



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices • Ebley Mill • Ebley Wharf • Stroud • GL5 4UB

Telephone 01453 766321

www.stroud.gov.uk

Email: democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk

COUNCIL

To all Members of Stroud District Council

Wednesday, 19 April 2023

You are hereby summoned to attend Meeting of **STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL** in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud on **THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 2023** at **7.00 pm**

Kathy O'Leary
Chief Executive

Please Note: The meeting is being held in the Council Chamber at Stroud District Council and will be streamed live on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#). A recording of the meeting will be published onto the [Council's website](#). The whole of the meeting will be recorded except where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of press and public.

If you wish to attend this meeting, please contact democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk. This is to ensure adequate seating is available in the Council Chamber.

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**
To receive apologies for absence.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
To receive declarations of interest.
3. **MINUTES (Pages 5 - 16)**
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2023.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
To receive announcements from the Chair of Council, Leader of Council or Chief Executive.
5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
The Chair of the relevant Committee will answer questions from members of the public submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures laid out in Section 3, Paragraph 8, of the Constitution.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF QUESTIONS

Noon on Friday, 21 April 2023

Questions must be submitted to the Chief Executive, Democratic Services, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud and can be sent by email to

Democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk

6. RECOMMENDATION FROM ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Environment Committee – 30 March 2023

The Chair of Environment Committee will present this item.

6a. INTERIM FLEET PROCUREMENT STRATEGY - UBICO (Pages 17 - 30)

To update Council on the method of Ubico fleet replacement over the next four years and agree the required budget.

7. RECOMMENDATION FROM AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Audit and Standards Committee - 18 April 2023

The Chair of Audit and Standards Committee will present this item.

7a. REVISED COMPLAINTS & FEEDBACK POLICY (Pages 31 - 52)

To consider the revised Complaints & Feedback Policy.

8. MEMBER QUESTIONS

See Agenda Item 5 for the deadline for submissions.

9. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

9a. MOTION ON DOMESTIC ABUSE - PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR TRINA DAVIS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR STEPHEN DAVIES

Domestic abuse can affect anyone, destroying families and lives, leaving lasting physical and emotional scars, and having a particularly devastating impact on children and young people. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 was introduced to strengthen the response across all agencies, provide further protections for those experiencing domestic abuse and put in place enhanced measures to bring perpetrators to justice.

Council notes that:

- The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 places a statutory duty on first tier councils (county and unitary councils) to Prepare a Domestic Abuse Strategy. Gloucestershire County Council has prepared a Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021-24: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2110605/gcc-domestic-abuse-strategy.pdf>
- The District Council plays an important role in the delivery of the Domestic Abuse Strategy, working in multi-agency partnership with the County Council and others including the Police, the Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) and Stroud Beresford Women's Refuge, our current charity of the year.
- The District Council is working on the preparation of a Domestic Abuse Policy relating to tenants and tenancies, and another relating to staff, as well as reviewing its Safeguarding Policy and training, including in relation to the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

Council resolves that:

- Officers are asked to prepare a report for consideration by the Strategy and Resources Committee to set out this Council's role in addressing Domestic Abuse within the context of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and the County Council's Domestic Abuse Strategy. The report should include:
 - Recognition of the need for the preparation of a clear and concise overarching District Council Domestic Abuse Strategy to show how the different strategies and policies of different councils and council

- services relate to each other, provide appropriate support and protection to victims and address the perpetrators of Domestic Abuse.
- Recognition that the preparation of the above strategy will be led by the Strategic Director of Communities, who chairs the cross-service Safeguarding Group.
- Consideration of how Members are to be involved in the preparation of the above strategy and other Domestic Abuse policies as appropriate and in the identification of any gaps, potentially through a Working Group or Task and Finish Group to complement the cross-service Safeguarding Group chaired by the Strategic Director of Communities.
- Reference to the need for cross-service and staff / Member work to identify any gaps in provision and recommend how these will be addressed.
- Consideration of further training needs for staff and Members in relation to Domestic Abuse.
- The overarching District Council Domestic Abuse Strategy referred to above will be brought to a future meeting of relevant committees for consideration.

9b. MOTION REGARDING THE REJECTION OF THE ILLEGAL MIGRATION BILL - PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR DOINA CORNELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR STEVE HYND

This Council is committed to defend the human rights of all our residents, and to fulfil our public sector equality duty to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people.

In 2019 this Council committed to join the Lift the Ban Coalition calling on the UK Government to change the law to give people seeking asylum the ability to seek work. The Council also committed to appropriate provision to support asylum seekers in Stroud District, including promotion of education and training to enable them to better integrate into the District and play an active role in the success of the local economy.

Since then, the Council has played an important role in cooperating and partnering with other Gloucestershire councils and GARAS (Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers) to support asylum-seekers and refugees fleeing war and persecution, from Syria, Afghanistan, Ukraine and other countries.

This Council notes that:

- At the end of 2021, around 89 million people were forcibly displaced across the world. Of these, 27 million were refugees, whilst 53 million were internally displaced within their country of origin.
- Of all the refugees in the world, 72% are living in countries neighbouring their country of origin, often in developing countries. The UK is home to approximately 1% of the refugees who were displaced across the world.
- In 2022, 75% of initial asylum decisions made by the UK Government resulted in a grant of asylum or other form of protection.
- The Government has brought forward yet another immigration bill, at a time when there are currently no safe routes to the UK for nationalities of many countries most likely to be granted asylum including those with family members in our local communities.
- People who arrive irregularly, when there are no safe and legal routes available to them, would never be allowed under the provisions of the new Illegal Migration Bill, to access the asylum system. Instead, they are likely to

be detained and / or left destitute, without the right to work and in limbo indefinitely.

- The Illegal Migration Bill would also remove vital protections for women and children, and victims of trafficking, meaning they could all face detention.

This Council resolves to:

- Condemn the Illegal Migration Bill, which it considers to be in opposition to fundamental tenets of international human rights law, and represents an attack on migrants' rights.
- Commit to defend the rights of all people in our communities to live side by side in dignity and to continuing to welcome those who make our district their home.
- Call on the Home Secretary to:
 - a) Withdraw the Illegal Migration Bill.
 - b) Commit to resourcing an asylum system that can deliver fair and timely asylum decisions.
 - c) End the Home Office contracts with providers of temporary, often poor quality and unsuitable accommodation for asylum seekers.
- Call on the Home Secretary and the Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities to open discussions with local authorities about the best ways and resources needed to provide good quality long term accommodation for all those in need, including asylum seekers, within our communities.
- Mandate our Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary and the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to this effect.

10. UPDATE TO THE CONSTITUTION (Pages 53 - 100)

This report brings forward to Council a number of proposed amendments to the Constitution.

11. LGA CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE REVISIT AND FEEDBACK REPORT (Pages 101 - 114)

To inform Members of the feedback from the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge progress review, which took place on 17 January 2023.

12. UBICO FIVE YEAR VISION AND BUSINESS PLAN 2023/2024 (Pages 115 - 140)

To provide an update on the Ubico Five Year Vision and Business Plan 2023/2024.

13. CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP (Verbal Report)

To agree changes to the membership of Strategy and Resources Committee.