

Briefing for Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 3rd March 2014

The Forward Plan lists the reports expected to come to Cabinet in the next 3 or 4 months. This note supplements that with other issues that may be of interest to O&S.

Car Parking

CBC has now submitted a response to Government consultation on local authority car parking policies and enforcement which ended on 14th February 2014.

Parishes – Double Taxation

Parishes had requested a meeting to discuss issues where services are paid for by CBC in non-parished areas but by parishes where they exist. This is a complex issue which could involve a major piece of work as details vary from one parish to another. The main concern was to ensure a fair process for the future. We have guaranteed that CBC will consult parishes about any future changes in service level. On that basis further work is not currently needed other than to include this issue in the discussion on allotments.

Unitary Government

The Local Government Structure Task Group set up by the county council has now produced its report recommending as follows:-

- 4.1** That, as there is no consensus in the local government community, there should be no further consideration of unitary local government for Gloucestershire at this time.
- 4.2** To advise the District Councils of the outcome of the scrutiny inquiry.
- 4.3** To encourage public sector organisations in Gloucestershire, including the County Council, the District Councils, the Health Service, the Police and the Voluntary and Community Sector, to work together where there were mutual benefits. The County Council's *Customer Access Project* was identified as an area of potential discussion.
- 4.4** The report to be shared with Leadership Gloucestershire.

This is due to be debated at the 26th February meeting of Gloucestershire County Council.