

Cabinet Briefing Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 27 June 2016

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.

Recycling

Work is underway on the recycling review prior to the planned fleet replacement in 2017. This will include a public survey in July to inform options. Chris Coleman is preparing a briefing note for all members and will further update O&S member at the meeting.

Rail Industry

Prior to the full response to the STG going to cabinet the following update may be useful.

1. Collectively (ie via rail industry and Task Force) we now have secured all 5 separate funding streams
2. GWR/Network Rail are progressing designs and programmes
3. A positive meeting held on 27/05/16 between rail industry, CBC, Stagecoach, GCC, cycle lobby over some draft concepts, notably the forecourt changes – feedback from this will inform next iteration of proposals
4. Unsure of a timeline as action/lead rests with rail industry but hope to have a revised design for wider consultation later this summer

Devolution

Prior to latest deadline for potential devolution deals (27th May), government confirmed there would be no deal for Gloucestershire while the Cotswold position was unclear. In any case, the district council leaders (5 out of 6) confirmed that they did not support such a deal based on an elected mayor.

Prior to the latest Leadership Gloucestershire meeting on 26th May, Cotswold withdrew from any deal with Oxfordshire. Hence the meeting took stock of the current position and discussed options to move forward. It is still expected that a multiple Unitary Authority proposal will come forward for Oxfordshire.

It is now some time since the original Gloucestershire devolution bid was put together and there was general agreement it was no longer fit for purpose and we should look to make it more ambitious. It was agreed to arrange a facilitated discussion on how to proceed. This will need to tackle the clear difference of view between those who wish to restrict any discussion to the current 2 tier local govt structure and those like me suggesting a wider debate including UA options.