



Leadership Gloucestershire – 25 June 2020

Remote meeting via GCC WebEx

1 Welcome, introduction and apologies

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Apologies</i>
Cllr Mark Hawthorne (Chair) Pete Bungard	Gloucestershire County Council	
Cllr 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 Christine Gore	Cotswold District Council	
Cllr Rob Bird Mike Dawson	Tewkesbury Borough Council	
PCC Martin Surl	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)	Richard Bradley
	Gloucestershire Constabulary	CC Rod Hansen
Ellen Rule	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 Steve Mawson Simon Harper	Gloucestershire County Council	

2 Action notes

The notes of the meeting held on 5 March 2020 were agreed.

3 COVID-19

a) Sitrep

Pete Bungard provided information on deaths in the county, schools, traffic flows, increase in cycling and hospital admissions. The County Council was looking at the use of road space to encourage cycling and allow social distancing in schemes across the county.

Cllr Hawthorne stated that the County Council along with other local authorities was lobbying for clarity on funding for local schemes.

b) Public Health update

Sarah Scott presented the report that had been circulated ahead of the meeting. She said that every local authority was required to develop a local outbreak control plan by 30 June 2020. A new Health Protection Board would be meeting each week. The new Outbreak Engagement Board with partner representatives would be cross-party with representation from the County Councils and the District Councils. Information presented at the meeting would include items that would not be suitable for wider circulation.

Good communication was recognised as crucial to ensure that increasingly complex messages landed appropriately in local communities. A communications cell was in place with representation from public sector partners including the County Council and the District Councils.

Cllr Hawthorne stated that there was an understanding in Government that a more flexible approach was required in terms of sharing more information with the local community on testing.

c) Homeless update

Mike Dawson provided an update. For rough sleepers, the focus for the first phase was to 'accommodate and isolate'. A total of 240 people had been tracked with a peak of 164 people accommodated. Phase 2 was 'assessing their needs' which was a complex process but Council Leaders were anxious to find more permanent accommodation for the people affected so they did become homeless again. A Director level partnership had put in place a 21 point action plan to provide additional accommodation.

Cllr Hawthorne said it had been a marvelous achievement from all those involved and he thanked officers for their hard work.

d) Recovery thinking for each partner

Tewkesbury Borough Council

- Framework for recovery plan based on Council Plan
- £500k reserve for recovery planning
- Involving members, scrutiny, partners and Shared Intelligence to work up a detailed plan for full Council in July.

Stroud District Council

- Adopted recovery strategy at Strategy and Resources Committee.
- Four work streams identified in delivery plan
- Working with members and partners and engaging with local communities.
- 52 parish and town councils who are key players
- Council learning from the outbreak – how do we learn and improve local services.

Cotswold District Council

- Regular recovery group meeting over last 6 weeks
- Tying in corporate priorities with recovery plan – social housing, climate change emergency, economic recovery including sustainable tourism.
- Moved to home working – how could this continue, implications for future use of Council properties.
- Business packs to help in opening of shops and other outlets.

Cheltenham Borough Council

- Starting paying out discretionary grants today for businesses not supported so far.
- Published draft recovery strategy in May which will be presented to the Cabinet in July.
- High Street phase 2 on hold pending assessing finances.
- Planning and licensing – using flexible arrangements and good feedback from businesses.
- Staff survey - 75% staff prefer more flexible working
- Parking income continues to be significantly lower
- Concerns regarding public leisure facilities

Gloucester City Council

- One year Council plan extension alongside City Recovery Plan
- 5 Rs – Return, Retain, Resist, Reimagine and Resilience.

- Working with the County Council to produce wider pavements for pedestrians and encourage cycling.
- Concerns regarding public leisure facilities
- Economic Growth Task Group – helping to restart High Street

Forest of Dean District Council

- Forest Recovery Action Group
- Success of remote working and considering how to take that forward.
- Concerns regarding public leisure facilities
- Officer advisory group with three themes – Economy, Community, Council and its finances.
- Worked closely with town councils regarding high streets
- Publica plan for recovery – 4 Rs: Restore, Retain, Refrain and Reimagine.

GFirst LEP

- Looked at own organisation – home working
- Approach data led
- 76,500 people in county currently furloughed
- 10% of businesses saying they will not be able to reopen
- 40% concerned that they will not be able to open
- Survey undertaken. Sharing impact analysis on county showing sectors and areas most affected.
- Liaising with Government

Police and Crime Commissioner

- Uplift of officers confirmed by ministers
- Court system is working on limited capacity. Need to recognise the challenge.
- Economically it is the worst situation since WW2 – local ingenuity identifies local opportunities.
- Need to recognise the role of the local community and voluntary sectors.
- Need to speak as one county and LEP have a lead role on this.

Health Service

- Main business is recovery plan
- Flat out with the incident response
- Recently seen a substantial decrease in the level of Covid activity Recovery and restoration is not a return to normal
- Productivity compromised for some time to come.
- Require additional layers of infection control – PPE, inability to use group settings, spacing.
- Implementing radical service changes for next 6 months

- Modelling the impact of winter with Covid in the background

Gloucestershire County Council

- Coordination through Local Resilience Forum – town centres, reception areas, climate change and environment.
- Share best practice around the county
- Discussion regarding pubs reopening and night-time economy
- Looking at options for libraries and registration services
- Economy recovery to be considered at Economic Growth Committee on 28 July 2020. In medium to long term important to take time to assess areas of particular need.
- Layering of approach to recovery but trying to avoid duplication
- Need to keep investment pipeline going – A417 Missing Link, Junctions 9 and 10 M5, drive forward cycling, remote working, fibre broadband rollout.

4 Western Gateway

Pete Bungard that the secretariat was being provided by South Gloucestershire Council under the chair Katherine Bennett of Airbus. Work was taking place on governance including membership. Further representations had been made about District Council representation.

Tender was about to go out on developing offer to Government. Work was ongoing on the transport strategy. Katherine Bennett had invited Simon Clarke, DCLG Minister, to visit the region.

5 Gloucestershire City Region Board

Mike Dawson presented the report that had been circulated ahead of the meeting. He said that three existing boards had been updated to reflect particular issues including the Western Gateway. £2 million had been secured from the Economic Development Growth Fund through the Economic Growth Joint Committee. £410k had already been identified for multi-modal transport study and there were a number of other priority areas to drive forward.

There was support in principle for the new arrangements and it was recognised that to drive forward issues like the Joint Core Strategy and related planning issues an early meeting was needed.

David Oakhill from Cheltenham BC was leading on the approach to strategic planning and this would feed into the City Region Board.

Cllr Doina Cornell indicating support but advised that she would have to take the proposal back to Stroud DC for formal agreement. She called for more

coverage of climate change and reference to the county energy strategy. She also requested that consideration be given to appointing an independent chair.

6 One Gloucestershire – Integrated Care System

Ellen Rule made a PowerPoint presentation covering the following areas:

- National and regional context
- Incident response – temporary service changes notified to Health Scrutiny.
- Recovery including the impact on productivity
- Phase 2 (Recovery) changes – hospitals and community services
- Fit for the future including key dates with implementation expected in March 2021.

A copy of the presentation is attached to the notes

7 Future meetings and work plan

1 October

10 December

All Thursdays at 10am

8 Police and Crime Commissioner – additional papers

8.1 Tackling race inequalities

PCC Martin Surl presented the report and noted recent events in the United States that had led to the violent and tragic death of George Floyd. He believed that the Covid-19 recovery and regeneration plans presented a unique opportunity to put race equality at the heart of the regeneration of the county. He proposed that Leadership Gloucestershire should release a joint statement that acknowledged that inequalities still existed in the county and showed collective determination to work together, and with Black and Asian Minority Ethic (BAME) communities, to understand the impact of those inequalities and make a commitment to eradicate race inequality in Gloucestershire.

After a wide-ranging discussion, PCC Surl undertook to draft a short statement and circulate it around LG partners for comment by end of day to allow a press release to be issued the following day.

Action – PCC Martin Surl

8.2 Special Constables

PCC Surl presented the report which asked whether Leadership Gloucestershire would support in principle a reduction in council tax for

Special Constables either as a recognition of their exceptional contribution during the Covid-19 outbreak or as an ongoing recognition of the service they provide. He explained that the Special Constabulary was a statutory body aligned to the police service. He noted Special Constables had undertaken 1400 hours of open space enforcement as well as lots of other work, including traffic enforcement, during the Covid-19 outbreak.

LG partners recognised the outstanding work undertaken by Special Constables. They believed that it would be difficult to single out one group, such as Special Constables, to be rewarded when lots of others had volunteered in a range of disciplines and they would not receive any financial support. It was suggested that any funds available be used to support volunteering networks that had been established in recent months.

Cllr Hawthorne stated that a Gloucestershire Day was in the early stages of planning which would remember and celebrate the achievements of people in local communities in the fight against Covid-19.