

# Cabinet

Meeting date: 16 September 2025

## Public Question (1 total)

### **1. Question from Richard Lawler to Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Wellbeing, Culture and Public Realm Open Space, Councillor Izaak Tailford**

In Swindon Village, graffiti is a visible issue in our laneways, tunnels, and on public utilities. While enforcement alone may not address the root causes, there is an opportunity to turn this into a positive for the community.

Will the council consider supporting a graffiti artist outreach programme in Swindon Village — one that:

- designates the Windyridge underpass as a safe and legal space for graffiti art;
- encourages artists to contribute to the community by helping residents with projects such as fence painting or mural creation;
- works with local partners to connect interested graffiti artists to apprenticeships, training, or career pathways in painting, decorating, or related trades.

This could help address the appearance of our public spaces, foster positive engagement with young people, and build community pride while creating real opportunities for skills development.

Might the council also consider asking Andy Davis, who runs the street art programme, to advise on the best way to implement this?

### **Cabinet Member response**

Thank-you, Mr Lawler, for your question and I agree art activities such as those which are undertaken via the Cheltenham Paint Festival are positive in addressing areas of graffiti, contributing to a sense of place and to positively engage communities.

The tunnel you are referring to is managed and maintained by Gloucestershire County Council and any works would need to gain their approval both for the artwork and for health and safety provisions whilst any works are undertaken. To date, the County Council has been supportive and helped facilitate the works of the Cheltenham Paint Festival.

The type of activity you have suggested may be a suitable project funded by neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The Windyridge Tunnel

actually falls within the Prestbury Parish area, but there is a close relationship with the wider areas of Swindon Village. Both Prestbury and Swindon Village parishes receive CIL funding direct and are responsible for the award of projects for the funds available for the Neighbourhood CIL arising from within their parishes. I would be very happy to make the introduction to enable this conversation.

In areas outside the parished areas for which the council manages neighbourhood CIL receipts, allocations have been made previously to support the work of the Cheltenham Paint Festival. This included an allocation of £45,000 in [July 2023](#) for £15k to be spent per year over three years, together with a further £7,500 in [July 2025](#) for murals on the Honeybourne Line £7,500. The images below are those funded by the Honeybourne Line project:

