage from heavy vehicles is transferred from those who can afford them to those who are less able to. In collisions, the occupants of the smaller car are more likely to be injured. The impact of emissions is felt more keenly in poorer neighbourhoods and the damage they do to roads is subsidised by other road users less able to pay.

**Does the motion require further background information to enable the Council to make a decision? If yes, advise what might be required**

Council might be interested in the following references.

- <sup>1</sup> <https://www.transportforqualityoflife.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/SUV-Toolkit-for-Cities-FINAL-v1.0.pdf>
- <sup>2</sup> <https://transportforqualityoflife.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/211214-the-last-chance-saloon-to-cut-car-mileage.pdf>
- <sup>3</sup> <https://www.iea.org/commentaries/suvs-are-setting-new-sales-records-each-year-and-so-are-their-emissions>
- <sup>4</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2590162121000216>
- <sup>5</sup> <https://www.emissionsanalytics.com/news/pollution-tyre-wear-worse-exhaust-emissions>
- <sup>6</sup> <https://www.iea.org/commentaries/growing-preference-for-suvs-challenges-emissions-reductions-in-passenger-car-market>
- <sup>7</sup> <https://www.iea.org/commentaries/as-their-sales-continue-to-rise-suvs-global-co2-emissions-are-nearing-1-billion-tonnes>
- <sup>8</sup> <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40300846/>
- <sup>9</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2212012224000017>
- <sup>10</sup> <https://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/32/1/16>
- <sup>11</sup> <https://www.ice.org.uk/news-views-insights/inside-infrastructure/potholes-what-causes-them-and-how-to-fix-them>
- <sup>12</sup> <https://www.gloucestershirelive.co.uk/news/cheltenham-news/gloucestershire-roads-branded-disgrace-cyclist-7552982>
- <sup>13</sup> [https://uploads.transportenvironment.org/production/files/2024\\_01\\_Width\\_limit\\_for\\_light\\_duty\\_vehicles\\_final\\_2024-04-29-155013\\_zacs.pdf](https://uploads.transportenvironment.org/production/files/2024_01_Width_limit_for_light_duty_vehicles_final_2024-04-29-155013_zacs.pdf)
- <sup>14</sup> <https://www.walkwheelcycletrust.org.uk/media/12439/why-are-cars-getting-bigger-a-deep-dive-into-how-uk-regulations-are-enabling-car-size-growth.pdf>
- <sup>15</sup> <https://www.rac.co.uk/drive/news/motoring-news/calls-for-changes-to-uk-car-parks-to-deal-with-weight-of-modern-cars/>
- <sup>16</sup> <https://bmjgroup.com/curb-sales-of-suvs-to-reduce-harms-to-health-and-the-environment-say-experts/>
- <sup>17</sup> <https://startlinemotorfinance.com/news/six-of-ten-suv-parking-charges-tripled/>
- <sup>18</sup> <https://cleancitiescampaign.org/rise-of-carspreading-uk/>

**OFFICER IMPLICATIONS**

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| <b>Officer Name</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Mark Lawson/ Jayne Gilpin                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Officer Title</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Climate & Decarbonisation Manager/Head of Revenues and Benefits                                                                                                        |
| <b>Officer Contact Details</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <a href="mailto:mark.lawson@cheltenham.gov.uk">mark.lawson@cheltenham.gov.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:jayne.gilpin@cheltenham.gov.uk">jayne.gilpin@cheltenham.gov.uk</a> |
| <p><b>Has the Council or is the Council doing any work at the current time in relation to this motion or any associated issues? If yes, please add details</b></p> <p>Yes, CBC's Climate Emergency Action Plan includes measures intended to support modal shift towards walking, cycling, greater use of public transport and seeks to reduce transport related emissions. The council has undertaken work relating to parking strategy, air quality and sustainable transport.</p> <p>Transport emissions within Cheltenham are predominantly outside the council's operational carbon footprint and are influenced by wider transport, planning and highway decisions, many of which fall within GCC's responsibilities.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>Does the motion support any of the priorities set out in the Corporate Plan?</b></p> <p>Potentially yes. The motion aligns most closely with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Key priority 2 – Quality homes, safe and strong communities</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Key priority 3 – Reducing carbon, achieving council net zero, creating biodiversity</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Key priority 4 – Reducing inequalities, supporting better outcomes</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Key priority 5 – Taking care of your money</a>- it would take some considerable time for the additional fees charged to exceed the implementation and higher on-going costs</li> </ul> <p>Alignment is indirect and would depend on the final scheme design and evidence of behavioural impact.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>Does the motion have potential financial implications for the Council? If yes, advise what these might be and confirm whether budget is available</b></p> <p>Potential financial implications have not been assessed from a climate and decarbonisation perspective. Implementation costs, revenue impacts, enforcement requirements and system changes would require assessment by the relevant service areas.</p> <p>From a parking perspective -there are potential financial implications-the cost of installing equipment to weigh vehicles as they enter our car parks would be substantial and this option would not be suitable or possible in all car parks</p> <p>Charging higher parking charges based on vehicle weight would need to rely on the customer knowing their vehicle weight and paying the appropriate fee.</p> <p>Associated costs would be:</p> <p><b>System costs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial inquiries with our Pay and Display machine provider suggest that existing machines would need to be replaced. Currently there are 32 machines across 14 pay and display car parks. The cost of a new pay and display machine is</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                        |

approximately £5,000.00, plus installation costs, making the total cost in the region of £200,000.

- Our cashless parking provider (payment by phone or app) could provide a solution to allow for different fees based on vehicle weight. This would involve bespoke work and are unable to give an estimate of cost without more specific details.
- Additional software would be needed for our back-office system and hand-held devices, used by enforcement officers, to allow vehicle weight to be checked and penalty charge notices to be issued. Again, it has not been possible to obtain an estimate without more specific details. Annual license fees would also increase to reflect the additional software

**Other costs include**

- Amending the Parking Orders which incurs consultation and publishing costs
- Replacing all signage in 14 pay and display car parks
- Advertising costs for media campaign to publicise the changes
- Staff training of any new systems

**Staffing costs**

- Additional enforcement officer resource due to the increased time to patrol each car park and check vehicle weights
- Additional administration officer resource to deal with additional queries, challenges and complaints

**Other potential financial implications**

Additional charges may encourage customers to use on street or private parking provision, resulting in a drop in parking income.

The initiative is not suitable for Regent Arcade multi storey car park due to the pay on foot barrier system in operation

**Does the motion have potential legal or constitutional implications for the Council? If yes, advise what these might be**

Issues that may benefit from further consideration could include:

- Proportionality and justification of different charging structures
- Treatment of blue badge holders and disabled vehicle users (who may require larger vehicles for accessibility)
- Availability of data and accuracy in determining vehicle weight categories

Penalty charge notices could be successfully challenged. It is not known what stance the Adjudicator will take regarding the customer being expected to know the weight of their vehicle.

Also, any exemption for trade vehicles would need to be very clear and specific to avoid abuse.

**Are there any Environmental or Climate Change Implications that the Council should be aware of? If yes, advise what these might be**

Overall, the environmental and climate implications are potentially positive but remain uncertain. Potential benefits could include supporting the wider transition to lower-carbon

transport in the borough through tiered parking charges, reducing material use and embodied emissions associated with larger vehicles, and contributing indirectly to improved air quality through lower particulate emissions.

However, several important limitations of the motion as currently worded should be noted:

- The carbon impact has not been modelled. Further assessment would be required to understand likely behavioural change and any unintended consequences. For example, a weight-based tariff could apply to some battery electric vehicles, which are often heavier than equivalent petrol or diesel vehicles, potentially weakening incentives to switch to lower-emission vehicles.
- Behavioural responses are uncertain.
- Transport emissions are predominantly wide-area emissions rather than council operational emissions.
- Any emissions reduction achieved would depend on drivers changing vehicle choice, travel behaviour or mode of transport.
- In terms of parking, enforcement of the first penalty charge notice (PCN) issued to a customer may not be possible. For the first offence the adjudicator is very likely to take the view that it is not reasonable to expect the average customer to know the weight of their vehicle. This is regardless of signage etc.
- Also, any exemption for trade vehicles would need to be very clear and specific to avoid abuse.

**Should an equality impact assessment be completed before the deliberation of this motion?**

Yes, a differential parking charge based on vehicle weight or size could have unequal impacts that would benefit from assessment. Not all heavier vehicles are SUVs or similar, and an equality impact assessment would identify potential impacts on:

- Older or Disabled residents/visitors requiring larger adapted vehicles
- People with limited mobility
- Families with specific accessibility requirements
- Residents or visitors with caring, medical or accessibility needs
- Tradespeople who need larger vehicles for work
- Rural residents with limited travel alternatives
- Women and other groups for whom personal safety may affect transport choice
- Lower income households owning older, heavier vehicles.

**Does the motion require further background information to be carried out to enable the Council to make a decision? If so, advise what might be required**

Yes, the following information, if available, could be beneficial to strengthen decision making:

- Benchmarking of schemes introduced elsewhere
- Estimated carbon reductions vs alternative charging scenarios
- Assessment of potential unintended consequences, including displacement to on-street parking.

- Consideration of whether vehicle weight, vehicle dimensions, emissions rating or another metric would be beneficial to take into account in designing the cost structure.
- Availability of data

END