

## **Borough Councillor Report – February 2025**

At Full Council this month the next Major was agreed. This will be Cllr Kashan Pervaiz from May 2025, with the Deputy being Cllr George Porter.

The TBC name change will not be going ahead, this was agreed at Council formally.

The move to one or two Unitary Councils has been looked at by the National Government and they would like Gloucestershire to be in the Second Phase, 2027/28, not the first as requested. Out of the 7 MPs in Gloucestershire, 5 support Two Unitary Councils, and 2 MPs support One Unitary Council. Watch this space! The County Council elections will still take place this May.

Strategic and Local Plan Programme will continue with the joint discussions by Cheltenham, Gloucester, and Tewkesbury. The Councils still have the long-standing issue of not having a 5-year housing land supply.

At the Executive meeting, the Budget for 2025/26 was discussed. It stands at £13,450,226. The Council has not been well supported Nationally, so will need to work more efficiently and raise Council Taxes to try to breach the deficit. This year will be Ok but subsequent years may get increasingly harder.

10/2/25 JKS

