

County Councillor Report January 2026

Please contact me any time on:

John.patient@gloucestershire.gov.uk Tel: 07891 321904

And please report any Highways defects via the Fix My Street app or

<https://fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk/>

For parish councillors & clerk use only via highwayscouncillors@gloucestershire.gov.uk – feel free to copy me in.

County News

[Important message for bird keepers](#)

Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 was confirmed in a large commercial poultry flock near Brockworth, Gloucestershire on 18 December 2025 by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gcc-news/news-december-2025/important-message-for-bird-keepers/>

[Have your say on Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service's Community Risk Management Plan](#)

Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) is asking residents to help shape its future by sharing views on its new draft Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP).

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gcc-news/news-december-2025/have-your-say-on-gloucestershire-fire-and-rescue-service-s-community-risk-management-plan/>

[Gloucestershire County Council launches new strategy to tackle domestic abuse](#)

On Monday 8 December, Gloucestershire County Council launched its new three-year strategy to tackle domestic abuse and make the county a place where everyone can live free from abuse and harm.

See <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gcc-news/news-december-2025/gloucestershire-county-council-launches-new-strategy-to-tackle-domestic-abuse/>

Grassroots Neighbourhood Fund

The recently launched Grassroots Neighbourhood Fund scheme is continuing to seek applications from eligible groups. The scheme delivers funding to community initiatives seeking to make a positive impact on health and wellbeing, access to nature, digital inclusion, community cohesion, and reducing inequalities. Each Councillor is allocated £20,000 to support projects in their division.

More information about the new scheme is available on the dedicated [webpage](#). Guidance for how to apply is available see

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/business-property-and-economy/finance-funding-and-grants/grassroots-neighbourhood-fund/how-to-apply/>

Fair Funding Review Update

On Wednesday, 17 December, councils received the outcome of the fair funding review with the publishing of a three-year financial settlement for Local Government. The outcome for Gloucestershire is less favourable than hoped, however this year's settlement is more complex due to a new formula and the fact that it includes many, previously separate, grants. Officers are currently working through the numbers to ensure we thoroughly understand the implications.

County Council shows solidarity with Ukraine

Gloucestershire County Council has signed an agreement with a region of Ukraine to provide support and share the expertise the county has in a number of areas.

Gloucestershire County Council celebrates top national endorsement for active travel ambitions

Gloucestershire County Council has been awarded the Level 3 rating by Active Travel England (ATE), recognising the county as one of England's highest performing authorities for active travel. It is the only predominantly rural council to achieve this milestone.

Budget

At the end of November, the administration released the draft County Council budget. The budget is currently out for public consultation until 9th January. See

<https://haveyoursaygloucestershire.uk.engagementhq.com/budget-consultation-2026-27>

Over the last few months, the Green Group have been consulting with officers and members on possible amendments, which will be debated and voted upon in February's Full Council meeting which will take place on Wednesday 18th February.

Cabinet meeting

This was held on the 3rd December, during which the draft budget document was approved for consultation and scrutiny.

Other decisions taken included:

- Approval of Finance, Risk and Monitoring Report;
- Acceptance of a grant from the Department for Education and procurement of a contract for the continued supply and delivery of the Holiday Activity and Food programme.
- To delegate extension of Household Recycling Centre contract and procurement of minor frameworks for servicing, maintenance, repair and capital works to relevant officers
- Agreement of extensions to purchasing arrangements for the provision of residential care for children and young people and to the existing South West Fostering Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) agreement for the provision of foster care for children and young people.
- Approval of the continued use of Wheatridge Court for the provision of short-term accommodation-based housing related support to refugees granted Leave to Remain.

Full recordings of all meetings can be found at <https://gloucestershire.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcasts>

Greener Gloucestershire News

Don't forget to ask the Waste Wizard

Christmas usually creates a lot of waste and items to dispose of. If you're not sure if something can be recycled, or what the best way to dispose of it is, use our [waste wizard tool](#) to find the most sustainable way for you to repair, reuse, recycle or dispose of household items.

<https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnews.comms.gloucestershire.gov.uk%2F7D46F295802D93AC769B7217CA31E1EF9BBF58D3DA025EF7EF3B85A03CDBB364%2FDF846A71E8B2DDAA763DD8E7ECDA5311%2FLE35&data=05%7C02%7Cnick.langridge%40gloucestershire.gov.uk%7C77429d9a60b649731ee108de3ef41b89%7C5faec75464e340149bcce72fc73ba312%7C0%7C0%7C639017415323711543%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMilSkFOljoiTWFpbGlldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ofl3ejHfH0xBkDD7AM5cvBNoEwuOjWrwCCAsl7qhhlc%3D&reserved=0>

Get composting for 2026

Composting at home can help you save money, reduce your carbon emissions, learn about nature and reduce the amount of waste you produce. There is nothing more satisfying than using your home made compost to grow your own vegetables and flowers.

Gloucestershire residents are able to get £15 off any compost bin on the [Get Composting website](#). see

<https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnews.comms.gloucestershire.gov.uk%2F35EE60B979D590D9BDA32ED0F1162A4E71A0D43E1A4F6DBBDEECA4C5B0052AF4%2FDF846A71E8B2DDAA763DD8E7ECDA5311%2FLE35&data=05%7C02%7Cnick.langridge%40gloucestershire.gov.uk%7C77429d9a60b649731ee108de3ef41b89%7C5faec75464e340149bcce72fc73ba312%7C0%7C0%7C639017415323753792%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMilSkFOljoiTWFpbGlldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3%2BrzOyK%2FhPABgoORYb%2FQi55lRQwfbny3WzGsgwgVrNQ%3D&reserved=0>

Future-proof your skills - join local experts at our free heat pump demo

Do you install heating or plumbing? Find out more about installing heat pumps from our panel of experts on **Wednesday 4 February 2026**.

- Join us from 4pm for talks from our heat pump experts. There will then be a chance to talk to our experts and grab a drink from the brewery.
- See a working heat pump and talk to an installer about the business
- Hear from NESTA about a free heat pump for your own home [Start at home for newly trained heat pump installers | Nesta](#)

See

<https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnews.comms.gloucestershire.gov.uk%2F7BDACA2EFE7B1A15025E83272676C6878734AF73086BFB49D36F94870E80A66%2FDF>

[846A71E8B2DDAA763DD8E7ECDA5311%2FLE35&data=05%7C02%7Cnick.langridge%40gloucestershire.gov.uk%7C77429d9a60b649731ee108de3ef41b89%7C5faec75464e340149bcce72fc73ba312%7C0%7C0%7C639017415323772654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIiIAoiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2F2nH667S7vsQqEpUk6yLjWmWxLkLaD4pOMZuQX3rocY%3D&reserved=0](https://www.glosclimate.com/news/2025/01/28/sgs-green-solar-pv-course-2026/)

Please note this event is for tradespeople only, please email glosclimate@gloucestershire.gov.uk if you are unsure if you are eligible to attend.

SGS College are pleased to be running the following course at the end of January

This in-demand qualification is designed to equip experienced electricians with the knowledge and skills needed to install, commission, maintain, and inspect solar PV systems.

[!\[\]\(e78f798d4ea5c530c9db49e7d26e6b95_img.jpg\) LCL Awards Installation and Maintenance of Small Scale Solar PV Systems \(Level 3 Installation of Small Scale Solar PV Systems - LCL Awards\)](#).

See

<https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnews.comms.gloucestershire.gov.uk%2F610FED54874BD94AC451A2E1EC3AE9098AB4A9E9310FDCD1E7C6312BBC023F4F%2FDF846A71E8B2DDAA763DD8E7ECDA5311%2FLE35&data=05%7C02%7Cnick.langridge%40gloucestershire.gov.uk%7C77429d9a60b649731ee108de3ef41b89%7C5faec75464e340149bcce72fc73ba312%7C0%7C0%7C639017415323811488%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIiIAoiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cjcE5oyy%2BGTNmQq7xjbnl2JN2SSWOyqskDT6hr5IXB0%3D&reserved=0>

Taking place at SGS GREEN on 28-30 January 2026, the course provides a mixture of theory and practical to give learners the knowledge, skills and confidence to install and maintain small scale solar PV systems.

Learners must hold the required qualifications to be eligible, and there are funding options available. **Please help us spread the word** 📌