

Cotswold News



PAGE TWO
Local Plan -
how you can help



PAGE FOUR
Enter our Green
Community competition



PAGE FIVE
Christmas and New Year
waste collection schedule



How you can influence the Cotswold District Local Plan

The forthcoming Cotswold District Local Plan is the key policy document which will guide decisions on the use of land in our district up to 2031.

The Plan will have to meet the requirements of national policy; be informed by up-to-date and compelling evidence; and plan for new housing and employment sites in 17 key (most sustainable) settlements.

The latest consultation exercise will begin in January 2015 and last for six weeks. We will announce specific consultation dates soon and we will ensure that the draft can be viewed online at www.cotswold.gov.uk/go/ForwardPlanning

The comments that you make can influence the final version of the Local Plan but they must be clearly justified and supported by evidence because the Plan will ultimately be judged by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. To help you, copies of all the relevant evidence produced by the Council will be made available on our website for you to review and, perhaps challenge with your own evidence.

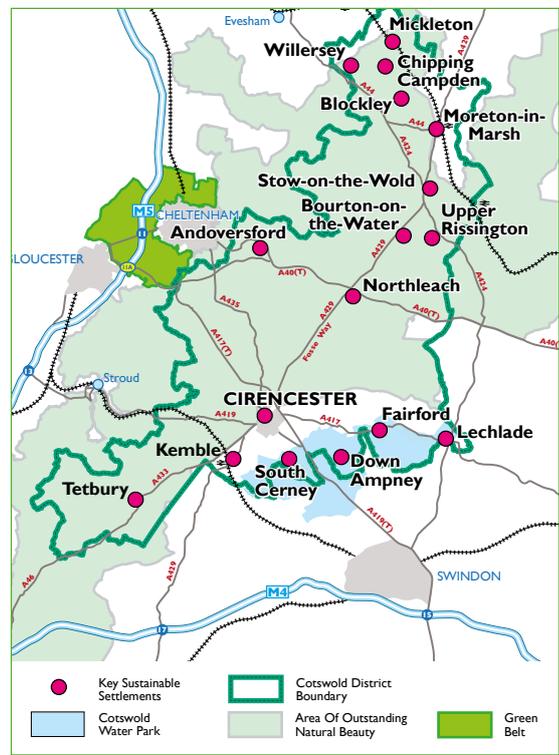
Before you comment on the draft Plan, please consider the following facts:

- The total number of new homes required in the District to 2031 is estimated at 7,500 (an increase of 600 on the previously identified figure of 6,900) to be distributed in the 17 most sustainable places identified. (see map right.)

- Your concerns regarding small-scale development in sustainable rural settlements is now addressed in a new Local Plan policy.
- Finding the most sustainable places with sites available for development is really important to ensure the Government's Inspector deems the Plan to be 'sound'.
- Cirencester is the pre-eminent centre in the District for housing, employment and services. It is over three times the size of Tetbury and five times the size of Moreton-in-Marsh. The proposed distribution will allocate Cirencester its fair share of housing and will support its pre-eminent position in the District.

The latest consultation exercise will begin in January 2015

- Having tested many options and combinations, the evidence shows that a strategic site in Cirencester now reduced to 2,350 homes is the right way to provide the required development and offers a unique opportunity to involve the community in shaping the future, sustainable expansion of the town.
- Input from local communities in the other key settlements has helped identify the preferred non-strategic sites for new housing and employment development.



- Finally, whilst it is impossible to prepare a plan which gains universal support, failure to conform with government planning guidelines would result in the Local Plan being rejected by the Secretary of State. We must mitigate this risk. An approved, up-to-date, Local Plan is essential when defending reasons for rejecting unwelcome development proposals. A special leaflet setting out the rationale for the Chesterton strategic site will soon be distributed to households and businesses in the Cirencester area. It responds to key concerns and provides reassurance on issues that residents have raised about potential effects on the town.

Help us plan for our future!

Cllr **Nick Parsons**, the Cabinet Member for Forward Planning at Cotswold District Council, explains how sustainability must shape the district’s future development and outlines how CDC has responded to concerns so far.



We will be consulting shortly on the new Local Plan for the district which will serve as a blueprint for development up until 2031. We have been working closely with town and parish councils, landowners, local communities and other stakeholders to help us define how the Local Plan can best meet demanding government guidelines across a range of issues, including: sustainable housing development; creating employment opportunities; infrastructure improvements; and safeguarding environmental assets.

Adhering to these criteria, we have proposed the following housing allocations up to 2031 for the 17 key settlements identified in the Local Plan:

SETTLEMENT	RANK by settlement Size	Proposed housing 2011-2031*	Local plan – proposed housing allocations	Overall % increase in housing stock 2011-2031 - all sources
Upper Rissington	15	390	0	97.2
Moreton-in-Marsh	3	840	21	42.9
Andoversford	16	108	40	38.0
Cirencester	1	3387	2381	35.8
Fairford	5	442	0	28.4
Tetbury	2	763	27	27.7
Willersey	13	85	80	19.7
Down Ampney	17	54	31	19.3
Bourton-on-the-Water	4	337	10	18.3
Mickleton	11	149	0	17.7
Kemble	14	70	12	17.2
Chipping Campden	8	208	127	16.8
South Cerney	9	155	0	13.0
Northleach	10	96	53	11.0
Stow-on-the-Wold	6	121	30	9.2
Lechlade	7	114	18	9.2
Blockley	12	59	51	7.8

* including housing built since 2011 plus extant planning permissions

Now we need your input again. The facts we have set out on page one provide you with a good grasp of the issues we have had to consider in producing the draft Plan.

The Local Plan must meet the government’s sustainability criteria while also taking account of the aspirations of local communities, and that is why it is so important for us to work with residents to achieve the best possible outcomes. In brief, we have to comply with government planning policy if we want the Plan to be approved by the Inspector and sometimes this means unpopular decisions have to be made to achieve a sound and sustainable Plan.

An approved Local Plan is a very strong deterrent against speculative and unwanted development in the future so we obviously want to minimise any risk of rejection.

HOW IS ‘SUSTAINABILITY’ ASSESSED?

An independent inspector will judge the ‘soundness’ of the Local Plan and will consider the proposals in the Plan against the three dimensions of sustainable development:

ECONOMIC

– ensuring that sufficient land is available to support growth and innovation, and that other major requirements, such as infrastructure, are put in place.

SOCIAL

– supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities by providing a supply of housing that meets the needs of present and future generations, including access to a full range of local services.

ENVIRONMENTAL

– ensuring we protect and enhance our natural, built, and historic environment.

HOW DID THE COTSWOLD STRATEGY DEVELOP?

With economic, social and environmental considerations in mind, we have worked with local communities to develop strategic priorities for Cotswold District up to 2031 which focus on the key issues including: homes and jobs required; retail, leisure and other commercial development; infrastructure requirements; health, community and cultural facilities; climate change mitigation, conservation and enhancement of our natural and historic environment.

OUR EVIDENCE BASE

This undertaking has involved the gathering and analysis of a vast amount of complex data and other evidence which forms the basis for the content of the Cotswold Local Plan. Your feedback from previous public consultation exercises, together with all the evidence and studies, has helped to shape the Plan. Most recently the Preferred Development Strategy generated over 2,000 comments, and subsequent engagement with local communities during 2014 has provided invaluable local knowledge in producing potential site allocations.

WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US ALREADY ... AND OUR RESPONSE

- Many people feel the housing numbers proposed for Cotswold are too high. The Council, however, has used the latest available data, as required by national policy, to establish the objectively assessed housing need for the District. In other words, we cannot deliberately reduce the housing requirement without having compelling evidence for doing so.
- You have expressed concerns that villages will die off without new development. There is no evidence to prove that small amounts of development will save a school from closure or lead to the reopening of a village shop. However, we are proposing a new rural housing policy which allows for appropriate development in settlements where there is access to fewer services and facilities than the towns and villages identified in the Local Plan strategy.
- Some of you have asked why all of the District's settlements can't take their share of all this development. Unfortunately, such an approach does not chime with national policy and, importantly, it would fail to deliver the strategy that is required. The 17 key places that have been identified in the strategy are not only the most sustainable locations, but also have sites with realistic prospects of delivering the District's development requirements.
- Many people have expressed concerns about the scale of new development in Cirencester, which is an understandable reaction. However, the new Local Plan is planning for a period of 20 years (unlike the old one which only spanned 10 years) so the numbers will inevitably be significantly higher. In reality, Cirencester's proportionate growth up to 2031 - in relation to the other key settlements - will actually be significantly less than was proposed in previous plans. It is entirely appropriate that Cirencester, as the pre-eminent centre of the District, takes its fair share of development not least because this is where the most compelling need for new housing - and in particular affordable housing - already exists. We will be circulating a leaflet to Cirencester residents soon, outlining more detail about the rationale for the strategic site at Chesterton.

The local plan must meet the government's sustainability criteria

Here is a review of milestones which are planned:

January - February 2015

Public consultation on Local Plan, including development strategy, site allocations and strategic policies

Summer 2015

Public consultation on whole draft Local Plan, including development management policies

Autumn 2015

Pre-submission version of Local Plan, inviting public comments on legalities and soundness of the document

Winter 2015

Submission of Local Plan to Secretary of State for independent examination and approval

- Concerns have been expressed about the capacity of the existing infrastructure to cope with proposed development. A requirement of the Local Plan work is to ensure that the requirements for highway or drainage works, schools, health care and community facilities are properly addressed and, to this end, the Council has been working closely with infrastructure and utility providers.

WHERE DEVELOPMENT IS AND IS NOT TAKING PLACE:

(see map on page one)

- We are **not** building on any statutorily-defined Green Belt land - so **no** loss of Green Belt in Cotswold District;
- We **have** explored every available and deliverable brownfield site to test their suitability for new development. However, there are simply insufficient sites available to even begin to meet the District's housing requirement;
- Having **prioritised** all available brownfield sites, the rest of the required new site allocations will have to be on greenfield land - though these sites have been limited to areas within the most sustainable settlements;
- Less than 5% of the proposed new housing will be allocated on sites within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, even though 80% of the District is covered by the designation.
- The strategic site in Cirencester is **not** in the AONB and is also **not** in Green Belt land.

HOW TO COMMENT DURING THE FORTHCOMING CONSULTATION

The most effective and direct way to comment will be via the online bespoke system on our website. You will also be able to email comments to localplan@cotswold.gov.uk or submit them by post to: Local Plan, Forward Planning Team, Cotswold District Council, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX. Copies of the draft Plan will be available for inspection or purchase (£5 per copy) at the Council's Trinity Road office and our Moreton Area Centre. The document will also be available to view in hard copy at local libraries.



We're looking for the gRRReenest community!



Many residents of all age groups in the Cotswolds have helped us to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill over the last few years – in fact we recycle almost 60% which is the highest rate in Gloucestershire.

We are very grateful for your co-operation but we know that we can work together with communities to achieve even more. That is why we have linked up with our environmental service provider Ubico Ltd and the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Team to launch the gRRReen awards competition.

REDUCE - examples could include: devising new recipes for leftover food; giving more items to charity; and stopping junk mail.

REUSE - examples include: home composting; swap schemes; car boot sales; and switching to reusable nappies.

RECYCLE - examples include: encouraging residents to take full advantage of all the recycling options at your local Household Recycling Centre; and leading by example to promote more kerbside recycling.

WHY gRRREEN?

The three R's – **Reduce, Reuse** and **Recycle** – are the key to further success, and we are looking for communities across the District who can demonstrate how they will help to cut down the amount of waste going to landfill, both now and in the future. We are running a competition until Friday 20 February to find the three gRRReenest communities in the District.

IS THERE A REWARD?

There certainly is – we will be awarding £1,000 to the winner, £700 to the runner-up and £300 to the third placed entrant. They will be asked to show us how they are reducing, reusing or recycling to cut down on waste, and how they would use the prize money to continue progress in the future.

WHAT EXACTLY IS A COMMUNITY?

For the purposes of the competition, a community can comprise representatives from a village, a district councillor's ward or even a whole town. A wide range of people of all age groups may wish to band together within a community to pool ideas and develop initiatives to reduce waste. We are trying not to be too prescriptive on this matter – the main thrust is to encourage people to join forces and take on the gRRReen challenge.

HOW TO ENTER

It couldn't be easier – just email waste@cotswold.gov.uk or write to gRRReen Awards Competition, Cotswold District Council, Trinity Rd, Cirencester, GL7 1PX, to obtain your application form. Once you have filled this in and returned it to us, we will send you an action sheet – supplied by the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee – to provide you with some great ideas to get the ball rolling, and help you come up with some initiatives of your own.

HOW WILL ENTRIES BE JUDGED?

All competitors must submit a form to us by the 20 February deadline, outlining their achievements and the challenges they have overcome to tackle one or more of the three Rs.

We will also request a short statement showing how entrants would use the prize money to continue reducing, reusing and recycling initiatives in the local community.

A panel of judges drawn from Ubico Ltd, Cotswold District Council and the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee will assess all the submissions. They will be looking for indicators such as tangible improvements in performance, inventiveness, and plans for sustainability. Although we are only providing cash awards to three competitors, everyone who enters will be a winner because you will all be doing your bit to save our planet!

If adverse weather disrupts your scheduled waste collection...

LEAVE YOUR WASTE OUT LONGER

If the Ubico crews are delayed they will still try collecting on your designated day and also on the following day.

IF YOUR WASTE REMAINS UNCOLLECTED AFTER 48 HOURS

Store it until your next food waste collection day the following week. The Ubico crews will aim to pick up everything from 7 am onwards (unless you receive an assisted collection), so make sure you don't delay! Please ensure that additional non-recyclable waste is placed in refuse sacks (black sacks are allowable) and put out next to the closed wheeled bin. Please ensure the bin lid is firmly down to enable safe handling by collectors.

Ubico will suspend your weekly garden waste collection while this 'catch up' is underway but will aim to return to a normal schedule as soon as possible.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO WAIT UNTIL COLLECTIONS RESUME

You can take your waste to your nearest Household Recycling Centre if roads are safe enough for driving. The most convenient site for most residents is Fosse Cross, six miles north of Cirencester off the A429 (postcode GL54 4NW). The Council also has the option of establishing emergency refuse sites at any of the following locations, all of which should be accessible: Bourton-on-the-Water, Cirencester, Fairford, Lechlade, Moreton-in-Marsh, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Tetbury.

Hang on to your Recyclables!



Ubico will not carry out 'catch up' collections of missed recyclables. Please store them until your next scheduled fortnightly collection and then place the extra items - such as tins, glass and newspapers - in a suitable box/bag alongside normal recycling containers ready for collection. Alternatively, take the items to your nearest recycling facilities.

See www.cotswold.gov.uk for details of locations.

Waste collection arrangements for the forthcoming Christmas and New Year period in Cotswold District



Normal Collection Day	New Revised Collection Day
Monday 22 Dec	No change
Tuesday 23 Dec	No change
Wednesday 24 Dec	No change
Thursday 25 Dec	Saturday 27 Dec
Friday 26 Dec	Monday 29 Dec
Monday 29 Dec	Tuesday 30 Dec
Tuesday 30 Dec	Wednesday 31 Dec
Wednesday 31 Dec	Friday 2 Jan
Thursday 1 Jan 2015	Saturday 3 Jan
Friday 2 Jan	Monday 5 Jan
Monday 5 Jan	Tuesday 6 Jan
Tuesday 6 Jan	Wednesday 7 Jan
Wednesday 7 Jan	Thursday 8 Jan
Thursday 8 Jan	Friday 9 Jan
Friday 9 Jan	Saturday 10 Jan

Collection schedule will return to normal on the week beginning Monday 12 January 2015



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE LATEST LOCAL NEWS



Radio and TV stations and local newspaper websites (Standard, Echo, Cotswold Journal) will be issuing bulletins when waste collection arrangements change.



You can also get the latest information on our website www.cotswold.gov.uk and via our Twitter feeds ([#CotswoldDC](https://twitter.com/CotswoldDC))



Alternatively call us on **01285 623 123** for regular updates.

We will also keep Parish and Town Councils abreast of the latest situation and they may pass on the details to you.

Ubico – working for you!

Ubico Ltd took over responsibility for environmental services in 2012 and helped improve recycling by collecting mixed plastics at kerbside, whilst at the same time delivering efficiency savings of £1.6 million over 2 years. They really have done more for less.

Since Ubico started operating in the Cotswolds their services have been well received by residents. Mark Hulbert, Operations Manager for Cotswold said: “We have been really pleased with how smoothly the services transferred to Ubico. The crews have done a fantastic job by quickly adapting to the new way of working and the Cotswold residents have been very

Cotswold residents have been very supportive

supportive. We are very lucky to live and work in such a beautiful part of the country which we strive to keep clean and litter-free for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike”.

Ubico is a not for profit partnership and employs 257 people across Cheltenham and the Cotswolds. They currently provide household waste and recycling collections, organic waste collections, grounds and cemetery maintenance, street cleaning and winter maintenance to the council’s car parks. Ubico are keen to explore opportunities to provide services to town and parish councils as well as local businesses and community groups with the aim of carrying out essential services and enhancing the local environment.

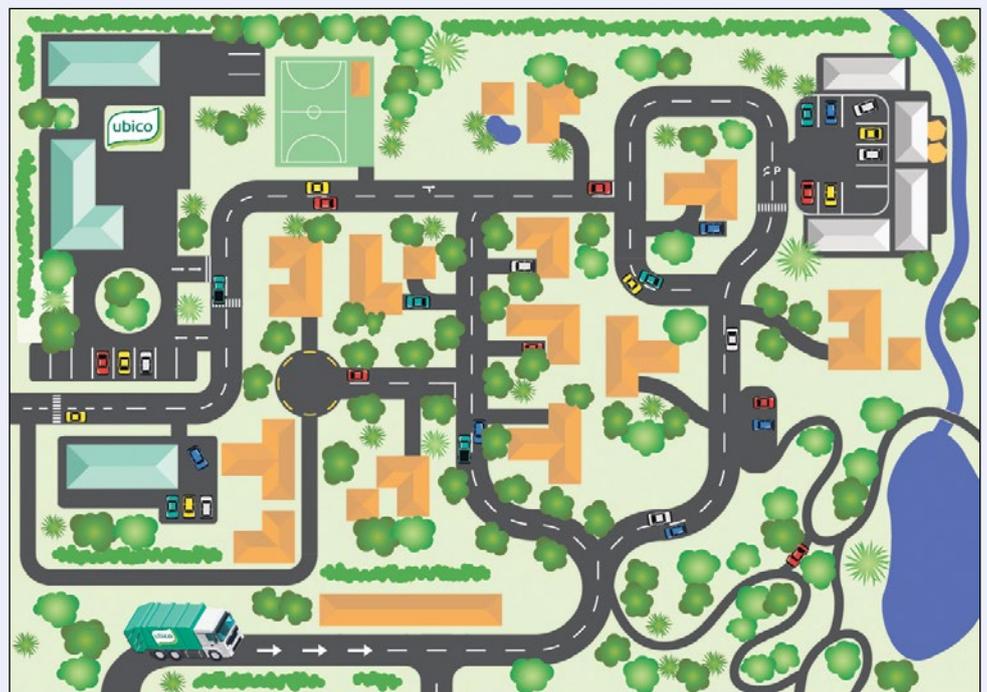


If you would like to discuss business opportunities with Ubico Ltd, please call **0300 300 9000**, or email enquiries@ubico.co.uk

Help the Ubico lorry get back to the depot!

Ubico Ltd collects waste across all 450 square miles of the Cotswold District. There are so many roads to navigate but the crews always manage to find their way back to the depot.

Can you find the route that the lorry must take to get there?



Changes to Council's electoral arrangements coming soon!

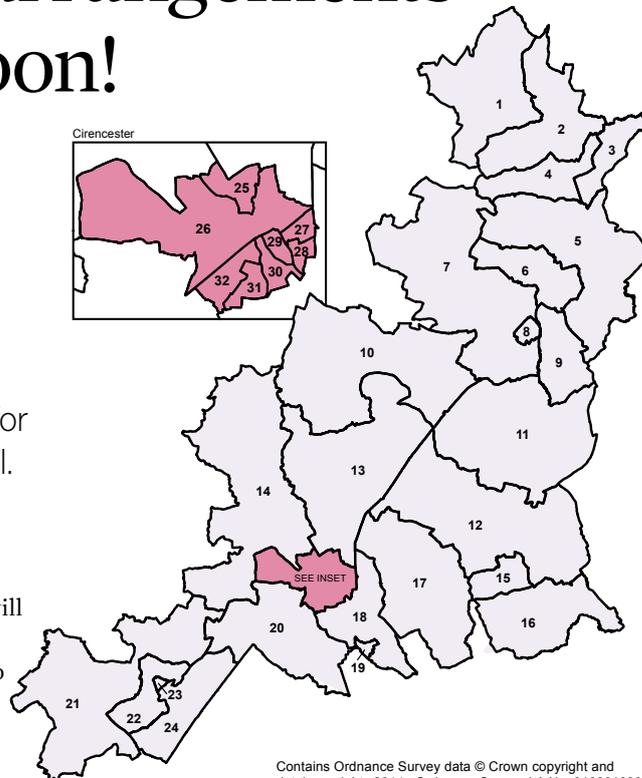
After extensive public consultation, the independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England has recommended new electoral arrangements for Cotswold District Council.

The District will be represented by 34 councillors in the future - ten fewer than the current arrangements. The councillors will represent 32 wards, comprising 30 single-member wards and two two-member wards (Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South and Campden & Vale.)

The new electoral arrangements will be in place for the next elections on 7 May 2015.

The diagrams (right) show the new ward boundaries, including the detailed breakdown in Cirencester.

More details are available at www.cotswold.gov.uk.



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2014. Ordnance Survey, LA No. 0100018800

NEW WARDS

1 Campden & Vale	12 Colin Valley	23 Tetbury Town
2 Blockley	13 Chedworth & Churn Valley	24 Tetbury East & Rural
3 Moreton East	14 Ermin	25 Stratton
4 Moreton West	15 Fairford North	26 Abbey
5 Fossebridge	16 Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	27 The Beeches
6 Stow	17 The Ampneys & Hampton	28 New Mills
7 Bourton Vale	18 Siddington & Cerney Rural	29 St Michael's
8 Bourton Village	19 South Cerney Village	30 Watermoor
9 The Rissingtons	20 Kemble	31 Chesterton
10 Sandywell	21 Grumbolds Ash with Avening	32 Four Acres
11 Northleach	22 Tetbury with Upton	

Note: Ward Nos. 1 and 16 are two Member Wards. The remaining Wards are all single Member Wards.

We're making some changes to planning consultations

Over the next 3 months the Council will be updating the system which displays planning application details online at www.cotswold.gov.uk. The changes will also impact on our current email alert system which sends subscribers information about planning applications in their neighbourhood. There will also be a change to the way people can submit comments about applications online. Further guidance will be issued prior to the various upgrades being implemented.

Representations regarding planning applications received after 1 December 2014 should be visible on the website. However, personal telephone numbers and email addresses accompanying them will not be visible.

The new system will also support changes to the procedure for public speaking at Planning Committee. The speakers list will now be determined on a 'first come first served' basis and all potential speakers will be encouraged to use the website to contact others who may wish to express similar views.

We will not continue our current practice of providing lists of all application supporters/objectors to those wishing to speak at Planning Committee meetings as the information will be on the website.



COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Trinity Road,
Cirencester GL7 1PX

01285 623 000
www.cotswold.gov.uk
cdc@cotswold.gov.uk

Cotswold News is published by Cotswold District Council

We want to cut your Council Tax again!

Council Leader Lynden Stowe wants your feedback. The CDC Cabinet has recommended a 3% cut in its share of your council tax bill for the 2015-16 financial year, together with a continuation of our freeze on prices for car parking, leisure and museum fees, and green waste collections.

This would amount to a council tax saving of 11% over a three year period - we achieved a nationwide best 5% reduction in 2013-14 which was followed by a joint best 3% reduction for 2014-15. We can make these savings because of the

continuing success of our efficiency programme, including cost-effective partnership working with neighbouring authorities.

We always strive to ensure that council taxpayers in the District get very good value for money. The economic outlook in the Cotswolds has improved markedly over the last two or three years, but every penny still counts and we are committed to putting more cash in your pocket - I am convinced that this will help to stimulate the local economy and encourage even more growth in the job market.

Now it's up to you to tell us whether you support these proposals for 2015-16.

Please visit www.cotswold.gov.uk and give us your feedback.





For a healthier life, we should all be doing 30 minutes of activity 5 times a week.

Your local facilities are located in Cirencester, Bourton and Chipping Campden.

- ✓ **UNLIMITED** use of fantastic gyms with all the latest machines, plus group exercise classes and swimming pools
- ✓ **NO** membership contract
- ✓ **DISCOUNTS** with partners and free activity passes

Let's get Everyone Active in the Cotswolds.

Cotswold Leisure - Bourton

01451 824024

Cotswold Leisure - Cirencester

01285 654 057

Cotswold Leisure - Chipping Campden

01386 841595



COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Everyone Active manages these facilities in partnership with Cotswold District Council.

everyone ACTIVE

Feel better for it

everyoneactive.com

everyoneactive

@everyoneactive

everyone ACTIVE

FREE GYM SESSION

Terms apply. Valid until 31/03/2015



everyone ACTIVE

FREE FAMILY SWIM SESSION

Terms apply. Valid until 31/03/2015



CORINIUM MUSEUM



Cirencester Visitor Information Centre, Shop & Café on site

Park Street, Cirencester, GL7 2BX Tel: 01285 655611

www.coriniummuseum.org

FREE Child Entry

With every full paying adult

CORINIUM MUSEUM



Terms apply. Valid until 31/03/2015