



## Leadership Gloucestershire – 5 March 2020

### Gloucester City Council, Shire Hall

#### 1 Welcome, introduction and apologies

Name	Organisation	Apologies
Cllr Mark Hawthorne (Chair) Pete Bungard	Gloucestershire County Council	
Doina Cornell Kathy O'Leary	Stroud District Council	
Cllr Richard Cook Jon McGinty	Gloucester City Council	
Cllr Paul Hiett Pete Williams	Forest of Dean District Council	Cllr Tim Gwilliam
Cllr Steve Jordan Gareth Edmundson	Cheltenham Borough Council	
Cllr Joe Harris Nigel Adams	Cotswold District Council	
Cllr Rob Bird Mike Dawson	Tewkesbury Borough Council	
Richard Bradley	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)	PCC Martin Surl
	Gloucestershire Constabulary	Rod Hansen
Mark Walkingshaw	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	Dr Andy Seymour Mary Hutton
David Owen Diane Savory	GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)	
	Area Lead for Gloucestershire, Cities and Local Growth Unit	Karen Leigh
Sarah Scott Colin Chick Adam Barnes Simon Harper	Gloucestershire County Council	

## 1 **Coronavirus: Covid-19**

In light of local developments, Cllr Mark Hawthorne brought this item forward to allow Sarah Scott, GCC Director of Public Health, and Adam Barnes, GCC Head of Communications, to provide an update on the latest situation.

Sarah Scott referred to the two cases in the county and actions that had been taken including convening the Strategic Coordinating Group. She said that she was grateful to health colleagues who had undertaken deep cleans of the affected school and other premises related to the cases.

Adam Barnes stated that information had been shared with the media at an early stage. Messages focused around public reassurance, good personal hygiene including hand washing and followed national guidance. It was critical that messages were consistent from across the public sector. The GCC messages would be shared with other public sector partners and they were welcome to use them within their own organisations and for public communications.

Members had an important role in their local communities in developing community resilience but it was recognised that the messages they gave needed to be consistent throughout the county.

The Government was developing guidance for different sectors including businesses. Guidance would make clear that people would not need a statutory sick note after seven days. Any views on the Government guidance could be fed back via Simon Harper to Karen Leigh at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

Cllr Hawthorne stated that the public sector needed to provide reassurance to the public and make sure that consistent messages were given around the Government guidance. Work was ongoing to ensure that there was resilience around the delivery of services, particularly those provided to vulnerable people.

Pete Bungard advised that GCC had business continuity plans for all its services. The areas of concern were around care home capacity and domiciliary care.

In response for a request to share business continuity plans, Sarah Scott advised that she would ask the Tactical Coordinating Group to see if the GCC plans could be published alongside those of other public agencies.

*Action – Sarah Scott*

Partners thanked Sarah for the efficient and professional way in which she had dealt with events earlier in the week.

Cllr Hawthorne urged partners to contact Sarah or Adam if there was anything they were unsure of, and he stressed again the need to provide consistent messages to the public.

## 2 **Welcome – Gloucester City Council**

Cllr Richard Cook, Leader of Gloucester City Council, and Jon McGinty, Managing Director, welcomed everyone to the Members Room at Shire Hall. They explained that Gloucester City Council shared the building with the County Council and enjoyed access to the meeting rooms.

They gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting key issues and challenges facing Gloucester and the City Council. Gloucester's population of 130,000 people was the youngest in the county and the most ethnically diverse but was also the least healthy. It was second only to Tewkesbury in terms of population growth but this was a growing challenge due to the lack of sites available within the city boundary for new housing and employment. The city worked closely with neighbouring districts through the Joint Core Strategy to identify suitable sites to accommodate this growth.

The motto for the city was 'A City that Works for Everyone'. Information was provided on the regeneration projects that had been undertaken and ones that were in the pipeline. The next big project was a £100 million scheme for Gloucester's King's quarter.

Serious action was being taken to address climate change with three air quality management areas in the city. A tree fund would be available to elected members which would allow them to work with their local communities to plant up to 300 trees in each ward.

The flood alleviation and mitigation work that had been undertaken with partner agencies in recent years had so far helped to prevent any properties from being flooded in the city during the recent spell of heavy rainfall and high river levels.

The City Council was proud of its asset based community development (ABCD) approach with local communities taking ownership of local schemes. Examples were the park runs taking place across the city, the men in sheds' schemes and a social enterprise to deliver grounds' maintenance.

Gloucester had a long history of cultural events and its ambition was to be the 'UK City of Culture 2025'. Andrew Dixon from Culture Creativity Place said that "The challenge to the county is that to be a strong bid, it needs to focus on the City. The challenge to the City is that to be a feasible bid, it must share the benefits with the county – cultural, strategic, economic."

Partnership working was at the heart of the work of the City Council and Leadership Gloucestershire partners were encouraged to support the bid. At this stage, the City Council was looking for support in principle but in the longer term it would be looking for 25 founding partners to provide £20,000 in funding to support the bid. If successful, the year of culture could encompass major cultural events around the county including the Cheltenham Festivals and other festivals.

The City Council was also looking to work with Leadership Gloucestershire partners for initiatives around climate change strategy, community building and digital.

### **3 Action notes**

The notes of the meeting held on 19 December 2019 were agreed.

### **4 Western Gateway**

Cllr Hawthorne provided an update on the latest position regarding the Western Gateway. A meeting had been held on 3 March 2020 when the Chair, Katherine Bennett, Senior Airbus Vice-President, provided an update on stakeholder engagement. The prospectus, which was available in both English and Welsh, had been launched and had reached a wide audience regionally and nationally. The secretariat would be hosted by South Gloucestershire Council and partner organisations would be asked to make a contribution towards the running costs.

Deloitte had been appointed to undertake a governance review with a focus around engaging with stakeholders. Cllr Hawthorne stated that, whatever the shape of the governance structure, it was essential that there was District Council representation from Gloucestershire.

Katherine Bennett had offered to attend a stakeholder event in Gloucestershire and it was hoped that this could be held at the earliest opportunity.

*Action – Cllr Mark Hawthorne and Pete Bungard*

It was noted that links were being developed between the Western Gateway and the Sub-National Transport Body to ensure that major infrastructure projects were joined up. Colin Chick had met with leaders and senior officers in each district to identify the key projects for Gloucestershire that would feed into that process.

### **5 Gloucestershire Vision 2050 Boards**

Consideration was given to the report that had been circulated after the dispatch of the agenda.

In presenting the report, Mike Dawson explained that District Chief Executives held meetings in January and February to consider current spatial plans and the Vision 2050 Board structure. The need to integrate transport infrastructure solutions and modal shift options was now crucial for climate change and planning examination reasons. Government departments and the Planning Inspectorate had indicated that local plans submitted for examination in public would be found 'unsound' if they did not include deliverable transport infrastructure and modal shift proposals.

The definition of a 'City Region' was urban and rural areas that together acted as a single functional economic area. There was evidence to suggest that this definition would apply to the whole of the county in terms of the local housing needs assessment, strategic economic plans such as the Local Industrial Strategy and transport solutions.

After a lengthy discussion, the following approach was supported:

- a) To extend the membership of the Gloucestershire City Region Board to include all of the local authorities in the county with the terms of reference adjusted accordingly.
- b) To note the activities undertaken by the other boards to date, including the Rural Ambitions Board, and ensure that these were not lost under any new structure.
- c) To identify activity streams under the Gloucester City Region Board involving relevant elected members and senior officers. These included the Statement of Common Ground, Joint Core Strategy, other spatial plans and transport strategies.
- d) To identify the evidence gathering study areas along with indicative costs. These included land availability, employment, health, waste, schools, transport, climate change and flood risk.
- e) To request an initial sum of £2 million from the Strategic Economic Development Fund via the Joint Economic Growth Committee and include an indicative list of activities required.
- f) To note that a total of £13-14 million was likely to be needed to allow all the evidence to be gathered.
- g) To note the potential 'public/private thinktank' role that could be undertaken by the GFirst LEP Board.

*Action – Pete Bungard, Gareth Edmundson, Nigel Adams, Peter Williams, Jon McGinty, Kathy O'Leary, Mike Dawson, David Owen and Colin Chick*

## **6 A coordinated response to climate change – creation of a Gloucestershire Climate Change Coordinator**

Consideration was given to the report that had been circulated with the agenda.

Following the discussion at the last meeting, it was proposed that Gloucester City Council would host the Climate Change Coordinator post. The County Council had committed funding of £30,000 per annum with contributions totaling £70,000 sought from other Leadership Gloucestershire partners.

It was noted that the coordinator would report through Jon McGinty, Managing Director at Gloucester City Council, to Leadership Gloucestershire.

Agreed:

- a) Creation of a Climate Change Coordinator post, hosted by Gloucester City Council and funded via contributions from Leadership Gloucestershire partners, on the basis of a two year fixed-term contract with potential to extend.
- b) A contribution of £30,000 per annum from the County Council with Leadership Gloucestershire partners funding the remaining salary and associated on-costs of £70,000 per annum for two years.

*Action – Jon McGinty*

## **7 Future public buildings and developments in Gloucestershire**

Mike Dawson noted that there were two elements to be covered following the resolution of the County Council on 11 September 2019. The Gloucestershire One Public Estate Group chaired by Steve Mawson, Executive Director of Resources at the County Council, would take forward the approach to public buildings. The County Strategic Planning Group would consider higher environmental standards, both for new development and existing buildings.

*Action – Mike Dawson and Steve Mawson*

## **8 One Gloucestershire – Integrated Care System (ICS)**

Mark Walkingshaw advised that Dame Jill Morgan, who had wide-ranging experience in healthcare, had been appointed as chair of the ICS Board. The engagement phase of the 'Fit for the Future' consultation, which had started in Summer 2019, had culminated in the Citizen's Jury which had focused on the 'centre for excellence' model. Appraisal of the long list of options was taking place through workshops during February 2020 and these would be worked up into business cases during March and April. Proposals would be presented to the Health Scrutiny Committee, following which there would be a further round of consultation with stakeholders.

Cllr Joe Harris expressed concern at the difficulties members sometimes experienced when they needed to speak to someone in the health community about an issue. He made particular reference to phlebotomy services and the lack of communication on service changes. He believed that there might be some value in having a dedicated contact point at the Clinical Commissioning Group. Mark Walkingshaw apologised for the difficulties Cllr Harris had suffered and offered to answer any questions that he had after the meeting.

## 9 Future meetings and work plan

25 June – Forest of Dean District Council, Coleford

1 October – Cotswold District Council, Cirencester

10 December – Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill

All Thursdays at 10am

Agenda items identified for the next meeting:

- a) Western Gateway – latest position including visit to Gloucestershire
- b) Vision 2050 Boards – proposals for new structure including activity streams
- c) Future public buildings and developments in Gloucestershire – update
- d) Integrated Care System - update
- e) Social mobility

Referring to social mobility, Jon McGinty advised that the project group had engaged with a wide range of partners including schools, further education and higher education. It was evident that the biggest factors affecting social mobility related to people's experiences between the early years and youth stages of their lives. Some extra resource had been provided by the Public Health Team to help progress the project. A more detailed report would be presented at the next meeting.

*Action – Jon McGinty*

The meeting ended at 12pm