

Private Document Pack

Leadership Gloucestershire	
Tuesday 13 December 2022 at 10.00 am	
Virtual Meeting - Teams	
AGENDA	

1	WELCOME	Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE
2	ACTION NOTES (Pages 1 - 8) To approve the action notes of the meeting held on 29 September 2022.	Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE
3	GLOUCESTERSHIRE STRATEGIC MIGRATION PARTNERSHIP (Pages 9 - 16)	Siobhan Farmer
4	HEALTH UPDATE	
	a) COVID AND FLU VACCINE PROGRAMME UPDATE	Siobhan Farmer
	b) ONE GLOUCESTERSHIRE - INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM	Mary Hutton
5	ECONOMIC GROWTH UPDATE	
	a) LEVELLING UP, COUNTY DEALS AND INVESTMENT ZONES	Peter Bungard
	b) WESTERN GATEWAY	Peter Bungard
	c) GEGJC/ CITY REGION GOVERNANCE	Gareth

6 **NEXT MEETINGS**

Wednesday 1 March at 2pm
Tuesday 20 June at 10am
Tuesday 26 September at 2pm
Tuesday 5 December at 10am



Leadership Gloucestershire –29 September 2022

Remote meeting via Microsoft Teams

1 Welcome, introduction and apologies

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Apologies</i>
Cllr Mark Hawthorne (Chair) Pete Bungard	Gloucestershire County Council	
Cllr Catherine Braun Andrew Cummings	Stroud District Council	
Cllr Richard Cook Jon McGinty Julian Atkins	Gloucester City Council	
Cllr Paul Hiett Pete Williams	Forest of Dean District Council	Cllr Tim Gwilliam
Cllr Mike Collins Gareth Edmundson	Cheltenham Borough Council	Cllr Rowena Hay
Cllr Joe Harris	Cotswold District Council	Rob Weaver
Cllr Rob Bird Alistair Cunningham	Tewkesbury Borough Council	
PCC Chris Nelson	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)	Richard Bradley Ruth Greenwood
CC Rod Hansen	Gloucestershire Constabulary	
Mary Hutton	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	Dr Andy Seymour
Ruth Dooley David Owen	GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)	
Anwen Jones	Area Lead for Gloucestershire, Cities and Local Growth Unit	
Siobhan Farmer Sarah MacDonald Stephen Bace	Gloucestershire County Council	Colin Chick

2 ACTION NOTES

The notes of the meeting held on 3 March 2022 were agreed.

3 ARMED FORCES COVENANT

Sarah Macdonald outlined that GCC had first signed the Armed Forces Covenant in 2012, a new Act had received Royal Assent and brought with it a duty for 'specified persons, or bodies' to have due regards to the principles of the covenant when providing health care, housing and education. Official guidance would follow.

Examples were given around the work taking place in public health and the e-learning that was being made available to GCC staff.

The AFC Partnership Board was currently chaired by Councillor Andrew Gravells and met quarterly.

A virtual re-signing event took place in March this year following a motion agreed at Council.

Leadership Gloucestershire was asked to reaffirm their support for the Armed Forces Covenant and its leadership role. Leadership Gloucestershire reaffirmed its continued commitment to the Covenant.

4 CLIMATE LEADERSHIP GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Jon McGinty and Julian Atkins introduced the report outlining progress over the previous 6 months.

CLG's work was organised across 10 thematic topics with each partner acting as a lead for one of the topics. Detailed discussions had been held on six of those themes.

Leadership Gloucestershire noted the outcomes in relation to the themes considered by CLG and were updated on the challenges that had emerged, mainly around resources.

It was important to establish a road map for the next two years of work. Leadership Gloucestershire considered a number of recommendations within the report. There was a need for additional capacity at the coordination level in order to expand the work that was taking place.

There was discussion around the need for a budget to support the work of Climate Leadership Gloucestershire. It was suggested that it was estimated that there was a need for a 1.5 FTE for the next 1 to 2 years in a coordinator role. In addition, it was suggested that a budget of around £150,000 was required to carry out climate risk and vulnerability assessment, so a total budget of somewhere around £200,000. This would help lead to wider stakeholder conversations which were needed to progress.

There was a wider discussion around whether Climate Leadership Gloucestershire was going to be a delivery vehicle taking forward projects with joint resource, or whether it was in place to identify priorities and task partners to act on that.

Clarification was sought around whether this was a one off resource to develop something that could be taken forward by partners or whether it was an ongoing cost.

The suggestion as outlined in the paper was that CEOs and S 151s would discuss the level of resource required (likely as a one off cost) to develop this further within councils and update Leadership Gloucestershire on the outcomes of those discussions.

5. ECONOMIC GROWTH UPDATE

5.1 Levelling-up and County Deals

Pete Bungard outlined that proposals had been shared with partners, but since then there had been a change of government. The proposals were 'ready' for further engagement opportunities.

He then outlined the recent announcement around Investment Zones, noting that the County Council had been included on a list of authorities that had expressed an interest. He believed the County Council was on the list because the Council had government funded projects that would fit the criteria.

Initial detail on Investment Zones suggested they allowed for reduced tax burdens, a bespoke approach to planning (safe and sustainable) and consolidating on science and technology.

There would need to be an engagement round, expressions of interest could be launched in a matter of weeks and the duration of the bid could be short.

The question was did this fit for Gloucestershire? Discussion particularly centered on Cyber West Cheltenham and Junction 10 and Junction 9 as areas

that would be interesting to pursue. In addition there could be opportunities if the county had progress in relation to STEP fusion or to promote development around the Berkeley area.

It was suggested that where the County had plans in place this wouldn't be a difficult agenda to engage in. In addition, while aimed at upper tier authorities, there was a recognition that upper tiers would need to coordinate with lower tiers.

There was a note of caution with the example of Enterprise Zones given and discussion centered around the importance of more detail in order to understand the nuances such as the retention of business rates growth beyond a certain threshold and potential planning liberalisation. It was noted that it was not believed that primary legislation in relation to planning would be changed.

There was some discussion around the importance of community involvement in the local plans and concern from some about the Investment Zone announcement and how that fit alongside environmental considerations. There was a such a short timescale in terms of making a bid without any guidance at this point.

It was explained that the County Council would put forward a proposition (most likely focused on emerging and existing plans) to gain investment and growth in the county. The timescale was not ideal, but a statement could outline initial thoughts to begin a further discussion with government.

Cllr Braun expressed concern and wanted to see more detail. Her initial position was that she did not want to progress with this.

PCC Chris Nelson raised an example of an initiative around prisoners building affordable homes in order to generate skill sets and self-confidence. The availability of land was key to this. It was suggested that this come to a future meeting of Leadership Gloucestershire with a paper worked up with support from Strategic Housing Partnership.

ACTION Chris Nelson

5.2 Western Gateway

Pete Bungard updated Leadership Gloucestershire, noting that the previous director of Western Gateway had left, and John Wilkinson from DLUHC, had been seconded for two years. Previously director on Free Ports Programme.

On STEP Fusion, there was no new news with the county on the slightly extended shortlist. There would likely be a political decision on where that proposal ended up.

It was noted that there was an Energy system study looking at emission trends and decarbonisation and the success of power sector. This was a worthwhile read.

A request was made from Cllr Hiett for Leadership Gloucestershire to receive written reports on Western Gateway. This would be considered but it was noted that papers had been circulated to district leaders.

5.3 Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) and City Region Governance

Gareth Edmundson explained that the joint committee was extended for a further 12 months and now a discussion was needed on an updated governance structure that looked to rationalise the city region board, particularly around how decisions were made. The Joint Economic Growth Committee would cease to exist in March 2023.

There was general agreement on the governance structure with a request made to keep the name City Region Board rather than Future Gloucestershire in order to tie in to the accepted national agenda and recognised labelling.

There was caution around references to Glos 2050 Vision with it suggested by some that the document no longer reflected every districts' position. It was explained that the vision document was used more in relation to the values and ambitions rather than the projects listed. Terms of references would need to also reflect the rural nature of the County.

Another area of consideration was around what would replace the LEP in terms of allowing for a voice of business should there be a County Deal.

A paper would be received at the next meeting of Leadership Gloucestershire following further development of the proposals. Formal decisions would be needed by the various councils in advance of March 2023.

6 HEALTH UPDATE

6.1 Living with Covid

Covid infections – 1600 people had died where ‘COVID’ was mentioned or on the death certificate.

There had been 88% vaccination take up in the County

It was expected that we would see an increase in Covid infections into October and November. There were a number of cases in hospitals and that was about transmission to individuals who were already in hospital for other reasons.

The importance of promoting the campaign for vaccination alongside the Flu vaccine was emphasised. Where possible this was co-administered. Information on this would be circulated.

It was agreed to remove Living with Covid as a regular agenda item.

It was asked that there was a Covid and flu vaccine programme update at the meeting in December.

6.2 One Gloucestershire - Integrated Care System (ICS)

Mary Hutton outlined that the ICS had been set up, made up of the ICB and ICP (health and wellbeing partnership). It was explained that the ICP would have a wider membership including district members.

Leadership Gloucestershire noted the three overarching pillars.

Work was underway with the Health and Wellbeing Board, making Gloucestershire a better place for the future, transforming what we do and improving health and care services today.

It was about being ambitious and starting off that partnership working.

There was some discussion around housing and accommodation and the importance of a collective approach.

7 Future meetings

13 December at 10am

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Gloucestershire Strategic Migration Partnership

Context

The international and national context around migration is changing. The number of people forcibly displaced from their homes has more than doubled in the last ten years.¹ The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that the number of refugees who will require resettlement in 2023 will be 36% higher than 2022 due to the emergence of new conflicts and displacement crises and the protraction of existing crises.² The majority of people forced to flee are either displaced internally within their own country or temporarily move to neighbouring countries, whilst a smaller proportion will be resettled overseas or claim asylum.

In the UK, 14,700 people were granted leave to remain through asylum-related protection, resettlement or family reunion visas in 2021.³ This was lower pre-pandemic levels but the picture has changed significantly in 2022 with the introduction of the Homes for Ukraine and the Ukraine Family scheme. In addition, 48,500 applications for asylum were made in 2021.⁴ This is a small increase on pre-pandemic levels. Delays in processing applications have also increased the number of people waiting in the asylum system for their claims to be reviewed.

Current schemes

In Gloucestershire, the context has shifted significantly over the last year because of the Ukraine situation and new Contingency Hotels for asylum seekers. Currently, Gloucestershire is hosting refugees through the following schemes and systems:

- Gloucestershire Refugee Resettlement Programme (GRRP) for Syrian refugees
- Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) – commitment to resettle 35 families, with 27 settled in Gloucestershire by July 2022
- Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme
- Homes for Ukraine (HFU) – over 1200 people settled by end of October 2022
- Ukraine Family Scheme – precise numbers unknown
- Asylum Dispersal Scheme – proposal for 431 bedspaces for Gloucestershire.

There have also been three Contingency hotels set up at the request of the Home Office. At the end of July 2022, there were 360 people in these settings and it is possible a fourth hotel will be required in the next few months. People living in Contingency hotels may be moved out of county into dispersal accommodation and others based in temporary accommodation out of the county may be moved into dispersal accommodation in Gloucestershire. These moves are managed at the national level.

¹ <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/figures-at-a-glance.html>

² <https://www.unhcr.org/refugeebrief/latest-issues/>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-december-2021/how-many-people-do-we-grant-asylum-or-protection-to#:~:text=1.1%20Resettlement,to%20the%20COVID%2D19%20pandemic.>

⁴ Ibid.

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) are assessed and usually taken into care by Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Children's Social Care.

People who have had their asylum claims approved are also living in the county but are not part of a formal scheme.

Funding arrangements

Funding is allocated by scheme:

- ARAP⁵ - £20,520 per person over three years for resettlement and integration costs
 - £4,500 per child for education requirements
 - £850 to cover language provision for adults
 - £2,600 to cover healthcare costs
- UKRS⁶ - in the first year £8520 for adults and children under 3, £13,020 for children (aged 5-18), £10,770 (children aged 3-4)
 - £5000 in second year
 - £3,700 in third year
 - £2,300 in fourth year
 - £1,000 in fifth year
- HFU⁷ - £10,500 per individual
- Asylum seekers - £250 per person in all Home Office supported accommodation e.g. Contingency Hotels, Dispersal Accommodation

Existing arrangements

Oversight of the resettlement programmes is held by the Strategic Housing Partnership and a small team of staff with dedicated resettlement roles. These roles were originally appointed with the purpose of supporting the Afghan and Syrian resettlement programmes but the Ukraine situation and the Contingency hotels has significantly increased the workload for this team.

The HFU team based in GCC was set-up as a rapid response team to coordinate the required checks for hosts and welcome visits for guests. The set up of this team has been coordinated by the Prevention, Wellbeing and Communities (PWC) Hub (Public Health).

Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers (GARAS) provide critical support to refugees and asylum seekers living in Gloucestershire, including casework, education and employment support, coordination of activities and advocacy. GARAS is commissioned by both GCC and the Strategic Housing

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-boost-for-councils-as-new-afghan-resettlement-plans-set-out>

⁶

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/995800/2021_04_08_LA_Funding_Instruction_-_FINAL_v1.0__2_.pdf

⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-guidance-for-councils>

Partnership to coordinate support for refugees arriving through the resettlement schemes and through HFU.

Proposal

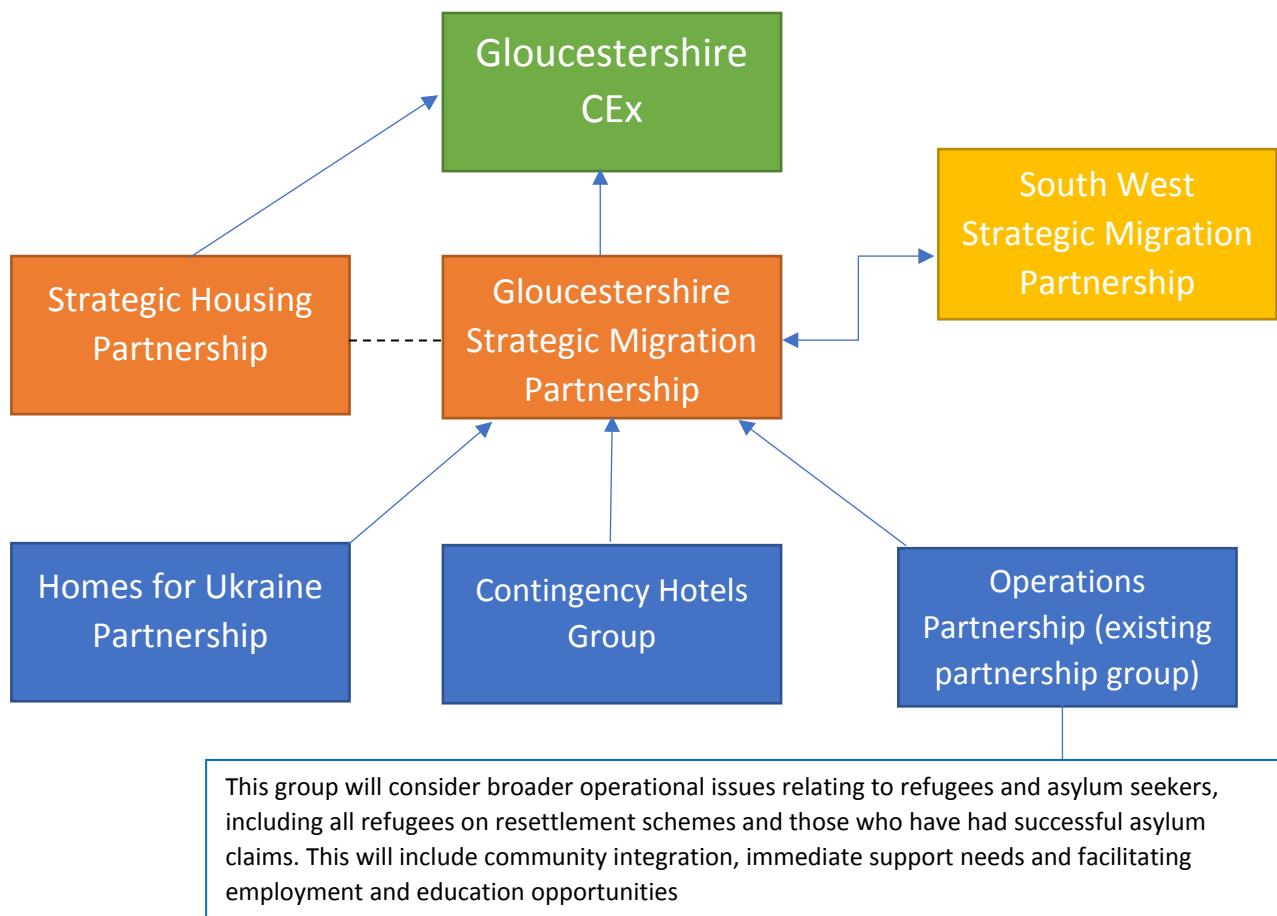
Everyone arriving in our County has the opportunity to live a safe and settled life with their living and welfare needs met.

To support our statutory and voluntary partners to meet these needs, clear oversight of the needs and challenges of all vulnerable migrant groups is needed. Existing structures and staffing arrangements at the county and district levels are not currently sufficient.

In consultation with the Strategic Housing Partnership, the Strategic Directors Group and with the support of the Health & Wellbeing Board we are proposing to set up a Gloucestershire Strategic Migration Partnership which would report periodically or by exception to Gloucestershire Chief Executives and work with the Regional Strategic Migration Partnership to maintain clear links with the regional and national context.

The proposed objectives of this group are set out in the attached Terms of Reference.

The proposed governance is below:



Appendix 1

A summary of longer-term issues and actions for the strategic group to consider on set-up is below:

Issue or challenge
Funding arrangements for vulnerable migrants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider opportunities for pooled budgets - Contracting arrangements for commissioned services
Equality Impact Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With multiple schemes operating, the risk of inequality across resettlement provision is high and needs to be mitigated
Hotel living <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunities to improve day-to-day wellbeing in the short-term, including access to communal space, advocating for improvement to food, and activities
Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to ESOL classes, including for asylum seekers - Majority of education needs (e.g. school places) are dealt with by GCC and would only need to be raised at the GSMP if there are issues that need escalating
Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are specific groups with NHS oversight supporting health needs of refugees and asylum seekers, including health protection and mental health support. Issues can be escalated to GSMP as required
Employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitating opportunities for employment and local partnerships
Safeguarding – leading risks are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC); supported by Children's Social Care at GCC - Hotel-based safeguarding issues - Host-guest safeguarding for HFU - Employment exploitation risks
Community cohesion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To have oversight and encourage community-based activities to support integration
Specific scheme related issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HFU – longer-term planning for supporting Ukrainian refugees, in the context of increasing numbers of host-guest relationship breakdowns
Migrant dispersal schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working with the SWMP to facilitate migrant dispersal across the county ensuring equity between participating councils

Paper prepared by Kate Yorke - Public Health Registrar.

Gloucestershire Strategic Migration Partnership (GSMP)
Terms of Reference

Purpose

Everyone arriving in our County has the opportunity to live a safe and settled life with their living and welfare needs met.

In recognition of this the purpose of the Gloucestershire Strategic Migration Partnership (GSMP) is to take a trauma informed approach in developing and maintaining a strategic overview of key issues and barriers facing vulnerable migrants, including refugees and asylum seekers, in Gloucestershire and to work in partnership to strategically maximise opportunities for people to integrate socially, live healthy, happy and successful lives in Gloucestershire.

Objectives

The partnership board will:

1. Develop and maintain a strategic overview of key issues and barriers for refugees and asylum seekers.
2. To consider the most efficient and effective use of funding received to support refugees and asylum seekers at the county and district level
3. Lead and coordinate work in Gloucestershire, across sectors, to promote and champion the economic, social and cultural value that migrants bring to the county, promoting welfare and living standards.
4. To promote and facilitate multi-agency 'good practice' sharing events/agenda items.
5. Prepare and implement a workplan setting out goals and actions for Gloucestershire wide work to promote the rights of migrants, regularly reviewed by the Partnership. Including:
 - To capture the lived experience of migrants living in the county
 - Managing the impact of the various asylum and migrant schemes across Gloucestershire
 - To oversee the various migrant dispersal schemes
 - Ensure the smooth administration of resettlement policies
 - Understanding demographic trends in Gloucestershire
 - Empower, with stakeholders, Integration and Communities
 - Build resilience in services and systems to allow for changing populations
 - Champion Equality and Diversity
6. To link with and inform regional strategies and initiatives particularly relating to housing, community cohesion, education, employment and health issues for migrants.
7. Ensure that its work is effective, inclusive and reactive to emerging opportunities and challenges by engaging with the South West Strategic Migration Partnership.

8. Consider the needs and experience of the county's businesses in relation to immigration, including the impact of immigration policies on employers, employees and the Gloucestershire economy, and the role of employers and education providers in supporting integration.
9. Consider policy proposals and changes in law in terms of impact by Government and make recommendations to influence legislation, policy and their implementation.
10. To champion a positive vision of the cultural and economic benefits to the region of migration.
11. To escalate issues relating to support of dispersed asylum seekers and migrants which cannot be resolved at local level and to make recommendations to the appropriate organisation.

Membership

It is proposed that the membership should consist of:

Gloucestershire County Council

- Public Health
- Children's Services
- Adult Services
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Education

Relevant / suitable senior officers from:

- Cheltenham District Council
- Cotswolds District Council
- Forest of Dean District Council
- Gloucester City Council
- Stroud District Council
- Tewkesbury Borough Council

Representative from S.151 Officers group or nominated finance officer

Gloucestershire NHS – Integrated Care Board, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Gloucestershire Health & Care

Gloucestershire Police (Strategic level)

Safer Gloucestershire

South West Strategic Migration Partnership (SW Councils)

Strategic Housing Partnership representation

Gloucestershire Action for Refugees & Asylum Seekers (GARAS)

VCS Alliance

Department for Works & Pensions

Local Enterprise Partnership

Federation of Gloucestershire Colleges and Universities
Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS)

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