CDC DECEMBER 2025 REPORT

Forthcoming Committee Meetings (underlined texts are linked)

There is no Cabinet nor Council meeting in December
Monday 1 December 2.00 pm Meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Thursday 4 December 4.00 pm Meeting of Audit and Governance Committee
Wednesday 10 Dec 2.00 pm Meeting of Planning and Licensing Committee
Thursday 18 December 2.00 pm Meeting of Licensing Sub-Committee (Taxis, Private Hire, and Street Trading
Recent Committee Meetings (November meetings calendar was subject to multiple changes)
Wednesday 5 November 2.00 pm Meeting of Extraordinary, Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Thursday 6 November 11.00 am Meeting of Standards Hearings Sub-Committee
Thursday 6 November 5.00 pm Meeting of Performance and Appointments Committee
Thursday 6 November 6.00 pm Meeting of Extraordinary Meeting, Cabinet
Wednesday 12 November 2.00 pm Meeting of Planning and Licensing Committee
Monday 17 November 4.00 pm Meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Thursday 20 November 6.00 pm Meeting of Cabinet
Wednesday 26 November 2.00 pm Meeting of Council
Wednesday 26 November 6.00 pm Meeting of Extraordinary Meeting, Cabinet
Thursday 27 November 2.00 pm Meeting of Licensing Sub-Committee (Taxis, Private Hire, and Street Trading

CABINET DECISIONS

6 November - Extraordinary Cabinet Meeting
Cotswold District Local Plan Regulation 18 - Preferred Options November 2025.
Cabinet
1. Approved an addition to the consultation document for the Cotswold District Council Local Plan Review Regulation 18 Consultation Preferred Options and
2. Approved the commencement of a seven-week public consultation on the Cotswold District Council Local Plan Review Regulation 18 Consultation Preferred Options (November 2025), starting on 14 November 2025 to 2 January 2026.

20 November - Cabinet Meeting
Car Parking Strategy 2025-2028
To present Council's Parking Strategy for 2025–2028 which outlined the approach to managing and delivering off-street parking services by 2028.
Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience introduced the report and highlighted that the purpose of the strategy was to deliver a positive parking experience for residents, visitors, and businesses, supporting the local economy, contributing to sustainability, and preparing for future changes to local government in Gloucestershire, while supporting the Council's strategic objectives through to 2028.
Cabinet:

1. Approved and adopted the Cotswold District Council Car Parking Strategy 2025 -2028 at Annex A.
2. Approved and adopted the Car Parking Action Plan in Annex A of the strategy.
3. Instructed Officers to draft and consult on a variation to the Parking Order and subject to responses make the variation in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience to change stay time restrictions in Rissington Road Car Park to support residents and meet demand. And approve the costs of £2,000 for the necessary changes.
4. Delegated authority to Publica Executive Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience to consider consultation feedback on the variations to the Parking Order and decide whether to make the variation to the Order in whole or to abandon the proposal and to agree any further minor amendments to the parking order.
5. Noted the additional capital budget (£40,000) identified in the report to upgrade and replace existing parking machines with modern technology.
6. *Approved the introduction of a tourism levy in Maugersbury Road car park Stow-on-the-Wold* to generate funds specifically dedicated to dealing with the impact of tourism in the town subject to the statutory parking order process.

Private Sector Housing and Mobile Homes Sites policy update.
To ask Cabinet to consider and renew the Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy and Mobile Homes Policy. Councillor Andrea Pellegram, Cabinet Member for Environment and Regulatory Services, introduced the report, which presented updated Private Sector Housing policies covering Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and Mobile Homes site licensing.
Cabinet:
1. Approved the Private Sector Housing Strategy as set out in Annex A;
2. Approved the Mobile Homes Policy as set out in Annex B;
3. Approved the setting of Fees for applications for Fit and Proper Person Assessment and the annual fee for any monitoring required.

Infrastructure Funding Statement
To inform Members of the Cotswold District Council Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) for 2024/2025 and to seek Cabinet approval for its publication. The Director of Communities and Place, Helen Martin introduced the report, which informed Members of the statutory requirement to publish the Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) for 2024/2025, summarising developer contributions secured, received, spent and held during the year. It presented the IFS for Cabinet to note and sought Cabinet approval for its publication by the statutory deadline of 31 December 2025.Cabinet:
1. Noted the content of the Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) attached at12.
2. Annex A, Endorsed the document to be published on the Council's website by 31 December 2025 in accordance with legislative requirements.

Adoption of the Tackling Domestic Abuse Strategy

To seek Cabinet's adoption of the 'Gloucestershire Tackling Domestic Abuse Strategy',which highlighted the importance of different agencies across the county working together to address domestic abuse. Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health, Culture and Visitor Experience introduced the report, and advised that the Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board had prepared a countywide strategy for 2025–28. As a partner, the District Council played a key role through its housing functions and wider resident- facing services. Cabinet was asked to adopt the strategy which would guide Council activity and support a consistent, shared approach across Gloucestershire. Cabinet adopted the Gloucestershire Tackling Domestic Abuse Strategy 2025-28.

COUNCIL MEETING - 26 November

NO FARMERS - NO FOOD - CDC Conservative Group leader Cllr Tom Stowe, farmer and Cllr Jeremy Theyer, Cllr Julia Judd, , Cllr Daryl Corps (also GCC Cllr) and Cllr Len Wilkins showing our support for Cotswold Farmers at the full CDC meeting.
We are disappointed that at last week's GCC meeting, LibDems did note vote for Cllr Dom Morris's motion (seconded by Cllr Daryl Corps) to write to Rachel Reeves against the Farmers Tax before last week's budget.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW - DEVOLUTION

On 28 November Gloucestershire councils made a joint submission to the government on proposals for the future of local government in the county supported by a letter reflecting the level of collaboration and joint working in the county.
The full proposals are available on Future Gloucestershire: Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation in Gloucestershire. https://futuregloucestershire.org.uk

Town & Parish Council Forum - Update on the Local Plan, meeting government housing targets, and LGR

On 5 November I went to Redesdale Hall, Moreton-in-Marsh for the first meeting which was well attended, especially as Moreton has been allocated an absurd housing delivery target. The second one was in the Council Chamber, Cotswold District Council on Monday 10 November. I am delighted to hear that many of you attended.

LOCAL PLAN REVIEW and PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Town & Parish Council Forum Presentation Slides

A seven-week public consultation on the Cotswold District Council Local Plan Review Regulation 18 Consultation Preferred Options (November 2025) 14 November 2025 until 2 January 2026 was confirmed at the Extraordinary Cabinet meeting on 6 November. Cotswold District Council has published draft options for future housing development in response to a sharp rise in government-imposed targets for new homes. The council has developed several strategic options based on land that could be available, and housing that could be delivered in the time period.

The recommended option that will be discussed by councillors includes:

• A new village near Driffield
• Extensions to Kemble, Ampney Crucis, Preston, Siddington, Fairford, Moreton-in-Marsh and Cirencester
• Smaller developments in other towns and villages
This option could provide sites to deliver 14,660 homes between now and 2043 – the updated Local Plan period – with potential development areas outside of the National Landscape across the north, south and east of the district.
Only one option meets the full government target, and this involves building within the National Landscape which is unlikely to be viable under current planning rules. The council is also talking with neighbouring authorities exploring whether they can help meet the shortfall. The consultation in November will also include a call for further sites in the district that have potential to be used for housing. At this stage, these numbers are indicative and high-level, based on sites that currently have planning permission, as well as sites that have been put forward to the council by landowners, which have potential for housing. The results of the consultation might mean that some sites are discounted or other new sites may come forward.

As previously mentioned, Cotswold District Council needs to plan for 1,036 new houses each year, more than double previous targets, as part of a national drive to build 1.5 million homes during this parliament.
This has rendered our Local Plan *'out of date' - specifically Policies DS1, DS2, DS3 and DS4 - other policies are still relevant. CDC is therefore undertaking an update (2-3 years). Cotswold National Landscape areas will retain the usual protections. Other Paragraphs of the NPPF which are steering the new shift: In particular 11d, Footnote 8, 68, 84, 91, 110, 115, 129, 135, 139.*
Until the new local plan is published, these policies are subject to NPPF Paragraph 10 - Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Delivery so the 'Tilted Balance' - Benefits outweighing Harm has shifted - i.e. applications are more likely to be approved.

Over 80 per cent of our district is protected National Landscape, which severely limits where houses can be built, yet 18,650 new houses are expected to be delivered over the next 18 years. In July, Cllr Evemy wrote a letter to Angela Rayner, the previous Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government which was co-signed by the Conservatives and the Greens requesting a rethink. In response, the minister said there would be no change to housing numbers and that the council should proceed with a full update to its Local Plan. He has written again to her replacement, Steve Reed. At the time of writing we have received a response which basically tells us to get on with the process of our local plan update, consultation and revision before submitting to the the Inspector next year

MP FLOOD RESILIENCE AND POLLUTION MEETING

The Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown flood resilience and river pollution public meetings will take place at The George Moore Community Centre, Moore Road, Bourton-on-the-Water, GL54 2AZ on Friday 5th December 2025, as discussed at the last meetings. The timings are as follows:
Flood Resilience: 10:00-12:00hrs
River Pollution: 13:00-15:00hrs

These meetings are an opportunity for residents of the North Cotswolds constituency to hear from and speak directly with key officials from Thames Water, Severn Trent, the Environment Agency, Gloucestershire County Council, Cotswold District Council, and other stakeholders involved in ongoing flood resilience work and addressing sewage and river pollution problems. For those wishing to ask specific questions, Sir Geoffrey would be grateful if you could submit these in advance to cliftonbrowng@parliament.uk by Friday 28th November. We will forward any questions we receive to the relevant agencies to help them prepare answers in advance of the meetings.As has been the case previously, written reports from the key stakeholders will be requested in advance, which will be circulated to those on the distribution list. Minutes of the meeting will be taken which will also be circulated afterwards.

BUSINESS MEETING WITH SIR GEOFFREY CLIFTON-BROWN & SIR MEL STRIDE, SHADOW CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

On Thursday 6 November, Sir Geoffrey held a first business network meeting with local businesses from across the constituency, ahead of the budget due on the 26th November. We are all very grateful that Sir Mel (knighted this year for political and public service) took time out of his busy schedule to answer questions from business owners. Avid discussions included business taxes, digital connectivity and unemployment whichI will be fed back to the Government to make it clear that if conditions for business do not improve, the public sector will have to be cut as there will be no one to pay their bills! If you would be interested in joining the next business networking event, please contact Sir Geoffrey's office.

A417 New Newsletter

National Highways are changing their communications. To receive updates, opt in to ensure compliance with GDPR, please follow this link.
Visit the A417 Missing Link web page.
The Customer Hub, located at the crusher compound at Shab Hill, is open every
Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am until 2pm. You can visit any time during thesehours, without pre-booking an appointment. Members of the team will be on hand to answer questions.
A417 Project Office, Birdlip, Gloucester, GL4 8JX
What3words: https://what3words.com/shaped.quietest.payback
10 mph and site restrictions must be adhered to. Please Reverse Park.
Site visits for members of the public. If you are interested, please contact
A417MissingLink@nationalhighways.co.uk
All roadworks and planned road closures on motorways and major A roads, including the A417, are published here: https://www.trafficengland.com/
Road Closure Reports, which includes a seven day look ahead of planned road closures, are updated twice daily, Monday to Friday except for bank holidays:
https://nationalhighways.co.uk/travel-updates/road-closure-report/
To find the latest information about local road closures, please visit:
https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/roadworks/
Webpage: -link/
https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/south-west/a417-missing
Email: A417MissingLink@nationalhighways.co.uk
Phone: 0300 123 5000 X: @HighwaysSWEST

Facebook: @HighwaysSWEST
Did you know that you can report highway issues, such as potholes, and track their progress online at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/fixmystreet Or download the app: FixMyStreet

NEW SCAM DETECTION TOOL
From Get Safe Online via Neighbourhood Alert which is supported by the Police
If you are suspicious of a text, email or message and you want to check if it is legit or not before responding, you can upload it to Ask Silver on the Get Safe Online website and whereupon it will return an indication of whether the communication is safe or a 'red flag' for fraud. Ask Silver - Get Safe Online

🎄✝️🎄 **Happy Christmas everyone!** 🎄✝️🎄

Cllr David Fowles

Conservative District Councillor

Coln Valley Cotswold District Council

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07747 012256

Coln Ward PCs: Coln St Dennis, Bibury, Quenington, Hatherop, Coln St Aldwyns, Southrop, Eastleach

If you are contacting me as a local constituent please be aware I may need to share your personal information when contacting District Council

officers or other agencies relevant to your query. *

* For more information on how I and the District Council use personal data visit http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/about-the-council/information-data/data-protection/

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