

County Councillor Report to Badgeworth Parish Council 16th September 2025

County - Full Council:

As you will no doubt be aware the County Council has had three meetings of the full council since the County Election, the first where the cabinet roles were appointed and chair of the council selected. The 16th July was a fairly lengthy meeting with a lot of public questions and motions to council, appointing of honorary alderman and some procedural changes to meetings. Next week is full council for September and the agenda is a number of motions.

For the September meeting I submitted a question regarding the Fix My Street App - asking for statistics on cases completed. Roughly 15% of cases are closed with action not undertaken and the lead member has committed to improving this as well as feedback and communication on the site.

I submitted two petitions - one on road safety on the A38 and one on support for a single unitary for Gloucestershire which recieved over 2000 signatures to date.

I also submitted a motion to full council in support of Adopted and Special Guardianship Children. In brief it is calling for more help for Adopted Children after the Government cut the funding for their support, the motion was approved unanimously at council and was supported by special guardians and adopters charity Kinship Carers UK.

<https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=333&MIId=11840&Ver=4>

Roads and Highways:

I have had two meetings with the Highways manager for our areas Max Kelly. I need to have further meetings with him to cover our very large division but Max was the existing highways manager for most of the new Severn Vale division so does have a good understanding of the roads and pavements here.

Max has attended Badgeworth with me and agreed that works are needed on the road to the church.

I have also set up a roads and speeding survey with our MP Cameron Thomas. This is for residents across the constituency to be able to raise with us any road and highway safety concerns. We have also created a petition to County Highways for a safety review of the A38, this was following a meeting with County Highways officers where they suggested that although there have been a number of accidents and fatalities on certain stretches of this road, we would need to demonstrate public support for this to be fully reviewed by highways. I have shared the survey and petition online and will also be sharing through a residents newsletter in due course.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdQ3IsjSF0y5OkCaLGcHo25eM_4p-y1xPauKVTXm_3wFEmgUA/viewform

Councillor Surgeries:

I committed during the election to being available for residents across the constituency both online and in person. I have therefore set up a number of Councillor surgeries across the Severn Vale which I hope will ensure that residents from across our large division are able to meet with me to raise questions, concerns and ideas about the things they would like to see in our county. If any parish councillors would like to join me at any of these you would be more than welcome. My surgery meeting dates are going to be held on the last Saturday of the month so the coming dates are 26th July, 30th August, 27th Sept, 25th October.

Times are:

10am-11 New Location to be confirmed

11:30am-12:30 The New Dawn Inn, Norton.

1pm-2pm Shurdington Community Hall.

2:30pm Bishop's Cleeve Library.

Borough and County Grass Cutting:

There have been some issues in some areas of Tewkesbury Borough regarding the cutting of County Council Grass by Tewkesbury Borough Council and that the ending of this contract has caused loss frequent cutting leading to frustration from some residents. Council approved an interim grass cutting approach and following the approval it is for Borough Councillors to request any cuts above the standard two cuts policy from county. A further paper will be brought in the Autumn to look at a more long term solution. I hope this is helpful and please work with myself and the other district councillors on this if you need help in this area.

Fostering and Children's Services:

The County has just announced it has received a 'Good' OFSTED inspection. Whilst this is obviously good news, as a member of the Children and Families scrutiny committee I will be keen to scrutinise the full report, see where the council can still improve and to continue to raise the importance of ensuring all Children in Gloucestershire receive the best possible care.

Funding for community organisations

There is currently community funding available as well as new scheme just announced. The close on the current scheme is 28th September so there is still some time to get in any applications: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-health/our-communities/thriving-communities-grants/>

Local Government Reorganisation :

There is/was a public engagement survey which I hope you have been sent a copy of. The Survey is not a full consultation on the options and is more around engagement to give people the opportunity to feed into the process with further work to follow. It would be really helpful. The close for this was Saturday so I am hoping you all got to see this before the close: [Link here](#)

<https://haveyoursaygloucestershire.uk.engagementhq.com/gloucestershire-county-council-local-government-reorganisation-survey?preview=true>

Timeline for what is happening now and next:

- Proposals are currently being worked on for 1 & 2 Unitary Councils (including a Cheltenham proposal of East/West split and a Gloucester proposal for a Greater Gloucester). My preference as Tewkesbury Leader is for a One Gloucestershire Model but I am constructively inputting to One and East/West, (I have not seen an Gloucester proposals yet to contribute towards).
- 28th November Gloucestershire to Submit Final Proposals to the Secretary of State
- 2026 Onwards - Secretary of State makes Structural Changes Order
- 2nd May 2027 - Elections to the shadow authority - Responsible for County Functions and Transitions only
- April 2028 Vesting Date for new councils, current 2 tier ceases to exist and new council assumes all responsibility.

I am happy to give a fuller update at the next meeting but I note from the clerks report that you are accessing information on this through the Association of Town and Parish Councils. There will also be a district council, town and parish council seminar session later in the year to cover LGR.

Warm Regards
Richard Stanley