



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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COUNCIL

To all Members of Stroud District Council

Wednesday, 6 December 2023

You are hereby summoned to attend Meeting of **STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL** in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud on **THURSDAY, 14 DECEMBER 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 26 October 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, 8 December 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. **MEMBER QUESTIONS**

See Agenda Item 5 deadlines for submissions.

7. **MOTION ON COUNCIL SUPPORT FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE - PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR STEVE HYND AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GEORGE JAMES (Pages 17 - 22)**

The Council commits to:

- Ask the Chief Executive of the Council to write to the Secretary of State at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities requesting that the franchise for local elections be extended in England and Northern Ireland to all qualifying foreign nationals in line with eligibility criteria in Scotland and Wales. This would ensure a UK-wide and fair approach so that all our residents who are also our council tax payers are enfranchised. The letter should emphasise the Stroud District Council's support for such measures.
- Continue collaborative work with voluntary sector organisations in our local authority area to reach residents about current voter eligibility rules and how to vote.
- Follow the legislative process to implement the Elections Act and develop a process to ensure that the implementation of the Elections Act, including the removal of some EU citizens from the register, does not wrongfully remove eligible voters from the register.
- Continue promoting voter registration and photo ID requirements to residents at citizenship ceremonies, events, and other communication channels.

8. **RECOMMENDATION FROM STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**
Strategy and Resources Committee - 23 November 2023

The Chair of this Committee will present this item.

8a **COMMUNITY FUNDING (CROWDFUNDING) (Pages 23 - 30)**

The Committee resolves to agree the proposition and the next steps required for implementation.

8b **EXTENSION OF BERKELEY CAR PARK (Pages 31 - 44)**

To consider a proposal allowing for the extension of the SDC Car Park at Marybrook Street Berkeley.

9. **RECOMMENDATION FROM HOUSING COMMITTEE**
Housing Committee - 6 December 2023

The Chair of this Committee will present this item.

9a **SAFE AND LEGAL ROUTES TO THE UK (Pages 45 - 80)**

The Government is asking Local Authorities to pledge how many migrant households, arriving in the UK via safe and legal routes, can be housed by each Local Authority in 2025. The aggregate figure will then be used by Government to cap the number of migrants allowed to enter the UK.

10. **REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICT, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS 2023 (Pages 81 - 110)**

To consider the final recommendations for the polling districts and places arrangements in the district following public consultation and changes as a result of the Community Governance Review.

11. **UPDATES TO THE CONSTITUTION (Pages 111 - 114)**

This report brings forward proposed amendments to the Constitution as recommended by the Constitution Working Group.