



Budget Consultation 2010/11

Full list of responses – summarised in Appendix M of the final budget papers to be considered by the Cabinet on 9/2/10 and Council on 12/2/10

Prepared by: Financial Services - February 2010.

BUDGET CONSULTATION 2010/11 – SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

997 completed surveys were received.

Q1.

Do you feel that a 2.5% council tax increase (an extra £4.57 a year or 9p a week) is:

		%
Too Much	303	30.4
About Right	450	45.1
Not enough to maintain local services	147	14.7
Don't know	97	9.7
Total	997	

Q2.

What do you think should be the Council's priorities for improving services? (up to 3 can be chosen)

	Response	%
Preventing crime & disorder	426	19.2
Street cleaning and maintenance	328	14.8
Helping with community groups and voluntary sector groups	90	4
Parks and gardens	101	4.5
Protecting and enhancing the borough's environment	59	2.7
Funding discretionary element of concessionary travel	35	1.6
Reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change impacts	84	3.8
Delivering value for money	219	9.9
Waste collection and recycling	199	8.9
Arts and culture	333	15
Promoting sport and health living	44	2
Promoting civic pride	39	1.8
Affordable housing	82	3.7
Promoting tourism	46	2
Promoting business and employment	123	5.5
Other (See below):	9	0.4
Total	2217	

Responses to Q2 under "other":

- Fixing the roads.
- Heritage.
- I think we are in a time of protecting services rather than enhancing them.
- Make pavements much safer.
- Not promoting – actioning.
- Reducing waste and excessive cost within the Council.
- Repairing roads.
- Road surfaces.
- Strongly support Glos airport, Staverton.

Q3.

What improvements would you most like to see the Council make to the borough?

In total 371 responses were received to this question.

1. A greater number of police officers visible on the streets.
2. Maintenance of the Everyman theatre.
3. Maintenance of Pittville Park.
4. To ensure that Pittville Park is maintained at least to the minimum standard it is maintained now. But better that more is spent on improving its appearance and facilities. For example, keeping the lakes clean and litter free; getting rid of the rats which are a disgrace; having a proper police presence to try to prevent further

- vandalism; keeping the Central Cross Cafe a low priced and low key facility; providing mobile catering facility at the playgrounds - and there is loads more....
Planting trees along Winchcombe Street to make a better walk from town to Pittville
Restoring Pittville Gates at Prestbury Road and Clarence Road"
5. More desirable public transport – i.e. a Tram Service, keep supporting the arts, keep pushing for better recycling services - less discrepancy between what is collected at the kerb, what is collected at recycling points (e.g. supermarkets) and what is collected at the main refuse/recycling depot.
 6. I would like to be able to recycle more varied items (e.g. cardboard) using the kerbside box.
 7. As a regular user of Pittville Park we would welcome support for the 'Friends of Pittville' group who are trying to make sure the quality of this prime Cheltenham open space is maintained to an appropriate standard.
 8. Street cleaning has almost disappeared from some places, when it is done it is to a lower standard than used to be acceptable! Fast food outlets (I hesitate to call them restaurants) should be made to pay more for street cleaning as their packing and products seem to make up a large proportion of the mess.
 9. Some the footpaths in Pittville Park need maintenance or re-building. As this is one of the prestige green spaces in Cheltenham we should endeavour to keep it in good condition.
 10. Ensure value for money for the hard-pressed council tax payer.
 11. Pittville Park
 - i) At the very least some ongoing maintenance and ideally
 - ii) A thorough improvement
 - iii) A guarantee that CBC is committed to long term sustainability of the park by ring fencing some funds to enable future bids elsewhere.
 12. Enforcing double yellow line No Parking rules, which are flagrantly broken very often. Improving Pittville Park, which is one of Cheltenham's greatest attractions.
 13. Just pick up the litter & sweep the streets everywhere.
 14. More for young people to do, e.g. The Axiom
 15. I would like the emphasis to be on improvements that will generate a borough that is attractive to businesses, residents and visitors in order to maximise income to support services and people. I do not feel qualified to make specific recommendations as I appreciate the complex situation you are dealing with. The consultation document reads as a well thought through proposal in a difficult time.
 16. Refine the budgets where possible and look to other councils in the area who do a great job, i.e. Tewkesbury.
 17. Extend resident parking permit hours, at present 9 - 5, increase this to 6.
 18. I live in Fairview, it is rare that I am able to park in my own road after 5.00, as a consequence my Resident parking ticket is only valid and relevant on Saturday between 9 - 5 when I wish to park. The Kemble Inn attracts early evening drinkers and these are always the primary culprits. I have never seen a traffic warden after 4; therefore cars are often parked from 4 onwards with no permits.
 19. Less cars in town - make more pedestrian areas
 20. More dedicated cycle routes. In Cheltenham the car rules and it is very unsafe to cycle on the roads.
 21. Help to create a safer environment.
 22. Art 's Centre
 23. Resurface or, as a minimum, repair badly surfaced roads including side streets. For example, Upper Park Street has subsided in places and has many potholes.
 24. More clubs supported with Council money for children in holidays and after school. Supported benefits to do things for poorer families like panto etc. Some kind of town fair/carnival to bring together the town/communities and raise awareness of how fab Cheltenham is. More awareness/training/promotion/advertising of neighbour watch to raise crime awareness, flood awareness (how to cope in diverse situations) community support groups for elderly and poor families/unprivileged children).
 25. Please support Everyman Theatre.
 26. Overall the town is becoming shabbier by the day. I have several concerns:
 - i) The quality of shop facings above the ground floor, especially in the High Street is poor and looks shabby.

- ii) The bus stops in the Promenade should be moved as they take away the grandeur of the road. If this cannot happen force the buses to shut engines down when waiting
 - iii) Pedestrianise the whole of the Prom to encourage shoppers into the town.
 - iv) Move the bus stops from Clarence Street to overcome the bottle neck.
 - v) One central bus station.
 - vi) Cut down on the late drinking licensees, the town is 'no go' zone for many on Friday and Sat nights.
27. More public sport facilities. Save the Everyman Theatre
 28. Improve traffic congestion
 29. Supporting the Everyman. The festivals attract a lot of revenue to the town so surely it would be a wise investment to ensure that the theatre is maintained to a suitable standard.
 30. Don't forget the need to support the Everyman theatre - an important local facility, a great building and a proper theatre.
 31. Enforce parking restrictions especially after 6pm & around the side roads near schools at AM/PM "collection times" also near "corner shops"
 32. 1: Beggars on the streets should be actively targeted to be re-introduced into society.
2: Better lighting in Parks.
3: More Roads to be resurfaced/mended.
4: More work/listening/survey put in to creating accessible and low-cost youth entertainment to reduce crime, alcoholism, under age pregnancies etc working through schools etc"
 33. I'd like to see them being more supportive of the local attractions we have and the local amenities and invest in their future - these are important to any town or society.
 34. Sustainable planting in all the Borough's parks and gardens.
 35. Increase recycling efforts, support the Everyman theatre
 36. 1. Better Street cleaning including kerb side cleaning, post refuse collection clear up and reduction of pigeons in High Street and Prom.
2. Reduce drinking hours in clubs to curb excessive drinking by young people.
3. Support the improvements to the Everyman Theatre by grant aid.
 37. Cheltenham Everyman Theatre. Famous to the entire acting community. The building is a classic and needs a bit of TLC. As it's the only decent theatre for miles give it a helping hand.
 38. A balanced combination of projects that help the town to recover economically, support all sectors of the community and ensure that facilities such as theatres, community centres, museums, libraries are protected and maintained in straightened times - it is easy to dismiss them as 'not productive' in a tough economic climate, but I believe people need opportunities to 'step away' from the day-to-day stresses and remind themselves there is more to life than just putting bread on the table.
 39. Everyman theatre refurbish
 40. A cohesive tourism policy
 41. Updating the Everyman Theatre.
 42. Less of a gap between haves and have-nots in the town. More synergistic working with Gloucester. No additional flights or larger planes to Staverton. More "joined up" local/regional transport which would improve mobility and hence employment (e.g. why do evening trains from London sometimes stop at Gloucester with a 20 minute connection or just sit for 10 minutes?) - but no Parkway station please, would only lead to more cars.
 43. Better security, better road maintenance and traffic control, more parking facilities.
 44. Better play facilities for children in Pittville Park.
 45. An Arts Centre like the Axiom or something like the the New Brewery Arts Centre in Cirencester.
 46. More free parking in the central area of town.
 47. Redevelop and improve the retail available in the town. Many of the national retailers have left and the range of shops available is now limited.
 48. I also support the redevelopment of the Everyman Theatre. It is an important facility in the town and it is need of funding to bring it up to the high standard the town deserves.

49. I support the Everyman Theatre grant application. The theatre is at the heart of the community.
50. Fully funding the loan to the Everyman Theatre
51. A few less potholes on the roads
52. Important to keep the town centre clean and a pleasurable area to be in.
53. Crime law & order, Everyman Theatre
54. Everyman Theatre renovation, town centre pavements and tidiness, more 'Out of Town Car parking' from all main approaches to Cheltenham, improve Sports & Social Facilities for the all age groups. More employment initiatives for young people to get work experience prior to full time employment particularly for the trades and engineering
55. Reduce amount of Nightclub Licences which in turn will help to solve the problem of binge drinking
56. Make Cheltenham less tatty. When building modern buildings try to keep away from the 60s architecture which soon looks tired and dirty. More sculptures and points of pride.
57. Please support the Everyman Theatre proposals.
58. Use ASBO people to clean up our environment.
59. Improved roads together with increased visibility of the police force.
60. Get the bin men working properly
61. More police (or any police!). I never see any on foot anywhere and walking through town at night is sometimes very unpleasant.
62. Repair roads. Cut waste collection or charge for over usage. Greater range of recyclable waste collection.
63. More control of the speed of cars around the ring roads.
64. Support the Everyman Theatre by means of improved capital grants. Negotiate with GCC for a decent Ring Road
65.
 1. A more visible sense of the towns history.... so much of which is ignored
 2. Build on the success of the festivals e.g. start a major dance festival
 3. Enable the everyman to create its own productions for touring (not just pantos)
 4. much better recycling facilities ... including reducing the need for private vehicles to drive to Bishops Cleeve (carbon emission issue)
 5. zero tolerance on loutish behaviour
 6. not sure what to say about empty shops and trading estates...but an issue
66. Traffic flow
67.
 1. Tax all superstores and fuel stations more and use the revenue to encourage more small traders such as greengrocers, bakers, butchers to set up locally across the whole borough, providing more employment, dignity and social value and reducing travel patterns.
 2. Stop the 'superficial, quick 'n' easy Blockbusters rot' in what's left of the public library and re-establish it as 'The Centre', truly worthy of Cheltenham's literary heritage.
68. Improve the road system / condition of the roads!
69. I wish to state that there are many people who want to support the Everyman Theatre and feel that the Theatre is an important asset to the town. It brings children and adults from outlying towns and tourists to see the variety of productions of plays, ballets, musical shows and pantomimes and a number talks by authors using the Everyman Theatre for the Cheltenham Literature Festival. The Everyman desperately needs to secure the remainder of the money so we can restore the historic auditorium and renovate the foyers. If we are to attract visitors from London and beyond to come to see the Cheltenham Literature and Science Festivals we need to be able to present a quality venue. I frequent the Everyman Theatre and have asked my friends who also attend to be in touch with the Cheltenham Borough Council.
70. Improving approach to Law and Order, especially regarding anti social behaviour and juvenile delinquency.
71. More family entertainment ice rink, making retail parks more family friendly not just furniture stores etc having eating houses to make shopping a family day out.
72. Bring more independent shops back to the high street
73. Road quality is very poor on many busy side roads and main roads too since the snow in early January. Resurfacing roads would be better than papering over the

- cracks by temporary repairs to large potholes. Improving the provision of roadside recycling of all plastics to all residents. Maintaining public parks – e.g. bandstand in Pittville Park, with maintenance of plants and flowers.
74. The roads are terrible and a disgrace. Fix them properly, do it once rather than patching them and having to do it every 6 months.
 75. Work towards combined District Councils into a Unity system and thus combining contract and saving overheads
 76. Clean it up and enforce litter laws more.
 77. Upgrading the town centre including the lower high street. Providing teenagers with something interesting to get them off the streets.
 78. Getting through traffic out of Cheltenham and controlling pubs and clubs.
 79. Give more help to the poor and socially marginalised - it is the fundamental measure of our civilisation.
 80. Taking away the current traffic calming islands in Albert Road which cause road rage and annoyance with people rushing through them and playing chicken with incoming cars. 30mph reminders which light up as on Tommy Taylors Lane and elsewhere would be more effective. Stop charging in car parks up to 8pm in the evening, which affects everyone arriving for evening concerts/events and going out for meals, and puts off visitors to the town. 6.30pm would be quite late enough.
 81. Repair the roads. Widen the range of recycling services available.
 82. Invest in your streets, the way they look! Review everyone's personal circumstances in Council Housing; do our taxes need to support everyone who lives in those houses???? Do ask yourself the question please. We all know of people who live there who could get a job and live elsewhere!
 83. Plastic recycling, business recycling
 84. Improve the general appearance of the town, looks untidy and not inviting for visitors and residents. Tourists will go to other towns in the future (Bath etc.) if they experience anti-social behaviour, litter and an untidy and dirty town generally.
 85. Placing more importance on communities...this can raise social wellbeing and make a big difference to housing opportunities, community spirit, crime, employment...simply public art could affect all of these factors.
 86. I feel that the state of the roads needs to be addressed urgently following this bad weather.
 87. Keep our theatres in tact they are an essential part of the life of Cheltenham
 88. Better roads, an actual ring road around Cheltenham and the extension of the pedestrianisation in the town centre to encourage more (and safer) shopping.
 89. Improve town centre
 90. More visible and pro-active policing. Zero tolerance of crime however minor and especially of anti social behaviour.
 91. Supporting historical buildings like the everyman theatre
 92. Regeneration of some of our most historic buildings in this town
 93. Drastic cuts in all costs that do not add value so that funds can be redirected to the countless list of declining services.
 94. Stop driving visitors away from the town with appalling car parking policies.
 95. Less council bureaucracy particularly within the planning department
 96. Boots Corner and the High Street down to the bowling green need to be sorted out. Get on with the development of the Portland Street car park and the former Coach Station. We are getting left behind in Cheltenham.
 97. Already doing a good job!
 98. Keeping the Town centre as an area that we can all be proud of, by attempting to solve the cause of problems like crime, littering, yob culture etc.
 99. I would also like to see a thorough review by an external party/group of the cost structure of the borough to see where savings can be made. I believe that the biggest benefit could come from cost savings and feel strongly that this Borough could lead the way in the County and further afield.
 100. Cut costs especially at management staffing
 101. The communication around rubbish collection and recycling over the festive period and snow has been re-active and poor.
 102. Increase car parking
 103. Maintaining cultural heritage such as the Everyman Theatre to it famous glory.

104. At first I ticked ""preventing crime and disorder"". Is there not a separate fund for this though? You could maybe think about a campaign against litter. It strikes me that you could make the most of online "free" applications such as Facebook to appeal to a wide range of (younger) people to gain support for something like that. Think outside the box... :-)
105. Continue to extend recycling.
106. Great reduction in the number of pigeons.
107. Arts and culture
108. Clean the pavements more thoroughly than they do already. Most of them are in a dreadful state. Going for a walk these days is like doing an assault course side stepping vomit, dog faeces and rubbish. A pressure washer would do the job in no time and make the town more appealing for tourists.
109. Sort out the disaster with refuse collection during the snow. It a good job those in charge are not running a business. Stop wasting money on stupid schemes such as bollards and repaving and spend it on important projects.
110. Road maintenance, upgrade town centre, support of festivals,
111. More litter bins would help, especially around fast food outlets. They also need to be cleared regularly.
112. Make it a desirable place to live i.e. clean, tidy with opportunities for all then perhaps we as a community can come together to maintain it and raise standards generally.
113. Some of your categories above duplicate each other to some extent: it's well-established that keeping streets clean and maintained helps to protect and enhance assets and reinforce local community pride, which in turns reduces graffiti and vandalism, which helps reduce low-level crime and disorder. Supporting community and voluntary groups could mean teaching horticultural skills to people to help maintain the borough parks and gardens. And so on. I'd like to see slightly more family-friendly and bike-friendly traffic management: not closing off roads but reducing street furniture, repainting bike lane markings, reducing litter, and maintaining the surfaces. In re Q4 below, if you take care of the essentials (traffic, child-positive and elderly-positive infrastructure, good cultural opportunities, good access, cleanliness), tourism, civic pride, and employment will take care of themselves.
114. Road improvement in my local area.
115. More Cycle ways and improvements to services that affect people that don't drive to encourage people to leave the car at home a better local transport system a countywide travel pass that covers all operators instead of different passes for each operator. E.g. Stagecoach Megarider can only be used for Stagecoach buses in Cheltenham, not on other operators :(
116. Resurface all roads with good quality material which lasts more than a year. Hester's Way Road is a prime example. There are more holes and temporary patches than road! Do not accept the cheapest quote for repairs! Make sure the provider uses top quality materials. This is basic good house-keeping and will reward you in the future.
117. Getting holes in roads fixed! Continued support of the arts - we are justly famous for our jazz and literature festivals, as well as the theatre and historic buildings.
118. More police & security.
119. I think the North Place car park area lets Cheltenham down and that tree planting to replace incredibly ugly walls and bollards would create an 'avenue' link to the Promenade. I feel Cheltenham is famed for its arts and yet lacks a town based arts centre - I feel this is an aspect of Cheltenham (festivals etc) that should be enhanced and has good potential links to community and voluntary areas that will have a knock on effect in raising the quality of life in all sectors of Cheltenham's communities. It would be sad to see Cheltenham further decline into a centre for shopping and alcohol consumption - and without investment in arts and community work - I feel that is a significant and obvious danger.
120. The roads - the roads - the roads!!!! Gloucestershire roads are notorious, but Cheltenham doesn't have to be as bad.
121. Litter picked up inside streets.
122. This response is solely to support the Everyman Theatre - see below.
123. Paying those unemployed above the minimum wage to help look after the town i.e. bin collectors, road cleaners, graffiti removers. There are jobs to be done out there

- but is it a wonder nobody wants to do them for pennies. We have a huge unemployment resource, why not use it!!!!
124. Community enterprise.
 125. Park in Springbank improved greatly, road surfaces sorted (they were never put right after the floods) and less speed bumps-they do nothing! Improve lower high street, it is a mess but has some good shops that might interest tourists if it were cleaner and less tatty.
 126. Working with Gloucestershire Highways to maintain and improve footpaths and road conditions.
 127. That the roads are not causing a hazard to users and that Cheltenham does not look like a 3rd world area.
 128. The roads are dreadful - potholes need to be dealt with.
 129. More police to help keep crime down. Recycling projects that mean that household waste is reduced. Also less packaging by companies that cannot be recycled, i.e. plastic wrap, not being able to buy vegetables that are not in plastic bags. Supporting arts and culture within the community.
 130. All of the points in question 2 are vital to the well being of all residents. I now know why I never attempted to go into local politics!
 131. Impose more control on licensing of premises to reduce the incidence of public drunkenness, rowdiness, violence and vandalism in the town centre at night - make the centre a place one can take a summer evening stroll without feeling threatened.
 132. Assist in the renovation/refurbishment of the Everyman theatre.
 133. Put more support into preserving and enhancing the historic environment, buildings and landscapes of special interest.
 134. Although plenty of parking is available in Cheltenham it is very expensive if you wish to park near to the Theatre and town centre, particularly the Rodney Road car park. Perhaps a 'pay when you leave' machine would help there.
 135. Generally I approve of and impressed by the Council's services, and would not like to see a diminishment in any of them, especially those which would impact on the less well heeled most. Cheltenham is a rich borough in many respects, and one of the improvements I would like to see is an increase in the sense of community throughout the town, so that responsibility for choices is fully understood, and not just worked out on a personal loss/gain measure. I think your consultation form, while an excellent idea, needs to be sharper. For example, "protecting and enhancing" what? Services? In which case, that should be the highest priority. "Delivering value for money" - value to whom? Of course you should, but that's about methodology not issues.
 136. I think the council is doing a good job. I would like it to continue to promote Cheltenham as a good place to visit for tourists and business. I would like to see better recycling i.e. more comprehensive - plastic, batteries etc should be collected from the doorstep.
 137. Improved cheap access to town centre.
 138. Fix the terrible roads, especially around Leckhampton. Recycle more things through the collection boxes i.e. plastics, and have a more frequent collection.
 139. Improve Lower High St
 140. Road surfaces and free on-street parking
 141. Many roads in poor condition. Use more expensive material in the first place, to reduce the cost of having to patch them up time after time. Roads and pavements look terribly unsightly and messy compared with many European countries where councils have money for luxurious cobbled streets, tiled paths, etc. Tarmac here seems to be the answer for everything. Beautiful flower displays may be a distraction, but can't deviate eyes completely from holes and uneven patches on pavements, not to mention the risk of tripping over!
 142. More recycling options at the house door. Continued conservation of Regency buildings in city centre.
 143. Cheltenham has a national reputation for culture. To ensure that we can live up to this we must actively support the various arts, science etc. festivals and the venues in which they take place, particularly the Everyman theatre and the Town Hall. If these places no longer appeal to visitors both the events and the venues will wither and die.
 144. Too much for you to do for me to be specific - don't envy you!!

145. Filling in n pot holes on road.
146. Traffic management in inner ring - pedestrianisation around Boots corner etc.
147. Renovate the Everyman Theatre, improve litter clearance, remove Graffiti
148. These are the things that make the town look shabby:
 - a. unkempt buildings
 - b. litter
 - c. chewing gum on pavements
149. Better roads
150. Encourage the repair of all the roads following the icy spell which are now covered in potholes and dangerous for cars and particularly for cyclists.
151. Much better arts and culture provision, especially for young people. We have festivals, but they come and go-there is next to nothing permanent in the town. A place like The Brewery in Cirencester does not exist in Cheltenham.
152. Ensure services are cost effective and focused upon a review of needs, using updated evidence as to the magnitude of those needs
153. Control of the streets at weekends. Cleansing of the streets in the town centre after the weekend drinking excesses.
154. I think a lot of the roads and pavements especially in the area surrounding the town like Fairview, Pittville and St. Pauls are looking shabby and need a tidy up. The old Odeon cinema complex area near Debenhams is very down at heel and could really do with some regeneration and landscaping to make this part of town much more pleasant appealing.
155. I feel that the Everyman Theatre brings in a lot of business and "outsiders" to the town, and for that reason, and for the heritage of such a history it should not be neglected and allowed to become even more shabby than it has - we should be tremendously proud of this building - why on earth play around with parks, which are perfectly adequate, and will only get vandalised, negating all the money spent, and at the expense of this amazing building? No modern architect would ever have the courage to design such a glorious interior these days - if it's lost for ever, it would be a massive tragedy to our heritage.
156. Repair of footbaths as some are quite broken
157. Improve parks with updated equipment such as water fountains for kids to play in as in London parks and more variety of equipment which is of modern design. Barbeque areas to encourage family days out and more use of parks.
158. Improvements to the road surfaces
159. Clean up the streets and fix the roads
160. Continuing investment in the town centre, particularly regeneration of some of the inappropriate 50/60's developments that are blight around the town.
161. re-painting street lights some a very tatty
162. Support to an Arts Centre in town.
163. Generally, to ensure that the town remains an attractive place to live in for its residents, and to make it inviting to visitors.
164. Roads and pavements a priority.
165. Improve the poor condition of the Gloucestershire roads. They are in a very bad condition and a complete disgrace. Some of the roads get repaired but not properly and a few months later are in a bad state again. Why don't they repair them properly in the first place, to cut down on the wastage of money! I get very annoyed by the state of our roads and it makes me wonder where the money I spend on my council tax goes!
166. Ensure the correct body maintains the roads in a better condition.
167. Better support to public transport to reduce congestion and reduce emissions - including more pedestrianisation of the town centre.
168. Public service.
169. Repairs to city centre pavements to make safe and even.
170. More homes - some on the muddy fields that have foolishly been designated as green belt. There's plenty more (much of it higher-quality) countryside around. Without affordable housing for their employees, firms won't be attracted here and the town will gently fade away as it did in the 1960s.
171. Making the streets safe for law-abiding citizens who wish to enjoy a quiet evening out.

172. To improve all the 'hidden' wasted Brownfield areas within the Borough and put to better use - for housing or community.
173. That there is some more free parking around Cheltenham.
174. Road repairs which are badly in need of action all over Cheltenham, no more so than Hales Road lower end between Hewlett Road junction and Eldon Road, where there are lots of large holes.
175. Keeping the streets clean and attractive to visitors. Improving the Lower High Street.
176. Support the Everyman Theatre. Fix the pot holes!
177. Restore the Everyman Theatre
178. Would like to see the Council support the renovation of the Everyman Theatre. A well run theatre with an attractive programme is a status symbol for any town; without it the town would lose a considerable number of visitors who bring money to the town's businesses.
179. The road surfaces need serious attention throughout Cheltenham and surrounding areas. The one-way system is a joke and people visiting the area must get very frustrated. Arts and Culture need to be retained in Cheltenham, especially the Everyman Theatre.
180. To sort the millions of pot holes and pavement cracks which make moving around the town very difficult.
181. A more substantive policy, and actions, to be more sustainable in council works, and promote sustainability in the region.
182. Clean, safe neighbourhoods with well maintained parks & amenities and far less bureaucracy, all under the banner of better value for money than of recent times.
183. Ensure that streets are kept clean and ensuring that they are safe - I now avoid many areas of Cheltenham on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights due to the young drunks staggering around the place. Considering that Cheltenham is supposed to be 'up market' there are very few places for the over 35 age group who want to have a nice meal and a chat rather than sticky floors and loud music.
184. Reduction of anti-social behaviour in the parks and gardens and to promote these as spaces for community events (e.g. outdoor theatre, music, art). Improvements in all areas seen by visitors. Planning decisions to extend the Georgian atmosphere to those areas on the periphery of the town centre.
185. Fill up pot holes from the recent bad weather.
186. We wish to see a large budget allocation to our town's wonderful Everyman theatre. It is a lovely cultural amenity in Cheltenham which provides excellent entertainment on wintry evenings as well as when the weather is fine. It's an ideal way to give tourists to the town somewhere to go during the evening. It badly requires improvement at present.
187. Improve the condition of the roads; get rid of the speed restriction bumps everywhere, except for outside schools. In my opinion they do not work, they just add to emissions (slow down/speed up) and keep on breaking vehicle springs!!
188. More cycle path that would offer more protection for bike riders and better roads and street. Surely, that's wrong that roads in area like Montpellier are in a state similar that a third world country!
189. Better connections between the train station and centres of employment and the town centre.
190. Greater efficiency throughout - avoidance of waste and unnecessary expenditure.
191. Roads to be drivable and in good repair, at the moment they are a disgrace.
192. Although I do not live in the borough, both my daughter and I regularly attend performances at the Everyman Theatre and cannot stress enough how important we feel it is that it does not fall any further into disrepair and gets the funding it justly deserves to maintain its beauty while bringing it up to modern day standards, so that audiences are not lured away to other local theatres such as the Festival in Malvern.
193. Regular waste collections - that do not involve the collectors leaving most of the waste on the ground!
194. Improved pavements.
195. Stop wasting tax-payers' money. Clean/wash pavements and regularly collect from outside shops the black bin bags from the city centre. Fill in the pot-holes in the roads and around Cheltenham. Free parking for up to 2 hours for the city centre shopping –

- lots of empty shops in town. Have more signs in the city centre for the tourist office – or put the TIC in one of the many empty shops for easier access for everyone.
196. The pavements are uneven in many places. Dirty streets- people throw litter, throw up etc. Regular street cleaning - with water powered hoses.
 197. I think by maintaining the open spaces (parks, gardens, streets) you maintain the attractiveness of Cheltenham enabling businesses to generate work, and thus residents to pay taxes. Matching that are the Community groups which help the disadvantaged. Together these maximise the opportunities for people and money to address the other areas.
 198. I would like to see the culverts and drains cleared out regularly so that when there is a lot of surface water about it can run away freely. So many seem to get blocked up with leaves and debris.
 199. Sort out the pavements down Leckhampton road - when it rains all the water goes down the pavements! Help the Everyman.
 200. Improve the theatre - Worcester did this in 2009 and it's a great improvement to the city's facilities.
 201. General cleanliness.
 202. Road repair; improvements in recycling household waste collection services; continue to protect the borough's environment (parks, trees, public art)
 203. Take down the shabby festoon lighting from the tree's in the centre!
 204. Getting Streetcar to set in the town. Providing subsidised cycle purchase
 205. To try to protect wildlife on the roads, more notices indicating deer, badgers, foxes etc likely to be crossing. On the A46 Cheltenham Road almost daily road-kill is happening. Better policing of speed along this road would help, but also awareness could be enhanced. Flashing warning lights along the road to remind drivers to kill their speed and keep there eyes open.
 206. Cheltenham has heritage, style festivals and charm coupled with good business base, the Council should seek to build on those to develop the town further to create wealth for the community.
 207. Improving urban roads for pedestrians and cyclists. In particular:
 - i) Extensive 20 mph speed limits
 - ii) Extensive but simple (i.e. basic zebra crossings) at frequent intervals and at all junctions of busy urban roads.
 - iii) Tackle the problem of cars parked on pavements in narrow side streets
 208. Cleaner streets
 209. Stop talking about Civic Pride and paying consultants to come up with yet another set of proposals which will never see the light of day. Ditch plans to leave the offices in the Promenade, which might produce new offices for the borough, but will leave a derelict building in the heart of Cheltenham. Pedestrianise Regent Street, the cut past the County Court, and the road outside M&S' side entrance.
 210. Upgrade and repair all the road and car park surfaces.
 211. Save the Everyman Theatre - it is beautiful inside, (compare it to the Roses, Tewkesbury) and Gloucester doesn't have one! Don't let it close.
 212. Litter.
 213. Keeping it clean and policed.
 214. Please support the Everyman!
 215. Currently (mostly as a result of the big freeze recently) the roads are in a mess...it accentuates the issue that we have had with some road surfaces being very uneven for a while and there is a considerable amount of remedial work needed. Maintenance/enhancement of already key buildings (such as the Town Hall, pump rooms, Everyman theatre etc) should not be demoted as appearing to have little impact...in terms of immediate wow factor it may do but in the overall scheme of things they need to have the money spent on them to ensure we can justifiably continue to promote Cheltenham as a desirable place to come to live in or to visit which it is and should remain. I would add I am in favour of the proposed revamp of the town centre as described which a longer term project is.
 216. Improve flood defences. Improve maintenance of roads and pavements. Improve bus routes in the Warden Hill area.
 217. Proper road and pavement maintenance. - Fewer wasteful traffic bumps, roundabouts. - 20mph speed limits at some key danger points.- waste incinerator with

- energy recovery.-clamp down on licensing of bars which allow serving already drunk and rowdy.- Abandon Cheltenham pride we do not need more offices full of administrators and enablers. Publish a proper account of where money is spent and not the air-brushed opaque statement now issued. Sack the people/consultants who invested in Icelandic banks. Had they never heard of the Scottish highlands that lost £30m in BCCI, interest too good to be true and it was. Stop garden grabbing developers. Don't waste money on boots corner, be bolder and create routes which carry traffic round the town. We must be the largest conurbation in England with no adequate ring road.
218. Make better use of the finances they have.
219. Ban cyclists except on cycle tracks.
220. Policing
221. Providing more opportunities for young people to enjoy activities after school and in the evenings. Providing opportunities for the young people of our borough to enjoy the facilities in our community e.g. grants, coaches to local events. Start recycling scheme - but ensure that it is valuable for the environment and cost effective (Indian slums are putting us to shame!!!!)
222. encourage people to feel proud of what we have
223. Drain cleaning, affordable parking, youth entertainment
224. As one whom lives on the fringe of Cheltenham I should like to underline the importance of Cheltenham as an artistic Mecca for the area. In the long run this benefits everyone. May I particularly support your intention to help update the Everyman?
225. I know funds are tight, but please, please get GCC to do something about the potholes covering Cheltenham's roads. They are like craters. In 45 years of living in Cheltenham, I've never known the roads so bad. We need the Borough Council to take back responsibility for Cheltenham's roads. I am a motorcyclist and, like all other motorcyclists, I take my life in my hands when I ride out in Cheltenham. Have you seen the result of accident when a motorcycle hits a deep pothole at speed through no fault of the rider? Believe me - you don't want to.
226. More items accepted in the kerb-side recycling
227. Save the Everyman
228. Improving maintenance of roads and pavements. Improving the quality of buildings in town centre and demolition of eye-sores in gateways to town - Lower High Street, Coronation Square etc., if the place looks trashy it will be trashy - and trashed!!!! (Perhaps a little more care in preparation of surveys such as this - see "improvements" as spelt in the above question!)"
229. Keep it clean and crime free.
230. Better roads and community services.
231. To continue to promote Cheltenham as a desirable place for business / tourism to operate from and to encourage business to move into the area.
232. Don't employ expensive fools to do what is common sense.
233. As newcomers to Gloucestershire, my husband and I feel that Cheltenham already compares favourably with Reading. However, the presence of The Everyman Theatre in the town is a major attraction from our point of view.
234. Clean and mend the streets, keep the parks/ gardens/ amenities clean and accessible.
235. Promoting pride in a collective civic consciousness of our town, its people and its environment would also include many of the other things on your list and help to promote involvement and understanding of the needs of Cheltenham and its population.
236. Improve facilities at the Everyman Theatre.
237. I would to see the streets cleaner in the lower end of town and the parks cleaned more often in the summer.
238. In this time of financial uncertainty I think the council should look to financing and supporting people's basic needs - jobs and housing.
239. Reduce through traffic.
240. help with the everyman
241. More for youngsters.
242. Focus on the arts.

243. Road maintenance.
244. Increased police presence; improved road/pavement maintenance; investment in long-term cultural/tourist potential
245. I think many of the categories above are far too vague - more information needed on how these categories may be funded is essential before voting is meaningful.
246. Persuade businesses in times of heavy snow to clear the areas outside of their premises and in normal times to clear rubbish from these areas.
247. Improve quality of the roads; consider a reduction in "street furniture" possibly even going as far as trying the total removal of traffic lights, road markings etc as has been adopted in parts of the Netherlands and also I think in Banbury(?).
248. Better provision of leisure activities for children and teenagers
249. Tidy up housing in some of the lower priced property areas
250. Cheltenham receives a boost to its economy through many sporting and cultural events and I think we should continue to build on this, so that there is money to be able to keep the city free of crime and clean and a place where both locals and visitors are happy to be.
251. Please give funding to The Everyman. The theatre needs doing up and it is essential to the life of the town.
252. Generally I am satisfied with the way things have been run.
253. Supporting the Everyman theatre.
254. Increased efforts to minimise graffiti and vandalism.
255. Remove/reduce seagulls in Lansdown area. Maintain roads and footpaths. Provide adequate rubbish and recycling bins in the area."
256. More community policemen and visibility of police
257. Refurbish the Everyman Theatre
258. Improve pavement and road maintenance.
259. The roads
260. The roads in this town are in need of urgent improvement. Too much money seems to be wasted on traffic light changes, introduction of roundabouts etc that quite frankly just make traffic in the town worse not better. Whoever decided on the traffic light system by the Brewery should certainly not have been paid for it. It just adds to the town congestion and is an absolute joke. I don't even want to get started on the amount of potholes and the states of the road. It's quite frankly shocking.
261. Address state of the paths and roads. Address speeding in Leckhampton.
262. Policing to control crime and drunken disorder to a minimum. Not good advertisement for tourists.
263. Plastics collected as part of the weekly recycling collection. More promotion and better public transport. More cycle lanes/better provision for cyclists so that it is safer to cycle on the roads. Cheaper costs at the leisure centre for sporting activities. More promotion into healthy eating especially at the leisure centre.
264. Improve road surfaces
265. Updating the Everyman Theatre
266. Street cleaning & sweeping.
267. I urge you to do everything you can to support the maintenance of the Everyman theatre. It serves a very wide area around Cheltenham and is the centrepiece of the dramatic arts for this area. Also it is standard bearer for Cheltenham's standing and reputation for it's the national firmament of culture. It is rather shabby and in need of an up-lift to maintain its and Cheltenham's prestige.
268. More doorstep recycling facilities.
269. More done to improve the centre of Cheltenham particularly repair pavements and enforce restrictions on the erection of structures on the outside of houses and other buildings such as satellite dishes.
270. Fix the pavements and roads, clear out streams to prevent future flooding, be more efficient, collect rubbish every week, and get rid of at least 50% of the staff which will improve productivity.
271. To do something about the ill informed decision to introduce car parking charges after 6.00pm. It is damaging to local groups (such as the Playhouse theatre) and local restaurants and leisure outlets such as cinema. My partner and I now no longer eat in restaurants in the town as we have to pay inordinately expensive parking charges in addition to the cost of the meal or any other leisure activity in the town. This gives the

- impression that the council are being greedy and misjudged as the result is that no one will go into the town after 6.00pm any longer and therefore this whole idea will be self defeating.
272. There are limits to what can be done by CBC. The roads and pavements are appalling but we understand that that is a county council matter.
273. Clean up the "vibrant night time culture" - too many drunks and their litter in town.
274. Priority to repairing roads following recent bad weather. Many roads have several holes/cracks in them.
275. Repairing roads after very exceptional winter and earlier floods
276. More reasonable parking costs/free parking within the town centre
277. Improve disabled parking
278. Tidy up the bottom end of Cheltenham High Street near the Brewery. Help tourism in Tewkesbury to promote the shopping. Spend more on social services.
279. Make better provision for cyclists by improving the road surfaces generally or at least repairing the many potholes that have appeared recently and providing more and safer cycle lanes. Also more places in town where bicycles can be locked up.
280. To ensure that Cheltenham's heritage (one of its most important attractions for investment in development and tourism) is properly protected. This applies both to the physical manifestations of its heritage (buildings, parks and other structures) but also the aspects of its culture that make the town unique.
281. Support for the Everyman Theatre.
282. Refuse large, new, building developments on flood plains and on the southern perimeter of Cheltenham, where the provision of infrastructure would cause considerable inconvenience to residents and costs to Councils.
283. Kerbside recycling for plastic bottles, with reminders to households that they must wash and separate recyclable materials from landfill waste. More effective solutions to anti-social behaviour. Increase the amount of cycle tracks and incorporate them in all new build and renovation areas.
284. i) Introduce door step plastic recycling
 ii) Reduce crime, particularly burglaries which seem to be increasing rapidly
 iii) More options for first time house buyers (support new houses near Swindon village)
285. Activities for children and parents to participate in. I've been a taxi service for tennis lessons, swimming lessons, yet whole family fitness is essential. Encourage training providers to train all ages at the same time.
286. Improved street cleaning and support climate change initiatives.
287. Repairing the damaged roads.
288. Parking facilities at a reasonable cost to encourage people to use Cheltenham. Also improvements to the permit holders parking as it is not very successful with holders often unable to park in designated areas - use of the car parks after 5pm for these holders. More recycling in the town centre, residents do not appear to do so at all.
289. Additional kerbside recycling, e.g. plastic and kitchen waste.
290. Improving and building new facilities to promote our town as a place to come for culture - E.g. supporting theatres with grants; sport - ice rink for example and accessible to those on low incomes; and more funding for on the street policing to reassure those visiting town at night.
291. Support its local theatre
292. When family visit they do comment that Cheltenham is a beautiful town and the parks and gardens are well kept but that pavements are uneven and covered in litter and leaves, so more street cleaning would be pleasant. I'd like to see kerb-side recycling include cardboard and plastics.
293. More on community and youth engagement and less on the pomp surrounding the image.
294. Certainly improvement to the roads and pavements. Granted the recent weather has impacted on the pothole situation but it does raise a question regarding the quality of the surfaces in some areas in the first place.
295. Provide funding for the restorations of the Everyman Theatre
296. Support everyman theatre.
297. I would like to support the everyman bid but would also like to see improvements to street lighting particularly in heavily green areas such as Pittville

298. The potholes in the roads have obviously worsened after the bad weather but this reflects the poor quality surfacing provided by the council in the first place.
299. Stop all the new development in the Reddings
300. More emphasis on basic services such as improving the waste collection service.
301. Money towards the renovation of the Everyman Theatre. It provides some first class performances but is in need of updating.
302. Speed up the restoration of the town centre.
303. Roads are very poor.
304. Helping the community take more pride in itself, helping families on low incomes and keeping the town tidy and clean. Promoting more cultural improvements like theatre etc.
305. Cheltenham is filthy! The streets need to be cleaned! Town centre is drab and dismal. More needs to be done to attract new business to the town.
306. Improvements in recycling including plastic.
307. Keeping our roads safe and filling in potholes created by the severe weather
308. Ensuring that there is a commitment to "Open Government" with a clear action plan to communicate (without Political Spin) how council tax payers are getting increased value for money and less waste.
309. Put money into areas where the most benefit can be gained.
310. Repairs, contributions to theatres such as Everyman and Roses.
311. I think generally we need to improve civic pride to promote a general ability to look after each other and our environment and ultimately reduce crime, vandalism, litter etc. If we were all encouraged to do our bit to clean our paths and roads outside our houses of litter, snow etc it would be a small price to pay for a better environment and a more caring society. Unfortunately Health & Safety and EU regulations have proven to instil fear instead of common sense in our society.
312. Road repairs.
313. Better roads by influencing Glos CC better!
314. Improved waste recycling provision
315. The closing of the Whole Hog pub in the Strand area of the High Street. The language and behaviour of many of its clients is terrible. Other pubs manage to sell cheap booze without the same degree of problems.
316. More police on the streets!
317. Double the size, upwards or down, of car parks in town
318. Cleaning up of graffiti - some near me (Ashford Road) has been there for years.
319. Improving disabled access to parking shops etc.
320. Working more closely with the County Council, and transferring non-essential services over to them.
321. Develop and enhance local amenities for local people and tourists.
322. I would like the Council to realise what makes Cheltenham an attractive place and conserve those things - tourists and businesses and civic pride will then come naturally. Clean, well maintained streets also contribute to crime reduction ~ (as per the New York Giuliani initiative), as does a zero tolerance approach to street drunkenness.
323. Improvements to Lower High St, in particular cleaning and upgrading to stimulate civic pride
324. Reducing the self serving Bureaucracy in the council and providing leadership for others in the private sector to take action.
325. Huge sums could be save if more people cycled - but - as a driver and daily cyclist - I find Cheltenham more dangerous than London to cycle in.
- i) The cycling lanes - too few - too bitty – too narrow
 - ii) Cyclists are squeezed off the lanes by drivers who don't respect them, mainly because there are too few of them to be consistent.
 - iii) Pedal power costs nothing, makes people healthier - reduces NHS cost / less obesity - makes no toxic emissions.
 - iv) One can't help feeling that nothing is done regarding cycling because it doesn't bring cash with those lovely parking fines!
326. Roads.

327. Improving position of CCTV cameras. For example at Christmas, CCTV cameras were obscured by Christmas decorations. Thought needs to be given on matters such as this as vital evidence could not be used due to this error.
328. Better value for our money e.g. the roads are shocking, they have a few holes filled here and there that then reappear and have to be done again. If that happened on a private basis the contractor would be duty bound to correct the original shoddy work at their own cost. As tax payers we pay the same people to do the same job to the same poor standard over and over again. This is a waste of money man hours and resources.
329. Restoring the W bus route so that we can get into the town and see what the council is doing with our money!
330. Repairing/renewing damaged pavements.
331. 1. Fill in the potholes and maintain the roads which are a disgrace.
2. Keep the borough clean and tidy & make recycling accessible to all.
3. Promote Cheltenham as the Cotswold centre for culture, Arts, and Entertainment - that will be of benefit to all those that live in Cheltenham - and it will draw in visitors who will stimulate the local economy. Most other activities are the responsibility of other government or NGOs, business or commercial organisations.
332. Try to get unemployment down and create better prospects.
333. Extended hours park and ride service.
334. Street cleaning and maintenance as this make a big impression on visitors to the area.
335. Sort out all the pot holes in the roads following the ice and snow.
336. Pothole repair.
337. To make the most of the assets that Cheltenham has inherited so that the residents may be proud of their town not apologising for the shabbiness and long term underdevelopment of many areas. The many Cheltenham plans have excited our interest but the few, slow results have led to despair.
338. Streamlining and efficiency savings through alignment of services - example: do we really need 4 bin lorries on recycling day? Making the environment clean, safe and all areas good places to live.
339. I live in Minchinhampton so feel I am not really at liberty to recommend too many improvements for Cheltenham. However, as the town in Gloucestershire which has a (if not the) prime responsibility for maintaining art and culture (because of the existence of so many related establishments) for the citizens of the County, I believe that rather more emphasis should be given to these aspects of the Council's budget than might be the case for other towns in Gloucestershire.
340. In the current climate, I would have thought consolidation is the best to be hoped for.
341. I am particularly worried that The Everyman Theatre will get overlooked in this budget and refurbishment is long overdue, so please do make sure that due weight is given to its needs
342. Fix the roads not just fill the pot-holes. The roads were a disgrace even before the recent bad weather.
343. A chewing gum instant fine for dropping it on pavements.
344. Road maintenance
345. 1. Restoration of the Everyman Theatre.
2. Improve road surfaces.
346. Parking differential between residents and visitors
347. free parking at walking distance of the town, this will help the local shops rather than the big supermarkets
348. Improvement to roads (pot holes particularly). Closing pubs and clubs earlier and making the streets safer at the weekends and cleaner after people vomiting and urinating after a night out. You cannot go out as a family on a Friday or Saturday with children as I don't want my children subjected to watching the bad and rude behaviour of the 18, 19 and twenty something's.
349. Give tourism greater prominence in its strategies for the economic enhancement of Cheltenham. Cheltenham has an enviable reputation but the lack of a dedicated officer for tourism - someone who will champion the importance of the offer Cheltenham can make - heritage, arts, culture, retail - to attract tourists from both

- other parts of the UK and from overseas is noticeable. The economic benefits for us all are considerable if we have more people spending in our hotels, shops, restaurants, cafes, cinemas, theatres etc.
350. Cheltenham is a beautiful town that clearly relies on passing trade as well as local shoppers and therefore there is a need to ensure that the council maintains the town as well as its Georgian facades and grounds. Equally it would be good to be seen as a green town and therefore recycling more efficiently for future generations is not only essential but would also add to the appeal of the town.
 351. Our roads are in a terrible state and need improving desperately. I feel that all too often there is a lack of common sense and money is wasted because the right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing. It is a very difficult job but far too much money is wasted due to lack of thought and planning.
 352. Improving the look of the town centre so it is more inviting to visit.
 353. As the owners of the Everyman Theatre I would like to see the council facilitate the proposed refurbishment through the provision of a £1 million loan and £250,000 grant.
 354. Maintaining its heritage as a beautiful town and keeping it safe for all at all times.
 355. More cycle paths. More litter bins between town centre and Keynsham road as lots of litter is discarded from late night pizza and burger packages etc.
 356. Better Park & Ride & pedestrianisation of the centre.
 357. I enthusiastically endorse Martin Horwood, MP's proposal to establish an art and international cinema in Cheltenham. We need art that challenges, genuinely entertains, and engages young people without patronising them. I am appalled by the proposal to spend an enormous amount of money on the Everyman Theatre building with no improvement of its programming, which is nearly consistently disappointing, boring, anachronistic and closed-minded. A few months ago, at a public post-show talk at the Everyman theatre, a member of the Everyman's management stated, apropos of nothing, that this theatre will not present any shows that might "offend Christianity," and Everyman management have on many occasions claimed that they can't stage any plays with gay characters, "language" etc., because it might offend 'old people' (not the exact word used), which is an insulting stereotype of our local OAPs. At the Everyman, one can see Shirley Valentine, endless outdated mansion murder mysteries, boring Jesus drama, horrid American musicals, white people made up as stereotypes of Asians and anachronistic tosh celebrating the glories of the last Coronation. When I want to see challenging, creative, well-performed theatre with relevance to the real world, I go to Bristol or London. As our theatre cannot be brought into modern Britain, much less the wider modern world, we need a modern arts cinema. Don't waste money on refurbishing a museum that calls itself a theatre.
 358. Attract new businesses – especially new types of business not currently represented in the town.
 359. The general improvement of the town's infrastructure and amenities to enhance visitor/resident enjoyment of the town and improve income from tourism and events.
 360. Preventing crime and making the Cheltenham safe for a woman to walk alone.
 361. Bring back subsidised activities for teenagers in the summer holidays
 362. Please help The Everyman Theatre to improve its present condition so that it can continue to provide the brilliant service it currently provides to all sectors of the public but more especially for the youngsters of secondary school age who have to see plays as a part of their studies. The theatre is ideally placed to help thousands of students and the staff are exceptional in the service they provide. It is a facility which contributes to the prosperity of Cheltenham as well as its cultural awareness. Long may it continue!
 363. Creating more things to do in Cheltenham - possibly an ice rink, new bowling alley rather than having teens hanging around the streets drinking.
 364. Curtail on illegal on-street parking especially around "corner shops" & school entrances also in town after the 6pm "cut-off" around single & double yellow lines.
 365. Start recycling much more from the kerbside (plastic bottles, tin foil, plastic bags, and yellow pages, anything else possible). Increasing the quality of our roads, particularly with a view to public transport and bicycles (reducing traffic volumes, reducing on-street parking, filling pot-holes, resurfacing)

366. In the current circumstances, repairing potholes needs a degree of priority to prevent accidents and injuries.
367. Refurbish the everyman theatre!
368. To provide more for young people to do-and to recognise all the good that our young people do. To develop community cohesion. To be a leading light in this and to think creatively about how to do this.
369. Short term: Road Maintenance. Long Term: Law and Order
370. Plant more trees on the highways, e.g. large areas of Up Hatherley look bare and would benefit from more trees.
371. Clear beggars from the streets. Despite the appointment of a "manager" they are still present and definitely not all selling the "Big Issue". If the "manager" walked through town everyday, she couldn't fail to spot them. Street cleaning – Prince of Wales Stadium and the Honeybourne Line is a disgrace and a good example of the general malaise between residents and council employees. Do we still employ a dog warden? If so, his effectiveness is not evident. Pavements covered in excrement and vicious, possibly illegal dogs are not conducive to a pleasant stroll.

Q4.

Given the potential squeeze on public sector spending where do you think the council should look to reduce spending?

	Response	%
Preventing crime & disorder	37	1.9
Street cleaning and maintenance	14	0.7
Helping with community groups and voluntary sector groups	149	7.5
Parks and gardens	108	5.4
Protecting and enhancing the borough's environment	70	3.5
Funding discretionary element of concessionary travel	326	16.4
Reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change impacts	199	10
Delivering value for money	39	2
Waste collection and recycling	17	0.9
Arts and culture	70	3.5
Promoting sport and health living	195	9.8
Promoting civic pride	357	18
Affordable housing	100	5
Promoting tourism	164	8.3
Promoting business and employment	96	4.8
Other (See below):	42	2.1
Total	1983	

Responses to Q4 under "other":

- Reduce overstaffing (x13)
- Reduce senior staff and salaries; downsize council property estate; ask councillors to forego their pay and allowances
- As few consultants and "initiatives" as possible please
- Staff costs and pensions (x 10)
- None of the above
- Street furniture
- Waste in public buildings & administration
- All non added value costs
- Internal efficiency (x2)
- Long-term benefits (such as Jobseekers' Allowance) (x2)
- Shouldn't reduce spending (x2)
- Be more efficient and less waste on ill advised legal advice
- No more Lairds
- Unwinnable legal disputes (x2)

- Look within. Substantial savings can be made on direct costs. Negotiate hard with suppliers. Look internally at areas that are underperforming or are overstaffed. Take a business like approach.
- Civic jollies
- On making up any pension scheme deficits. I feel for those involved however no-one will be topping up non-public employee losses.

Q5.

The cabinet is proposing £1.2m of savings and increasing income, including cutting management and administration costs. What further savings or areas for increasing income do you believe the council should consider in the running of its services?

A total of 283 comments were received. The most popular responses were:

- Cut staff pensions
 - Reduce/remove pay for Councillors
 - Stop expensive trips abroad for town twinning
 - Share services with other Councils
 - Sell the Municipal Offices
 - Reduce street lighting
 - Ensure efficiency of staff, particularly those working outdoors
 - Reduce benefits such as job-seekers allowance.
1. Look for matched funding from private industry for major projects such as restoration of Pittville Gates. Make the Cheltenham festivals smaller - especially literature. I know they bring people to the town but if the town is dirty and the pavements and roads are in poor condition, people won't enjoy the experience.
 2. Stop doing climate change stuff.
 3. Charge a hotel tax of £10/night during Race Week.
 4. Cut unemployment benefits
 5. Make the various festivals pay their way properly. We have heard that repairing the damage to Imperial gardens caused by recent festivals requires additional money which will impact on other services.
 6. Having watched Council Staff collecting leaves this autumn I believe they spend more time in their vehicles drinking tea or on their phones than actually clearing leaves. There is clearly better value to be obtained from better management.
 7. There are many 'unofficial' a-boards around the town. Getting the businesses to pay the due fees would be helpful - either in raising funds or clearing the footpaths.
 8. Increase charges on fast food outlets to cover the excessive impact on street cleaning in their vicinity. Do the same for night clubs to recompense the local purse for additional policing.
 9. Get out of Glos County Council's clutches
 10. Reduce the cost of supporting staff pension schemes so they are more in line with the general public - and the large sums paid out in redundancy packages. They should be in line with statutory redundancy payments - as applicable to most employees in other organisations where tight budgets have to be maintained. Gold plated pensions and redundancy payments that are unsustainable need to be axed to save money in these current times.
 11. Good idea to cut admin and management costs
 12. Make sure you get value for money, there is too much money spent on consulting this and that.
 13. Do not know enough about the budget to comment.
 14. Do not move council offices out of Promenade Site, Cut back on Admin staff, Freeze wages and pensions, Stop Twinning jollies.
 15. I think the Council should decide themselves, after all this is why we appoint/elect people as we trust you can do the job.

16. Councillors should forego their pay and allowances. There is no need to pay councillors. There would be no shortage of civic-minded people who would stand for these jobs without pay.
17. The parks and public spaces would benefit from more sustainable planting such as the wonderful example at Naunton Park. Resources would be better used using well designed perennial schemes than thousands of bedding plants being planted each season. Apart from being extremely old fashioned, which does not do the town justice; they are very wasteful and costly. Quite frequently the beds are bare when there is an important event such as a Festival happening!
18. Cut back on waste, be more efficient with spending.
19. Get rid of Parking Wardens. The obvious targeting of 'easy' areas such as schools in Residents only parking areas at pick up times is not only a shameful and cowardly approach to enforcement but akin to cowboy wheel clampers in private car parks. The obvious revenue generation methods do not manifest in any way to the road user and the saving of their salaries would be of great benefit to us all.
20. Next winter encourage homeowners, parents etc to clear snow from schools, outside their homes and shops. I.e. take a more proactive approach. Share more services with adjacent councils. Staff contribute more to their pensions so revenue does not go into a black hole.
21. Ensuring that all public buildings are used to their maximum and not standing empty and unused.
22. Trying to keep front line services and cutting backroom and support services.
23. Use recycling from the parks and gardens to produce compost that can be sold.
24. Salaries for senior executives are far too high and are out of pace with the private sector. Serious reductions and restructuring should be undertaken.
25. Have the local MPs donate their expenses to the council.
26. Any senior staff benefits, e.g. company cars - could they have smaller, more efficient ones?
27. Put sports centre under commercial management company and not direct management
28. Cut promoting civic pride and tourism.
29. Investigate less costly ways of keeping parks attractive without too many labour/water intensive bedding plants. Look at licensing laws to reduce need for policing at anti-social hours (which must cost money).
30. Costs and number of consultancy contracts should be reduced.
31. This is an extremely complex issue. I believe maintaining the environment of the town is of paramount importance. By this I mean keeping the town and its environs tidy, clean, pleasant and beautiful places to be. This in turn will lead to pride in our town. Possibly the large retail businesses which dominate the town could be asked to pay more rent etc.
32. Forget grandiose ideas to change the town centre. The cost of running the current Municipal Offices must be very high due to the layout and no doubt problems with installing modern technology. When the economic climate is right the building should be sold and a purpose built or existing modern building should be sought with easy access for the public.
33. The idea of people paying for refuse collection has been thrown around for some time and I think there is still more to think about. There is no reason for a typical household not to recycle or compost and a small charge for a weekly waste amount over a certain weight would not only help to encourage this but would also provide income for the council. Given the recent weather, allowances could be made during times of non-collection.
34. It should look at overall cost control in every department looking at every aspect of the business from recruitment through to stationary to control costs. This is what other companies have had to do in the recession. Look at staff and councillor expenses, refreshments for meetings etc.
35. I enjoy using the buses now I have discovered how easy it is to use them I suggest that we older folk contribute towards our bus pass.
36. Reducing employee headcount - white collar bureaucracy
37. Cut back on the funding and expenses for travel including visits abroad, limit advertising and Marketing by 50% of last year, get quotations for ALL key areas of your operations

- from local subcontract services and select the best value for money or make sure your own department budget is cut to the same value.
38. Not qualified to comment
 39. Fire all the Health and safety officers. Let us return to Common Sense. Less street furniture. Get rid of speed cameras. Stop persecuting motorists as a means of getting more tax. We all have to work; we all need cars to go to work.
 40. Encourage more retail opportunities. Cheltenham has a poor shopping centre compared with Worcester for instance - which has a much more varied and vibrant shopping area. Cheltenham seems to think that it is a ""destination"" for shoppers across the West - rubbish! There are a few expensive shops on the Prom, but little in the way of variety for the average shopper - mostly run down and cheap stores.
 41. Cut out the expensive trips and seminars, cut down on travelling with council employees. Have your meetings at less expensive venues.
 42. Reduced staffing levels and inflated pensions, too many people doing too little inefficiently.
 43. Cut out all these strange positions in the public sector
 44. Cut council 'non-jobs' - Diversity officers, Health & Safety, etc. What are they for?
 45. Funding discretionary element of concessionary travel should be for the people who really need it not for people who can already afford it. Do not put up park and ride charges as this service is a great environmental benefit.
 46. Extra car parking charges until it becomes cheaper to use public transport (provided there is adequate provision thereof.) Introduce realistic charges for CBC directly-operated cultural activities Consult on the cost of Cheltenham's parks and gardens.
 47. I don't know enough to comment
 48.
 1. Stop wasting money on 'promotions' and spend it on the fabric of the borough instead - Cheltenham will then become more generally attractive and 'speak for itself', as people see a real and tangible improvement of the quality of things - without all the expensive 'hype'.
 2. Cut the cost of public transport (buses) contracts so that providers will have to become more reliable, put users first and run on time, by cutting out the guaranteed income element provided at council taxpayers' expense, forcing providers to satisfy users in order to stay in business.
 3. Scrap 'fat cat' council pensions and bonuses and bring them into line with the economic realities of the labour market.
 4. Turn the Promenade into a proper twice-weekly market, offering genuine British fresh produce and goods - with the council getting income from renting out stalls and a percentage of the turnover."
 49. Increase the Council Tax.
 50. Cutting Chief Executive pay, cutting out consultants, not investing council tax money overseas!
 51. Look to efficiencies. Avoid employing contractors on long-term projects
 52. Consider the salaries of those in higher management. Are they justifiable?
 53. stop putting in pointless traffic lights & 'traffic calming zones leave the roads alone for a bit, stop patching them up & causing traffic jams just to patch up one pot hole, wait till they're really knackered & do the whole road all at once, therefore making the most of economies of scale.
 54. Abandon the Civic Pride scheme, specifically the section around pedestrianising Boots Corner and the area by the Bus station. It's a waste of money and I would far rather my council tax went towards far needier projects.
 55. Make getting value for money the top priority, not cutting standards.
 56. Promote and charge for bbq permits for the parks. Increase car parking charges.
 57. Reduce heating and lighting (especially at night) in council offices. Cut down on paper pushers and middle management; also cut down the jollies and expenses paid trips. Begin lobbying central government for student tenants to pay council tax. These kids cost the council a fortune - how do students add value to the local community?"
 58. Using in house expertise as opposed to out of county consultants currently being used
 59. No particular views
 60. The council appears to have no problem in spending public money on investigating projects which have no funding in place. For example, extending the Town Hall. The

- fees for models, drawings etc. for this project must have run into the thousands with no realistic funding for the project.
61. Reduce support for the so called fringe groups it is clear that they add little to the community at large.
 62. If the council installed a waste disposal system such as in France whereby a public collection point was placed at the end of each street, with recycling bins etc, and people expected to take their rubbish to these places, service could be improved.
 63. I think the council should look to funding its basic services, and keeping streets clean and parks nice are helpful in attracting visitors to the town. It's extra things that the council should look to cut.
 64. Prefer not to move to a commissioning model of council.
 65. Look at items that add value or give a reasonable return
 66. All people who receive income benefits should have to repay the council/tax payer by 'working' or 'giving back' to the community.
 67. The selling of the Council offices in the promenade and the transfer of all staff and facilities to a much cheaper (to run) building on the outskirts of the town.
 68. A local betting tax on the race course and/or take a percentage of each race's winnings.
 69. By all means cut costs, especially those of administration. But don't cut the small funds for Cheltenham's cultural activities; please don't cut funding allocated to the Everyman theatre, especially the funds needed to restore the pride and joy of England's heritage, the glorious Matcham building.
 70. Re-visit the use of income when it comes to wasting on important tasks like gardening and planting around the towns
 71. Cutting management and admin costs has to be No 1
 72. Less focus on unimportant planning issues/ Reducing the planning department – particularly conservation.
 73. Don't know.
 74. review staff pension scheme
 75. The prime focus should be on cutting out excessive and unnecessary cost from the Council, which I believe includes substantial administrative burden and bureaucracy. It is disappointing to see that Q4 above does not have a box for reducing the admin costs!
 76. This must be a review by external parties, not an internal review. Equally we should not be looking at some expensive consultancy firm. Do we not have enough business leaders in the Town that could provide a review?"
 77. employ someone with a brain....whose job it is to cut costs and that person should be given the power to cut costs regardless of any other factors
 78. More shared services with other councils
 79. Never spend money again on things like the "toy" train
 80. Make employees pay for their pensions and not feather-bed them with public money!
 81. Use of council buildings out of hours? You could charge for that. On-spot fines for littering (difficult to police, I admit).
 82. Reduce the number of people who weed common areas. I have often seen 3/4 guys resting on their spades, (skiving) to dig over such a small space. I could do the job in half the time they take to do it.
 83. Make sure council workers are earning their wages not sat around in their vans skiving as we see so often.
 84. All senior management posts could give up their wages for one day a year. If that's too radical, start thinking about how to use flexi-time to reduce costs of electricity and fuel in council offices, or allow workers to work from home or on a four-day week of longer days. Having the council offices closed one day a week but open longer four days, when people could contact you after their working day, would certainly be more efficient and be better for everyone (they do it in Utah or Nevada at the state level and productivity has gone up and costs have gone down as a result).
 85. Efficiency of all services
 86. Too many employees doing too little. Do away with non-contributory pensions - the country cannot afford it. We are already up to our neck in debt without promising people pensions that we cannot afford.
 87. Getting rid of the cabinet and returning the council itself to a one tier local government. Not employing any consultants, instead, employ staff on the council who have the

- knowledge to do their jobs without outside intervention - I bet you don't even know what skills are hidden in those offices."
88. I think you need to think of imaginative ways to get people to feel good about giving more money to the community - i.e. to the council for the community good.
 89. Street lights go to low cost ones.
 90. wage drop for the big wigs and do away with the company cars
 91. Cap or reduce top earners (management?) salaries
 92. As with many companies in the private sector a pay freeze for the year for all employees (or those earning more than £17,500) should be applied.
 93. Cutting petrol and expenses for management.
 94. Concentrate money on poorer areas of town rather than always on the more wealthy areas.
 95. I would support fortnightly collections of wheelie bin rubbish, as long as there were no cuts in collection of recycling.
 96. Cutting unnecessary paper work.
 97. Employee's pensions - outrageous that tax payer should donate such huge sums to civil servants.
 98. Council overheads such as employee numbers
 99. Reduce the number of councillors.
 100. Closely examine Councillors and employees expenses (lunches, transport) etc.
 101. As I do not live in Cheltenham I am not aware of all the services.
 102. Corporate office costs; member expenses
 103. I would be happy with a fortnightly waste collection
 104. The council should carefully examine the pay and benefits of top council executives.
 105. Increase job sharing and working from home.
 106. Reduce the high salaries of the top local council employees. Increase town centre parking charges, this will also encourage people to leave cars at home or use park and ride. Although I believe that parking permits should be free for residents (I do not live in a permit area), they have a right to park outside their own house without cost.
 107. looking at days lost from work and promoting a better work ethic throughout workforce
 108. looking at pension provisions and ensuring that these are reasonable and achievable, looking at social security payments to ensure that people are encouraged to work rather than discouraged because of the payment provisions, ensuring that local people are encouraged to apply for local jobs and not immigrant workers
 109. Reduce bureaucracy, waste and expenses
 110. Take more care in the employment of high-salary executives
 111. Bi-weekly rubbish collections.
 112. With Cheltenham's reputation as a venue for events, to build on the existing festivals etc in the area, particularly using council owned or funded locations. This would raise additional revenue for both the council and the local economy in general.
 113. Surely the question is whether Gloucestershire would be better served by a unitary authority, thereby cutting costs and ending confusion on responsibilities.
 114. Agree
 115. Have you looked at waste within the organisation other than jobs?
 116. Cultural activities-these can make money.
 117. Impossible to say as do not know how much is spent in each area of activity, such as above list. Should focus upon what is spent on actually doing activities which provide an output to local tax payers. Control the overall costs of indirect staff and salaries, and postpone job evaluation and other internally focussed activities. Reconsider dropping or phasing non critical projects.
 118. The majority of cuts should come from cutting overheads, rather than front-line staff who provide essential services.
 119. Reducing expenses of council members
 120. Cut back on all the hanging baskets - they are not necessary. Review of workforce and plan this for the necessary work required.
 121. I think you should stop worrying about how much money you are getting and worrying more on how it is spent. I realise that money is the only metric by which society and the media can measure support but surely if you just concentrate on setting up effective departments that get the job done rather than telling everyone the job is going to be done then we would all have a better council. For a period of times I worked in HM

- Courts Central Office located in Gloucester and I have never seen a larger more effective money burning system, this is the kind of thing that should be prevented.
122. Stop trips overseas for information!! Cut number of unnecessary departments and duplicated jobs
 123. Reductions in bureaucracy and councillor's meetings.
 124. Trading of services to increase income.
 125. Don't know.
 126. The Council needs to concentrate on its core Services. It also needs to cut its staff by 15%, starting with those who spend the money (in my experience if there are not enough people to organise the spending, the budget doesn't get wasted) and those with PC job titles!
 127. Cut allowances for elected members.
 128. Two unitary authorities for Gloucestershire. We don't need seven councils with their contingents of councillors and duplication of departments and senior executives.
 129. Propose that the free concession for senior citizens is adjusted to half fare as for children, which it should have been from the very start. I state this as a person over 60 myself.
 130. By 'looking after' the town of Cheltenham and ensuring that it remains a desirable place to visit, the important area of tourism will look after itself. This in turn has a knock on effect to the local area in terms of protecting existing businesses and encouraging new ones to start up which in turn provides additional income to the Local Authority through Council taxes, etc.
 131. Print and send less paperwork/booklets through the post.
 132. Stop wasting money on unnecessary road "improvements". Leave things alone! Sort out basic council services.
 133. Make sure money is spent as if it is your own. Don't waste it on worthless projects for minorities. Spend efficiently and look to minimise administration costs and bureaucracy wherever possible.
 134. Cutting bureaucracy. Utilise a free thinking committee based forum.
 135. I had already answered question 4 before I reached this question. Support the events such as festivals; antique fairs, book and craft fairs in council venues. Pursue the conference trade again using council property.
 136. Streamlining paperwork, ensuring those employed by the council are effectively using their time...so systems are updated and run optimally. Rather than outdated systems and complacent staffing.
 137. The council should make sure that Cheltenham Spa remains the beautiful town it has made history with. Racing, Culture, The Everyman Theatre, Pittville Park including a full-time park ranger. The Playhouse. Tourism and the racing crowd need to be encouraged to continue with their culture. Let's not lose it. I think getting communities to do more for themselves: for example waste and recycling, those that have vehicles (most) should be encouraged to do their own recycling and waste management. It would make them think more about reducing waste.
 138. In the grand scheme of things this is a small saving. Moreover, the devil is in the detail. Further savings might be achievable by merging certain tasks & responsibilities with other councils and/or sub contracting functions. Chasing lost causes like attempting to make amends for poor recruitment, for example the High Court case against your previous C/E, smack of poor judgement at great expense to the council tax payer. Has consideration been given to any areas of expertise that could be 'sold' in the open market, for example providing an audit function to private sector companies? What further emphasis could there be in attracting central government & other grants, for example as inward investment inducements?
 139. None at the moment
 140. Cheltenham is a beacon of quality and elegance for all. I am always proud to show visitors around the town. I hope that there will not be any significant cut-backs on the cleaning, park maintenance etc to diminish these high standards, which lift the spirits of everyone, whether rich or poor.
 141. The council should not be funding those areas that either are already funded by, or should be the responsibility of central government. See answers to Q4 above.
 142. Give food vouchers instead of money for the unemployed

143. By encouraging more visitors to use the Park and Ride system, providing more bus services to enable residents to use the buses more to get to work and linking effectively with the railway station etc. This could reduce the number of cars in the town centre - all creating wear and tear on road surfaces and hours lost in queues and traffic jams. Increase car parking fees, except at the hospital. Put up shop rents particularly for any chain stores.
144. Educating people to recycle more efficiently could then reduce the waste collection to maybe once every 2 weeks? Cleaning out the roadside gulleys frequently could reduce the costs involved in flooding. Penalise the tenants in council houses for any damage they do to the homes instead of just repairing them (except for wear and tear)
145. Don't know
146. Make better use of voluntary services.
147. Get rid of all "non-jobs". Matters such as diversity management, etc are part of mainstream management and should not be used as separate functions/jobs. Concentrate on areas that add value. Get rid of "big brother" and "PC", return to a time where citizens are credited with common sense and outside reduce interference in everyday life.
148. less meetings and more action on all aspects of council responsibilities
149. Road cleaning and park maintenance should be carried out by offenders as community service or by those claiming job seekers benefits as a way to contribute something to the tax payer.
150. Important – moving Council offices from the town centre, out of this lovely old building – the Council offices do not need to be in the town centre. This building could then be used to enhance the town centre for good purpose, if the BC owns this building, it can then be sold. Cutting non-jobs =- a lot of council jobs have been created which are of no value to the community. Have “open to the public” gallery for Council committee meetings.
151. Cut out unnecessary paperwork.
152. Sell the Municipal offices
153. Reduce bureaucracy wherever possible
154. Changes to the pension scheme i.e. reduced funding, greater contributions from members to make comparable with private sector. Keep expenses claims down.
155. Cutting down on the amount of literature printed (leaflets etc)
156. Don't buy themselves new laptops, cut deadwood out, and stop all civic unnecessary jollies.
157. Freeze pay rises like most of the private sector.
158. I think there are many untapped artists and craft people in the town and its environs who would pay to display their work or allow a small commission to go to the council on sale of their work. This would both bring in money and benefit the community.
159. Cut bureaucracy and excessive work forces in offices of Council.
160. Stick to the core areas that affect the ability to generate wealth for the community
161. Pay less to local MPs.
162. Ditch Civic Pride.
163. No comments.
164. Can you profit from more plastic bottle/mobile phone recycling? Create charities for parks etc so people can fundraise?
165. Why don't you consider liaising with the Jobcentre Plus to see if all those people signing on could be used to some worthwhile effect such as street cleaning and thus give them some work experience and undertake tasks which could save the council money.
166. Reduce number of staff at council offices.
167. In the private sector there have been pay freezes and cuts in final pension salaries. I think it is wrong to expect those who have had these cuts to pay for pay increases and large pensions in the public sector.
168. There should be considerably less money wasted.
169. Increase car parking charges more. Increase single-ride bus fares (but maintain prices of the multi-ride tickets and concessions) Make the Brewery area a payable entry zone Use the racecourse/centaur more
170. The council should concern itself with core services.
171. Head count, bonuses, tight budgeting from basic needs, not a % added to last year.

172. Start by looking at home i.e. their own spending.
173. Try using volunteers for work in the parks and gardens. There are many people without garden space that would love to be able to spend time outdoors with a purpose. This also has the added bonus of creating friendships, camaraderie and community pride.
174. Abandon Civic Pride plans and concentrate on small improvements.
175. Councillors should work for free, they are volunteers.
176. Cut benefits encourage people to earn their own living.
177. Staff reductions.
178. Cost of service delivery is too high. When compared to other EU countries the UK / borough spend too much on conformance with non essential legislation. Positive stance needs to be taken on promoting Cheltenham to both business and tourism objectives.
179. Establishing more events and festival attractions under sponsorship. This will increase visitor numbers and therefore generate additional revenue to Cheltenham at marginal cost.
180. See above. Properly managed, carefully thought through and properly funded, the right strategy would mean that the things that are deemed as cut backs could be self generating.
181. I am regular visitor to the Everyman Theatre. It is essential that money should be allocated to them. This will help with local employment, tourism which builds on from other attractions in the area and entertainment within the Gloucestershire area.
182. How about cutting the wages? All other companies are doing it. Doncaster Council is a prime example as to how Council's should be run on a budget. Stop paying fat cats too much.
183. Use best practice methodologies defined by the Office of Government Commerce for effecting change to working culture, business processes and supporting business systems and technology. This focuses change on outcomes and benefits that are of strategic importance.
184. Cut more and more government jobs as soon as possible.
185. Municipal parties etc could be cut - councillors aren't supposed to be in it for the perks.
186. Focus on core services, arts and tourism
187. Free Bus Travel for those earning £50k plus.
188. Greater productivity from council employees by cutting number employed without cutting service.
189. Look carefully at long-term commitments not just short-term savings. Consider making the responsibility for some areas of parks and gardens a community project, under the direction of an experienced local authority gardener, saving some labour costs.
190. Pay freezes for any employee earning over £30,000; reducing pensions for highest paid employees both at present and for the future (if this is legally possible); put the Civic Pride scheme on hold for foreseeable future.
191. Street lighting.
192. Abandon generous pension schemes for police and public sector workers paid for out of budget.
193. Rather than just cutting admin it should also make sure the remaining admin and management are efficient, which in my experience is lacking in the public sector.
194. I am not in a position to be able to judge.
195. Switch of some street lights. Make lights on Roundabouts on only at peak times.
196. Efficiency of staff.
197. Reduce funding for the expenses of council members.
198. The clubs and public houses that contribute to the weekend late night disorder in the town should be taxed more heavily with the object of both of reducing the problem and providing funds to counteract the poor image that results.
199. The civic pride
200. Surely you have people who get paid to decide this. Surely the proposals if you wanted advice on them should be made public knowledge for a fair voting system. Does it really matter what we say. End of the day, the council tax goes up each year.
201. Fewer middle managers.
202. Not sure.
203. Ensure that the main services provide value for money.
204. Cutting some of the higher paid councillor's wages.

205. Get rid of all the excess staff - make them work harder and remove many of the benefits such as the pension scheme-don't pay commensurate salaries as private sector as you don't have anywhere near the same difficult jobs (you don't have to make sales).
206. Definitely not increasing parking charges as above as this will be self defeating. Reducing discretionary element of concessionary travel.
207. Increase council tax - the level of the charge is very low compared with other parts of the country and as a result services are poorer. Having moved here from Greater London in 2007 we have noticed the difference.
208. 1. See above, the top admin people are grossly overpaid. 2. Could cut down on the planting schemes and the hanging baskets, they are not to my taste at all I'm afraid. But we need to look after our trees. And above all keep the town litter free.
209. Reviewing public sector claim expenses, cutting down on red tape and reducing higher paid roles within the council that often overlap with other jobs.
210. Agree that revamping admin should be the first target
211. Better awareness of outcome measures for the whole range of services would lead to the least effective selecting themselves for reconsideration/scrapping.
212. Systematically examine all the activities of the Borough Council and ask the questions: "Is this activity really necessary? How much does it cost/save? What value does it deliver to the community?"
213. Joining up with neighbouring councils as much as possible to ensure economies of scale
214. Save money by changing Council workers` final salary pension schemes to one which pays out only that which is paid in. Generate money by encouraging new and small businesses, many of which serve the community and provide a more interesting mix of "attractions".
215. Management efficiencies
216. To ensure that sub-contractors and employees are productive, i.e. do not send two people out to do a one man job. The workforce's day must be carefully planned.
217. Increase car parking charges further- Recoup more money from the festivals.
218. Job training schemes for the unemployed that do some of the street and park maintenance work required.
219. Scaling down of publicly funded events.
220. Stop the use of the over 60's pass on park'n'ride buses.
221. Low energy heating / lighting.
222. Council workers in parks could be better supervised they spend a lot of time standing about or sitting in their trucks.
223. Can't imagine where there is fat to trim. Christmas lights are so poor perhaps we can scrap them altogether. Mayor and mayoress expenses could be reviewed along with all councillors. This is an activity being undertaken in many public offices however I ex
224. It seems that a lot of money has been spent on speed bumps, road narrowing, pavement widening etc. Is this really money well spent in the current climate?
225. the council could have umbrella vending machines around town - as well as street plan vending - with advertising - vending machines in public loos, I would be happy to pay or clean toilet facilities - at the moment many are unpleasant - opportunities he
226. Review those new services that have been started within the last 5 years are they absolutely necessary can we live without them?
227. There should be more residents parking which would come with a yearly fee. I have friends in Clarence Square who cannot park in their own road due to parking for the Brewery Centre, the residents parking should be extended into the evening.
228. Although I have commented earlier on the poor quality road surfacing, the council have, however, contrived to waste a considerable amount of money in unnecessary and often silly (for example Albert Road) road and pavement narrowing/widening.
229. Stop spending so much on consultants.
230. Impose fines where they are already stated. Too many people think the laws do not apply to them because they get away with it. Use community service for things such as street cleaning and improving parks to save money.
231. Changes to the pension arrangements to reduce council costs. Steps towards eliminating the councils liability for health and safety law suites.
232. Look to your supply chain. More focused tenders. Negotiate!

233. Some of the categories above are broad. I would be keen to see less money spent on focus groups and consultancy to decide on whether or not something is viable.
234. Cutting back on needless paperwork and red tape let common sense prevail.
235. Work more effectively with neighbouring councils, so reducing overlap.
236. The Council has to control its budget as tightly as if it was running a business that has to be profitable and is accountable to shareholders - i.e. if it was your money how efficiently would you take care of it.
237. Get rid of layers of management (usually 'men in suits' who have lots of pointless meetings...) who don't often contribute that much and put the money saved to the grassroots services
238. Expenses .
239. Not sure.
240. Pay freeze. Reducing energy bills inc street lighting and vehicle running costs.
241. Reduce business rates for start-ups.
242. Reduce number of Borough civil staff
243. Stop the amount of money spent on twinning schemes - which appear to be nothing more than an excuse for a jolly and, in my opinion, bring little benefit to the town. Ensure that consultation with other bodies /organisations is done via computer or telephone.
244. Reducing carbon emissions and expenditure by using bio fuels. Some similar councils are using bio diesel and making financial reductions of this scale without other cuts.
245. Cut some of the over-bearing, nonsensical outreach programmes.
246. supporting bus travel - though accept central gov initiative, increase parking fines
247. Not sure.
248. Tighter control on the distribution of housing benefit. Young unemployed people should do council work for their housing benefit checks e.g. gardening, elderly care street sweeping
249. Not pursuing hopeless cases through expensive legal court action - they just make the legal profession much richer than they already are. Not stashing away money in foreign banks that should have been spent on services.
250. Don't know.
251. If the council can cut management and admin costs now - why didn't it do so before? It must reduce its scope of activity - or increase its income generating activities. Raising council taxes does not increase council productivity.
252. Maybe cut the cost of travel by employees, using other transport rather than cars, or car sharing. Also become more efficient with your expenses to reduce them in all areas.
253. I said that the above should have less money spent on promoting them because it is already done at national level anyway, children who are tomorrows adults should be targeted at school to promote health and fitness. There should be much more sport and activities.
254. Privatise everything. Council should not be the provider and customer at the same time.
255. Make people pay more realistic fees for additional services
256. Avoid duplication of resource and effort in all areas. All bonuses should be avoided unless nominal and sensible. Plans should be long term and based on a constructive way forward - not influenced by politics.
257. Promoting tourism
258. Street lighting,
259. Savings: Checking that contracts are carried out correctly and at more competitive prices. E.g. pavement and road surfacing. Road alterations. All similar works contracts. Using council staff more imaginatively in times such as snow or flood.
260. Rather than increasing income, use powers to make offenders pay for their crimes in community work. The newspapers report every week that people are convicted in absence which means that they have got away with their crimes.
261. I would recommend that reductions be made in areas where one might expect the towns' residents personally to support voluntary community activities and also those aspects of age related benefits.
262. Pay freeze for everyone paid more than £35 000. Freeze all allowances for elected members.
263. Stop wasting money on enquiries into mismanagement.

264. Incorporate Pupil Referral Services into schools, in separate units within the school premises.
265. Increase license fees for clubs and bars that cause nuisance.
266. Do not know enough of the detail of the council to comment.
267. As outlined above in giving tourism greater prominence in the strategy the spin off effects for income generation, attracting and promoting business, etc.
268. No further comment.
269. Management and admin costs are the key area.
270. encourage voluntary groups to help- e.g. in Wales I know of a 'tidy town team' who help keep the area tidy and work on small projects such as painting railings and keeping footpaths clear. Also make shop keepers more responsible for keeping pavements outside.
271. This is really badly worded & is impossible to answer authoritatively without more information.
272. Stop planting pre-grown plants in the gardens and then digging them up the next season. Stupidly unsustainable. Plant perennials or, better, wildflowers.
273. Payment for excesses waste collection and lack of recycling.
274. Improve efficiency further looking at all areas of the Council – including how efficiently staff are using their time – and the Council's other contracts which could be revisited for further savings following renegotiation.
275. Grants. Giving away part of the council's income to a number of causes cannot be considered to be a right unless there is a positive comeback. The suggested support for The Everyman will be paid back by the custom it generates.
276. wages freeze on all employees- as we have had in the "private sector"
277. Stop putting road calming bumps everywhere for a start. How much does that cost? Look at travel costs e.g. if County Councillors need to go to London go on National express-last year I travelled to London by rail at a cost of £150 when I could have done the job.
278. Reduce the size of management offices and lease accommodation to third parties in Municipal offices.
279. Reducing its spend on public sector pensions, recruiting staff on a defined contribution rather than a crippling defined benefit pension scheme.
280. Perhaps Blue Badge wardens should pay a "one off" parking fee of, say, £2 to park vehicles in CBC car parks.
281. Don't know
282. Refuse licences to bars & clubs, reducing the street cleaning bill (less vomit and chewing gum). Make fast food outlets responsible for a given area around premises, with heavy fines for those who fail to control litter.
283. I would recommend, if legally possible, progressively increasing the G band and maybe to a lesser extent the F band of Council tax relative to the other bands and devoting the additional sum raised to specific improvements in Cheltenham that are voted on by G and F band council tax payers. These would have to be improvements that cannot be funded at present. I would recommend launching charities for specific improvements to the Cheltenham environment and a campaign to raise funding this way. There are plenty of wealthy people in Cheltenham who would support good initiatives that are of a more discretionary nature such as specific projects relating to parks and gardens, protecting and enhancing the borough's environment, arts and culture, sport and healthy living, civic pride. Many would also support specific actions to reduce carbon emissions, though one would not want to dilute the Council's responsibility on this.

Q6.

Do you have any comments on the charges the council makes for its services?

149 responses were received to this question – several people commented that they did not understand the question and would have liked some examples. Of the responses received, the following were most common:

- Car parking charges are too high
- Costs should be cut at the Municipal Offices
- Most respondent thought charges were generally fair.

1. Seem okay
2. Car parking charges are high; however you don't make bus services affordable for occasional shoppers/users of the town centre. Why not reduce weekend bus fares (or influence it if you don't have control) or work to provide a concession scheme for CBC residents shopping?
3. I'm not sure what this question means.
4. No, I'm not sure what the question is really asking.
5. Council tax too high!
6. I have no problem
7. No as we do not know any of them!
8. If residents can see that spending has a positive effect on the town, improved infrastructure, increased spending by non residents etc I am sure that an increase in Council Tax would be tolerated.
9. Why are the roads and roadside furniture in Hesters Way, the area where the largest portion of the population is in receipt of benefits and subsidised council tax, in relatively good condition whilst the rest of the town is like a bomb site.
10. Danger! Keep putting up charges force people away fro shopping in Cheltenham town centre.
11. Parking charges are quite high and the racecourse park and ride is no incentive since if 2 people in the same car park at the racecourse, it is more costly than parking for 3hrs in town!
12. The town centre parking charges should be dropped to match that of Bath Road car park. This way, people will be more interested in shopping in Cheltenham spending more money here. This in turn would encourage traders back into the town - not just to Bath Road! Also, the Albion Street car park charges are astronomical in relation to the shabby and ill-kept/managed building.
13. Cut MPs expenses.
14. Not at present.
15. As council tax increases, efficiency of services should be maintained. Frequency and reliability of refuse collection should not be allowed to reduce.
16. N/a
17. The charges are about right but if necessary could be raised slightly.
18. Car parking charges are driving people away and consequently the town centre shops are paying the price.
19. Not qualified to comment
20. I believe they are high because they are inefficient.
21. The overwhelming opinion is that too much of each pound goes on admin and perks that go with it and not on the front line. Managers don't manage effectively and if they were in the private sector, most wouldn't have a job. Why? Because their idea of cuts , is taking away value from the front line not middle management or high ranking employees who make in effective decisions. What the public wants is value for money. If we pay more, then let that reflect in the services, make them visible so the public can see for themselves.
22. Not as such but I do object to funding council workers pensions. I can't afford to buy a pension so I don't see why I have to pay for someone else's.
23. Charge for street waste collection where people over use the service or start 2 weekly collections or have larger street bins rather than collect from each house. This works well in other countries.
24. No
25. On the whole acceptable
26. They should all be made fairer by restructuring them so that people pay for what they actually use according to what they can afford.
27. It should focus on revenue generation from Tourism, Arts and Local Business Growth.
28. Yes - too high
29. Need more visible police officers
30. My council tax is outrageous considering you don't even take plastics for recycling.
31. Reasonable charge for my band C property.
32. Don't understand the question. What charges?
33. We're lucky things don't cost more.
34. Is it enough and is it spent wisely?

35. No particular comments
36. Resident's parking permits should be issued to residents as a matter of course.
37. no comment.... says it all
38. No - I wasn't really aware there were charges
39. Would prefer bi-weekly rubbish collections rather than pay for green bag garden collections.
40. The benefits for single people are unfair. 20% discount is not enough of a discount.
41. Taxes are high for services which seem no greater than poorer boroughs.
42. when the council waste so much money on court cases they can never win and management quangos they don't need.....then we can talk about services
43. About right.
44. No services unless Council taxes paid
45. No, if you gave some examples I might find it easier to answer the question.
46. As ever, waste contractors seem to be unable to work when everyone else manages. Other than that ...
47. People in rural areas of the borough receive very poor value for money as they consume relatively fewer services
48. Cheltenham is not run very well. Changes need to be made on the priorities. Scroungers come top of the list these days. Decent people are left to their own devices.
49. I live just in the Cotswolds borough council so no comment
50. 1) Should not be charging people over retiring age.
2) Parking charges are a joke - there should be no charge for parking after 18:00 anywhere. The dispute over The Playhouse area in Bath Road is a prime example/ Friends of mine refuse to enter the town centre for evening entertainment because of the parking fees.
51. From my own personal perspective, I gladly pay the council tax to maintain public services. I have usually found council employees helpful and cheerful (with a few exceptions, although you can't buck human nature).
52. Parking fees are too high and erratically employed, i.e. not free on Sunday as are other towns in the area.
53. N/a
54. We pay council tax for refuse collectors who won't pick up anything outside of the bins!! (What about those 'good old days' when they would gladly lift anything into the vehicle. It seems national pride has died out). Car parking...is it a wonder people steer clear of town when it costs so much to park! At least Gloucester have realised that reducing their parking along the docks means more people will park there thus spending more money."
55. I think the council works hard in trying to keep expenses as low as possible, however I feel the differences between the salary scales need to be addressed. Why should management earn big salaries and receive huge expenses when the workers are struggling to maintain their homes.
56. I think the charges are very reasonable. We all need to help pay for the services we all demand
57. About right
58. About right
59. Yes, they are extortionate considering the poor services that are provided. I.e. refuse and recycling, local highway maintenance.
60. Always overcharged and never see the impact of monies/taxes.
61. About right
62. One likes to see evidence of the money being put to good use e.g. maintaining roads.
63. fine
64. High for what services I use but that is not to say that all services supplied are not of use to the greater population of Cheltenham.
65. No. Charges are generally reasonable.
66. Continually look for more effective ways of providing exiting services, and check that they are still needed, and impacting upon sufficient members of the community
67. poll tax way over what you get for it - especially single parents working
68. You are probably wasting a lot of that money regardless of what you say.
69. On Harthurstfield Park the only service we have is refuse collection
70. Above I have ticked that I think that the council should reduce spending on promoting tourism. My reason behind this is that Cheltenham is a very cultured place and is packed

with tourists and therefore Cheltenham does not need promoting. I do not agree that the Council need to spend money on such things, when money could be spend else where and more wisely. Cheltenham as a place promotes it's self and what we have to offer brings the tourists. Businesses who want stand out and succeed should be supported by the council.

71. reasonable
72. As parking charges extend to 8.00 the Council must admit that parking charges are a money raising activity and not preventing congestion. There should not be any extra charges for recycling what ever type it is.
73. CBC's seem OK.
74. Why, when a request is made for pest control (wasp nests etc.), is the first question "Do you own your house?" We pay our council tax to cover council services, and there should be no discrimination between owner-occupiers and council tenants in these matters. These charges are, in any case, too high for the few minutes' work which is involved.
75. Parking charges should not be perceived as an easy way to make money. It costs in terms of bad feeling and discouraging trade from the town centre. Further pedestrianisation should also be reconsidered as it may reduce traffic into town.
76. Too much indirect expenditure.
77. No comment except to say the charges made should go a long way to meeting the costs involved. One small thought; does the cemetery department charge a much higher fee to non-residents of Cheltenham using the burial services? This should not be applied, however, to former residents of the borough who had paid council tax previously and have then moved to a care home or to live with their family outside of the borough. As much as a multiple of 300% should be applied but not to the crematorium service; that could increase its revenue by raising its costs of memorialisation more than the rate of inflation.
78. In the bigger scheme of things it is not that much for the majority of middle to high end incomes in this area.
79. N/A.
80. I do not believe they represent value for money. Services are regularly cut or provided at a reduced/inferior level but the opposite seems to be true of many overheads, for example staff salaries & associated pension liabilities. How can this be in the best interests of the council tax payer? And where is the remotest justification at this time for any increase to our council tax charge, let alone one of 2.5%?
81. All charges are excellent value for money and increases should be considered to help improve services. Any political discomfort that may be felt due to the reaction of some people who believe everything should be free will be short lived. People adjust to increases fairly quickly and as long as any increase in cost is matched by an increase in the availability and quality of services there will be long term support.
82. Seems fair enough at present.
83. Wasting tax-payers money – be accountable. As I understand it – why did the Council invest our tax money abroad and now lost money in Iceland? No wonder the Council will be putting up the BC tax. The staff who were involved in this action should be accountable.
84. Service seems ok
85. No comment.
86. I believe that if money is well spent and invested wisely and people can see the results then the charges made can be justified. (clean streets, good roads, good recycling services, responsive and visual policing, high maintenance and standards in public parks and investment in worthy services like the theatres, libraries and public buildings (Pittville)
87. Would prefer a one-off charge for Council tax, sewerage and water - again less paperwork reduces time and excessive workload
88. They are justifiable
89. They should give value for money.
90. Stop charging for parking between 6 and 8pm. It puts off people who want to come in for a meal or a show
91. Cheltenham's parks and gardens are a credit to the town and genuinely bring pleasure to thousands of people, myself included. In the summer, in particular, they provide a real lift. Please do not reduce the funding for our wonderful parks and gardens.
92. the majority as always subsidise too many of the idle minority who won't work

93. Fair
94. Not high enough
95. As visitors to Cheltenham, we are reasonably happy with the services provided.
96. Funding needs to be less politically or party motivated and be more people motivated.
97. We pay our community charge for services/policing but where is the wow factor? The Everyman provides this, its time to give the people something for their money that they can enjoy.
98. A reduction in administrative costs should be welcomed.
99. Cut more management jobs.
100. Majority of residents do not feel value for money is achieved
101. Do not confuse not for profit with being efficient and good value for money.
102. The charges seem fair and proportionate to me.
103. Some are OK
104. In most cases a moderate increase in charges accompanied by efficiency savings are justified. The whole country must learn that uncontrolled spending based on borrowing is actually bad for everyone.
105. As stated above, Cheltenham borough increases each year seem to be at the higher level compared to most in the country, and little improvements seem to come from it. It was certainly a nice place to live in years ago!
106. Generally well balanced
107. Large police presence is seen during race week, this should be subsidised by the race goers not the local people.
108. About the right charges for the services provided.
109. They are not unreasonable.
110. You need to reduce costs not increase charges - get in the real world
111. No comment. No experience.
112. Generally the council charges are too high, crippling not only rate payers but businesses too. When business overheads are too high this reduces their ability to provide employment. The increasing numbers of empty shops in the town tells its own story.
113. I think the charges are high but most of the services provided are of very high quality.
114. Of course we would all like lower bills, however if the spend reporting is completely transparent then at least people can challenge with an informed opinion and perhaps feel less annoyed by increases.
115. It is infuriating when you contact areas of the council, for example refuse collection and you are treated in a very offhand manner. There is certainly no indication that you are actually a customer who is, in whatever manner, paying for a service and n
116. I think you run a lovely town, thanks for all your hard work.
117. Roads & pavements as already noted.
118. To increase the Park 'n' ride charges now means that it is cheaper to take your car (2 adults 2 children) into the town centre and park. A bit self defeating!!
119. To date I have been entirely satisfied with the council services delivered, in general very good, courteous service. My only irritation has been the year on year above inflation rises, only in the last couple of years does the situation seem to have stabilised.
120. Charges would be reasonable if the services were efficiently delivered. Currently they are not.
121. No particular comments
122. N/A.
123. I think we have good value for money
124. As long as paying delivers an efficient, well controlled service then I'm happy to pay.
125. be more efficient
126. Get the county council to spend more of our money in Cheltenham
127. People should be encouraged to come into the town especially in the evenings for the theatres, cinemas and restaurants. The car parking should be free after 6.00pm.
128. I live in an ex council house in Leckhampton, I believe that the bin men take considerably less care on this part of the round than on the private houses route.
129. Stop paying out huge fees to Consultants - if the employees can't come up with the answers, they shouldn't be employed by the council
130. Good value for money

- 131. Only that if the council makes these charges then I would expect the service to match the charges given. Making sure the job is done well.
- 132. I do think they are fair and could be marginally higher to be more realistic as the business sector charges for service.
- 133. I would be happier if I did not feel money was wasted by poor management. It is frustrating to see poor organisation and workmanship which pushes costs up.
- 134. Paying to recycle green waste is a green tax and not conducive to recycling. Any form of waste disposal should be free (including big rubbish) as this will reduce fly tipping.
- 135. I am not qualified to judge.
- 136. About right.
- 137. Car parking is, in my opinion, at an inappropriately high level. Cheaper parking would only encourage more people to visit the town. Perhaps a weekly "rover" car parking pass would be an idea. (A permit that would allow you to park in any town car park).
- 138. Generally reasonable
- 139. Car parking charges are stupidly high.
- 140. I live just in the Cotswolds borough council so no comment
- 141. I think the parking charges are too high.
- 142. keep up weekly litter collections
- 143. I'm happy paying for the services if and when they're reasonable. I don't want to pay for the Everyman's closed-minded, classist, anachronistic, self-censored rubbish.
- 144. I have always found these to be fair.
- 145. Businesses should pay fully for the services that they use especially bars and restaurants requiring additional services. However, there should be no charge for services for the common good e.g. recycling.
- 146. I am strongly against charging for any services that are necessary for the common good, such as the proposal last year to charge for recycling. I also think that businesses in Cheltenham should pay fully for the special costs they contribute. For example, bars and nightclubs should pay fully for the costs of the related policing and cleaning up of the borough if they do not pay already.
- 147. Charge nightclubs a town management fee as soon as possible.
- 148. Despite the complaints re: extending the on-street parking charges, this needs to happen ASAP!
- 149. Not if spent sensibly. The Christine Laird farce, unwise investments and trams going nowhere useful are all destroying your credibility.

Q7.

Do you agree with the plans to support the Everyman theatre by way of a £1m loan with interest plus a £250k grant?

		%
Yes	945	98
No	19	2
	964	

- 1. Yes (x 130)
- 2. Absolutely (x 8)
- 3. Yes, the Everyman is an all-year-round focal point for the town – particularly at festival time.
- 4. Yes – we need our arts whatever happens!
- 5. Yes, but it would be better if the Everyman was more experimental.
- 6. Yes completely! Cheltenham is a rich and vibrant town because of its arts. We need to do everything we can to support them.
- 7. Yes I believe it is essential to continue the support of the arts and the historic buildings in our town,
- 8. Absolutely, there is precious little in the way of Arts in the area as it is.
- 9. Yes. The Everyman is the main cultural venue in Cheltenham and should be supported. It provides the people of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire with the opportunity to enjoy and experience a wide range of performances, which otherwise would not be able to be seen in the town.

10. Definitely. The Theatre is losing revenue as many patrons no longer attend due to uncomfortable seating - cramped in some areas. Also the current seating means views can easily be blocked if a tall person is seated in front of a small person. The new plans allow for staggered seating - so better views for all. If the refurbishment cannot go ahead then numbers will continue to fall - the theatre will fall further into disrepair - and its future contribution to Cheltenham's attraction will decline further.
11. Yes - the building is an important part of Cheltenham's heritage and must be protected.
12. Yes. Only professional Theatre for miles needs refurbishment.
13. Yes I do it is a great theatre and should be supported. We need the culture and the live shows instead of living in an instant turn the know world
14. Very much so, it's an excellent attraction, having both cultural and educational benefits. I have been a theatre goer in Cheltenham for over 40 years; I am delighted that the plans to support the theatre are being realized.
15. Yes. The Everyman is an integral part of Cheltenham's history and cultural being and should be preserved for the present and the future
16. Yes, as it brings in a lot of revenue to the town
17. The Everyman theatre is part of the town's heritage as an important building as well as a cultural resource for local people - therefore, I do agree with the plans to support the theatre.
18. Yes I believe that our Theatre is the envy of many towns and significantly enhances the Quality of life, not only to Cheltenham but also to Gloucestershire.
19. Yes - the Everyman is a very important local landmark and provides a valuable centre for entertainment to the local and visiting community. Money needs to be spent now to return the building and its facilities to an acceptable standard. Delaying investment will result in greater cost later.
20. Very important to stimulate the theatre which is an attraction to the area and provides a boost to the local and regional economy. The more discerning of local residents like it as well!
21. The Everyman is one of the key assets not only in the culture of the town but also in attracting people to the town. It is vital that it is kept up to scratch and that means periodically a refurbishment. This refurbishment is necessary now and important to support.
22. Yes. Just give them the cash, no loan... come on this is part of Cheltenham's heritage, if the Council don't help, how on earth can the theatre find donations to the tune of keeping it safe and open?
23. Yes I agree with the plans
24. Yes, whole-heartedly.
25. I believe the Everyman theatre should be supported in every way. The theatre has an extremely strong reputation within the theatre and arts industry in the UK and reflects well on the community. People must understand that while high-quality shows are not cheap, their value to the community is multiplied many times over in the economic benefits to the community.
26. Yes I agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre.
27. I think that the loan to the Everyman Theatre should be supported as it brings money in to the Town. We need to invest in the future of the town or it will die.
28. I agree with these plans. The Everyman Theatre is a vital cultural amenity and is important in helping the local economy.
29. Yes... the Everyman is a vital link between the local community and the wider arts field and is a essential element of the Cheltenham festival scene which brings in much revenue from outside the area
30. Yes. This is one of Cheltenham's most distinguished contributions to the arts and should be supported now before costs go up and further deterioration comes about.
31. Yes....The Everyman theatre is one of the pillars of Cheltenham including high street and a higher standard of housing. Our reputation must be protected and enhanced as a cultural and arts area to compete with Bristol. Bristol may have size but we must have quality and exclusivity.
32. The Everyman Theatre is an excellent cultural facility which with the appropriate funding could enhance Cheltenham and bring in more visitors supporting the local restaurants, bars, etc.

33. Yes, wholeheartedly. The Everyman is an important piece of architecture in the town. There has been a vast improvement in its shows recently which serve the local community well and brings in visitors to the town which in turn benefits businesses such as restaurants, shops and hotels. If the theatre were to decline it would be a great loss to the town especially as Cheltenham is seen as an 'entertaining' town due to its other important feature, namely the Festivals.
34. I do, the Theatre is one of the towns treasures and should not be allowed to deteriorate.
35. The Everyman Theatre is a fantastic example of a thriving provincial theatre and is a big draw for the town. Please support its upcoming restoration in the form of the loan and grant of £1,250,000 so that its standards may be maintained.
36. The Everyman is a very important asset to the town of Cheltenham and the larger community in this part of Gloucestershire. This fine theatre needs to be maintained properly to ensure that it can still meet the needs of the community and attract the high quality entertainment it provides for the whole population of the area. The range from pantomime to dance , opera and everything in between provides for the cultural needs of the people and despite the current recession we still need to invest in places like this for the future generations to enjoy proper live entertainment
37. Yes, the theatre draws many people into Cheltenham and higher footfall helps car park revenue, pubs, restaurants etc.
38. I support the Everyman's bid to secure restoration funding.
39. Yes - it is needed for the festivals which bring revenue in to the town.
40. Yes totally- a very worthwhile asset to the community at large- we are regular members of ETA.
41. Yes to the loan, - but how on earth are they going to repay it? No to the grant. We need that grant money for community and voluntary groups that benefit the less well off people in this town who don't get the opportunity to even look through the doors of the Everyman! It's not free to attend shows, and the concessions are still very expensive for low income families.
42. Yes I do - the Everyman is a key part of the local economy - attracting visitors and helping local tourism and the local evening economy. It is Gloucestershire's main theatre and has been in need of attention for some time - it certainly needs help to ensure its continued development and growth. More importantly, as a building the Council owns, the Council has a fundamental duty to care for their historic theatre which has been classified by experts as of national importance. The Council will get their money back, with interest, so local people won't loose out in any way and will gain a newly restored Theatre which is important to the region's arts, culture and economy. I hope the Council and Councillors won't balk at giving the Theatre the loan and grant, by being swayed by those who'll oppose this on the grounds that other things should take priority. It makes economic sense to give the money to the Everyman, to ensure that a vital part of the town's culture continues. If not, the Everyman scheme won't proceed as they'll have difficulty raising that kind of cash from other sources. Morally, and as a statutory body the Council should be ensuring that such an important local building is preserved and enhanced. For too long, the Theatre has had standstill funds from the Council and little other financial help - surely it's time they helped out, even in these difficult times. It's certainly the Theatre's turn for help from the Council. Part of their scheme is a three year programme of activities, engaging with local communities and disadvantaged groups, so a diverse range of people will be helped by the scheme - not just theatre goers. Plus, the majority of the money is a loan with interest - so the Council will effectively make money from the loan. Local residents certainly won't lose out!!
43. Yes. The Everyman is an important asset to the town, attracting people to Cheltenham with a spin-off to local shops and restaurants.
44. Yes, I agree with the support for the Everyman theatre. The Everyman provides a very wide range of services within it organisation and from what I have experienced good value for money.
45. Yes, as theatres can seldom be totally self supporting it is appropriate to give support if it can be afforded!
46. Bloody right I do.
47. Yes, yes and yes!
48. Absolutely. It is a scandal that the theatre which is so well used should be overlooked for so many years.

49. We need to keep this special part of Cheltenham's heritage
50. Yes I do agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre. It provides employment, brings culture and entertainment to the town and serves the community through an outreach programme that includes the Youth Theatre. There will always be pressing demands on the council and financial constraints but The Everyman sits geographically and culturally at the heart of the town serving tourists and locals alike.
51. Yes, I agree most heartily with this plan.
52. Absolutely! The Everyman is a huge boon, both to the local community, and Gloucestershire as a whole. If it were allowed to wither and die for want of this necessary finance, the artistic life of the county would be dealt a severe blow. The Everyman boasts a magnificent auditorium, but the facilities within are very poor. The seating is hopelessly cramped, the public spaces far too small. As our expectations as to levels of comfort rise, I fear that, without these necessary improvements, the public will simply stop going, we will lose a thriving theatre and Cheltenham will be much the poorer for it. Please support our beloved Everyman.
53. As long as the Everyman pays its way regarding the lease for the building once renovation is complete. Not sure that current programme at Everyman justifies very much "artistic" subsidy - issue seems to be critical mass of seats rather than attractiveness of theatre.
54. Yes, the theatre greatly contributes to my life in Cheltenham.
55. Absolutely. The Everyman Theatre is an essential part of Cheltenham life. Without maintaining and improving the building and internal facilities and comfort, its attendance will drop and the building (a CBC asset) lose value. In addition, the Council gains significant revenue from parking and the town's retail, catering and hotel businesses benefit from purchases by theatre goers, many from outside Cheltenham. As the proposed £1m loan is interest bearing, this is not a cost to the Council. The proposed grant of £250k is a small commitment to benefit the Council's freehold asset value and support the direct and indirect income to the theatre and the retail business community which will otherwise reduce over the coming years.
56. Absolutely - a very important theatre in need of an update which will increase its popularity and bring in more tourist trade.
57. Yes. I think the Everyman is an important asset to the town and it provides good value for money. Without the theatre Cheltenham will become a second rate town with regards to Arts and entertainment. The Arts enrich people's lives in many ways and provide a huge amount of enjoyment for locals and visitors. It acts as an additional attraction for tourists to the area. In fact more money should be invested in creating other Art venues in Cheltenham, which the town is sadly lacking.
58. Yes the theatre is an asset to Cheltenham.
59. Yes - I live near Cirencester and it is my local theatre which I use often. It would be sorely missed if it shut.
60. Yes it is a centre of cultural excellence and supported County wide. As a town we are renowned for the Arts and it is one of the biggest attractions for visitors from far and wide. As the building is owned by the Council it is in their own interest to see that this historical and much loved building does not fall into severe disrepair. In the past greater sums have been spent on projects nowhere as worthy as this.
61. The presents of the Everyman Theatre adds to the character of the town it is a building with historic content. It is well worth while maintaining.
62. I fully support the Everyman Theatre and totally agree with plans to support the Theatre by way of a loan and grant.
63. I feel very strongly that the Everyman Reachout Scheme has been a great success for the community. Many people who would not have otherwise been included or interested in Theatre and 'The Theatre' have found a new and enjoyable aspect to life. We all know that in difficult times like this, anything to give people a lift is priceless, for all ages. I love living in Cheltenham and am impressed by its pride in itself. Buildings and institutions like the Everyman are a constantly reassuring reminder of how lucky we are to live here.
64. Yes. The theatre is a major factor in the cultural life of our town, and attracts many visitors.
65. Yes whole heartedly.
66. Yes, my husband and 4 friends attend at least 6 shows per year bringing spending to the town.

67. I am from Worcestershire and appreciate having the opportunity to see good quality entertainment within 50 mins travelling distance. I agree with this plan, having been to see comedians, poets and drama at the Everyman - I think tourism from outsiders like me must help boost income to Cheltenham from the revenue generated by parking charges, restaurant visits, etc, every time I visit the theatre.
68. Yes, the Everyman is a draw to Cheltenham for many and must bring much business into the town.
69. Yes, we need to refurbish the Theatre as it is a lovely building and a much needed facility for the town and surrounding area.
70. I support the Everyman Theatre application.
71. The Everyman is a historic building which provides a valuable resource for the whole area and is an attraction to tourists who visit Gloucestershire. The theatre undoubtedly requires restoration and improvement, and this would encourage more people to use the facilities provided.
72. Yes but I think that the grant should be increased. The everyman is a unique resource and draws a lot of people into the county.
73. Yes. The auditorium is getting tired and investment should happen before it is too late.
74. Yes I do agree, living in Gloucester I travel to Cheltenham to go to the Everyman on a regular basis. We do not have a proper theatre in Gloucester so it covers a wide catchment area, whilst visiting the theatre we also visit the shops and restaurants so boosting the local economy. The theatre desperately needs renovation work so it can delight audiences from a wide area for years to come.
75. The Everyman Theatre is a valuable asset not only to Cheltenham but also to the whole area. It attracts a range of Arts and Cultural events as well as a wide variety of theatrical experiences. These need to be enhanced and developed because without them the whole area will be poorer. Easy access to this range of unique experiences for all age groups but especially the young should be a priority of any local council with such a good facility within its town.
76. Yes absolutely, The Everyman Theatre is an asset to our town. Apart from the excellent theatre offerings on the main stage the Reachout Programme (working with schools and colleges) plus the events in the Studio are well worth applauding. How can we allow this lovely historically important building go to rack and ruin because of failure to invest in it's upkeep
77. I think that the Everyman is a valuable resource which needs to be supported. Both in terms of entertainment and its educational services, it is an important feature of Cheltenham that should be supported.
78. Yes to maintain status of Cheltenham as spa town residents deserve access to local professional theatre where prices make it easily accessible to all residents within the town.
79. I think it is important that this plan is supported. The Everyman is a fundamental part of the city centre. It attracts trade to the city and gives back great pleasure.
80. Yes it essential to keep the Everyman for employment, promotion of young people in the arts, the towns own enjoyment and also for our civic pride
81. Yes. Although not a Cheltenham resident I do agree that the Council is right to support the Everyman theatre with £1 million loan and a grant of £250k. As well as being a listed building the theatre presently provides a valuable contribution to the cultural life of Cheltenham and the surrounding area which needs to be preserved so that future generations may continue to enjoy good theatrical productions.
82. Most definitely. The Everyman is a gem for theatregoers in Gloucestershire plus it also does an enormous amount of valuable community and youth activities. It is essential that it is maintained in a state that will attract people.
83. This must be a priority for Cheltenham. For too long the building has been neglected, and it has been kept going only because of the dedicated people who support the theatre. My daughters used the Everyman Youth Theatre for six years and I am sure it helped them develop into responsible, thoughtful and positive individuals (now both at Medical School). The work the Everyman does with young people is a jewel within a brilliant crown that Cheltenham should be proud of. The loan is so important in terms of ensuring that Cheltenham remains a place we can all be proud of, a place that visitors will want to come to again and again.
84. Yes the Everyman is a very important Asset and should be helped where possible

85. Yes. It is an important building in Cheltenham and provides an important educational service.
86. Yes. God knows we need culture. It attracts tourism and proves that Cheltenham is serious about the Arts. Yes they need support.
87. Yes - seating is poor and uncomfortable. The last performance we attended it was so painful (lack of legroom and hard seats) we decided not to go again.
To enjoy a performance, one needs to be comfortable.
88. Absolutely yes... Excellent venue for local entertainment , keep your arcades, TV's and films , real entertainment within a reasonable distance. Don't make us travel across the country when we can spend our money locally. I enjoy live entertainment and it's a tradition we must support.
89. Absolutely a must do if you want to maintain Cheltenham's prestigious connections with the arts – only a fool would ignore this gift to the people of Gloucestershire.
90. We live in Minchinhampton we have been coming to the theatre for nearly 30 years and we feel that this support is needed to continue it into the future for the enjoyment and education of the next generation.
91. Most definitely. As this is a loan and will be repaid with interest it will not cost anything but bring in income. The Everyman is very important to the town. It has a good and varied programme and it a lovely theatre-but it does need money spending on it. We go to the Everyman about 6-7 times a year-not including when it is used during the Literary Festival- and always have a meal in the town. We would not come into the town at night otherwise. We must not forget how important our theatres are just because money is tight.
92. Yes, very much. The town centre needs more than awful warehouse pubs.
93. Yes, Yes and Yes. Great asset to the town.
94. Yes, I fully support the plans to support the Everyman theatre with a loan and grant. The theatre is a really valuable assist to the town and brings entertainment, education and fun to children and adults across the county. It proves its worth by the quality of the shows that it draws here. The town and county would be sadly lacking without the professional theatre that the Everyman provides.
95. Yes. Why isn't there a comparable question asking if I approve of the additional £2m proposed to be spent on the Museum and Art Gallery.
96. I strongly support this action. I believe that the theatre is a great asset to the town and is unique in this area. It also enriches the lives of many people from both Cheltenham and the surrounding areas.
97. Absolutely ...the everyman is a major feature of the town and deserves every support
98. Yes I do. The theatre is a worthy institution that is widely appreciated by people from all walks of life in the region. It brings people into town and enables them to meet and share experiences, if they so wish.
99. Yes, this is a key part of Cheltenham and adds great value to the area!
100. I wish to state that there are many people who want to support the Everyman Theatre and feel that the Theatre is an important asset to the town. It brings children and adults from outlying towns and tourists to see the variety of productions of plays, ballets, musical shows and pantomimes and a number talks by authors using the Everyman Theatre for the Cheltenham Literature Festival. The Everyman desperately needs to secure the remainder of the money so we can restore the historic auditorium and renovate the foyers. If we are to attract visitors from London and beyond to come to see the Cheltenham Literature and Science Festivals we need to be able to present a quality venue. I frequent the Everyman Theatre and have asked my friends who also attend to be in touch with the Cheltenham Borough Council.
101. Yes - this is an important resource for Cheltenham and should be supported.
102. Yes, a theatre such as the Everyman is essential to the culture of Cheltenham. The City of Bath strongly supported the Theatre Royal in Bath - we need to do the same.
103. Yes, do support the theatre with this loan.
104. Yes. The Everyman is a fine example of a building and of a provider of entertainment and culture within the town. It is important for everyone, especially young people, to have the opportunity to see live theatre, in an age where the seduction of computerised entertainment can, instead, serve to dumb people down rather than inspire them to think and reflect.

105. Yes we need this for local families to enjoy nights out not everyone can get to out of town theatres
106. Absolutely, it's a magnificent building, quite incredible.
The festivals are pivotal to the cultural Mecca that is Cheltenham & the Everyman is a vital part of that. What a fabulous building, lets keep it really excellent condition.
107. Yes, this is exactly the kind of thing the Council should be doing. The theatre is a central part of the town centre and brings many great shows to the town. My fiancée is a member of CODS, the amateur dramatics society based in the town, and their show at the Everyman in June is a highlight for literally hundreds of the society members' friends and family. Every show at the theatre brings many visitors from far afield which brings prosperity to many local businesses.
108. I support funding for the Arts. They add to the quality of life and mark Cheltenham out from other towns of a similar size.
109. Yes, I think it is very important to support the Everyman Theatre. Cheltenham has a good reputation in the field of the Arts - think of the music and literature festivals. To allow the Everyman theatre to decay so it had to be closed would be an awful thing to happen.
110. Yes, the Everyman brings trade to the town.
111. Yes the Theatre is a great asset to the town and must not fall into disrepair. The theatre brings business to the town which must help to offset the cost.
112. Yes, it should be more! This is a particular attraction for Cheltenham and will attract visitors and help the town as a whole. Culture is a vital part of Cheltenham, famous for its festivals. We need a top grade theatre to compliment this.
113. The Theatre is important to the town and is also visited by many people from Gloucestershire and beyond. Keeping the theatre in a good condition and improving it is important for the long term future of the theatre and should be supported.
114. Yes. Culture is the heart and soul of any community.
115. The Everyman is one of the few permanent flagships that Cheltenham has to offer. Lose the theatre; lose a lot of out of town spending power.
116. I agree that the Everyman Theatre would benefit from this grant/loan - it is a beautiful building and I visit frequently for outstanding shows.
117. Yes I do agree, the Everyman Theatre is a pinnacle of entertainment within Gloucestershire hosting a variety of entertainment that pulls the crowds into Cheltenham. It is a beautiful old theatre and should be restored to its former beauty.
118. Yes – definitely
119. Yes - it is a vital and vibrant part of the cultural life and attractions of Cheltenham
120. Yes. Art and culture facilities are an essential provision within a community
121. I agree absolutely. The Everyman Theatre's historic premises are badly in need of renovation. The theatre is so well run and provides such an important service for the people of Gloucestershire and beyond that it must not be allowed to decay. It is responsible for bringing large numbers of people to Cheltenham who would not otherwise visit.
122. Yes! I think it is important to keep a good quality theatre running in Cheltenham, certainly invest in culture.
123. Yes. The theatre is an important part of our heritage and provides endless hours of amusement and education to thousands each year, young and old
124. Yes. Restoration/refurbishment now will be a great investment for future generations, and will cost far less than similar work would in years to come. Furthermore, if the Everyman is not kept up as a going concern, any short term saving would pale into insignificance against decades of regrets and recriminations.
125. Yes, the Everyman brings a huge amount (for both residents and visitors) to the town.
126. Yes. The Everyman is a flagship location for Cheltenham. It attracts a national audience with events such as the Literature Festival and there are large spin-off revenues to local shops, hotels and other businesses.
127. Yes, very much so. The theatre is important in bringing people into Cheltenham both as performers and audience. It provides an enormous range of performances and activities for many age groups, and interest groups. It is important to students, who are able to see live performances as part of their courses. Its spaces are vital to such important functions as the Literature Festival. Sadly, the discontinuation of evening bus service to Painswick, Stroud, and Nailsworth has meant that older people can no

- longer attend evening performances from those towns. Many famous people have used this space, and it helps to put Cheltenham "on the map", as it were.
128. Yes this facility is one of the best cultural centres in the county and deserves full support. If Cheltenham is truly to be a 'Festival Town' it is inconceivable that this status could be retained without a significant theatre in the town.
 129. Yes absolutely, culture is very important and Cheltenham is lacking in this sadly. The council should be doing everything it can to promote the arts!
 130. Yes very much so. This is such an important theatre - it is Gloucestershire's theatre and it does so much good work in the town. The building itself is beautiful and CBC should invest to improve it.
 131. Yes, whilst we are in difficult times there is a need to relax and make the most of our social activities. The Everyman theatre is an important part of Cheltenham and as the majority of the support is through an interest bearing loan, it should be supported.
 132. It's very important for the town.
 133. Most definitely - the Everyman theatre is an historic building. It is well used and provides a lot of value in terms of entertainment, education and community activities. If we do not support the Everyman then the building interior can only deteriorate - which will inevitably lead to a decline in audience numbers, hence a decline in revenue, hence a downward spiral, which would do no one any good. Let's keep our historic buildings in good condition and well used (and appreciated).
 134. Yes. You should be encouraging people to come to Cheltenham for the theatre. The theatre needs restoration and it is a part of Cheltenham's history.
 135. Yes Absolutely - The promotion of arts and culture will lead to increased spending in the city. Cheltenham is unique - its buildings, its ambience, its festivals have to be delivered successfully to ensure the city's continued prosperity. Equally civic pride is vital it in turn generates income for the city. People want to live in nice places. Arts and culture play an important role in this.
 136. Yes - it would be money very well spent on a superb building, which is an asset to the area. It would be a great shame if it were allowed to decay, with the inevitable in audiences that would follow.
 137. I agree whole heartily with their plans and should be supported 100%
 138. The Everyman is an invaluable part of the Gloucestershire cultural mix and should be supported in this very modest way.
 139. This theatre brings much business to the town and therefore the investment is beneficial to Cheltenham as a whole.
 140. Absolutely, this is part of local heritage and therefore this should be maintained and looked after for years, decades to come
 141. This should definitely happen the Everyman is an integral part of the town and its future to continue to prosper within Gloucestershire.
 142. Yes, there are certain things that must go on, even in hard times and the saving of the Everyman is one of them because without the funding it will die.
 143. Yes, the town must have a high quality theatre to establish itself as a realistic centre for the arts. This is critical for tourism and the Festivals.
 144. The Everyman Theatre is a gem and has been part of the town's heritage for such a long time. Many people come from outside the town to visit the theatre thus raising the profile of the town. The theatre is part of the cultural heritage of the town and must be supported. Failure to support the Everyman would be another example of the council shooting themselves in the foot. Do you remember the C&G being forced out of Cheltenham?
 145. Yes. I feel that the theatre is an important part of the culture of the town.
 146. Yes. Cheltenham is a cultural and tourism centre - the success of the various festivals demonstrates this. It would be a very poor outcome if the town's main theatre were allowed to deteriorate.
 147. Yes, we cannot afford to let this facility deteriorate any more
 148. Yes. The theatre provides for both young and old and should be one of the last to suffer from the recession.
 149. Yes, given the number of people and funds it brings to the Town through the normal events, but also the various festivals. Where would we be without the tourism from the festivals?

150. Yes very much so it is a beautiful theatre and should be promoted and kept up to standard to encourage tourism to the county.
151. Absolutely as it is primarily a loan and looking at the figures given it would appear that the Everyman is generating enough revenue to warrant this.
152. Yes (Please arrange for a lift to be available in Regent Street Car Park after 6.00pm so that elderly and temporarily disabled people can park and use the Theatre)
153. I certainly do!
154. Although we do not live in Cheltenham and therefore have not commented on the other issues, we would not have come to the town other than to the theatre. This has lead us and friends to explore your lovely town and I know from other discussions that we are far from unique in this respect. Take care over what makes towns work and their economic drivers.
155. Yes - strongly supported please.
156. Essential
157. Yes I agree - otherwise the next step will be the burning of books
158. Yes important
159. Yes!! It's probably safer to invest in the Everyman than some banks! You get your capital sum back, you earn interest and maintain a fine building, provide entertainment and interest for the area. Everyone wins!
160. Yes. Brings in business to town & needs keeping up to scratch.
161. Yes. It features largely in the various festivals. You have to spend money to make money.
162. Wholeheartedly support. The survival of the Everyman is crucial to Cheltenham's International Festivals (Music, Literature, Jazz), as well as providing a unique facility to the people of Cheltenham and the surrounding area. It would be tragic if it were to be lost.
163. Most definitely. We live in Stroud and often visit the Everyman theatre to enjoy the high quality productions on offer, for all age groups and interests. The funding to upgrade the current facilities must be a priority to sustain this magnificent theatre.
164. My husband and I agree with the plans to support the Everyman theatre by way of a £1 million loan with interest plus a £250K grant.
165. The Theatre is an important place for my partner and me to visit although we live outside Cheltenham. We are often involved in taking parties of students from school there as well and promoting shows to parents and staff. When we visit the Everyman we always make the evening an event by eating and shopping locally. The reason for visiting Cheltenham for us is the Theatre and we feel that it is important that it is supported.
166. Strongly agree. The building is historical and must be saved. It is a major draw to Cheltenham as a tourist attraction but also many people regularly attend performances from surrounding towns.
167. I believe that the Everyman theatre is a vital part of Cheltenham life. We need to be able to attend live dramatic events, which provide experiences that cinema and television cannot provide. Therefore I am in complete agreement with the plans to support the Everyman theatre as defined in the question.
168. Absolutely. Cheltenham without a professional theatre is unthinkable.
169. Yes - it is a very valuable component of the cultural scene of this region
170. Yes, if possible!
171. Yes - the Everyman is one of the prime leisure amenities in the country, and performs a highly valuable educational outreach programme alongside its main dramatic and entertainment programmes.
It is of historical interest within Cheltenham and as a focal point for the local and regional communities, those communities, through their elected representatives, should provide the necessary support for it to be restored and upgraded to current safety requirements and expectations of comfort.
172. Yes definitely.
173. Yes - it's a much valued asset in need of help.
174. Yes I totally agree with these plans - the Everyman is a vital resource for the people of Cheltenham and surrounding areas. The Council should prioritise the maintenance of this historic building.
175. I think this is extremely important as many groups benefit from the Everyman theatre

176. Yes, absolutely.
177. Yes, this theatre attracts visitors from surrounding areas who then spend money in shops and restaurants in the town
178. Yes, absolutely: the Everyman brings income and artists to Cheltenham and indeed to the surrounding countryside. Restaurants benefit from the pre- and post-theatre business, and shops seen by visitors to the theatre are visited the next day or on the next visit. It is a business-builder and advertisement for the town. Moreover, the Everyman provides *wholesome* entertainment and pleasure to thousands of people of every age group: it's not on a screen, it's not a sole experience, it's a wonderful venue where humans can share a living experience with other humans in a way which is unique and different every performance. The give-and-take between players and audience is breathtaking and joyful, and in an age where so much entertainment is corporate and electronic, the life of the Everyman is of vital importance in community-building. The Everyman also provides the basis for performances linked to the theatre but offsite; the relationship between Cheltenham and its rural hinterland is fostered by the theatre's work and makes people feel like they can go shop and recreate in the town because they feel they know it. The Everyman Theatre is a living treasure.
179. Yes, it's an asset the town can not lose
180. Yes we feel that this local facility is central to the people of Cheltenham congregating to enjoy much needed time away from everyday pressures. It is a very valuable part of the community.
181. Yes, it would be such a tragedy to allow the Everyman to deteriorate due to a lack of a loan of this size.
182. Yes. The theatre is a primary reason to visit Cheltenham bringing in trade for shopkeepers, restaurants, etc. helping to guarantee the Council's revenue through business rates
183. Yes I do support plans for the Everyman theatre
184. Yes. The theatre is a vital cultural and social resource for the town
185. I believe that maintaining the Everyman is essential to Cheltenham's future. The interior is wonderful, as was the exterior in its days as The Opera House. Perhaps renovations could return some of that style? I'm a 65 year old born and brought up in Cheltenham and the gilded cherubs are one of my earliest memories. We have a unique heritage which it's our duty to preserve. I visit the Everyman regularly and commend its excellent support of local talent.
186. Yes definitely. We need a local theatre.
187. The Everyman Theatre has been an outstanding jewel in Cheltenham's crown. Too many prestigious buildings which have contributed to Cheltenham's historic glory have been demolished. Leave something for the decent residents of the town to glory in and appreciate, otherwise we shall become ever more mediocre. We need to preserve the good things of Cheltenham wherever possible.
188. The loan and grant will help the theatre to achieve the sum of money they require to restore and improve the historic fabric and facilities in order to continue to attract audiences to their excellent programme of productions and events. I live in Birmingham but visit the theatre on a regular basis as I have many friends living in the Cotswolds/Gloucestershire area.
189. Yes, the Everyman is crucial to maintaining Cheltenham's image and identity.
190. Yes, absolutely. In fact, I think the grant should be larger. In an ideal world, the Everyman would be almost wholly funded by the community. The theatre is a vital local resource, and is responsible for making 900 children get away from the TV for at least one night - and want to go back and see another play. 900 is only the number of teenagers I have personally supervised through the doors, there are many hundreds more! As a teacher in a local school, I could not bear to be without the Everyman - The kids I teach cannot afford the £22.50 and up of Birmingham, Bristol and Bath theatres, especially when the transport costs add another £10 to the cost of a trip, and a visit to at least two plays is a requirement of all performing arts courses. The Everyman provides fantastic value for money, and its outreach department are beyond compare - the work they do is wonderful, and highly recommended to everyone. On a personal level, the theatre building itself is glorious, and deserves conserving. I visit it regularly for a fab night out, and make use of the cafe. I would

- really hate to see the theatre lost out - one of the reasons I settled in Cheltenham 14 years ago was the theatre, local culture and the parks - if any of these were to suffer, I would be extremely disappointed in the local council.
191. Yes - the Everyman is a pivotal area for Arts & Culture. Without it, tourism would decline & the cultural well-being of the town would be severely reduced
 192. I do agree with this proposal. The Theatre is a very important part of everyone's life who lives in Gloucestershire and nearby counties, and should be preserved.
 193. Yes - Everyman is part of Glos' heritage. It is also an excellent venue for theatrical and arts events.
 194. I love theatre and think the Everyman plays a vital role in Cheltenham's cultural life. However, I do not know enough about the plans - and I am not sure I see the necessity of this. I would - perhaps - favour money being spent on developing a more exciting and challenging arts provision in Cheltenham - rather than new upholstery etc. But I cannot really comment without knowing the Everyman's position in more detail.
 195. Yes I do. I have lived in Cheltenham for 20 years, and during that time not a year has passed without my enjoying a number of shows at the Everyman. I am in my 70th year, and if I need residential care, I shan't want to be installed in some remote glorious stately home with wonderful rustic views. I want it to be in Cheltenham, so that I can continue to be entertained at the Everyman. If the Everyman loses support, it will cease to be a venue for the many excellent touring companies that bring the very best of West End theatre to the provinces.
 196. Yes this is one of the jewels in Cheltenham's crown. We do not use the theatre a lot but go each year to the panto it is something our 3 boys look forward to each year.
 197. Yes we must keep the arts going.
 198. Yes I agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre. It is a vital facility for the whole of Gloucestershire and should not be allowed to fall into disrepair. I know money has to be saved but we should not live in a cultural desert.
 199. I regularly visit the Everyman Theatre and feel that it occupies an important position in Cheltenham's life. Any support from the Council is vital to its future development and I would fully agree with the above plans.
 200. Yes if we lose the theatre because of downfall of the building then the big shows will not come to town and the theatre will close so will have no big theatre in Glos.
 201. I fully support the plans to support the Everyman theatre with both the loan and the grant. The Everyman provides a valuable service to arts in the town, across the whole age range - whilst also be a valuable educational facility for the town and the wider local environment
 202. Absolutely. The Theatre building alone is a cultural and historical gem, added to which the pleasure, involvement and education it provides MUST be maintained.
 203. A very worthwhile project. The Everyman is used and enjoyed by all age groups both for entertainment and education. Please help them.
 204. Yes, the theatre is a real feature of Cheltenham and should be supported.
 205. As a regular theatre-goer I strongly support the Everyman renovation proposals and the application for a loan and grant. This intimate, beautiful theatre is a great asset to Cheltenham and its surrounding communities and at present attracts national and international theatre and dance companies. If it were allowed to enter a spiral of increasing dilapidation, reduced audiences and omission from the circuit of major production companies, it would bring shame on the town. There is little enough live theatre in this region: the Everyman must be supported, not just by its loyal patrons, but by the tax payer also, for the benefit of current and future generations.
 206. Yes - as long as it is supported by a strong business plan and an effective repayment scheme - the Everyman is part of the fabric of Cheltenham and a centre of culture.
 207. Yes. The theatre deserves all the help and support possible. It is a great asset to Cheltenham and serves a large area outside the city. The work it does in the community is invaluable and I feel it would be a tragedy to allow it to slide into disrepair and anonymity.
 208. Yes. We need a degree of entertainment or 'letting off steam' by means of escapism. The bulk of this is mainly a loan and will therefore be paid back (plus a phenomenal interest charge no doubt). It is an investment as the Everyman will bring more money and business into the area. Spending money to make money makes sense.

209. Yes - most definitely. The programme offered is varied and appeals to all tastes. Cheltenham needs the Everyman. Is it not the arts that make us civilised?
210. This is an important asset for the council and should be supported.
211. Yes we do. The everyman is a wonderful theatre offering value for money entertainment and culture for families.
212. Yes wholeheartedly!! It's so important to keep culture and literature alive in our towns in the 21st Century and it's a resource shared by all of the population from the tiny tots to the old age pensioners. It's a lovely theatre and should be invested in to keep it up to date and a fantastic venue.
213. Yes. The Everyman Theatre is an asset to the Town and county and this investment should be made to maintain and improve the property.
214. Yes -- we need to maintain the culture of the town
215. Yes - this is a tourist magnet for the city. It is important that it is a venue fit for purpose and for 21st century
216. Yes I do agree with this. I don't earn a lot of money but I see the Everyman Theatre as a special place to go and I would be horrified if it wasn't there for me. There are many nightclubs, bars and restaurants in Cheltenham but only one Everyman theatre and I wish to continue going there as part of my life.
217. I very much agree that the Everyman Theatre should be supported at all cost as it is a vital cultural institution for the area. I'm not a Cheltenham resident so cannot comment on budgetary matters, but I wish to let it be known that the main reason for my regular visits to Cheltenham is for the cultural activities provided by Everyman Theatre, the Town Hall and the Pittville Rooms.
218. I do. The cultural life of the town is vital. I don't live in Cheltenham so I can't really comment on the Council's budget but I regularly visit the theatre. How can a town which boasts a famous literary festival neglect the very heart of that venture? It is a joy watching plays at the Everyman. I live near to Malvern and the money spent on the theatre there has been well justified by the interest and support given to artistic enterprises of all kinds. Please support your theatre in the same way. You'll regret it if you don't.
219. The Everyman Theatre has to be maintained, as it plays such an important part in the culture of Cheltenham, also bringing in people from outside the town. I totally agree with this level of assistance.
220. Yes. It's an invaluable and unique resource and must not be allowed to deteriorate
221. Yes. I do go to the Everyman, and take my children (aged 3) as well. We enjoy going very much, and I like the variety of performances available. This year alone, we have been to the pantomime, and to two children's' shows, as well as to various evening performances. As a drama teacher in the borough, I feel that the Everyman is a valuable resource. Without it, school trips, and family theatre trips, would have to be to Bath, or to Birmingham or Malvern, which would take money away from Cheltenham, and would cost both my family and the school children I teach an awful lot more. The Everyman is quite shabby though, and does need the injection of cash in order for it to be able to keep up with theatres such as those in bigger cities. I feel that that the council has a duty to contribute to facilities such as this within the borough - it is imperative that we and our children have this resource available to us, and that is a desirable and comfortable place to visit.
222. Yes very much so. The Everyman Theatre is a wonderful building that deserves to be maintained. It is an essential part of Cheltenham. It is an important part of civic pride and bringing tourism to the town. The theatre brings enjoyment to may many people not just the Cheltenham residents. It provides jobs and money for the local economy.
223. Yes, The Everyman is an affordable way for people to see live theatre shows.
224. Yes. The theatre is a very valuable resource to the town. It is, though a pity the council feels it necessary to charge interest!
225. Yes absolutely - The Everyman is a beacon for culture and entertainment in the area. It also provides jobs and attracts tourism. Without the injection of funds it will become rundown and a focus for criticism that will actually deter tourism and cultural activity.
226. Yes - a very important and vital part of our town.
227. I agree wholeheartedly with the proposal. The Everyman is the hub of the town and we use it frequently for plays and Literature Festival events and have also visited with

- our children since the 1970s and the Theatre puts on excellent events for children and schools. The loss of the Everyman would be a tragedy to the town
228. Yes. Cheltenham is known for its strong cultural links and this is what draws so many people to the town and adds to its tourism. Not supporting the Everyman financially makes no sense, in a town which is famous for its connection to the arts, and has huge (and hugely successful) literature and music festivals. Cheltenham is a town I'm proud to live in, and I'm envied by many friends who live in other parts of the UK. Part of that pride is connected to the cultural life of the town, embodied to a large extent by the Everyman Theatre (which is an architectural gem as well).
229. I do support this as the theatre is an important piece of Cheltenham's distinctive character. It brings audiences from all over the South West and the council should give it all the help needed.
230. Yes. The Everyman is an important building for the town.
231. Yes. It's an important entertainment and cultural facility that reaches all age groups in the community, as well as attracting visitors from outside the region.
232. Yes. The only professional theatre in the area providing a wide variety of entertainment for all. Their grant seems chicken feed in the scheme of things
233. Wholeheartedly agree. The Everyman is an important part of the art and culture of Cheltenham. It is also a visitor attraction and a historic theatre. It should be supported.
234. Yes the Theatre is an asset to Cheltenham.
235. Yes I do agree! Whilst I understand budgetary restraints - history must be kept and maintained! It's our heritage and also our gift to future generations.
236. Fully support
237. Yes, provided they have plans to have a modern repertoire and increase the audio-description provision.
238. Absolutely. It is a vital part of Cheltenham and well attended by Cheltenham residents.
239. Yes. The loan will be repaid with interest and is therefore a solid investment. The Everyman is an integral and historical part of the town. The Cheltenham that yearly hosts one of the great literature festivals of Britain should have a pristine theatre.
240. Yes. The Everyman is important attraction bringing people, and therefore trade, into Cheltenham
241. Yes, The Theatre is important to the town
242. To ignore the plea to renovate and restore the Everyman Theatre, one of Cheltenham's finest buildings, would be a monumental mistake. This wonderful old building is both an historical and cultural asset to the town which sets it apart from the city of Gloucester, to the eternal envy of its citizens
243. Yes I do. The Everyman Theatre gives a lot of people much pleasure and should be supported.
244. Yes I strongly agree, I travel from Witney, Oxon to see performances at this theatre, I love the quaintness of it, the old style theatre feel. It provides a great day out as I go shopping in the morning in Cheltenham, matinee theatre in the afternoon, bit more shopping after and then an evening meal. I know from having spoken to other theatre goers that they do the same thing also. I also bring people who are visiting me from the North West to the theatre and they love it. The seating though is rather uncomfortable and it is looking a little tired and shabby and now is the right time to put these things right before it's too late
245. Yes. The Everyman Theatre is a central focal point of the city and if we want to continue with the high quality performances and attracting big name stars to perform in these then the Everyman Theatre needs support and funding to do so.
246. Yes I do agree. Supporting culture and heritage is an important part of our responsibilities. Cheltenham is a beautiful and historic place and tourism as well as local facilities depend on us maintains our buildings and providing cultural entertainment in quality surroundings. Theatres that are restored such as Richmond Theatre in Surrey reap the benefits and become more of focal point in the community and for tourism.
247. Yes. Professional live theatre is a key element in the cultural richness of life in Cheltenham, which is a key aspect of Cheltenham's marketing strategy. The Everyman is a unique architectural gem even within a town with much fine architecture.

- A small grant and a loan now would avoid the danger of impossibly high bills later and would ensure the future of the theatre, which is very important to me, to my children and grandchildren, and which brings many visitors to the town.
248. The theatre forms an important part of the cultural inheritance of Cheltenham as well as supporting many community projects and generating income from tourism. It clearly needs support from this loan and grant to maintain the high standards we have experienced in the past.
249. Definitely. The theatre is a great asset to the town.
250. Yes. This is after all only a loan of 1million and will be re-paid plus interest. The grant is acceptable.
251. Yes!!!! The Everyman Theatre is the only theatre in the area which has fantastic shows, musicals and events often touring from the West End. Without it we would have to look to travelling to Bristol or Birmingham. When we visit the Everyman we also make a day of it shopping in Cheltenham, visiting restaurants etc so bringing more business to Cheltenham. The Everyman is a lovely theatre and well used. It has so much potential and this should not be missed. Gloucester has no theatre so we look to the Everyman and need it. I often take the children and it's a great experience. I would hate to see the Everyman theatre decline in popularity because it needed up dating. Then touring companies won't use it and we would all miss out.
252. Good idea. I think loan should be conditional on strict oversight of redevelopment plans, budget and project management by a qualified agent within the council (to avoid costly consultant fees)
253. Most certainly. Please help to fund the refurbishments to the Everyman Theatre that are planned. We often go to shows at the Everyman and notice there are very few empty spaces. This shows a great need to have a wonderful place for people to come and for outstanding performers to work. Cheltenham does not want either to be put off if the theatre is allowed to deteriorate in the next few years. The theatre can be part of a perfect package for tourists staying for a few days.
254. Yes - The Everyman Theatre is integral to tourism and trade in the town centre.
255. Yes, it's a part of society that most people come to enjoy at some point in their lives. The theatre is an amazing experience that should be encouraged amongst the younger generations who think it's all about old-fashioned musicals. More schools should be allowed to bring children in to understand the performing art and the pleasure that can be given and received from live performance.
256. I strongly support this. The Everyman Theatre is a great asset to the Town both architecturally and as live theatre. Unless it is adequately funded it will inevitably decline which would be a tragedy for the Town.
257. Absolutely. This is a beautiful theatre and needs to be maintained & protected as part of Cheltenham's heritage. It is a key feature of the town and attracts many excellent plays which one would otherwise have to go to London to see and pay London prices. The Everyman provides theatre entertainment and good value for money prices.
258. Yes, because it is one of the very few full time theatres between Bristol and Birmingham - a very big gap. In any event it is long established reputation and deserves help with its historic building.
259. I agree with the theatre being financially supported but only if there is clear evidence that loans can be repaid.
260. If the Council wants to continue to attract people to Cheltenham, then the Everyman Theatre should be one of the priorities for investing more money in. It needs updating, so that it can reflect Cheltenham in general. A pleasant and up to date place to be! Please donate as much as you can afford. Better theatre, more people visiting, and more business.
261. I think it is essential that the Everyman theatre is supported. It does worthwhile educational work and provides live entertainment for a large area. Cheltenham would be greatly diminished were it not there.
262. Yes. I do not live in Cheltenham but do come & stay for a night to go to a play at the Everyman, others do the same bringing revenue to your town's hotels as well as to the theatre
263. Yes, I have lived and worked all over the world and the one thing that makes Cheltenham special is its Regency Buildings that include The Everyman Theatre.

- Cheltenham is also quite special in having such a fantastic theatre in a small town attracting many visitors.
264. Wholeheartedly. The Everyman is THE major theatre in the area and it must lead the way in services, amenities and customer comfort to survive. If people don't enjoy the theatre experience they will not come back. The demise of the Everyman would be a serious blow to the amenities and cultural reputation of Cheltenham.
265. Absolutely agree!
266. Yes, especially as it's a loan.
267. yes think this is a very important part of Cheltenham's culture
268. I have not completed the rest of this form as I live in the Cotswold District and feel it inappropriate. However, my wife and I regard Cheltenham our principal town and use the shopping, recreational and entertainment facilities frequently. The Everyman theatre is a key facility for Cheltenham and receives acclaim nationally. If the theatre flatlines and is forced to close it will be a loss to the town both from cultural and financial viewpoints.
269. Definitely.
270. The theatre brings in income from outside the borough and is a cultural centre of high quality. The Everyman is far more deserving of support than the RSC in Stratford, which has had millions spent on it, because it is more available to local people and offers a wider range of cultural experiences. We often drive to Cheltenham from Stratford for the Everyman Theatre, but rarely visit the RSC because of its limited range and the high cost of its seats.
271. Yes. The Everyman is a gem which should be maintained and retained.
272. Yes - this historic theatre is an asset to be preserved and treasured
273. Yes. Cheltenham needs to keep this vital theatre going
274. Totally agree. The role of theatre in history has shown how important it is. The Everyman is a place of culture, shared interests, friendship and discovery in every way. It should be supported wholeheartedly to keep the theatre in Cheltenham up to the standard of other buildings of culture in the town.
275. Yes - this is an asset the town could ill-afford to lose.
276. Yes. This is an important asset for Cheltenham and is a magnet that draws people into the town.
277. Yes, definitely think it's a worthwhile cause
278. Yes - this is a tourist attraction and an historic building
279. Yes most definitely
280. Yes. I have no way of checking the actual money needs quoted, but I do consider supporting culture generally essential for the 'soul' of the borough. We are lucky to have such a distinguished and historic building at our disposal and to allow this very valuable asset to deteriorate would be short-termism at its most culpable.
281. Yes I do. The theatre is a vital part of the community and it would be disastrous to see it gradually run down.
282. Yes - a top quality cultural venue is an essential element in maintaining Cheltenham's attractiveness and encouraging visitors for business and pleasure.
283. Yes, I think a good local theatre which attracts West End plays is very important to the Community
284. Yes, absolutely. It is one of the few places offering any kind of cultural activity.
285. Support overall project, but suggest a phased approach to the expenditure. Same for all other major projects
286. Yes, the Everyman needs to be supported
287. Yes. The Everyman provides an essential cultural focus for Cheltenham.
288. Yes, the Everyman is well supported and enhances the social and cultural life of the County. As this is a loan with interest it will not overall be a cost to council tax payers.
289. Absolutely. The Everyman theatre is an integral part of the cultural life of the town, and also happens to be one of its finest buildings. Its educational programme is not replicated elsewhere. It draws people into Cheltenham. Failure to support the theatre would be both short-sighted and misguided. Cheltenham needs and deserves a high-quality centre for the arts, which the Everyman has been in the past and will be in the future if it receives the necessary financial support.
290. Absolutely! This is Cheltenham's premier theatre, and the only place where larger touring productions can be received. I regularly bring large numbers of drama

- students to see major productions at The Everyman. Without it, they would not see these as Bath and Oxford are too far to make the trips cost effective due to travel costs. I am sure this is true for the wider community as well. It is vitally important that we maintain and support this venue, for the benefit of the whole community and for youth education.
291. Yes. The Everyman is a major historic and cultural asset to the town. It attracts huge support and brings visitors into the town.
292. Yes I do. The theatre is a key aspect of the town and its heritage should be preserved. Inside the decor is fantastic but it is looking shabby and needs to have a facelift to bring out its true glory. Sitting and watching the panto in this theatre is a truly magical experience and that is partly due to its decor and history. The theatre serves a very important service in the local community and beyond. There are wealth of talented people who work there and the theatre should be given the opportunity to develop more of its own work which provides jobs for local actors. The education department is well respected and provides an excellent service to local schools and young people. We all need a local theatre, both old and young, to exercise the mind and creativity. Supporting the Everyman will help it to grow and plan for a good future. It is often used in your publicity material so its important is obvious! When you think of Cheltenham as a visitor you often think about the shopping, theatre and the racing.
293. Yes, I feel that the Everyman is an invaluable asset to the area. We do not live in Cheltenham and therefore do not feel in a position to answer the above questions. However, the Everyman draws an audience from a far wider area and we have seen some great productions at the Everyman, from pantomimes etc when the children were younger to ballets, plays, musicals etc. It would be a huge cultural loss to this area of Gloucestershire if it is not maintain.
294. The Everyman should be given everything it needs
295. Yes, I think it is important for Cheltenham to have an active and successful theatre and this is an important building.
296. Yes - the interest is an income to the council and the everyman is a vital part of Cheltenham culture
297. Yes
298. I definitely agree. I am a regular Everyman Theatre patron and it would be a great loss if such a wonderful venue couldn't continue.
299. Yes, it is a very important part of Cheltenham's cultural heritage.
300. Yes, the theatre is a valuable asset to the "festival" town; we regularly attend the quality productions and usually spend money in the local restaurants and bars beforehand. I'm sure the cultural aspects of the town must also attract tourists
301. Yes but could probably find cheaper funds to loan?
302. Most certainly - it really is imperative that this important, integral, part of Cheltenham's past and present is supported in the manner proposed in the draft budget.
303. Yes, the building is an essential part of Cheltenham's culture and plays a great part in each of its many festivals. Gloucester could learn so much from Cheltenham and to let the Everyman go to waste is to let society and its advancements go to waste too.
304. Yes. The theatre is very important to the community (local and wider).
305. Absolutely. The theatre is a fine historic building and does an excellent job of promoting Cheltenham, providing quality entertainment, education, encouraging tourism, promoting local businesses and civic pride. It should be properly maintained.
306. I fully support this funding of restoration so that the city continues to have available a theatrical venue which encourages top-class acts to come to the county
307. Although an Evesham resident, I take the liberty of commenting. My family have long enjoyed the excellent 'Everyman', Glos premier theatre. It attracts visitors to the theatre & the town from a wide area & therefore is of considerable value to Cheltenham. I am sure I am not alone in expressing support for the Theatre & its' request for your help.
308. Yes - this is important to the economy and vibrancy of the town centre.
309. Yes, I do agree with the plans to support the Everyman theatre. I travel from Gloucester to attend many shows at the Everyman. The loan and grant will help tremendously with the restoration and renovation of this wonderful theatre. It is a great part of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire's heritage, used for many purposes, plays a big part in many people's lives, and it definitely needs all the support it can get.

310. Yes - please!
311. Yes, the Everyman is a valuable and unique building that Cheltenham should be very proud to have. It would be storing up problems for later if the theatre were not to be properly supported now.
312. Yes a much needed and loved part of Cheltenham
313. Yes, I totally agree with the loan. This is a loan, so the council will get their money back. The Everyman is a great place to go and adds to the culture that Cheltenham as. It is a great place for locals and tourists alike. If the Everyman is not managed and kept in a reasonable state business will be lost and it would be a crying shame if Cheltenham did not have this wonderful place.
314. I feel that it is extremely important to refurbish the Everyman theatre as it is the main theatre in Cheltenham and very well attended not only by the local people but also by many others. Especially when The Cheltenham Literature Festival is taking place people come from all over the country. I for one, before I moved into this area, looked into the opportunities for going to the theatre locally and regularly go to performances at the Everyman. It also has a good cafe which is used not only by people going to the theatre, but also by shoppers.
315. Definitely yes.
Not only does the Everyman provide local employment, it attracts visitors to the town and is central to Cheltenham's position as a centre for the arts and entertainment. Sadly, the theatre is beginning to look shabby and has had no work carried out for over 20 years. Spending a little money on it is well overdue. A £1m loan and £250k grant is actually a very small investment in this Council owned asset. Cheltenham Borough Council should view the Everyman Theatre as one of the jewels in the Cheltenham crown ... and support it accordingly.
316. Yes. Very much so. In my opinion the loan should be interest free.
317. Yes- a very important loan. The Everyman is so important to Cheltenham and the surrounding area- but it needs refurbishment. It is only a loan after all, and the theatre is used by all sectors of the community.
318. Yes - very much so. The Borough supported Cheltenham Town FC with a loan - it's appropriate to offer the same facilities to cultural centres too - and the loan will generate some revenue for the council anyway, in the form of interest payments. As long as that exceeds revenue lost from interest on deposit, that's a positive gain.
319. Yes. The Everyman Theatre is an asset to the town. To date the Council has tried to avoid its responsibility to this asset, which it owns, unlike other assets, it owns, in the town e.g. the Playhouse etc.
320. Yes, please.
321. Yes. The Everyman Theatre is a beautiful building which is a landmark in Cheltenham. We should invest in preserving the architecture that promotes Cheltenham.
322. Yes I do. We need to be able to introduce affordable culture into the lives of everyone. The theatre has a good mix of events for everyone to enjoy. It also brings out of town visitors to spend money in shops and restaurants
323. Loan a very good idea as enables good development of Cheltenham asset at minimal cost to authority.
324. Yes, the theatre is an essential part of Cheltenham's cultural life and its role as a Festival Town. It helps draw many visitors to our town who might otherwise never visit.
325. Yes. The Everyman benefits thousands of local people, both by providing a wide-ranging programme of entertainment in the main auditorium and Studio, and by its work in schools and the community, provided by its Reachout programme. The theatre is a very important Cheltenham building (owned by the Council) which desperately needs renovation. The proposed Council grant and loan is crucial to its success in raising the £3,000,000 which is needed. A grant of £250,000 is relatively small, but much hinges on the Council's approval of this grant.
326. Absolutely.
327. Yes. It is one of the best small theatres in Britain. It has achieved a great deal for education and the arts, as well as being a good social venue and is a beacon of excellence in the West.

328. Yes-please keep supporting the Everyman. I live in Gloucester and would love to have the opportunity to see live theatre shows here in Gloucester. I also support our smaller theatres but I travel to Cheltenham several times a year-by bus(x2) to enjoy all that the Everyman has to offer.
329. Yes, the everyman theatre is a big part of Cheltenham.
It would be good to see it looking its best again. I always go to the everyman theatre, it would be a worth while investment
330. Yes - As tourism and culture define Cheltenham to a very large degree, and bring in the much needed revenue to the town it would be short sighted to deny our historic theatre this opportunity to improve. Maybe a ticket price increase of £1 per ticket could help to raise this amount as well.
331. Yes. The building is deteriorating and badly needs renovation. Pittville Park could easily wait.
332. Yes totally agree. This building is both historic and beautiful, and well used by there local population. It should be preserved/restored for future generations as well as current users.
333. Absolutely - a cultural priority.
334. I am not a resident of Cheltenham, so have no views on the other questions, but I am a member of the Everyman Theatre Friends. This Theatre is important to Cheltenham because it brings trade from outside the town, it caters for all ages, creeds, and races, and to neglect this facility would only mean greater costs in the future.
335. The Everyman theatre provides a variety of entertainment for people in the region and draws custom into Cheltenham from the surrounding area that benefits a number of businesses, car park revenues etc... My family are fully in agreement with this plan of financial support.
336. Yes = the everyman is an important cultural icon within the town and should be supported as best as possible by the council
337. Yes. There should be incentives to maintain and develop its range and reach of main house productions and also in house production work. This is an important jewel in our crown and needs to be looked after.
338. Yes, this is an excellent theatre with some superb shows and I think the council should do all it can to help them out
339. Most definitely. We are not local to the area but every Christmas we travel to Cheltenham to see the Everyman Pantomime. In doing that we either rent a cottage for the Christmas period or we visit the area for a couple of nights in a pub or hotel. We, and others like us, bring spending power to Cheltenham and its surrounding areas in terms of accommodation, eating, shopping in the town, and purchasing fuel from local petrol stations, etc. This kind of expenditure is very hard to quantify on paper but over the course of a year with similar people doing the same, I am certain that it amounts to a very considerable amount. This Christmas we spent somewhere in the region of £1000 in 2 days - and there are only 3 of us!!
340. I think the Everyman Theatre is a deserving cause for this loan & grant.
341. Yes. We need to keep the Festivals coming to Cheltenham as this boosts the local economy. Investing in the theatre is part of that process
342. Yes - this theatre provides a valuable service to the community and huge income into the town
343. Although I do not pay my council taxes to Cheltenham I would like to add my agreement to the plans to renovate the Everyman theatre. I live in Tetbury and this is the nearest theatre to us. We use the facility occasionally throughout the year as do many of my friends and neighbours.
344. Yes, the Everyman is an important part of the Cheltenham community and needs to be maintained as a superior venue for the arts in Gloucestershire.
345. Yes, I believe that the Everyman Theatre is very important to the town.
346. Yes. Wholeheartedly! The Everyman theatre is a fine building very much in need of refurbishment. In fact the figures should be the other way round, give them the million and lend them the £250K!! Preferably interest free! It would be criminal to allow the Everyman to deteriorate and die, make sure it is preserved. The company as a whole deserves support for the fine work they do with the local and wider community.
347. Very much so. The everyman is the 'heart' of Cheltenham (indeed, Glos). To let it fall into decay and disrepair would be a tragedy. Too much money is already thrown at

- clearing up after people who don't care: why not protect this precious gathering place for people who do? Cheltenham may flaunt its architectural 'airs and graces' but it's the Everyman that plucks the heartstrings.
348. Completely agree with the plans. I had already answered question 3 above before reading this question. The Everyman Theatre should be a jewel in the Council's crown!
349. I live in Cirencester and enjoy visiting The Everyman several times through the year so yes I do agree with the above plans.
350. Absolutely. Theatre is essential to quality of life. And quality of life in the UK is far from good already!
351. Yes I do agree. Beautiful buildings like this need to be protected and preserved so future generations can benefit. If the theatre falls into dilapidation it can never be replaced and something refined is lost forever. The community lose a landmark as well as place for high quality entertainment.
352. Yes - Everyman helps to develop the cultural identity of Cheltenham
353. Yes. This remains a major tourist and income generator. There are no other serious professional theatres in Gloucestershire - it is either Bristol/Bath or Birmingham for quality theatre otherwise.
354. Yes, essential for the theatre and the town's health.
355. Yes, it's important to have good professional theatre in the town
356. Ironically, "yes" we do. With an eye on the future, it makes sound economic sense.
357. Yes, the Everyman is one of the few historical places in Cheltenham that still provides a first class service. However, if we want more people to use it we need to improve the overall quality of the building, i.e. by carrying out repairs and improving the seating etc.
358. The Everyman Theatre is a prestige venue which is open to all, and has a wide variety of top quality productions.
Its continued existence helps to maintain Cheltenham's reputation as an elegant and cosmopolitan town.
359. Although we live outside Cheltenham and are therefore not directly affect by Cheltenham council tax, we would ask that your council support the Everyman theatre bid. The theatre has a vital role in the cultural life of Cheltenham, and the building is extremely important in the architectural heritage of the town.
360. Everyman is an attractive way of visiting a theatre and is the only one in our area - Cirencester, which is close enough for us to go and which has good plays. We hope that the loan and the grant can be arranged.
361. Yes, I do. This attractive theatre is not only a historic gem, but must be of benefit to the area in terms of attracting visitors, and therefore generating trade and tourism.
362. Yes. The quality of a town is judged not by the amount of affordable housing it contains not how much recycling is undertaken. It is judged by its public spaces and amenities - shopping, parks, arts & entertainment. Not to support the Everyman will be putting Cheltenham's position, as one of the most enviable towns in the country, in jeopardy.
363. Yes the theatre is important to the town and is a huge attraction for visitors e.g. for the festivals, pantomime. We need to maintain these facilities.
364. Yes I agree, but I also think they should not have the loan with interest. This project should be done for the good of the town. Without the Everyman, where would your tourism be? Also there would be more unemployed. Without the Everyman, the council would have no extra parking revenue.
365. Absolutely! The Everyman is a superb asset to Cheltenham.
366. We do agree, we visit the Everyman fairly frequently and it would be a terrible shame to see such a beautiful building corrode away internally/externally.
367. Yes. The Everyman Theatre is a very valuable asset for the Town.
368. Yes, it is an important asset to the town.
369. Agreed
370. Yes, I think the Everyman theatre is essential in maintaining the Town's reputation as a centre for tourism and the Arts. In addition it provides an important venue for various cultural events, e.g. during the literature Festival.

371. Yes, definitely - if we allow the building to deteriorate, we run the risk of losing a wonderful theatre. This is a modest amount to maintain one of Cheltenham's finest buildings and attractions.
372. Yes. The Everyman is well respected nationally and brings a lot of people to the town who spend money in the shops and restaurants.
373. The Everyman is one of Cheltenham's treasures, and even in a recession, assets such as this should be preserved for when the good times return. A "dying" theatre in the very centre of Cheltenham would send out a very negative message to potential visitors in future, and once lost, would Cheltenham ever regain its theatre?
374. Yes. Since I first came to Cheltenham in 1962, the Everyman has been one of the most important elements of the town's artistic and cultural activities. Its long-term future must be secured and the proposed level of financial support is, in my opinion, a small price to pay for this.
375. Yes, the Everyman is a valuable local resource and should be maintained in good condition for all to enjoy.
376. Yes - the Everyman Theatre is a great asset to Cheltenham and it would be a great shame to lose it.
377. Yes. I agree. Just being in the Everyman Theatre is inspiring. Its unique traditional architecture, comfortable auditorium and view of the stage give the audience complete involvement with the performers. In a period where doom and gloom surrounds us, people need access to a facility like the Everyman, offering a diverse range of entertainment, to bring them out of themselves.
I wish the Everyman every success for the future and believe that the Council will be applauded for supporting it.
378. Yes. The Everyman is the best Theatre venue in Gloucestershire, frequently hosting excellent touring productions e.g. The History Boys and Quadrophenia. It would be a shame to let the building deteriorate further.
379. I am not a resident of Cheltenham, but a regular Everyman and Town Hall visitor. It is very important that theatre has its loan plus grant. I was at the Everyman two nights ago; the % of young people in the audience was impressive. The show was inspiring and any threat to that should be avoided at all costs
380. Yes - the Everyman is a vital part of Cheltenham's cultural and architectural heritage as well as being an essential cultural facility for the people of Cheltenham for the 21st century
381. Certainly.
382. I very strongly agree with these plans. The Everyman Theatre is an extremely important part of the town's culture and heritage and needs to be properly maintained and supported to ensure that it remains so.
383. A treasure like the Everyman should not be allowed to go to waste. Please find it within your budget to help the theatre so people in our area can continue to enjoy the productions at the Everyman
384. Yes, I do very much indeed. The theatre is very important to Cheltenham and it should be maintained
385. Yes. It is the best theatre around for miles and attracts great plays and shows and good calibre actors. The building was wonderful but needs lots of TLC. If it doesn't get the money for much needed improvements then the number of visitors will decline.
386. I agree entirely that the Everyman needs your help. The best local theatre for miles around. Cheltenham would be a very sorry place without its theatre. My wife & I have been coming to the Everyman Since it re-opened in the early 1980's & would greatly miss it as we much prefer live theatre to anything else.
387. Absolutely, the Everyman is a true asset to Cheltenham; it is a wonderful piece of architecture which needs to be preserved for future generations.
388. Yes. The Everyman is a significant and unique asset to this community. Once lost it will be very hard to recover it.
389. It is a good idea. It helps promote tourism to the area and it a well liked source of leisure for local people. And as a loan it is a worth while investment to the area.
390. Yes. We regularly use the theatre, and feel it is an essential resource for the town and as such should be a pleasant place to visit.
391. Yes. Arts and culture are very important to society, particularly in times of recession.

392. Yes I agree the Council should support the Everyman Theatre. The Everyman is part of Cheltenham's history. The Gloucestershire schools bring children to the theatre by coach, all part of their education. Cheltenham would be a lot poorer without the Everyman – it brings in a lot of visitors (with its matinee afternoons) by coach who could spend money in shops and cafes in Cheltenham town centre.
393. The Everyman Theatre is an integral part of the "Cheltenham Scene" before one begins to think of it as an important part of the "Festival" Year. Support from the local council is imperative.
394. Yes. It is a good theatre - with an attractive historic building, enthusiastic staff and a good range of performances. It needs new seats and better spacing between the seats.
395. Yes - Definitely. It is a major asset to Cheltenham and people come from all around to visit and so spend money in shops, bars and restaurants.
396. Yes, far too many theatres have been allowed to go into decline by local authorities causing a great loss to our culture.
397. The Everyman is a wonderful asset to the area. I agree with the plans to make a grant and loan to fund the renovation plans.
398. Cheltenham has so few facilities for theatre and dance for a town of its size. This is an historic and attractive building housing some of the town's cultural and educational facilities for all ages
399. I feel it is essential to help and support the upkeep of the Everyman theatre. If the theatre were allowed to disintegrate it would be a great blot on the Cheltenham landscape as well as a tremendous loss for all theatre goers. We are getting some wonderful shows these days and many performances are sell outs. Sitting in this wonderful old building watching a superb play is a truly magical experience. Modern buildings just don't cut the mustard!
400. Yes. The Everyman is a vital resource for the community. Whenever I have been to a play or event it has been full. The outreach education programmes are excellent and the building itself is of historical interest.
401. The theatre is an excellent amenity for local people and tourists and its continued use should be encouraged. The theatre brings some much needed culture to Cheltenham which would benefit from the extra revenue tourism would bring.
402. Yes. Partly because I use the Everyman and partly because this theatre is a significant attraction for the town. The quality of the building and the shows attract visitors, and it forms a key venue for the many festivals the town hosts. The Other Space hosts interesting 'alternative' supporting artistic growth and enabling smaller groups to reach a wider audience. The loss of this theatre or its decline would be extremely difficult to rebuild or replace and would adversely impact on the attractiveness of Cheltenham and quality of life here.
403. This would be an excellent investment of your £1M and a worthy recipient of £250k grant. I just cannot imagine Cheltenham without its prestigious Everyman theatre and it needs to be kept up to scratch. It would not be so popular with visitors and residents if it became shabby and run-down. Whenever my husband and I have visited the theatre it seems to be more or less a full house so it is certainly well supported. Yes, I do agree wholeheartedly.
404. Yes the theatre is a tradition in the town and a source of entertainment for all ages. it requires investment and the council should support efforts to improve the building etc
405. Yes Absolutely - the Everyman creates a lot of business & tourism - too good to lose
406. I'd like more spent on the theatre. Worcester, Tewkesbury and Malvern have far better facilities.
407. Yes because it will help bring visitors to the town and support local economy.
408. Yes – the Everyman is a huge asset to Cheltenham, inevitably increasing trade for our shops and restaurants as well. It is vital that the theatre should not be left to become “shabby”.
409. Yes, it is an old, established and treasured feature of the town. It provides a great deal to the local community and to visitors alike. We must support these wonderful places so that our children and grandchildren will be able to get the same pleasure & enjoyment in the coming years that we have all done in the past and in the present time.

410. I whole heartedly agree with the council supporting the Everyman Theatre in its restoration work. This is a hugely important part of the cultural life of Cheltenham and a great asset. It must be one of the best attended theatres in provincial England and attracts great numbers of people from outside of the area. All theatres find it difficult to run and the Everyman must be helped.
411. I believe that the Everyman Theatre contributes to the life-blood of the town by attracting both visitors and locals to the centre. It generates income for local businesses as well as the council. It is also an important cultural component for attracting the young and school groups as well as the older population. Investment in its well being is vital for its long term survival and I would totally support it receiving a loan and grant.
412. Yes I support the Everyman Theatre's plans as the Theatre is part of Cheltenham's history and it should not be lost.
413. Yes, it's part of our heritage and should be saved
414. Yes, Cheltenham has a reputation of maintaining its links to the past. Let's face it without history we have no future. The restoration of the theatre can only encourage the younger generation to become involved with theatre in all its guises.
415. Yes, I agree. This is an important cultural centre.
416. Yes I do, we live in Northleach and the theatre is one of the main reasons we visit Cheltenham, we always eat out while there and sometimes shop so the spin offs to the local community are at least as much as we spend at the theatre
417. Yes I agree. Cheltenham has to support this theatre as its part of the local tourism. It also brings people to the town to that then spend money in other shops and restaurants
418. Yes. The Everyman is part of what makes Cheltenham special, attracts visitors from outside, and provides a service to all ages & interests.
419. I fully support the application made by the Everyman Theatre for a £1 million loan with interest plus a £250k grant.
420. Yes, The Theatre together with the other cultural festivities attracts visitors and promotes the area as a whole.
421. Yes - the theatre is a valuable resource for the town and provides an excellent service.
422. The theatre is the heart of the centre, and I believe it is in need of repair/ renovation to keep it a popular attraction
423. This does seem to be a forward thinking action. We value the theatre very much and travel to Cheltenham regularly because of the theatre. That means shopping and eating in Cheltenham. So the theatre benefits the town traders. We live in Swindon. I certainly do support the plans!
424. Yes I support this plan, the theatre is an important asset to the town, giving work to many and enjoyment and relaxation to thousands.
425. Yes! It is such a fantastic asset to the town. It would be disgraceful if it was not maintained as I am sure it's audience would decline, it would be the start of a slippery slope to closure and that should be unthinkable
426. Of course, although we don't live in Cheltenham, but in Cinderford, in the Forest of Dean, over the last years we saw several very enjoyable performances in the Everyman Theatre. There are not many cultural venues in the Gloucestershire area, which have this level of quality, especially the Everyman Theatre is part of the history of Cheltenham. Attracting visitors from all over Gloucestershire the theatre has certainly an influence on the infrastructure of Cheltenham, which might be important too. So - please - YES!!!
427. Yes. It is an historic building and provides top class entertainment in the town. It cannot be left to decay. I understand the council owns it and therefore has a duty of care.
428. Yes this is the jewel in the crown of Cheltenham, used by all in Gloucestershire. Please support them.
429. Absolutely. There should be no question about this
430. Absolutely. The Everyman presents a diverse range of interesting, entertaining and educational theatre. It can not be allowed to go in to decline.
431. Yes. This is a marvellous venue and a real credit to Cheltenham. It deserves investment so that it can continue entertaining us all

432. Yes. The Everyman theatre has brought to our family culture, fun and experience plus some brilliant shows. It is part of community and something for which people will travel to Cheltenham over and above the shops which are good but mainly chain stores which are everywhere. The everyman also is a piece of our history to be embraced and nurtured. Live theatre is a million times better than a film. Going to the theatre remains a social event which brings people together and makes them feel special for an evening.
433. Yes, this is a well loved local amenity which serves to entertain anyone that wishes to use it
434. Absolutely. A town of the stature of Cheltenham should have a fine theatre. Too often I hear local people tell me they have been to Malvern or Tewkesbury to the theatre and this cannot be right. At the moment the theatre looks tired and old fashioned and when compared to other parts of the town's facilities is out of keeping.
435. Yes. This theatre provides an invaluable service not only to the people of Cheltenham but to the many people who live in the villages in Gloucestershire & Worcestershire who rely on it for their access to the all-important cultures of first-class music and drama. If it was to close or reduce the quality of what it offers, because of lack of finance it needs for its maintenance and improvement, many people would be deprived of this vital means of relaxation in a modern world that grows increasing stress-ridden. Travel to Malvern Theatre is not possible for all of us so please do all you can to keep The Everyman Theatre alive so that we theatregoers can keep our sanity.
436. Yes. The Everyman is a gem of a traditional theatre offering many high quality productions to suit all tastes. The building is owned by CBC and at least some of its maintenance should be supported by the Council. It is hard to make a case for treating it differently to the Town Hall and Pittville Pump Room.
437. I think it is a good idea to support the Everyman and give them the loan.
438. It is vital to support the Everyman. If the borough council cuts its grant, that will have an impact on other funding bodies, e.g., Arts Council, and threaten its very survival. Cheltenham is supposed to be a place of culture. How cultured is a town that allows its theatre to close, but spends ever more on its hanging baskets?
439. Yes, the theatre is a wonderful place and is a real attraction. We live some 20 mile away and regularly support the theatre and the town in general e.g., shopping and eating out
440. Yes please, it such an important building. (Perhaps lots of advertising so the town can fundraise to help this too.) Parks will survive and you won't lose them by doing less this year, the theatre once gone will be gone forever!
441. It is crucial that the Everyman is given all the help it can to maintain such a wonderful facility. Without it Cheltenham would not be the same. I think it is worth every penny being spent on it as they always put on such superb productions and provide a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can go to have an enjoyable time.
442. I think it is very important for the county as a whole that we have some fantastic venues for really great performers. The Everyman theatre is a lovely venue, but definitely needs to be bought back up to date, including a range of facilities to suit those with a range of abilities and needs. The only way to do this is with money - though it is very important that the money is spent well and sensibly, and that the amount given is actually what is needed!
443. Yes: The Everyman is more than a theatre. It is a part of what makes Cheltenham special. They have a variety of performances to suit all tastes and bring people in from out of town who add to the tourism income of the town. If the theatre is not valued now when it needs vital support it will be lost to the town for ever.
444. Yes - we need to keep this historic building going so that our children can enrich their lives with live performance
445. Yes, I do!! I think it is a very important part of Cheltenham
446. Yes - the Everyman should be supported
447. Yes I very much agree. I believe the Everyman theatre is a flagship venue without which the town would be significantly poorer. It supports the town's cultural ethos and emphasises our determination to maintain this (because it is in need of maintenance) through the tough times...cementing the future for Cheltenham when the country

- finally emerges from recession. I applaud the forward-looking view of the theatre in looking to carry out this work and hope the council is able to contribute as outlined.
448. Yes as long as it is a loan only.
449. Yes - the Everyman is a vital part of the Cheltenham community, providing jobs and entertainment.
450. Yes. It is a beautiful, important attraction in Cheltenham and fully represents the town.
451. Yes please. We have enjoyed theatre/pantomime at the everyman and think it is an important feature of the town's cultural scene.
452. Yes. it is together with the town hall and the pump room the last vestige of what makes Cheltenham special
453. I don't know enough about the finances of the Everyman but would ask if this is feasible for repayment over the given time of the loan.
454. Yes I would support this. The arts are a vital part of every community. To allow a wonderful historical theatre to decay would be criminal; never again will such buildings be created. There are too many 'modern, clinical theatre places' in this country, don't let Cheltenham loose the chance to help restore a brilliant performance space.
455. The Everyman is a very important Theatre in the County and should be supported for the benefit of the community.
456. Yes. It is a good advert for Cheltenham and draws people from a wide area
457. I do agree with the plans, there is so little for people 50+ to have an evening out in Gloucestershire.
458. I think that the Everyman theatre is a key artistic focus for Cheltenham. A thriving theatre brings people into the town who then spend money on food, drinks and general shopping. I therefore agree that it should be supported.
459. Yes, absolutely. The Everyman is an institution, and a very important part of Cheltenham's culture and history.
460. I think the Everyman Theatre deserves your full support and if it is asking for help this should be freely given. The theatre is part of Cheltenham's heritage and also provides a brilliant facility for the whole county to enjoy not just residents of Cheltenham. Gloucester is not so fortunate to have a facility such as this and it should be cherished.
461. Yes - the continuation of the Everyman theatre is vital to Cheltenham's future
462. My father Noel Newman's and Sir George Dowty's huge effort fifty years ago saved the Everyman. It would be a tragedy to let the theatre fall into disrepair again. Unlike non-participatory TV, live theatre is a vital part of our culture and the education of future generations. Please save the Everyman!!!!
463. Yes. The grant is relatively small compared with the amount needed. The theatre is a great attraction for visitors to the town and an important part of the town's heritage.
464. Please see my earlier email expressing support for the Everyman Theatre. The theatre is a wonderful facility for Cheltenham and Gloucestershire people and should be supported.
465. Yes - the theatre is a very important part of the town's image and draws in many people from outside. Its an important cultural attraction in Cheltenham
466. Yes - this is a wonderful place for the Arts. More links with schools are being sought and the tradition of the theatre should live on in Cheltenham. It is part of our heritage. It's just a shame that it has to be a loan.
467. Yes as its part of our heritage as a spa town.
468. Yes. A theatre is vital for a town such as Cheltenham. It draws business into the town for shopping, restaurants and bars. Supplies a youth theatre which is essential for youngsters.
469. Very much support. The everyman goes out of its way to appeal to young and old and to make an event there attractive. But it is beginning to creak at the seams. In particular the seating needs to be upgraded.
470. I strongly AGREE with these plans. The Everyman is a marvel and brings in hundreds of thousands of people to the town each year. It provides a significant boost to the local economy. We need to do everything we can to ensure its success continues. The Everyman's facilities are in danger of becoming outdated, so we need to do everything we can to make sure we invest in them. As I understand it, the council's loan

471. I think the Everyman Theatre is a very important part of Cheltenham's cultural face. It's a lovely little theatre and deserves all the support it can get.
472. Yes. I do not live in Cheltenham but this only serves to support my feeling that the Everyman is a very important arts, social and community resource which reaches wider than the confines of the town. It brings visitors and shoppers into the town centre and should be supported to have a strong future even though times are tough and money is in demand in a number of places.
473. Yes. The Everyman theatre is well known and well used by the people of Cheltenham. It should definitely be supported and maintained.
474. Yes, improving the Theatre will enhance the area and attract new customers to the town
475. Yes. I would be lost without the Everyman, especially now we are getting some really first rate shows, on their way to or from the West End, by some of UK's most challenging directors and companies. And the Everyman is an important part not just of Cheltenham's history, but of England's, it would be shameful to let such a beautiful little theatre relapse into ruin. We have nothing else that can take its place, inspiring as the Festivals can be. Please, please, please help to save the Everyman now for the future.
476. Most certainly. The theatre is part of Cheltenham's great cultural heritage and we will all be diminished if the Council stands by and allows the Everyman to slip into a cycle of disrepair, poor facilities, lower attendance and eventual closure. It has occurred too often elsewhere. The Everyman is a wonderful facility for everyone in the town and should be supported as a matter of Civic pride
477. Yes - do not want to lose this amenity or see it fall into disrepair.
478. Yes - I think Cheltenham would be very much poorer if we were to lose this wonderful amenity.
479. Yes - its part of local culture and tradition. Brings in business and work from outside the Town. Generates income and fits the 'culture' of the Town
480. Yes, it needs to be supported.
481. Fully support. The theatre and other recreational sites are there for the benefit of developing business within Cheltenham. The money was offered to the Football Club, which arguably has less impact on the local economy.
482. We have been to the Everyman as a family to the panto and to a show, it would be shame to lose this venue and it does provide culture and image to the town. We do hope that the Everyman continues to be supported by the town.
483. Absolutely, as this facility not only benefits the residents of Cheltenham but attracts a significant proportion of its audience the surrounding areas of Gloucestershire.
484. Yes, I do. To improve Cheltenham's image as a centre of culture it is essential to support local theatre, especially one with such history.
485. The Everyman is important in ensuring the vibrant arts amenities which are a feature of Cheltenham and make it a desirable place to live and work, so I agree it should be supported - but can't comment on the amount since you provide nothing to compare it to.
486. Yes. Live theatre is important
487. Yes. The loan to the Everyman could be a large bonus in promoting the awareness of civic pride if it is managed with financial shrewdness and the Everyman provides a properly balanced programme of events.
488. Absolutely. The people want it!!
489. Yes, definitely - we take our children regularly and think that this is a most important building not only from a historic point of view but as a vital public amenity. It would be a travesty not to support this cause.
490. Yes. Even though I live in Gloucester, my wife and I are regular visitors to The Everyman and see it as an asset not only to Cheltenham but to the world of theatre. Our grandchildren had their first experience of live theatre at this venue and that is why it needs to be preserved for future generations.
491. Definitely. The Theatre is fantastic for everyone no matter what age you are either watching or getting involved. Would be a good idea to get kids off the streets and playing an active roll in activities like the Theatre and being able to express

- themselves. Theatre is so important to us. Please don't let this beautiful Theatre down. I love attending this Theatre as it feels so personal, you always feel so involved with the actors. Let's treat our older buildings with the respect they deserve instead of replacing them with uncharacteristic modern ones.
492. Absolutely. A classic opera house in a classic town and the oldest operating Matcham theatre in Britain, the Everyman is a cultural jewel in the town and county. It must not be allowed to deteriorate through lack of funding.
493. Yes I do. A loan is really the only way to go. I'm not sure about the grant, maybe an interest free loan but no grant, whichever proves to make the best financial sense for the council.
494. I am 100% behind the plan to support the Everyman
495. Unreservedly agree .The Everyman Theatre is a superb asset to the town and fully deserving of the council's support.
496. We agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre by Cheltenham Council. IT is the only theatre locally that can put on the plays and shows that everyone enjoys. It is very important to keep it in good repair.
497. Yes, absolutely. The Everyman is a good money-earner for Cheltenham. It brings in people from far and wide, who otherwise would not necessarily visit Cheltenham, and who, once there, spend money on other things, such as restaurants and shops, and who may therefore be encouraged to visit more often. I also know of local people who prefer to go to the theatre in Malvern, as it's more comfortable. Should the Everyman succeed in obtaining this funding, it will be in a position to attract even more people into Cheltenham.
498. Yes, it is an essential local venue that must be maintained.
499. Yes. The Everyman is a real asset to the town.
500. Everyone in our family definitely agrees with this and Cheltenham would be much diminished as a cultural town without this loan.
501. Yes - Cheltenham provides very little in entertainment, the Everyman needs all the help it can get.
502. Yes, as they put on something for everyone.
503. I would hate to see the theatre close. It is a unique resource which gives many people much pleasure. Yes. I agree
504. Yes. The arts are essential. The Everyman must be fully financed by the council
505. Two years ago I visited the Everyman Theatre with my wife for the first time in many years. We were very impressed by the performance that we saw and have since returned on a number of occasions and have already made bookings for later in this year. We enjoy visiting this excellent theatre and I would like to ask the Council to fully support them with their request for funding and a loan. Although I do not live in Cheltenham I feel it would be a sad loss to the area if help was not given.
506. No, it is simply not enough. Without the Everyman Cheltenham wouldn't attract the Plays/Acts that they have over the last few years.
507. Yes - an important contribution to community life, arts and culture, and tourism, at little long term expense to the council
508. Yes I do agree, the Everyman is a very important facility for the County. The building must not be allowed to get to the point where it is beyond repair or unsafe for actors and users. That would be false economy.
509. The Everyman is a core cultural element of the Cheltenham scene, bringing much valued expenditure from visitors and residents alike to the town centre. It is moreover an iconic theatre which it is our responsibility to conserve and protect both for present and future benefit to town residents
510. Yes. This is a fantastic resource for the area. It not only puts on excellent productions, but also provides young people with training and activities in drama, extending what is available in schools and channelling the interests of lively, creative youngsters in positive ways. It draws in visitors (of whom I am one) who make a visit to the theatre part of a mid-week or weekend stay in Cheltenham, bringing further profits to local establishments. Stratford is quite near, and without the theatre there would be no point coming to Cheltenham just for the shops - there are lovely shops elsewhere, but the theatre puts on such good shows its worth coming. (We do go to Stratford too, but without the Everyman, we would stick with going just to Stratford and not bother to come to Cheltenham so often).

511. Yes I agree with the plan to loan money to the Everyman Theatre. It is a beautiful theatre that needs to be updated. The seating particularly needs replacing as the seats are small and uncomfortable and not suited to modern day. I fear that audiences will decline and a valuable asset to Cheltenham will be lost.
512. The theatre is an important part of the cultural life of Cheltenham and affords entertainment to thousands of residents every week.
513. Yes - the Everyman is a long-term investment for the future of Cheltenham. A town the size of Cheltenham and with its cultural history, festivals etc need a theatre of the Everyman's quality.
514. Yes. For a town that is cultural centre, a well kept theatre is an essential asset.
515. Yes...theatre brings in out of town money to the economy and is a cultural resource for town's people.
516. Yes - this is the only decent theatre in the area bringing top shows to this county
517. I think the Everyman is a good venue but could be enhanced considerably by refurbishment. It is at the heart of many of the cultural events Cheltenham offers and I much prefer the atmosphere to the Town Hall.
518. I agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre. It is a wonderful building and their programme is an important part of the cultural life of the town.
519. Yes, yes, yes.
520. I agree that the Everyman plays an important role in the image of the town, enhancing the equality of life here and also giving us a sense of historical tradition, important for our self-respect.
521. Yes definitely as I feel it provides value to the town. People travel from a wide area to support their productions.
522. Very much so, a great idea.
523. Certainly - although we no longer live in the Cheltenham area we travel to the Everyman theatre fairly regularly as it is the only venue to see top class plays and performers - otherwise a trip to Bristol would be the nearest option. Whilst visiting the Everyman we usually shop in Cheltenham first, paying car park charges, and eating before the theatre and having a drink afterwards so the theatre and the wider community benefit from a visit.
524. Yes, the Everyman Theatre is an important amenity in the town - and a historic building
525. Yes. As a historical building, it is important to ensure buildings such as this one are maintained. It also provides a well-used source of entertainment.
526. Yes - it is a public building of local significance.
527. Yes I agree. It is important that the members of the community are able to take advantage of the many excellent productions that are available at a local venue. If we had to travel further it all adds to the cost of such social occasions and would therefore result in not so many members of the community being able to see them.
528. As much support and funding as possible should be made available for such an important social and historical amenity. A frequent and long standing supporter of Everyman productions.
529. Completely agree with this as it is mostly a loan that is repayable. It attracts many visitors and we need more!
530. Yes. Gloucester does not have a theatre and the Everyman is the place where quality productions can be put on - it is essential for the culture of the area that it is maintained in good condition
531. Yes; the Everyman is an important asset for Cheltenham and needs continual restoration to remain relevant. These funds are vital to that.
532. Yes. The Everyman is an important part of the history of Cheltenham. Renovation would attract more people to the city. Without the theatre the city would suffer from a declining number of visitors and other businesses would suffer as a result. It is the Council's duty to ensure that the Everyman survives to be enjoyed by future generations.
533. Yes- we must keep our theatre.
534. Yes. The town is well known for, and benefits in many ways from its festivals and a thriving Everyman Theatre, able to attract first class plays and other attractions throughout the year, surely provides a necessary continuum .It helps meet a number

- of the priorities set out in Q. 2, such as promoting tourism, civic pride, employment as well as adding to art and culture as explained above.
535. Yes as its one of the few enjoyments I have.
536. I don't see why it's a bad thing. End of the day it's a loan so you're not actually losing the money. If it was a gesture of giving them money then that's a different question. End of the day, if you don't do it, then the only alternative is loans elsewhere or let the place rot. It's not exactly a big gesture by the council is it?
537. Yes, strongly. We are very lucky to have some a wonderful theatre in our town. The theatre brings great pleasure and positive influence to all ages in this area. We should recognise our responsibilities and ensure it is maintained for future generations.
538. Yes, the theatre is a very important feature of Cheltenham. As well as being a beautiful, historical building it is thoroughly enjoyed by all ages. It is also a powerful attraction for tourists. It is hugely important to maintain the theatre's high standard and not to allow it to become worn and shabby with repairs left undone due to lack of funding. The £1 million is a loan which will be repaid over time. The £250,000 grant will be money well spent.
539. Once gone this theatre could never be replaced. The theatre is a most important part of the culture for which Cheltenham is famous and therefore you should support this worthwhile heritage.
540. Yes - as a child I was taken to the theatre and have been pleased to be able to take my own children there in recent years - I hope to be able to continue to do this for years to come. It's a beautiful building and provides the opportunity for many to have access to facilities they may otherwise not have due to travel/cost restrictions. My children's school take the whole school once a year to the pantomime and it's become part of the annual calendar that all enjoy.
541. Yes, very much agree. The Everyman Theatre always lays on top productions and is vital for Cheltenham and the wide surrounding area. We travel up from Reading and other family members come from Swindon and the Forest of Dean. Another bonus point is the parking facility right at the theatre. It would be such a great loss if this theatre were abandoned
542. Yes I do. I love getting the opportunity to go to arts and cultural events at the Everyman and think it enriches our lives here in Cheltenham.
543. Yes definitely. At a time of cuts and squeeze it's easy to see this as one that can go, but medium to long-term the theatre will continue to be a major asset and a cultural marker of a place which regards itself as vibrant, distinctive and responsive to its community.
544. A very good idea!!!
545. Definitely
546. Yes, I believe that arts are an essential part of society. Drama can help an understanding of humanity, helping people to empathise with other cultural or racial groups and other sectors of society. It is often harder to argue a case for the arts as the effects are less visible. Look at a society without access to the arts and you look at a repressed or sterile one. Over recent years I have seen plays dealing with learning difficulties ("Of Mice and Men"). Teenage angst and self harm (Rhys Watkins, work in progress), heard brilliant jazz, opera and folk music. The heart of Cheltenham would stop beating if live theatre disappeared.
547. I do support this option. As someone who lives outside of the Cheltenham area and with limited access to decent theatre opportunities, I believe it is important not just for the people of Cheltenham but for the surrounding parts of the county. Cultural events at theatres such as these provide an important contrast to the so called populist entertainment we are exposed to on television. From the pragmatic side, during a time of national financial constraint, the maintenance and development of such provincial centres of excellence attracts more people to the town with consequent local spending rather than having to travel to London or Birmingham.
548. The Everyman is important in encouraging tourism, providing employment and making Cheltenham a town proud of its cultural excellence. I agree with the plans to support it.
549. I think it is well worth the money to maintain the theatre and to keep the attraction in the town, which will in turn generate more income from visitors to Cheltenham. Don't let this theatre go to waste like so many others

550. Yes. It is an historic and important amenity for Cheltenham which needs preserving.
551. Yes. Although not a Cheltenham resident we have enjoyed and supported the Everyman for 40 years plus. Its demise would be a huge blow for the town and its people
552. Yes, 100%. The theatre provides a superb range of entertainment for a variety of tastes and ages. Cheltenham is considered a quality town and as such should have a theatre to live up to the standards people expect from it.
553. Yes I do, it is a fantastic theatre and always makes me feel I am in the West End
554. I agree with plans to support the Everyman theatre with both the loan and grant. The theatre is a real gem both architecturally and in its programme of events. It is a very special building.
555. Yes - complete agreement, The Everyman is a unique and historic venue and part of the theatre experience is the building/theatre itself. It is on a par with the Bath's theatre Royal & the Bristol Old Vic. There is no equivalent venue in Cheltenham let alone Gloucestershire
556. Yes I Do. The Everyman Theatre is a jewel in Cheltenham` town. Everything possible should be done to support it and also to improve and enhance its appearance. My daughter was a member of the youth theatre group for eleven years; participating in wonderful performances as well as attending many wonderful plays and shows being performed there. I have used the everyman Outreach programme to visit the school I was head of; again another wonderful experience. I also enjoy attending plays/shows at the theatre and would urge you to support the theatre financially
557. Yes, definitely.
The Everyman theatre is a vital part of Cheltenham's culture and history. It must be saved, and not left to become derelict.
558. If money is available and the Everyman does not receive the grant, who will?
559. Absolutely yes. I think the Everyman Theatre is a must in Cheltenham. It is a great place to go for all of the family all year round as there is always something for everyone there. Due to its age and popularity it is looking a little worn and is in need to some work. The theatre brings so much to the area in the way of culture and people come from miles around to use it. It must be given this support.
560. Yes strongly.
561. Yes I think that this is essential for the town and its heritage. The nightclubs and bars are in abundance for the younger age group but the rest of the population are not catered for and if the Everyman was not maintained and enhanced, there would be no good quality theatre which runs west end touring productions. This would be a great loss to the town and the income to the town will decline. This and the gross overcharging and extending the times of the parking charges will result in no one visiting the town. I would not want to be walking around in a park after dark so park facilities are not something that your average working person who is at work all day would see as a priority.
562. Yes. It is vitally important to maintain the tradition of live theatre together with the Everyman's admired programme of education & outreach. A town like Cheltenham, which prides itself on its cultural heritage, should do everything it can to maintain and develop it. It's no good boasting of our really great festivals if we don't support our own institutions all year round.
563. Yes, it is vital to keep the town's rather too few attractions - the theatre appeals to all ages and is an interesting building architecturally.
564. I would definitely support this. The Everyman provides the town with positive press coverage and is an excellent source of entertainment for the public at reasonable prices. The local community also have a lot of involvement in the theatre. Money well spent.
565. Yes. The Everyman is a lovely little theatre and an asset to Cheltenham. It would be a shame if it was left to deteriorate and would end up costing even more to restore. They get a varied selection of productions to suit every taste and seem to be well supported from far and wide.
566. Yes! It is a fabulous asset to the area, and we would be much diminished without it.
567. Yes, I totally agree with this, as The Everyman is widely used by so many people in and around Cheltenham who use a verity of activities and to loose this integral part of the town would be disastrous.

568. Yes, agree strongly
The Everyman is a valuable source of entertainment, provides employment for theatre staff and performers alike and draws people into the town from surrounding areas
569. Live theatre in combination with the festivals this town offers, means it has the appeal of a much larger town. We have no natural 'tourist attractions'-I believe the theatre is a vital part of the town and in recent years has offered a wider programme that appeals to all age groups.
570. Yes I do agree. The restoration of the Everyman is very important to the town.
571. Yes we do agree with this. The Everyman Theatre is very important to the town and to us as a family with young children. We NEED the Everyman Theatre as part of our community, culture and education.
572. I support the Council's plan to support the redevelopment of the Everyman Theatre. I do not live within the Council area but frequently visit the theatre and would do so even more often if there was comfortable seating and adequate leg room.
573. Yes, this is a great asset.
574. Yes. A beautiful building that should be treasured.
575. This is one area where support is necessary in order to maintain a well supported place of decent entertainment in the town.
576. Yes. The Everyman Theatre provides a unique educational and cultural facility within Gloucestershire. It would be a devastating loss to both Cheltenham and the County if the theatre was to be allowed to fall into such a state of repair that it became unusable.
577. Yes we do. It is a very important venue in Cheltenham and needs support.
578. The Everyman is obviously an important asset for Cheltenham and needs to be properly maintained but the sums above will have a major impact on other priorities where spending on maintenance on facilities used by the public and of importance to Cheltenham's heritage is at least as urgent.
579. Decidedly yes. The Everyman Theatre is a gem of a venue and must be recognised as a valuable part of Cheltenham's proud heritage. It looks tired and as a matter of urgency for the good name of the town, it must be restored to its former full glory so that it can truly reflect its important historical position and, by so doing, enhance the high standing of the beautiful Regency town of which we are all so justly proud.
580. Yes. it is not only a magnificent theatre but it attracts good actors and thus good events.
581. Most certainly, yes, because it performs a vital role in the life of Cheltenham, and provides the best in entertainment of all types and is a great attraction to visitors. It is part of Cheltenham's heritage and appeal.
582. Very strongly agree. It is a jewel, but is beginning to look shabby. I am amazed what a splendid programme of events they produce.
583. Yes. The theatre attracts visitors to the area bringing in extra revenue to the town. If it was to fall into decline this would be detrimental to Cheltenham and a loss of a fantastic, historic facility.
584. Yes, it is important to support Cheltenham's Theatre.
585. Very tricky one for me. I love the Everyman theatre and go regularly; therefore I'm in broad agreement of supporting arts and culture, which are key to Cheltenham's character. That said, the theatre is not exactly in a bad state of repair. I've not seen the plans (a link would have been useful), but I will go for a qualified 'yes', I agree with the grant and loan.
586. Essential, the Everyman is an element of Cheltenham that must be maintained to attract its audience to Cheltenham which in turn leads to those individuals visiting other parts of the town and spending monies in local shops and restaurants.
587. Yes - the Everyman represents a value for money excellent theatre which offers shows for all sections of the community. It is also invaluable because equivalent theatre would mean travelling to Birmingham or Bristol.
588. Yes - support the Everyman
589. Yes - the theatre provides an important cultural facility within the town which is in keeping with the promotion of the Cheltenham Festivals' and as significant venue for tourism and visits.
590. Yes. A wonderful theatre.

591. Yes. The Theatre is a valuable historic asset and will support the community groups that use it.
592. yes - very much so
593. Yes - this is a community project with many benefits.
594. Yes, the Everyman is a fantastic venue at an affordable price often showing West End Productions. It is essential to maintain and keep running.
595. Yes, but I am not a Cheltenham council taxpayer. From where my partner and I live on the south-western edge of Gloucestershire (Tidenham parish, Forest of Dean district), it is actually easier to get to theatres in Bristol and Newport than to travel to Cheltenham. Yet we have been, for many years, frequent visitors to the Everyman, which regularly stages a more stimulating and attractive range of touring productions than those on offer in venues closer to home. We try to make the most of our opportunities to see well-staged productions in a wonderful historic theatre, and our visits to the Everyman often form the centrepiece of a longer visit to the town. Depending on the timing, we may travel to Cheltenham by train or car, contributing to the local economy on every visit -- parking, taxis, cafes, restaurants, shops, museums, galleries, even overnight stays in hotels. We may have a drink or a meal in the Everyman's own cafe bar, or in Matcham's Restaurant. We are aware that the maintenance of the fabric is a significant expense for all theatres, especially such treasured heritage buildings as the Everyman. But we are concerned that a failure to support the refurbishment plan may trigger a downward spiral of increasing shabbiness, declining audiences, and lower quality productions. In such circumstances our support for regional theatre would go elsewhere -- say, to Bath or Cardiff.
596. Yes, the Theatre is a fundamental part of Cheltenham's heritage and needs support to maintain this fantastic facility
597. Yes, as the loan will be repaid and the Everyman is a viable venture. I bring visitors to Cheltenham to see shows at least eight times a year and they bring revenue with overnight stays at hotels and meals out in local businesses. The youth theatre is a great way of keeping children busy and out of mischief!
598. Yes, definitely
599. We believe that the Everyman Theatre is an historic treasure in Gloucestershire which should be preserved. As regular patrons we have been more and more concerned at the obvious deterioration in the auditorium. It would appear that immediate action is needed to safeguard its future. As the only theatre in Gloucestershire putting on first class plays etc. it would be a dereliction of duty to allow this state of affairs to continue.
600. A necessary asset to the town to compare favourably with Bath.
601. Yes. The Everyman theatre is important to this town and should be supported.
602. Yes. It is a historically important building; a valuable source of employment for the town; it brings people into the town who then spend money at other businesses too e.g. restaurants, hotels, shops coach companies etc; it has a valuable outreach programme for young people. The venue needs to be sympathetically refurbished to ensure that it can remain fully functional as a 21st century venue in order to be able to attract audiences and theatre companies etc to come to it.
603. Yes, the everyman is part of our history and my girls (5 and 2) will be disappointed if we lost it.
604. Yes - This is very much needed & would be an asset to the community & surrounding areas.
605. Yes, I think it is important that the Everyman theatre has a chance to make improvements to preserve itself, it would be something that I would not like to see lost through lack of money, keep it looking good, and people will continue to go to see quality performances.
606. Living outside the Borough, I cannot comment on the impact on your Council Tax payers. However, as a patron of the Everyman several times a year, and appreciating the entertainment it provides far beyond the Borough's boundaries, I feel that it would be a disgrace if this historic theatre were allowed to fall into decay.
607. Totally agree.
608. The Everyman is vital to life in Cheltenham and must be supported.
609. Yes yes yes

610. Most definitely as this magnificent theatre must not be allowed to deteriorate to what would result in an inevitable conclusion. Not only would this have an effect on local employment which is an already suffering area, it would remove a long standing and prestigious gem from a town that has already lost some of its shine.
611. Definitely yes- this is an important local building, draws visitors from outside Cheltenham, venue for large events at the important Cheltenham festivals and allowing it to fall in to disrepair at all would be disastrous,
612. Definitely yes. Beautiful theatre with loyal following of theatre goers
613. We live in Great Malvern but come to Cheltenham for two purposes each year. We support the Everyman Theatre and the Cheltenham Book Festival. We cannot comment on most of the items under consultation but we can say that anything which threatens either of these two ventures is likely to reduce the number of visitors to the town - and hence their opportunity to spend their money in Cheltenham.
614. Absolutely - please see my comments already communicated on this matter.
615. It's very important for Cheltenham to preserve this fine theatre. The building is so beautiful and definitely worth restoring.
616. We began frequenting the Everyman Theatre during the latter part of 2009 and we intend to go again next month. We usually have a small group of about 8 - 10 people each time. I think it needs some renovation and I agree that it should get the support it requires; otherwise it will be another historic part of Cheltenham that will die. We need to encourage people to go to the theatre and it should be welcoming once they get them in.
617. Yes I do agree to the plans to support the Everyman. Theatre is very important for the social context of Cheltenham and should be supported to keep it alive, viable, and vibrant. The Everyman provides a focus in terms of educational and intellectual stimulation for all types of people in Cheltenham and the surrounding areas.
618. Most definitely.
619. Yes definitely! The Everyman Theatre is a unique theatre and always has a lot to offer to the public with its up to date programme. To go there is a wonderful experience and it is always well supported. For most people going to see a show in London is not possible but we can do just as well going to see a show at the Everyman. Please, please do all you can to improve this beautiful theatre so that it can continue to be the jewel it is! Thank you!
620. Yes, the theatre provides a values service to Cheltenham residents and the whole of Gloucestershire and attracts people to the town who also support the town's bars and restaurants.
621. Yes. The Theatre is an important asset to the town.
622. Yes it's one of the best places for local entertainment as well as one of the finest buildings in town.
623. Yes, yes, yes. Live theatre is a vital, living part of our culture, and the Everyman is getting shabby and its seats are uncomfortable. It badly needs an update.
624. Yes most definitely as to loose such an educational theatre to the county would be a tragedy. Not only is it a great place of entertainment it provides vital education to the youngsters of the area not only in drama and music but in communicating with others. Please do not waiver in this plan the Everyman works hard for so many and will continue to do so. Furthermore it is such an historical treasure that it should not be lost to the nation.
625. Good idea.
626. This is a wonderful theatre with lots of atmosphere. It would be a shame to let it decay any more.
627. Yes to the loan, not so sure about the grant.
628. Yes, the theatre is a precious resource, and enhances Cheltenham's status as a centre for literature and the arts with all the cultural, educational, social and economic benefits this brings (we live outside Cheltenham, and as usual, and like many other theatre-goers, we enjoy a meal in town, and possibly a little shopping, when we visit the Everyman - as indeed we are doing this evening!).
629. I agree with the loan but not the grant. If the theatre is desperate for the money they should look elsewhere, such as the Lottery.
630. Yes. An important town like Cheltenham needs a thriving theatre. I live in a village and visit the Everyman about once a month. Many tourists are attracted to the town, partly

- as it has a theatre that puts on quality shows. Being able to travel to London to visit theatres is not an option for many people in the Cheltenham area. The Everyman puts on many touring versions of major shows, which is important for the culture and business of Cheltenham. Many people, like me, come into the town to visit the theatre and spend money in shops, restaurants and pubs when we do so, thereby helping support other businesses in Cheltenham. The theatre is a lovely theatre, but is getting rather run down and tired. If it does not get a major face lift, audiences will start to dwindle, which will then threaten the survival of the theatre. This, in turn, will damage the prosperity of Cheltenham.
631. Depends how long the loan is for. Theatre is one of the better things about Cheltenham and needs to be supported.
632. Yes - it provides a valuable service and is a central feature of Cheltenham
633. Yes. This is the only professional theatre in the County and is in serious need of support. Culture is such an important part of the town's history.
634. This is vitally important, as this is a gem of a theatre and brings people into Cheltenham from far & wide.
635. Yes, this is a valuable resource which attracts visitors to the area
636. The Everyman Theatre is a critically important cultural destination. I fully support this decision.
637. Yes, Cheltenham would be the poorer for the loss of the theatre and all it brings to the town.
638. Yes, sensible.
639. Yes. As a regular user of the Everyman, but not being resident in Cheltenham, (Forest of Dean) there is nowhere comparable for environment, intimacy and entertainment without travelling some distance. You are then faced with a large nondescript building of no interest. Every time we go the theatre is full and historic buildings such as these should be maintained otherwise we are in danger of not only losing the performances but part of our heritage too. Keep it open & well-maintained!
640. Yes, I most certainly do agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre. This theatre provides an essential venue for brilliant plays and shows, very often straight from the West End, which means that we do not have to travel to London or Bath or Malvern to see these productions. Cheltenham will be the poorer if the Everyman is not supported as people will definitely go elsewhere and the town will lose much needed support and interest. We have personally taken friends and visitors from Australia, Canada, London, Devon, and Lincolnshire to see productions here and are most proud of this wonderful theatre. Long may it continue.
641. Yes the Everyman theatre should be supported; it is a valuable asset to the town of Cheltenham.
642. Yes, absolutely. The town needs to up hold its cultural place on the map. Cheltenham can really lift it's head in pride about the Literature festival and fabulous rising talent at the Everyman.
643. Yes 100% - the everyman is a fantastic theatre and should be supported.
644. We feel the Everyman is essential for the community in and around Cheltenham and is much in need of having a considerable amount of money spent on it. We would fully support any such project.
645. I agree that full support should be given to the Everyman so that they can continue to supply the excellent service they have done over many years.
646. Yes I fully agree with the plans for supporting the Everyman Theatre, this is a beautiful building which is an asset to Cheltenham, but is need of some restoring to bring it up to it's full glory.
647. Yes, the acoustics of the Everyman, its Historic back ground and ambience make it incomparable in this area.
648. We visit the Everyman as a family every 3-4 months and enhancing this experience would increase our visits and attract people in the area that haven't been before
649. Yes. The Everyman is an asset to the town. It should be cherished and protected as it brings much needed income to the economy.
650. Yes the theatre is important to the town. The Everyman is one of the finest historic buildings in Cheltenham - much loved and much used by the people of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire. It has a marvellous track-record for innovative education and community activities. Without the support of a grant, the theatre will just become

- shabbier and uncomfortable and audiences will inevitably decline. The restoration is essential for jobs at the Everyman and for the economy of the town.
651. Yes I do the everyman theatre is special to Cheltenham if the theatre was to close it would be a great shame. It brings visitors to Cheltenham and offers good value for money.
652. Yes would hate to see people not attending because of theatre shabbiness. It's a great theatre.
653. Yes, definitely. The Everyman is an important part of Cheltenham and attracts visitors from far and wide as well.
654. Yes I agree as this enhances the community and also encourages tourism which will help boost the economy in the area leading to more jobs and pride in our area.
655. Yes - funding for the theatre is essential. Encouraging top class acts to appear at the Everyman helps locally and nationally. Maintaining a building of historical importance is important.
656. Yes, it is important to support the Everyman both for its historical significance and for the wide range of cultural activities that it promotes.
657. Yes I agree with these plans as the Everyman is a very historic theatre. Cheltenham should be proud of it and anxious to preserve it. It is 'the' theatre of the County and many other towns and/or cities would be only to glad if it were theirs. Cheltenham is proud of its other history and should seek to restore the Everyman to its natural glory.
658. Yes, yes, yes.
659. Yes I do, a comparatively minor grant when compared to the benefit.
660. Yes. These valuable institutions help to create a "real" sense of identity (rather than the hollow spin of civic pride and other such intangibles).
661. Yes, I think this is an important provider of jobs in the area and is an historic landmark. Useful in attracting more visitors and business to the town.
662. Yes, great news.
663. Yes, the Everyman has been a lynchpin in our tourism and attracts visitors to the town, particularly during Christmas and summer holidays and therefore has a knock on effect on local economy. I would hate to see it fall into disrepair or worse be forced to close.
664. Yes- a unique local facility that brings pleasure and trade to Cheltenham.
665. Yes, I do. The theatre is a great asset to the town but does need refurbishing. The Council's help will enable the work to be undertaken more quickly.
666. Yes. The Everyman is an important facility not only for people of Cheltenham but across the Cotswolds. It provides enjoyment for both adults and children. Indirectly it also provides revenue for the town as visitors coming to the theatre may incorporate shopping, eating etc.
667. Yes - this theatre is an integral part of Cheltenham and needs to be properly maintained.
668. Yes, very strongly - the Everyman Theatre is a vital asset to the town & the community & this would be a very worthwhile investment in maintaining that asset
669. Yes, from what I understand this is a great idea
670. Yes - strongly.
671. Yes, a town like Cheltenham needs a theatre and to lose it would be a retrograde step.
672. The Everyman is a key aspect of Cheltenham's role as a centre for arts and entertainment and it also attracts visitors to the town who contribute to the economy.
673. Certainly, especially as the major part is by way of a loan. If civic pride is a priority, where would we stand without a professional theatre?
674. Yes, the Everyman is important to Cheltenham and does much useful work, both at the theatre and through outreach programmes.
675. Wholly support the Everyman Theatres plans for maintaining and enhancing one of Gloucestershire most important facilities.
676. Yes - I think the Everyman Theatre is an essential part of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire's Culture.
677. Yes I agree with the plans to support the Everyman by way of a loan. It is important that we retain the Everyman Theatre; it provides economic revenue to the town. As well as a popular form of entertainment to the public. There are also important education benefits to the young people of Gloucestershire.

678. Absolutely. Brings in much needed revenue to the town.
679. This is a facility enjoyed by not just people from Cheltenham but from the whole county and surroundings. The theatre is usually fully booked so many thousands would be denied entertainment in these depressing times.
680. Yes, I do.
681. Yes, it is a vital piece of Cheltenham's heritage.
682. I am not a resident in Cheltenham so feel it is inappropriate to comment on other matters but I would plead for the Everyman and ask the council to support it. It does add greatly to the town's amenities and attracts much support from the surrounding area as well as from the people of Cheltenham itself. It is of great historical and cultural value and its loss would be a poor reflection on a town of Cheltenham's size and character. I am perfectly happy to pay higher car park charges for the privilege of coming to Cheltenham's lovely theatre.
683. Yes. The Theatre is a wonderful asset to Cheltenham. Providing top quality theatre which enables people to visit the theatre frequently because of the ease of access. Not all people are physically able or able to afford trips to London, Bristol, and Bath etc.
684. Yes - it is important that Cheltenham's key attraction is supported, both in terms of its architecture and its cultural and artistic importance.
685. Yes, yes, yes.
686. The Everyman is an historic building - I would very much like to see it preserved. I would be willing to pay an additional voluntary fee per ticket booking for that purpose (perhaps 50p). Perhaps there should be a SMALL number of very low priced or free concessionary seats available for every performance as a gesture towards the community. The Everyman should also look to put on and attract popular plays and events- I would go more often.
687. Yes, it's a historic building in a town which is rapidly becoming a glass and concrete city. The performances and indeed the building itself bring entertainment to many and should be treasured.
688. Yes, absolutely. As a Drama and English teacher I use the Everyman frequently, not just for attending performances and workshops but also as a venue to instruct students about theatre history. The auditorium and front of house is an incredible teaching resource and deserves to be maintained as such. It is accessible and serves many schools in the area providing excellent value for money in the main. The Reachout programme is particularly good and the staff and sourced practitioners are tremendously efficient and knowledgeable. Please please keep this theatre in the excellent maintained condition it deserves for these very reasons. The theatre is too valuable as an educational and historical resource to let it deteriorate.
689. Yes, Cheltenham needs a good theatre as it is known for its literary festivals etc
690. I believe that the Everyman provides an entertainment focus for the wider area that generates benefit for Cheltenham far in excess of the grant and loan interest that it will cost Cheltenham. An example of providing leadership in encouraging additional income for Cheltenham.
691. Yes. The theatre is a great local asset, the loss of which would greatly impoverish the town's cultural amenities.
692. Yes. I believe that the Everyman Theatre brings many people into Cheltenham to the benefit of its economy and is important as a feature in civic pride. The cultural life of the borough would be much diminished if we lost it through an unattractive environment or Health and Safety problems. There would also possibly a knock-on effect on other cultural events which sustain the town. Support in this way by the Council will encourage other people to do their part in fundraising for the preservation of the Theatre and the town's cultural life.
693. Yes, very important.
694. Yes, it is a vital arts link in Cheltenham. The range of productions pulls people in from all over the county and country and the whole of Cheltenham benefits from this.
695. The Everyman is an essential part of Cheltenham's impressive history and identity. The theatre has and still does attract major figures, thus maintaining the town's status and reputation for culture, not just the races and the many bars. The Everyman is a place where Cheltenham's young generations can discover excellence and see that dreams can come true - and that there is more to being grown up than getting drunk

- for a pastime. I am involved in education and know that if the past is neglected and pushed aside simply to serve the commercial present we are robbing our young of their future.
696. Yes - main part is a loan, so get money back anyhow.
697. Yes, strongly.
698. It is a large sum but a town like Cheltenham does need a live theatre as an essential part of the entertainment that is provided for residents and visitors.
699. Definitely.
700. Yes I would like to support the Council making money available to the Everyman restoration.
701. Strongly agree with Everyman theatre support by way of £1 million loan + grant.
702. I believe that loaning money to the theatre is a good investment for the town. We used to be seen as a good shopping place but others have grown past us, we need something to bring people here.
703. Absolutely. The Everyman is a huge attraction to residents of Gloucestershire and beyond. It is wonderful for the young theatre attendees (myself being one, aged 23). Tickets are reasonably priced and it is a fantastic night out; rather than going to a pub and drinking! Not only is it great for locals, but a huge attraction for tourists and a great venue for the Literature Festival. Please do everything in your power to help and support the theatre. It is a marvellous place.
704. Yes. The Everyman should be encouraged to serve the community and beyond with far reaching theatre and associated arts programmes, and it needs its building in good repair in order successfully to do this. Investing in the Theatre is a vital investment for the whole community and the future. The power and potential of theatre should never be underestimated.
705. I most certainly agree with these plans and I have recently written a letter to the "Echo" in support. The building is one of Cheltenham's finest assets architecturally and having provided the town with entertainment (for over 118 years), it is of historic importance and must not be allowed to fall into disrepair. It should be treated in the same way as Museums and Libraries.
706. Yes. The Everyman is a wonderful, historic venue for drama, but is in desperate need of refurbishment. Money spent on this project will help several priorities, e.g. civic pride, protecting/enhancing the environment, arts/culture and tourism.
707. The Everyman is a key aspect of Cheltenham's role as a centre for arts and entertainment. It desperately needs money to maintain the beautiful building and continue giving pleasure to the thousands of visitors it receives every year.
708. Yes, the theatre is extremely popular with all ages but needs to be maintained well and provide comfortable seating and facilities etc.
709. Yes, I think the Everyman is a vital tourist spot and would benefit from a make over. This would most likely attract more people when done and give the town an even bigger reputation for arts and culture which is needed in our society today.
710. Yes we should be making the theatre an affordable night out for everyone,
711. I think it is important to support the Everyman Theatre with funding as this is an important venue for Cheltenham and the county which is essential to the festival town and tourism bringing finance to the town. It would be detrimental to Cheltenham not to have a well maintained and beneficial theatre.
712. I think the plans to support the Everyman theatre should most definitely go ahead, it is a great asset to have a live theatre in Cheltenham, the variation of shows and actors are not to be lost and to have such a beautiful building makes the enjoyment even better.
713. Definitely. This is an extremely important element in this area and many people from all over come to view shows on at the theatre. This is a wonderful historic building and provides an excellent service to all who come.
714. Yes. It brings many benefits to the area. Culture and music and during participation in hosting the various festivals it brings considerable numbers into the area that would otherwise not visit and spend money.
715. Yes - it is a landmark in the town of Cheltenham and must be preserved
716. Yes- the Everyman theatre is an important cultural attraction for Cheltenham and the area and generates money for the local economy. It also does excellent outreach work within the community. It should be supported in its efforts to maintain and

- improve its existing facilities. If it is not able to do this, it will gradually become less appealing to paying customers, which have had an adverse effect on all its activities.
717. Yes. I think that the theatre is a key player in Cheltenham life both for residents and visitors. To keep this facility in good heart it certainly needs some attention. I last went to a performance last Thursday so do actually support the theatre. Without good facilities touring productions will not visit which will lead to lower ticket sales and a downward spiral.
718. Yes, I agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre as it is an important part of Cheltenham bringing in income and interest into the town.
719. Yes a very valuable Asset for the Town and County.
720. Yes. It is important to look after cultural elements of society. It provides a wide range of services that give people a different outlet. It is hard to fill the gap of these services once they are gone. As they say prevention is better than the cure.
721. Yes. It is important to look after cultural elements of society. It provides a wide range of services that give people a different outlet. It is hard to fill the gap of these services once they are gone. As they say prevention is better than the cure.
722. To my knowledge the everyman theatre provides affordable theatre productions to a very high standard. It is a real plus for Cheltenham to have a theatre that people of all ages and abilities can enjoy. To lose the theatre [due to lack of funding] would be a great loss for the town.
723. Yes I Support the restoration funding for the theatre.
724. The Everyman is a key aspect of Cheltenham's role as a centre for arts and entertainment. The Everyman attracts visitors to the town who contribute to the economy. I would like to support the council making money available to the Everyman restoration.
725. Yes, the theatre is an important part of Cheltenham and the town will benefit from its continued success.
726. It is easy to take facilities such as the Everyman theatre for granted.
It puts on a wide variety of entertainment and does great educational work.
If finances are not forthcoming to improve the theatre it is possible to envisage a time, in the not too distant future, when it would no longer be able to operate and compete in the market. Not everyone is able to travel further afield for plays etc., or would want to return home so late at night from Bristol, Birmingham etc.
727. As the prime centre of entertainment in the Cotswolds, I believe it is essential to support the Everyman Theatre. Too many of the country's cultural centres have been eliminated in recent years and I believe the process should be halted without very good reason to cease funding. I would particularly apply this argument to libraries and theatres.
728. Yes this is a historic building that should be protected & used for its original purpose.
729. Absolutely. We need to support Town Centre regeneration and maintenance in order to continue to attract visitors and provide local amenities. The Everyman Theatre is renowned. It should not be left to decay gradually. It is and should remain a beacon for the arts in Cheltenham.
730. Yes, this is an amenity that should be cherished.
731. Yes a healthy theatre is essential to promote and support the tourist industry.
732. Yes I do. It is an important aspect of the town's economy and is also an important aspect of the well-being of Cheltenham.
733. Definitely. We think the Everyman is an important part of Cheltenham.
734. Yes, because I think it is a feature of Cheltenham which attracts high quality performers, which in turn attract consumers who spend money in the town, bars and restaurants etc. We need to maintain these facilities, as a positive attribute, rather than just spending on crime and disorder which is very depressing...
735. Yes. This is a wonderful amenity.
736. Yes. The Everyman is an important feature of the town.
737. Yes the theatre is an asset to the town and also a revenue maker(tourists).
738. Yes I think that it is imperative to maintain this great theatre.
739. The majority of the support takes the form of a loan so will be repaid to the Council with interest. The Grant is important to support The Everyman in its very important role in promoting the Arts in this area. It also acts as a venue to many of the Festivals put on in Cheltenham and together with the core events The Everyman put on i.e.

- plays and other productions these all help to bring additional revenue in to the Town thus helping everyone in Cheltenham
740. I totally agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre loan. It is a very important part of the arts in this area, a lovely old theatre which should be updated in order that the good and interesting plays and shows continue to come here, and so that the public can enjoy this very good entertainment in comfort. I hope that the plans go ahead and the loan will be agreed without too much trouble as the theatre certainly should be supported to the fullest extent.
741. It's a great venue & asset to the town.
742. Having used the Theatre over the years, and thoroughly enjoyed the various events together with a lovely venue, I have no hesitation in supporting the application for a £1 million loan with interest together with a £250k grant. This theatre must be refurbished if it is to continue serving the County.
743. I fully support the loan application. We need to support the Everyman because it is a treasure for Cheltenham, and gives many people immense pleasure with its varied programme throughout the year.
744. I feel that the everyman theatre is quite unique, and deserves the support requested. I have enjoyed several evenings' entertainment there and travel from Hagley in Worcestershire specifically to do so.
745. Yes the theatre deserves your support.
746. Yes. It is an important facility for local culture and education and enhances the Literary Festival etc.
747. The theatre provides a valuable local amenity. However maybe the site could extend its use to other local groups when not hosting shows.
748. Yes. This is a great theatre to which Cheltenham should be proud of and invest in for the benefit of its local people.
749. Yes, I do agree with the plans to support the Everyman theatre. Of course, updates and innovations are necessary to keep up with modern times. The Everyman theatre is an important part of Cheltenham's culture, and having survived so many crisis over the past years including the war, it is extremely important to continue with the outstanding performances at the theatre, its fantastic atmosphere and decor, which my family and I enjoy since many years.
750. Yes. It is a beautiful building and fitting venue for the first class presentations to be seen there.
751. I think the Everyman theatre is a good asset for the town, both for use by local people, but also during the Festivals. The Everyman helps attract people into Cheltenham from the surrounding areas
752. Yes! But I find this question disingenuous to say the least. Where is the mention of the £2,000,000 you are about to give to the Art Gallery/Museum? That is give, not loan! You own both buildings. The Everyman should be the jewel in the crown of this town which gives lip service to promoting culture. The Everyman is the oldest surviving Frank Matcham designed theatre in the country. We have lost so many Matcham theatres to philistinism across the country; it would be criminally insane to lose this one. The nearest other theatres are Malvern, Bath, Stratford, Birmingham, Bristol, quite a trek! We should not even be having this discussion. I despair of the Philistines who run this council.
753. Yes. As the Council own the building there is a responsibility for them to help and support the ongoing upkeep of the building.
754. Yes, there is no doubt about it.
755. Yes fully agree. A very good cause.
756. Yes. As it is a council-owned building I feel that the council has a duty to maintain its assets for the future benefit of the town and its visitors. Any money spent must enhance the value of council properties in general.
757. The theatre encourages people to come into Cheltenham, without tourists the town would decline, Tourism and our attractions are vital to keep Cheltenham on the map. A lovely comfortable theatre is essential; the Malvern theatre is lively and great to go to but how much better to visit a local one!
758. Yes- we do agree with your planned financial support for the Everyman and are grateful to you for recognising its National importance.
759. Yes. Very much so.

760. Strongly agree that this historic and community facility should be granted the funding to continue being a facility to be proud of.
761. Yes - the loan has no impact on the Council who are acting merely as brokers to enable the Everyman to access this funding. The £250k grant is a significant investment but given that the Everyman building itself is a council property it is an investment in the building stock of the council in the same way as the Pump Rooms, Town Hall and Museum etc. The investment will enhance the tourist offer the town is able to make and generating over time income for town centre retailers, and the Council.
762. Yes, I do. I would like to support the Council making money available to the Everyman restoration. As a professional performer living in Stroud who has recently become involved with Everyman productions, I would like to highlight the theatre as a centre for the dramatic arts in Gloucestershire, but one that has become somewhat shabby and run down. Financial support is essential in bringing this beautiful theatre into the 21st Century.
763. As one of the town's oldest surviving interiors as well as being of national historic importance I fully support the plan. The building has been long ignored by the council and is in desperate need of repairs to the auditorium. The theatre needs to be seen as a long term investment for the town and an educational resource rather than a nice place for a night out.
764. The theatre is looking shabby and has had no work carried out since the 1980s. It is owned by the Council. It's the Everyman's turn. The Everyman is a key aspect of Cheltenham's role as a centre for arts and entertainment. The Everyman attracts visitors to the town who contribute to the economy.
765. Yes we must not loose this wonderful theatre. Cheltenham must keep its history and this is such an asset. It brings people to the town for affordable days/evenings out and there will be so little impact on us as tax payers that it makes good sense to maintain this building.
766. Definitely. The theatre is a historic community asset and the programs draw people from outlying areas to enjoy the ambience of Cheltenham and to spend money, helping the economy. The programs are varied, so appeal to many interests.
767. I strongly support the plans to make these funds available for the Everyman. The theatre is central to our town's cultural heartbeat. It brings many visitors into the town, and if it is to continue to do so it must not be allowed to decline further - it is already somewhat shabby. The well loved theatre is owned by the council and the council therefore have a responsibility to ensure that it is adequately maintained. It is after all one of the town's most historic and well used buildings. I have experienced t the wonderful educational and community activities first hand and strongly believe that the needs of the theatre should not be overlooked. No work has been carried out on the building since the 80s - if the theatre's needs are not met I believe the local economy will suffer as a result of declining audiences. This would also impact on the parking revenue the council makes from the Regent Street car park.
768. Yes I do agree.
769. The Everyman is a very important contributor to making Cheltenham the prime cultural centre of the region. It is right to keep it in the best shape possible for present and future generations to enjoy. I support the Councils plans to help in this respect.
770. Yes. The Everyman contributes in so many ways to Cheltenham. We travelled from South Glos to see the Christmas show and I was amazed at the quality of the show and of the organisation. It's a real gem. We stayed and shopped in the town centre. Without the Theatre we wouldn't be visiting Cheltenham as often. The improvements will have a positive effect on the whole town.
771. I do agree with this. I believe the theatre is very important for many people in our town.
772. The Everyman is a vital part of Cheltenham; the heart of the town and important from a social and community point of view as well as for tourism. If it is there, it makes sense to keep it at the top of its game, with comfortable seating and environment. The theatre do a great job of putting on a good programme, they need the surroundings to get the best acts and to encourage people to come.
773. Yes completely. The Everyman is a crucial part of Cheltenham's heritage and it's future

774. Yes. The Everyman is the most important theatre in our area of the country. Unless it is properly maintained, it will lose that position and audiences will drop and performers will think twice about wanting to come to Cheltenham. On top of this, it remains the cornerstone for cultural events, festivals, shows etc in the town - music festivals, screenwriters etc - and the ability of the town to attract those visitors will suffer if the Everyman's reputation suffers.
775. Yes. The theatre is looking shabby and has had no work carried out since the 1980s. It is owned by the Council. It's the Everyman's turn and it is a valuable resource for the community.
776. Yes I most certainly do, I admit I do not live in Cheltenham But do enjoy frequent visits to the Everyman. There is no substitute for live theatre.
777. Yes, I would support the plans to help the Everyman as the theatre needs restoration urgently and it would benefit Cheltenham in attracting visitors to the town.
778. Yes to a £1m loan with interest, but an emphatic no to a £250k grant. The Everyman is a business and should be managed by the Board of Directors to a budget that includes sufficient funds for routine short-term maintenance and a reserve for long-term renovation. If the Board is unable to do this, it is incompetent and should be replaced. It is scandalous that they should run a business so poorly that they have to ask for charitable donations from taxpayers.
779. Yes - I feel that the Everyman plays an important cultural role for Cheltenham.
780. Yes. This is our heritage and for the benefit of future generations. It would be beneficial to the local community, visitors who spend money on other local services and a cultural legacy to all. The theatre needs the refurbishment and it will be an example of a British standard of work
781. Yes-we moved to Chelt due to theatre
782. Yes - vital to preserve & enhance Cheltenham's reputation & tourism industry
783. Definitely. I think this is a key part of Cheltenham's environment which is steeped in history and it is needed to preserve part of our heritage.
784. Most definitely. A lovely theatre which desperately requires maintenance and is a valuable asset to the town and its amenities.
785. Yes. Theatres are quite expensive to visit but also very enjoyable. The theatre needs up-dating.
786. Yes. The Everyman theatre is a very important asset to Cheltenham. The Everyman Theatre Cheltenham Development Trust raised over £0.5 million last year for the current project and this is a good example of how CBC can sustain the cultural environment of Cheltenham by leveraging charitable contributions.
787. Yes I do and I really wish the press would let the public know the full details of the Everyman Theatre's three year plan. Not only would the money allow the theatre to be refurbished, but it will more importantly allow the Reachout department to support the community with important and worthwhile projects. The department works with all ages of people, run by a group of just six people, with a small grant that has to spread to a minimum of 40,000 people each year. This grant will allow the team to employ other practitioners to continue to support and develop the work that is currently taking place. Too much importance is placed on league tables and an overly prescriptive national curriculum resulting in regular pressured testing. It has been ten years since the publication of All Our Futures: creativity, culture and education but it is as important – and as relevant – today as it was then. This grant is not just for a few corner stones and heritage paint for the theatre, it could encourage the community to engage with the work that takes place there.
788. Yes this is essential to enable Cheltenham to attract tourism and preserve a much loved historic theatre for the people who live in Cheltenham and the surrounding area
789. Yes - we believe the Everyman Theatre provides an essential service, especially in a time of recession when people need cheering up! Its ticket prices are extremely reasonable making it available to the majority of people. It is also an excellent educational resource. The building itself is of great historic interest and the auditorium is a very beautiful example of theatre ornamentation. We believe it should be given every assistance to help its maintenance and survival.
790. I agree with the plan. This is one of the finest buildings in the town and brings in revenue for the Council in terms of parking and for local businesses and restaurants.

791. The Everyman Theatre is an amazing asset to the town. The council would be foolish not to support it in any way possible.
792. I live in Cirencester and like many others very much see the Everyman as my local professional theatre giving access to high quality productions without the hassle of going to London. The Everyman is also a valuable venue for the Literary Festival. Indeed it is really Gloucestershire's theatre too - does it receive County Council funding? If Cheltenham wants to continue to have a high cultural profile, updating and maintaining the Everyman Theatre is essential.
793. Yes. As already indicated this loan will bring in extra money so it is a positive investment on a number of levels. Enriching the cultural awareness is wholly worthwhile and will be for years to come.
794. Yes - however money should be given elsewhere to as not everyone can afford to visit the theatre.
795. Yes. The scheme makes good sense and should be profitable over time, as well as adding to Cheltenham's prestige
796. The Everyman does definitely need the support of the council, it is a beautiful building, and puts on many great shows that people come from far away to see all the great performances put on. Please let it continue.
797. Most certainly. It is a wonderful theatre to which my family regularly attends. Cheltenham is very fortunate to possess such a facility and should maintain same for now and future generations.
798. Yes the theatre provides good value for money with its wide variety of events & is a major attraction for local and tourist trade alike. In fact it is the only place within Glos: which provides first class live "theatre".
799. I do agree with supporting the Everyman Theatre - it is a lovely theatre of character and a crucial part of Cheltenham - the theatre runs a very professional programme of drama and should be supported.
800. My family, children and grandchildren support the loan and grant, we feel Cheltenham would be less if the Everyman was allowed to go into decline.
801. Yes I agree. How can you think of letting this establishment fall by the wayside?
802. Definitely. With there being no decent 'art-house' cinema, the only other decent venue for entertainment in Cheltenham is the Town Hall. I imagine the theatre attracts a lot of people into Cheltenham and there's nowhere else to see good plays for quite a distance.
803. Yes - the venue is important as a theatre and a venue for the Cheltenham Festivals. It therefore is central to the development of Cheltenham.
804. Yes, we completely agree with the plans to support the Everyman theatre in this way.
805. The Arts have an important part in promoting community cohesion. I work at Hester's Way Children's Centre and going to the Everyman at Christmas to see The Master Cat was a first for many of our children and parents. I think that promoting creativity and looking at ways to bring about change through the arts is something that the Everyman should develop. I do support this plan for a loan. I would hate to see such a beautiful town left without a theatre.
806. Yes I do, I believe that the Everyman Theatre is an asset to Cheltenham and that keeping it up to date will encourage people to visit it. Also because of where it is placed it encourages people to visit the towns bars/restaurants and shops and therefore encouraging more spending in the area helping the local economy.
807. Yes. The Everyman has a great reputation and attracts visitors.
808. I completely agree with the plans to support the Everyman Theatre by way of a £1 million loan with interest plus a £250K grant. Not only is the building worth the investment but it is a centre of excellence for local people to enjoy the wide range of theatrical productions and entertainment presented. I urge the Council to commit to supporting this very important facility in the town.
809. 100% - this is a fantastic resource for the town which offer high quality arts for all. It is also a major tourist attraction drawing in people to the town from further afield. Please continue to support this amazing place.
-

810. I feel this money should go to Pittville Gates, as originally planned. This area is an important part of Cheltenham's history. It is embarrassing to see tourists looking at this feature which has fallen into disrepair. Crumbling pillars & gates in need of paint.
811. Strongly disagree with the plans - Theatre should be more commercial and self supporting. Very unhappy with the diverting of funds away from Pittville Park to the Everyman when housing etc puts a squeeze on our open spaces and such precious open space is what makes Cheltenham the lovely town it is and so has a knock on effect for tourism and outdoor activities promoting healthy living
812. The Everyman is a commercial enterprise and very well used. It has a good following and several strings to its bow. Why is it not self financing? I do not agree with the £250k. If this is for repairs why is there not an ongoing fund built into the Everyman budget to cover this. Do they really need 10years to repay the taxpayer the £1m? I think they are asking too much
813. Only if the Everyman improves its programmes which currently pander to an elderly middle-class audience.
814. No.....The everyman should raise their own funds and live or die in the same way every other business has to! And if they need a loan, why can't they go to the bank like every one else has to? Could it be that a bank would say No? So if the banks see lending them money is a bad risk why should the tax payer think any different!
815. Ordinarily yes, but in the current economic climate no. In a climate where services are going to be cut (along with jobs presumably) this must be a priority.
816. If it significantly increases everyone's Council Tax, no.
817. No. As a commercial project the Everyman should not be over-protected from the real world by taking money from the majority of people who never use this facility to subsidise the minority who can probably afford to pay more.
818. No, absolutely not. The small number of people using the Everyman compared with the numbers using the wonderful Cheltenham green spaces suggests that Everyman customers could pay for the services they enjoy and not rely on contributions from the many people who never use this badly managed facility.
819. No. In these times of reduced income for everyone I cannot see why this commercial enterprise cannot fight its own corner like everyone else. Please stop cushioning this elitist facility from the real world.
820. No. Ticket prices should be increased instead.
821. No! Maybe if funds were available then it might be a suitable place to lose more money, but in the current climate the Everyman should seek its own assistance.
822. Not at the expense of starving Pittville Park from essential improvements. The Park must surely serve a wider community than the Everyman. It is short-sighted to give up all chance of future bids for funding from elsewhere.
823. I am not sure about this. Does the council own the Everyman? Not sure this is an appropriate use of funds at this time.
824. We support the idea of a thriving theatre in Cheltenham. Unfortunately, and to our great disappointment, the Everyman has a poor and unadventurous programme so that we attend theatres some distance away even though we are in walking distance of the Everyman. For this reason we do not support the plans, especially if they are at the expense of Pittville Park, which serves a much wider section of the community.
825. No. The Arts Council can do that. Stick to your promises and spend £300K on Pittville Gates and the park.
826. No. The council should stick to its original promise to spend on the Pittville Park.
827. Absolutely not. Any funding needs to be conditional upon that theatre:
 (1) serving and representing the actual community - not just the fans of biblical dramatisation, aristocratic murder mysteries, and expensive West End shows
 (2) Disavowing its (or, in any case, some of its staff's) stated policy of not producing anything that might be "offensive" to their stereotype of Christians or their stereotype of OAPs
 (3) A genuine commitment to involving young people (i.e., 15-25 year olds) and the not necessarily wealthy in theatre
 They are welcome to produce intolerant, inaccessible rubbish that is not respected by any other region's theatre practitioners, but I do not want to pay for it with my tax money. I need my tax money to see forward-looking, broad-minded, and artistically

skilful theatre in Bristol and London. And, I hope, to go to the arts cinema in Cheltenham.

828. Absolutely not. The grant money, I understand, is found from funds allocated to Pittville Park. The theatre is a commercial organisation which can raise money from its activities. The Parks belong to the whole community and have no other means of funding. The Council has an obligation to maintain and improve these huge assets.

Q8.

In order to keep council tax increases at 2.5% and to protect local services, we had to increase car parking charges by 3.5%. Would you have preferred an increase in council tax of 3.5% with car parking increases kept at 2.5%?

		%
Yes	454	45.5
No	486	48.7
Don't know	57	5.7
Total	997	

Q9.

Finally, do you have any general comments about the proposed budget?

182 comments were received, several of which were regarding support of the Everyman theatre. Other examples include:

1. In current economic circumstances we need to expect some unpalatable increases and cuts. As long as these bring finances back in line without affecting services significantly then the pain is acceptable. I do find Cheltenham's parking charges to be generally too high, however, and much more expensive than other similar towns I visit and I trust that in future there will be no further increases in charges. We need to remain competitive with Gloucester and Bristol in particular.
2. Your budget proposals seem reasonable – although the Laird case costs should never have happened. Losing £2m is a disgrace.
3. One assumes that to make savings by improving efficiency is an ongoing process year on year. Therefore it should not be used as a special area of attention or mention in this year's budget.
4. Civic Pride will cost a fortune, with expensive personnel appointments already being made. Keep the Municipal Offices and don't destroy the Long Gardens. They will only be replaced with more bars, vomit, litter, drunks and vandalism. The weather here will never promote "café culture" and a new council building will never come in on budget.
5. The budget increase is likely to be in line with RPI inflation. However many people are struggling financially. This is why it is so important to increase revenue from high added-value employment.
6. I don't envy your task and think you have very tough decisions to make in the coming years.
7. Q8 is a badly worded question. The Council does not HAVE TO increase parking charges or increase the council tax further. The Council should look at significant cost reductions in non-frontline staff, use of consultants, travel expenses and remuneration and benefit packages.
8. I just hope this isn't another piece of apparent "public consultation" and that the views submitted are taken seriously otherwise this too would represent an enormously worthless cost.
9. I am prepared to pay for good Council services if they are carefully selected and do not involve significant staff increases.
10. Value for money is what most people want.
11. I have not looked at it in detail. However, I am keen to have the £300,000 set aside for Pittville Park in the HLF bid, kept for the park.
12. Increase business rates to the higher banded high-street locations. Ultimately the shops benefit most from people going in to town, so they should be paying towards this gain!

13. The budget must be held within affordable limits. As pensioners our real income is reducing year on year but no allowance is made for this erosion by the unfair Council Tax system.
14. Over recent years the amounts required from the Council Tax have increased faster than our pensions and we would obviously prefer that any rises are kept at or below inflation.
15. Car parking should be even more expensive to get people to use public transport.
16. Car parking fees should be increased further to help reduce congestion.
17. Both should be increased by 3.5%.
18. Yes. It will keep Cheltenham in its genteel decay that you so like.
19. Good Luck I don't envy your task
20. In current economic circumstances we need to expect some unpalatable increases and cuts. As long as these bring finances back in line without affecting services significantly then the pain is acceptable. I do find Cheltenham's parking charges to be generally too high, however, and much more expensive than other similar towns I visit and I trust that in future there will be no further increases in charges. We need to remain competitive with Gloucester and Bristol in particular.
21. Less talk (which costs money) and more do!
22. The cuts and reductions target is not adequate. The council should aim for much deeper cuts, particularly in administration and salary costs.
23. Cheltenham must have a long term vision with respect to its image and stature in the West Country and Cotswold.
24. Do what you can but if we don't look after the town then it will loose its attraction.
25. Fairer distribution and use and less waste on 'lentil munching, open toed sandal, Kaftan wearing, beanbag idealists who should get a real job.
26. There needs to be better permit parking for Cambray Place. And the idea of 'Pay and display' being introduced on Bath Road and Wellington Street is a disgrace. For people who live in this area, parking is almost impossible!
27. Difficult times mean thinking outside the box. The tens of millions put in Icelandic banks etc is meant for a rainy day. I think 2010 is a rainy day!
28. Everyone is suffering financially in the current economic climate - I think cuts are part and parcel of life at the moment and we just have to try and do the best we can to make cuts where it has the least impact, although inevitably, some people will be hit harder than others.
29. Fix the theatre.
30. I don't envy your task and think you have very tough decisions to make in the coming years.
31. Q8 is a badly worded question. The Council does not have to increase parking charges or increase the council tax further. The Council should look at significant cost reductions in non-frontline staff, use of consultants, travel expenses and remuneration and benefit packages.
32. as a historical town Cheltenham needs its cultural assets to be kept up to a high stand - the proposed extension to the Art Gallery & Museum is essential for the future of the town
33. Not an enviable task but as every Councillor now receives a very reasonable allowance compared to days gone by, I would hope that they have utilised all the information that is available to them, talked with their officers who should be experienced in their particular field and, finally listed to their constituents. They will never please everybody but it is their duty to act impartially for the benefit of the town and surrounding villages not just now but, for the future generations.
34. Please see comments on the Everyman Theatre grant. The refurbishment, if it takes place should be tendered locally, to provide much needed employment. 'Partnering' is a good idea even though it has been watered down over time.
35. I think that charges for car parking are already extreme. If we want to encourage shoppers and theatre go-ers into town then parking must be made reasonably available to them.
36. I do not presume to comment on the other issues, not being a resident of the borough, but wish to reiterate my support of the Everyman Theatre's application, as a regular theatre-goer who appreciates the excellent programme they offer and who would like to ensure that their services to the whole of Gloucestershire are maintained and developed.
37. Reduce staff costs

38. It is generally sound and well thought through.
39. Cheltenham needs to look to its laurels! The whole place needs investment for the future.
40. Spend wisely and let the money make a difference on the front line, that's where we notice it. Expensive seminars or exhibitions for public sector employees are not adding value to the bottom line.
41. I just hope this isn't another piece of apparent "public consultation" and that the views submitted are taken seriously otherwise this too would represent an enormously worthless cost.
42. Why is the form in French??
43. From q8 inc parking prob fairer.
44. Cut Council wastage and perks to the core.
45. Keep up the good work
46. As the people who pay are those who pay council tax in the borough, they should have the final say - i.e., the council can prepare it, discuss it, agree it internally etc BUT it must then be put to the vote of those eligible (on the electoral roll).
47. You should raise more funds to improve services from increasing the Council Tax.
48. Yes, savings can be made in council expenses. Increasing car parking charges are a deterrent to tourism and visiting shoppers who could go to other towns or cities instead.
49. All rises must be demonstrably for visible improvements in the town, and not just to shore up the council's reserve funds.
50. Spend wisely!
51. Help us get our broken Wheelie bins fixed!! Keep Cheltenham looking nice. Look after local retail businesses - butchers in particular. Promote Cheltenham's culture
52. I just hope the rich and privileged have played fair this time.
53. Why don't you spend sometime introducing yourselves to us? I have been living in Cheltenham for five years and I still don't know who you are and credentials you have to allocate this large amounts of cash!
54. It's important to support the basic services of the council.
55. Similar to question 8 the council should think of ways to improve income by spreading the load to those who visit Cheltenham as well as live in the borough. Increase the inner town parking by 5% during peak times and LTP/park & ride by 2.5%.
56. Reduce the number of administrators.
57. I think these proposed increases are quite reasonable.
58. Ensure that the Everyman Theatre is looked after and maintained for decades to come for all people to enjoy
59. Does the previous question indicate that 1% on parking charges equates to 1% off council tax?
60. Times are hard but you cannot fail to look to the longer term future of the prosperity of the town. This element seems to have been forgotten in Cheltenham.
61. Cheltenham borough council is corrupt to the core and I would not allow them to push my bicycle. Utter shower!
62. Reduce level of executive pay and bring all pensions including fire and police in line with private sector
63. Save money by freezing Councillors Pay & Bonuses
64. I am not a Cheltenham resident - I live in Tewkesbury, so cannot comment further; but I visit the town weekly and the Everyman Theatre at least once a month.
65. Spend our money wisely. Do not waste it on the upkeep of wastrels. Do not encourage the Friday/Saturday night alcohol bingeing in the town - it has become a no-go area for many and costs too much to police. Not to mention how much it costs in material damage and hospital treatment,
66. The parking fees proposal is a disaster. It affects everyone with a car. The Everyman should get the full allowance it has applied for to keep Cheltenham the top cultural centre of Gloucestershire.
67. Help to keep Tewkesbury a place for tourists to come by charging less for car parks.
68. I am not a Cheltenham resident so have not filled in all the other boxes but I am an Everyman Theatre supporter.
69. I am not a Cheltenham resident, and live near the southern Gloucestershire border, so can have no meaningful comment apart from on Q7. The Everyman is not just Cheltenham's theatre, however, and it serves the surrounding communities as well as the town's tax payers. It is worth pointing out that those of us who live in small rural villages

- pay significant local taxes for little service in return, a 'penalty' we are told for a better quality of life. A debatable assertion, but in any event, a central theatre is for us also. Should not Gloucestershire County Council be invited to assist financially, to spread the burden to the peripheral theatre users?
70. I was 'asked' to respond to this survey through the Everyman Theatre - essentially, I go to the theatre about 4 times a year and so not enough to have a real 'vote' - however, each visit also links to a supper, car parking etc and so brings more income across the board for Cheltenham
 71. The statement in Q8 is extremely unfair. Why would you suggest increasing council tax by 3.5% to cover parking costs when a significant number of residents in Cheltenham do not even drive? Why should they pay for a service they will never use? Cheltenham is small enough to walk, cycle or get the bus/taxi across (excluding disabled and seniors of course), most of the people who park in our car parks are from outside the area or have commuted into Cheltenham for work/social. The residence of Cheltenham should not pick up their bill.
 72. Good luck and god bless us all.
 73. Less "uppy" tarmac, more "downy" tarmac and less money spent providing police with very expensive (and unnecessary) BMW's .
 74. People need to be aware that services do cost money and that if we want to have good services then we need to help pay for them.
 75. I appreciate that there are genuine financial constraints, but I would hate to see the silent cuts (like library services) take precedence over those that can be publicly justified. I would also like to see a claw-back from the banks who have swallowed a huge amount of cash which they now seem to give away.
 76. Car parking fees are already high
 77. Cut car parking charges and cut times - i.e.: no charges on Sundays again.
 78. More leisure facilities - Ice rink needed.
 79. More should have been considered available to Everyman Theatre and supporting Chelt Town FC.
 80. I am not a Cheltenham rate payer but I appreciate the Council's efforts for the benefit of the larger community.
 81. Preservation of the culture and beauty of Cheltenham while increasing efficiency in the councils operation.
 82. No. I appreciate that in the current climate you will not be able to please everyone. As a business owner, all I ask is that you take care of the reputation of Cheltenham a culturally rich area and a good place to visit.
 83. We should be prioritising the reduction of carbon emissions and husbanding our resources. I am always struck by some very brightly lit shop windows - illuminated all night as well as all day. I would like to see a greater awareness amongst the business community of their part in the protection of the environment.
 84. taxes to provide general services should be incorporated within council tax and not targeted at specific groups
 85. Car parking charges should be increased further.
 86. Car parking charges are too high.
 87. Cheltenham is an attractive town with much potential. Finding imaginative solutions to problems is not always a matter of a lot of money. We have national festivals practically all year round, but the town fails to exploit these in any sustained way that benefits the community. I have worked extensively in the arts and have had experience of working within very tight budgets, so know that this is possible.
 88. Provide more detail to the public, then we can better comment
 89. The Everyman Theatre is very important to Cheltenham and should be fully supported
 90. Not really, but I would like to ask our MP to denounce the bill regarding the Digital Economy Bill, it is a threat to each persons freedom and liberty, additionally it wont solve anything. As an experienced computer user I can confirm now that other experienced users know how to get around those measures as well as inflict the punishment on otherwise innocent people.
 91. Re Q8 - parking charges in Cheltenham do nothing to encourage shoppers into the town centre. Could we not try the same experiment as Chester and reduce charges after 3pm and on Sundays to encourage people to come into town and use the shops, theatre, cinema & restaurants?

92. Priorities are too wide ranging and not specific enough.
93. Good luck!
94. To attract business and visitors to Cheltenham, it must build on its reputation for fine shops, buildings, amenities and that includes the theatre, especially if the theatre encompasses/continues work with young and underprivileged with community, school, art etc. as part of its remit to engage all members of the public. Sport, art and leisure are all life enhancing.
95. I think the previous question is reflective of the over-reliance on one stream of revenue. Parking v council tax? Why not other options?
96. Every authority across Britain is in a similar situation. We have a tough period ahead of us both nationally and internationally. Essential services are always a very emotive issue but there is a tremendous amount of unnecessary waste within every local authority across all departments which need to be addressed. Careful cost cutting should enable services to be maintained whilst removing 'dead' expenditure from the system.
97. Focus on the central matters and stop spend entirely on peripheral and non-required matters
98. I am pleased to have been given this opportunity of extending my views; I can only comment on what I have read in this survey.
99. Re. Q8 more dramatic parking increases might push people to drive less and use public transport more making public transport more efficient (too many empty buses) - but would require thoughtful investment to improve some aspects and subsidise low incomes.
100. Not impressed with outputs to date nor the further financial inputs now seemingly required to, at best, stand still.
101. I do think that free off-peak travel for pensioners should be maintained, as this group of society help to keep the town busy and economically flourishing on weekdays. (And are unlikely to cause trouble!) Perhaps some of the charges could be recouped by a one- off modest charge for a season ticket, for people 60 -65.
102. Although it is natural at times, of economic difficulty to go with the flow and cut services and budgets. It is better to increase charges now and maintain service levels. If the council is looking to cut it should look to its procurement of outsourced services as now is the time negotiation of better prices. Cheltenham is a relatively prosperous town and should not attempt to relegate itself to just another town. We should strive to be the best and this means spending more.
103. I am glad I'm not responsible for spending other people's money!!
104. No further comments although we do feel in answer to the Q8 that in general the car park costs in Cheltenham are preposterous already.
105. It is a pity that it was not possible to fund the improvements to Pittville Park as well as the Everyman Theatre, and I hope that it will be Pittville Park's turn soon. But in the circumstances, the right decision has been made.
106. Generally it looks fair in difficult times.
107. Yes - in times of financial stringency, the budget must aim at providing for the greatest good of the greatest number - in other words, the majority. Any support for minority interest must be equitable and pro rate.
108. Less money wasted on talking about doing and more doing.
109. I have no comments on the proposed budget as I do not live in Cheltenham. I would comment that your evening car park charge above the Shopping Centre of £2.50 is very excessive considering nearly 90% of the area is empty.
110. On this budget & future budgets you should support the majority of Cheltenham and not spend on the minority.
111. Car parking charges carry on increasing. There could be other ways of cutting expenses, such as reducing or cutting out unnecessary allowances, minimising waste etc.
112. I don't believe in charging all extra - individuals should pay for the service they require - i.e. why should pensioners who don't drive pay extra for car parking. Please help the Everyman.
113. I feel that money should be allocated to the Everyman to ensure it continues to be such a successful venue which benefits every age group from 3 - 100+.
114. I think the proposed extension of parking meters by the County council will damage Cheltenham centre as less people will visit.

115. Council tax is already a hard cross to bear for a lot of people, any increase hurts, as this is always accompanied by similar increases in every other service, yet income does not match this. I think it is vastly important to keep the cost as stable as possible on such a thing as council tax, as there is not an option whether to use it or not.
116. It's a budget - stick to it!
117. I believe that Councils have taken on too many services and obligations. All housing should be run by housing associations etc with no funding from the council. If refuse collectors do not go to work due to bad weather they should be put onto other duties such as street clearing etc or lose pay, its is time that ratepayers got value for money rather than paying for bad service delivery.
118. I'm glad I don't have to try and balance it.
119. Stop handing out money and help to people who are able to work but to lazy to earn their own living.
120. Fair.
121. I think Cheltenham's car parking charges compare badly with many other parts of the country.
122. Parking charges are extortionate and we are now encouraged to go to Witney were there is ample free parking, a new cinema and a range of shops.
123. It is really important to treat the budget as your own money this year - don't spend it if you don't need to - because that's what it is like for the rest of us.
124. Cheltenham is unique and has a great deal of potential both for its population and its visitors. Parking charges, business rates etc. can be detrimental to promoting and sustaining growth - however attractive they may seem to be in the short term. We have a duty to protect and to prosper.
125. Q8 is improperly worded: it is a closed question. There is no direct link between parking charges and council tax rate. It was a choice the council made. There would have been other alternatives, but it would seem there is an agenda not to declare them. Please don't insult public intelligence with daft questions like that.
126. Employ less management to keep costs down.
127. Spending on arts and culture can only enhance the town .
128. The increase is excessive.
129. Leave crime and disorder to the police.
130. I believe greater and deeper cuts are necessary to ensure long-term sustainability.
131. I agree with the increase in car parking charges (even though I have to pay it) as it is fairer than expecting all residents to have a higher increase in council tax and keeping parking cheaper for car park users - residents not using the car parks are not then having to subsidise the users. In Leicester, where I visit fairly often, the car parking charges are more than in Cheltenham and the car parks are still filled up at busy times so people do expect to pay fairly to park (even if they grumble, they still do it). Cheltenham is a lovely place, the parks and gardens are a delight, the restaurants, shops and hotels overall provide a good service and we do enjoy coming.
132. Re Q8, car parking charges in Cheltenham are too high already much higher than many comparable towns), discouraging people from shopping in the town centre and using out-of-town sites instead. Cuts in local services would be better - council wage bill etc.
133. Please support the Everyman.
134. I realise that budgets are limited and therefore the focus of services must be streamlined in some way. I therefore believe that maintaining a safe and well-kept environment will encourage return visitors and support the local community and economy.
135. Pain all round in the public spending sector - need to focus on areas of real need and not pet projects.
136. Undoubtedly many different objectives need to be considered in setting the budget and not everyone's needs can be met. However even in these difficult financial times a moderate increase in council tax is justified in combination with efficiency savings where possible, especially as many have benefited from lower mortgage rates.
137. Being a pensioner the concessionary travel, the theatre, and waste disposal are very important to me.
138. I haven't seen enough of the budget to comment. More promotion of cycling in the town would be good to enhance people's wellbeing and health and to reduce carbon emissions.

139. Council salaries should be reduced by 10% across the board - in line with private sector pay. Town twinning should be stopped, and savings made. Official cars should be reduced to mayoral use only. Departmental budgets should be reduced by 10% across the board rather than increase taxation rates.
140. Everyman Theatre should have priority over funding otherwise it will deteriorate and cost more to update it eventually.
141. There should be discussions from all aspects of the community, not just the council.
142. I am prepared to pay for good Council services if they are carefully selected and do not involve significant staff increases.
143. Budget should be decreased not increased - where exactly are you living we're in a recession.
144. No general comments except to reinforce the point in Q. 7 - we must support the arts with buildings fit for purpose.
145. Since most workers in the private sector will, in all probability, not be getting salary or wage increase again this year it is incumbent on you as a council to keep your budget increase to the absolute lowest figure possible.
146. I would like to comment in particular on the decision to remove the entire money ring fenced for maintenance and improvements to Pittville Park. Removing the money means that A) it will not be possible to approach other sources of funding that require matching funds or to contemplate another HLF bid b) There are some parts of the Park (especially the Pittville Gates, an important feature of Cheltenham's heritage) that need urgent attention if the facility is not to deteriorate significantly. A facility used probably by more members of the public (Cheltenham residents and tourists) than any other amenity in the town is not getting its share of funding There are obviously many demands on CBC funding and money is particularly tight but it would be better to see allocation of funds on a proper priority basis rather than all or nothing. It is particularly galling to read in the budget leaflet that the money ring fenced for Pittville Park has been diverted to 'improvements' to Regents Arcade that appear to be just for the benefit of the owners.
147. Increases to car parking in particular will promote the use of side streets and out of town parking with no revenue BUT also for a proportion of people it will be seen as a cheaper option to travel to areas such as Cribbs Causeway to shop where parking is free rather than visit Cheltenham.
148. Steps should be taken to minimise the cost of "fluffy" projects such as equalities, fairness and diversity, etc
149. A number of the headings such as affordable housing and savings are matters that national government should be funding properly not passing them on to local govt.
150. Good to consult.
151. I am a teacher in Gloucester who uses the Cheltenham everyman theatre every year for taking pupils to shows and receiving invaluable teaching from the theatre itself. Part of the magic of this is taking the youngsters to an excellent and beautiful theatre and they never forget it. I urge to ensure the theatre receive the funding they need to refurbish to have to travel to other cities to see excellent theatre buildings is a cost most of our parents can't afford please ensure the Everyman is supported. I haven't commented on other aspects of the budget as I am not a Gloucester resident myself.
152. Not being a Cheltenham resident I feel I have no standing on your main enquiries but feel that as an occasional user of the Everyman, for the last thirty years, my comment must have some standing.
153. Not really however, would take too long to address here. It seems to me, if in doubt, put the price up. In a time of falling income and rising costs, the council has a duty of care to perform in the best interests of those who pay council tax.
154. Spend our money wisely
155. Roll on conservative.
156. We, as members of the public, are concerned that the recession and its effects are having a knock-on effect on our day to day budgeting and the local environment/services and its funding. Anything the Council can do to dissipate this would be appreciated.
157. Just my best wishes. You will never make everyone happy.
158. Value for money is what most people want.
159. Please protect a valuable amenity like the Everyman.
160. Spend less on Bureaucracy and more on stimulating income generation.
161. It's a tough call!

162. Wish my council tax was not paying for Regency Arcade to be refurbished - but understand lease/contract commitments. Odd way to spend public money!
163. Give that money to theatre, park or football club!!
164. Q8 is a closed question. It assumes that raising car parking fees or raising council taxes are the only options. They are not! Car parking fees should be reduced - if not scrapped in many car parks to help re-generate the town centre and local businesses.
165. Take a zero-based approach. Stop doing a lot of things altogether.
166. On the whole the proposed budget is fair and the council is endeavouring to please as many people as possible.
167. Cheltenham's profile is very much defined by its Literature and Arts involvement. It is absolutely vital that the Everyman Theatre is preserved.
168. Yes. It is a disgrace to withdraw £300k earmarked for Pittville Park just because the Lottery Bid was not won. Surely the park and estate needs it all the more to try and bring the park somewhat nearer to the standard which the local residents and visitors should expect. This Park should be a jewel. Where is Cheltenham's Civic Pride? Pittville residents have shown their support for the area but feel COMPLETELY LET DOWN by their council. To tick only 3 in Q2 is poor questionnaire design. The mix of general protecting and enhancing) and specific topics (parks and gardens) makes it biased to the general as you probably INTEND so that parks and gardens will feature very low in the overall survey results. Another bit of tricky manipulation.
169. How is the council going to spend funding awarded by central govt, if, as a result of voluntary redundancies, the people currently doing the job will leave and the post is redundant? Central govt funding has been allocated to positions so how will the work get done and local and national targets met?
170. Eliminate ALL bonus payments to council employees.
171. No - it must extremely difficult to meet everyone's demands, but I don't think you should spend money on housing and bus travel - people can pay for that themselves, you should spend on the things that we as individuals cannot influence.
172. The Christmas lights this year were an absolute farce. The council should make funds available for a better display and then encourage visitors to help local traders
173. Please save our wonderful theatre. I have spoken to many of the actors who have appeared here. Without exception they love it. It is beautiful, the acoustics are amazing (because it was designed by a master craftsman) and the atmosphere is fantastic. The backstage facilities for the actors are superb.
174. On car parking at Q8, we need to encourage people to find alternative ways to get into town and cut down on use of the car. More bicycle routes and bike parking would be useful.
175. It is a sensible measured approach in a difficult economic climate, prudent strategic investment backed up by cost cutting measures where the negative impact has been cushioned as far as possible. Perhaps the increase in council tax could have been slightly higher as it only constitutes £4.57 for the year is in essence a standstill figure or a drop when taking inflation into consideration.
176. Overall, subject to the proposed support for the Everyman, it seems OK.
177. Don't lower car taxes. We need fewer cars on the road for reasons of environmental sustainability. More car taxes = less public transportation and will be a great boost to the local car-sharing scheme that Cheltenham Connect is advertising and which is a fantastic idea.
178. I appreciate the great difficulty you have collectively in administering the budget and I wish you well in your endeavours.
179. Your budget proposals seem reasonable – although the Laird case costs lost should never have happened. Losing nearly £2m is a disgrace.
180. One assumes that to make savings by improving efficiency is an ongoing process year-on-year. Therefore, it should not be used as a special area of attention or mentioned in this year's budget.
181. Civic pride will cost a fortune, with expensive personnel appointments already being made. Keep the Municipal Offices and don't destroy the Long Gardens. They will only be replaced by more bars, vomit, litter, drunks and vandalism. The weather here will never promote "café culture" and a new Council building will never come in on budget.

182. The budget increase is likely to be in line with RPI inflation. However many people are struggling financially. This is why it is so important to increase revenue from high added value employment.

In addition, a large number of comments (341) were received regarding the Everyman Theatre loan and grant. 333 of these were in favour of the loan, with common reasons being the tourism brought in by the theatre, the enjoyment many generations have had in visiting the Everyman, and that there are no similar theatres nearby. Several comments were received from local schools, highlighting the educational benefit of the Everyman. Below are the comments:

Mrs Norma Kay:

Please support the Everyman theatre-an important facility in Gloucestershire and beyond.

Richard Keene:

Please support the Everyman theatre. It is vital that Cheltenham should foster its image as the cultural centre of the county and this theatre is the best we have.

Mr & Mrs Egginton:

Please support the Everyman Theatre, it produces some wonderful shows, and with smartening up could be as good as the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Guildford. We enjoy our visits to the Theatre and would miss it were it to deteriorate further and become unusable.

Garth Newcombe:

I feel that some of this year's budget should be allocated to the restoration of the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham. This is a highly popular and much loved theatre that is in desperate need of a facelift. The auditorium has some beautiful decor but over time it has become shabby and tired looking. I think the council's money would be put to good use helping the theatre to improve its facilities and attract new audiences which will benefit the local economy.

Cyril Bleasdon:

I support the application of a loan to the Everyman Theatre, it being a vibrant and valued part of the cultural life of Cheltenham

Victoria Keble-Williams:

The Everyman is a much loved used and source of theatre in the area and we fully support any grants in helping to maintain it. The county would be poorer for its loss.

Melanie Fletcher:

The Everyman is an extremely valuable asset to the town, a fine building and an exceptional theatre. It fully deserves support. Moreover, should it have to close (for example, if a lack of funds means that this work cannot be carried out and the building deteriorates to the point where it can no longer be used) we would have a huge, derelict horror at the centre of our town. SUPPORT THE EVERYMAN - don't risk another Odeon fiasco!

Sonia Bliss:

I fully support The Everyman Theatre in their bid to improve facilities for theatre lovers and others who use the venue. I do hop the Council will grant them their wish.

Michael Duckering:

I wish to express my support for the proposed financial contribution and loan to the Everyman Theatre. This is an excellent facility regularly used by myself, family and friends (many of whom are visitors to Cheltenham).

Lorrae Playdon:

It is important to preserve and improve the Everyman Theatre as apart from being one of Cheltenham's historical buildings it brings in people to the town.

George Croudass:

The Everyman Theatre should remain as a facility for the people of Cheltenham and surrounding area.

Stella Weaver:

I think the Everyman Theatre is a vital part of Cheltenham's culture in the town centre. I do hope the Borough Council will continue to support it financially so that the necessary upgrading the theatre needs can be carried out.

Dave Poad:

I would be mortified if the Everyman Theatre did not receive funding for its restoration work. As the Acting Head of Gloucester Road Primary School I have seen how effective the theatre's outreach work is and we have been to the theatre many times ourselves as a school. The theatre is a vital resource for the town and gives thousands of children the opportunity to see and be involved in good quality drama. I urge you to support their application.

Mandy Penney:

I support the plans to refurbish the Everyman Theatre. What would Cheltenham be without the Theatre?

Nicola Purcaro:

I was taken to the Everyman by my grandmother and now take my grandchildren and wish to be able to take great-grand children in the future - please do all to help this local theatre because Cheltenham Council needs to continue in its future.

Jamie:

I believe the budget is best spent helping the Everyman Theatre with its renovation plans. We have all enjoyed many performances in this beautiful iconic building and I personally cannot wait to bring my child when she is born. We need to keep this building in tip-top condition so our children's children can enjoy what we have all enjoyed for so many years.

Brendan:

The Everyman has brought me many hours of entertainment and joy. I am all for a renovation and movement towards future generations of use. I fully support their bid for funding and hope that it is successful.

Arlene Howard:

I think Cheltenham Borough Council should support the Everyman Theatre with a grant to help restore the Theatre Building. The Theatre has a marvellous track-record for innovative education and community activities. The Theatre really adds something to Cheltenham. It is something to be proud of.

J&A Syme:

Support for the Everyman Theatre is vital for the cultural wellbeing of our town.

Mike Murphy:

Re funding application for Everyman Theatre. May I urge the Borough Council to support the funding request for the improvement of the Theatre? This is a valuable cultural asset for the town and the County more widely.

Angela Walker:

I wish to support the Everyman Theatre's bid for funding to restore the Theatre building. The Everyman is an important part of Cheltenham's heritage.

Mrs Neale:

This is a very worthwhile refurbishment, being an avid user of the theatre for many years. It must be refurbished so that it can continue on giving pleasure and enjoyment to the many!

Liz Auster:

I support the Everyman in its bid for funds from the Council to fund the restoration work. The Theatre is very important to the community of Cheltenham.

Pip Pembroke:

Please don't forget the Everyman Theatre - it is such a valuable part of the community and should be cherished.

Karen Jellyman:

The Everyman theatre is a beautiful building which puts on fantastic array of plays and shows the town would sorely miss this theatre if anything happened to it as it is well supported by both local residents and from the nearby towns & villages it needs a cash injection to restore it to the standard that it deserves.

Mrs Jill Twin:

This theatre is a wonderful community resource, not just for the people of Cheltenham but those from the surrounding areas. My family, parents, children and grandparents regularly visit the Everyman and feel strongly that it is deserving of renovation and preservation.

Robert Bickerdike:

I would like to record my support for the refurbishment of the Everyman Theatre - it is a financial attraction to the town and well worth investing in

Fiona Nevada:

Everyman Theatre must be saved, improved, restored and nurtured. The outreach work it does in the community and the joy it brings to the county's theatre goers, whether they be regulars or occasional culture consumers - you can not ask for a cost analysis or quantitative outcomes! It's like the no smoking campaign to the NHS - you just have to accept the fact -it's got to be worth it!

Rachael Tapping:

I fully support the need to spend the money on restoring The Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham.

L Fisher:

The Everyman Theatre is a very important part of the cultural scene and must be supported in every way.

Michael St.John:

Re: the Everyman Theatre, I feel that the Council must do all in its power to renovate and develop the unique theatre.

Neil Wilson:

Please help the Everyman Theatre. We often come to Cheltenham to spend time and money in the shops and restaurants before going to the theatre. We need the Theatre to be restored so that we can continue to visit.

Gill Stokes:

I wish to support the Everyman's bid to renovate the theatre having visited many times over the nearly 30 years we have lived in the area. All my children have developed a love of theatre from their early visits there and even now in their 20s enjoy attending. The architecture is superb inside but obviously in need of updating. There cannot be a more deserving case.

Peter Watkins:

Please aid the Everyman theatre with what ever you have. It is great for the town.

Elaine Wilson:

I would like to support the Everyman theatre's bid for funds as it is the best theatre in the county. It really needs updating and enhancing for the future enjoyment of local people and tourists.

Gill Raikes:

I wish to lodge my support for Council funding to be used for the restoration of the Everyman Theatre. It is a marvellous regional resource, bringing money and profile to this area. It has an excellent inclusive programme and we are incredibly lucky to have this venue on our doorstep.

Joanne Dean:

I wholeheartedly support the bid for the upkeep and renovation of the Everyman Theatre in this year's budget. I have been a very satisfied customer of the Everyman for many, many years, have taken my god-children there, children from school (I'm a Primary school teacher) and have spent enjoyable evenings with my family and friends enjoying a show, be it serious, musical, funny, amateur, touring professional, or dancing - the list is endless. I love the variety, I love getting the brochure and planning my outings - I look forward to each and every show. The Everyman Theatre is a true asset to the town of Cheltenham, and the county of Gloucestershire - please don't let it be a thing of the past! In this world of television, computers, iPods, etc the appreciation of the Arts is becoming diminished - The Everyman goes a long way to ensuring the art of live performance lives on.

Nigel C. Fortune:

The Everyman Theatre is an important building for Cheltenham and needs to be kept in the best condition possible or audiences will fall.

Linda Sheppard:

I believe the Everyman Theatre is an important part of the local community and an asset to the town and surrounding area. It also helps attract visitors to the town which is beneficial to the local economy. Investment in the theatre is necessary to continue the role it plays.

Sally Tebbutt:

Please continue supporting the Everyman Theatre. It is a much loved and needed part of Cheltenham. We have travelled in to see productions over the last 23 years and our children have particularly benefited from the wonderful shows. Please allow necessary renovations to take place.

Julia Hawkes:

Please please please support our wonderful Everyman theatre.

Mrs Dorothy Daniela:

The Everyman Theatre performs an essential role in the life of Cheltenham and provides access to the very best in a wide spectrum of entertainment to theatre-goers of all ages. It is a beautiful, historic building which should be maintained and preserved for the benefit of our county and beyond and for future generations. Four generations of my family have already benefited from the presence of the Everyman Theatre in our town.

Maureen Allen:

I support the need for the Council to help The Everyman Theatre with their refurbishment costs.

Claire Ainge:

I would like to support the application made to restore the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham. The theatre is good for the community, and helps attract people into Cheltenham from other areas. I love going to the Everyman!

Mr & Mrs J Bristow:

I write with regard to the Everyman Theatre. Even within the restraints of your budgets I believe every effort should be given to support the Everyman Theatre in its restoration programme. It is such an important venue and building within the town that it would be very dangerous to ignore its value to the community and Cheltenham at large. I hope you will be able to give it your full support. With thanks.

David Allen:

I would like to express my support for the Everyman Theatre's bid for restoration funding. The Everyman is a vital part of Cheltenham's appeal both for visitors to the town and residents.

Steve Martin:

In the budget consultation, I wish to lend my support to the excellent Everyman Theatre's bid for funding.

J. Priest:

Please support the Everyman in their endeavours! I had the fortunate position to perform on the stage many years ago and would hate to see this essential venue to the city fall into a poor state.

There are precious arts venues of this nature around and it brings much tourism and revenue to the city.

Dorothy Turpy:

We believe that the Everyman deserves, and should get, as much financial assistance as at all possible.

David Kilmister:

I support the bid by the Everyman theatre to allow it to renovate its wonderful building and become an even better venue for live stage shows in Gloucestershire. The theatre is a fantastic asset and all efforts should be made to see it continue to flourish.

Paul Gardner:

Please help the Everyman. It's a national treasure!

Don Babbs:

I fully support the council funding for the Everyman Theatre and think the loan is a particularly appropriate way of addressing the work.

Mrs Marie Journeaux:

In preparing the final budget I urge Cheltenham Borough Council to include the Everyman Theatre restoration fund application - the building is historic and it is beautiful inside. The Theatre brings visitors to Cheltenham and it is used by people from all over the County. Other towns in Gloucestershire would love such an asset but Cheltenham has it and, hopefully, will look after it and preserve it.

Fanny Snaith:

Please help the Everyman Theatre with their needs. The theatre is a great love of the whole town and an important cultural source for the children and adults alike

Gerald Wadley:

Essential that the Everyman Theatre receives all available support. We would not come to Cheltenham for shopping or eating unless we combine with theatre trips.

Gary Frost:

As a teacher and a regular theatre-goer please can I urge the Council to support the refurbishment of the Everyman? The theatre is vital to the county's cultural life and heritage.

Michael Orme:

I feel it is essential for the artistic reputation of Cheltenham that the Everyman theatre is supported in its refurbishment plan.

Sandra McCulloch:

The Everyman Theatre should have all the help it requires to stay open. The theatre gives you the opportunity to see plays and show at a modest price. It is a valuable entertainment which is not built around pub culture. The cafe bar is a lovely place to meet before the show. The theatre itself is a splendid building and it would be a great shame if it had to close. We all need to have some culture in our life.

Dr K.J. Kaye:

I come from Oxford to Cheltenham to see productions at the Everyman Theatre; my Cheltenham-based friends love the place; we all take people to see this exceptional building even out of hours. In fact, the Everyman is one of the main reasons, besides friendship, that I am drawn to Cheltenham time and time again. I earnestly hope you will support them through the loan for which they are applying.

MJ Cohen:

Culture is the heart of any community. Cheltenham has many problems which a thriving theatre helps to counterbalance. It is essential to keep the theatre as a thriving part of our lives.

Lynne Hindmarch:

I am writing to support the Everyman Theatre's bid for funding to complete the restoration work needed to the theatre. It is a beautiful theatre - designed by the same architect who designed the London Palladium, and a building we should be proud of. In addition, Cheltenham is known as a place that values the arts - the Music and Literature Festivals are indicators of a lively interest in culture - and the theatre is at the heart of this. We also need to maintain somewhere that has decent acoustics - which the theatre has - because the town hall as a performing arts venue is an acoustic disgrace!

Pauline Curtis:

I use the Everyman theatre in Cheltenham regularly and feel it would be a great pity if it was supported by the council .

Falah Al-Kizwini:

The Everyman is the only institution that provides me and my family including my grandchildren and many other families in Gloucestershire with education and joy. Please don't let us down.

Pamela Hunt:

Please support the Everyman Theatre. It is a jewel and vital to the life of Cheltenham

Victoria Egerton:

Please support the everyman theatre - my children love it and so do my husband and I. We go at least 3 - 4 times a year.

Gerald Kelliher:

I should like to record my support for the Everyman Theatre in respect of the application it has made for &#pound; 1,250,000 towards the cost of restoration work to the theatre.

Mary Melliush:

I support the Everyman Theatre.

Roy Wallis:

Please support the Everyman Theatre in its bid for funds for renovation. It is a wonderful and vibrant theatre for all ages. We went to see "The 39 Steps" and a large percentage of the audience were school children studying for their Drama GCSE - probably 120+ with a wonderful mix of other ages in the packed auditorium. We are going again in February and have taken our grandchildren to every pantomime in the last 10 years. It is a MUST for Cheltenham.

Camille Cowe:

I feel that the Cheltenham Borough Council should support The Everyman Theatre's Restoration for various reasons. The Everyman is one of the few cultural buildings within the town. There is no art centre since the Axiom shut and so The Everyman is a great location for local artists wanting to exhibit work. The Reachout department produces so much educational and community work that supports the Education Authority and various community venues across the town such as the police, the libraries, the Art Gallery and museum, the referral units, the children centres and the neighbourhood centres to name a few. The Roses Theatre in Tewkesbury programmes very different theatre to The Everyman. The Everyman Studio Theatre programmes new and innovative work that you cannot see anywhere locally. The council should look after its buildings and The Everyman Theatre is one of its buildings, it should not be left to deteriorate. I feel very passionately about this.

Linda Morris:

I am pleased to see that the Council is proposing to assist the Everyman Theatre with refurbishment costs. It is a beautiful auditorium, and is beginning to look more than a little jaded. This theatre is an asset to more than just Cheltenham, and it would be sad to see it degenerate through lack of support.

Dawn McMullan-Cooper:

Please consider supporting the restoration of the Everyman theatre building as this is a much loved and used theatre and brings so much joy and culture to the whole of Gloucestershire.

Robert Webb:

It is absolutely essential to the prosperity of the town that the Everyman's grant is agreed.

Pauline Barnett:

I consider the Everyman Theatre to be not only a great asset to Cheltenham but to the surrounding area. I travel from Cricklade to see their various excellent productions. It would be a tragic loss to see this theatre go into decline. The Borough Council should consider the renovation of this unique theatre as a high priority

Tiana Ricketts:

I would like to support the Everyman Theatre's bid for money to enable restoration of the building. Many of our guests in our holiday cottages enjoy using the Everyman Theatre, as we do ourselves.

J Graham:

Please keep supporting The Everyman Theatre. It is a well-regarded and valuable local resource for the community and local schools as well as being a historic building. It also has an accessible and affordable outreach programme.

Peter Browne:

I wish to support the Everyman Theatre in its request for funds from the Borough Council. The Theatre is an essential part of the heritage of Cheltenham and must be supported as fully as possible.

Sue Mills:

As a regular visitor to the Everyman I urge support for this project. Our visit consists of shopping followed by lunch, all while parked in your car parks so this supports more than just the theatre.

Mrs Frances Clarke:

The Everyman Theatre is a vital part of Cheltenham's cultural heritage. The council has as much of a duty to support the arts as any other area of need. Cheltenham would be the poorer if this facility were to disappear.

Simon Leek:

I fully support the proposals in the budget to support the Everyman Theatre. My wife and I have been regular theatregoers since 1976 when we moved to Cirencester and in recent years the theatre has gone from strength to strength. It would be a tragedy if this tremendous asset to the town were left to wither on the vine.

J G Prozesky:

We fully support the application from The Everyman theatre for funding to renovate the theatre.

Lynnette Curtis:

I support the Everyman Theatre bid for financial support to restore the town's historic theatre.

Ms J Brown:

I support the Everyman Theatre in its endeavour to secure funding for much needed renovations.

Mrs Gee Rowett:

The Everyman Theatre is an important part of Cheltenham and therefore needs as much support as possible

Ruth Low:

I would like to support Everyman Theatre's bid for funds to do restoration.

Marjory Facer:

I greatly support the Everyman Theatre's request for support from the Council. The theatre provides a wonderful centre for the Arts in Cheltenham and is one of the reasons that made this area so attractive for us to move to from Vienna. It does need modernisation to attract customers and top flight entertainment.

Alastair Scott:

I wish to support the proposal from the Everyman Theatre that they should be provided with loan and grant funding to enable the renovation of the theatre to go ahead. It is very important to the town and to its image to have properly equipped theatre, and the Everyman's submission seems eminently sensible

Unknown:

I am 33 and have lived in Cheltenham for most of that time. The Everyman has been a huge part of my life from pantomime and shows to their fantastic work in schools and in the community. I would love to see Gloucestershire say a huge thank you to the Everyman by supporting them with their fundraising bid and encouraging more of their wonderful work in the future.

Sharon Baker:

I completely support the Everyman's bid. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful venue locally, please support it too.

Richard Johnson:

Fully support the need to renovate the Everyman Theatre for historic and artistic reasons.

Frances Bond:

I understand the Everyman has applied for help in restoring the lovely old theatre. The everyman was one of the reasons that I chose to move to Cheltenham from London. I was worried I would miss the Theatres but have thoroughly enjoyed attending the plays and shows. Please help them restore the beautiful old building so I can carry on enjoying it and taking friends along with pride.

Rachel Pictor:

I've always enjoyed going to the Everyman theatre and I'd hate to see it fall into disrepair! It's a beautiful building and a great feature in the Cheltenham community.

Bryan Griffiths:

The Everyman in Cheltenham is a fantastic local theatre and should be protected and preserved at all costs. Worth every penny!

Anna Dodson:

I would like to support the Everyman Theatre bid for funds to restore the building. The Theatre is a wonderful asset to Cheltenham and the surrounding area, providing fantastic entertainment ranging from local productions to tours from the West End. My husband and I have watched many brilliant performances and feel that the Theatre badly needs the refurbishment to enhance the audience experience further.

Sheila Arnott:

Please don't let Cheltenham lose the Everyman, one of the town's top assets. Once lost, it will be forever...and these difficult times will surely pass. And even if not, for morale's sake, WE NEED OUR THEATRE!

Sarah Vickers:

I think this should be supported and the theatre provided with the grant it needs to maintain the building and provide a service to the community.

John Nolan:

The Everyman theatre should be fully supported by the Council. It is a building of historic importance and compliments the town's other very successful cultural festivals.

Dave Allberry:

Supporting the application for a loan from the Everyman Theatre, which is a local institution and well-patronised. It is an asset to the town and deserves support.

Sarah Pegler:

The Cheltenham Everyman Theatre is an important part of our community. Please help the theatre to continue to entertain us in an environment that is in keeping with the rest of Cheltenham and which is a pleasure to come to time and time again. If we want to keep the high standard of productions and keep the high profile actors and actresses entertaining us then we have to keep the Everyman Theatre in a state fit to do so and for this to happen they need the required support and funding. Thank you.

P Russell:

Please support the Everyman, one of Cheltenham's Major attractions.

Kieran Powell:

I think this is a GREAT idea. The Everyman is a fantastic theatre and with it being restored, I can only begin to imagine what it will end up like! I can see it becoming the centre of activity for all of Gloucestershire and further!

Jennie Rainsford:

Cheltenham needs the Everyman! Given that many of us are working with the Tourism & Marketing Strategy to try and clearly define the brand offering of Cheltenham it is vital that we do not lose this vital venue.

Zoe James:

I fully support the Everyman theatre for its need of refurbishments. We have had many a lovely hour there with our family over the years.

Mrs L Cork:

The Everyman Theatre is vital for the town. It is absolutely necessary that the council will make the loan in order for the restoration to take place.

Michael Gordon-Smith:

Theatre is integral to community. Everyman is integral to Cheltenham. Its deserves the support of everyone

Colin Herbert:

Of course the Everyman should continue

Sheena Cowie:

Last night I took my Children to see a play at the Everyman Theatre and we had a fantastic time! The Everyman is very important to this town - definitely worth preserving.

Jennie Crosby:

All possible support should be provided for the restoration project for Cheltenham's premier theatre, The Everyman. I regularly take GCSE Drama students there to see productions as part of their course. Without it, they would have to go a lot further afield to see the major touring productions that provide such excellent material for my students to watch. (I am Head of Drama at Thomas Keble School, Stroud.) It is an essential part of my working life and of youth education in the area.

Colleen Harris:

The Everyman deserves the support of the community and the Borough. I have seen countless productions there from a young child until now as a teacher who takes school parties there. The theatre is part of English heritage, to have one so close by is important to us all. The theatre going experience should be one of comfort, magical surroundings and forever memorable, a treat!

Nicola Griffiths:

I would just like to state my support for the Everyman Theatre. We use it more than any other theatre in Glos or Wilts and hope you will help them in every way possible.

Nickie Stokes:

This theatre is a good resource and enhances the local area, people and brings education, understanding of diversity and cultural differences to the fore in an enjoyable environment. It is in need of being able to maintain a high standard of integrity, health & safety and availability for all who attend.

Keith Lafford:

I wish to support the Everyman Theatre's application for funding. The Theatre is a vital asset to Cheltenham and needs this funding for important restoration work. If this is not carried out as soon as practicable there is the risk that the Theatre will fall into disrepair, in which unfortunate event the bill for restoration would escalate dramatically.

Sarah Coates:

The Everyman Theatre is a wonderful building that must be maintained and not left to go to ruin. It would be a great loss to Cheltenham if it went.

Steve Ginn:

My wife and I fully support the Everyman's bid for financial support and applaud the Everyman's service to the community and its contribution to the cultural life of Cheltenham.

John Thompson:

Please support the Everyman scheme - it brings us into the town centre many times a year. Pittville Park is ok - but there are dozens of places like that in Gloucestershire. Support those things which are distinctive!

Julia Chandler:

Please do all you can to help fund The Everyman Theatre. It is a wonderful facility and is very much an integral part of Cheltenham's heritage. It offers educational facilities as well as excellent entertainment to both locals and visitors alike.

David Parfitt:

The Everyman is one of the finest historic buildings in Cheltenham - much loved and much used by the people of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire. It has a marvellous track-record for innovative education and community activities.

The restoration is essential for jobs at the Everyman and for the economy of the town.

I would like to support the Everyman's bid.

Ruth Crossman:

I support the Everyman Theatre's bid for £1,250,000 of funds, of which £1m is a loan. The Everyman puts on a wide variety of performances, and draws people including many like myself from the Cotswold area) to the town. Joan Didion's Year of Magical Thinking, and One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest were highlights in recent years, and it is of course an essential part of the Literary Festival. It's an integral part of the town and county's cultural scene. Please support it.

Mr B M French:

It is imperative that the proposed long overdue improvements to the Everyman Theatre are treated as an absolute priority by CBC for the benefit of the Gloucestershire people.

David & Sue Adamson:

Cheltenham needs the Everyman Theatre and it needs budgetary support.

Trish Paling:

Losing the everyman theatre would be a great loss to Cheltenham, please provide the funds needed to enable the preservation of this lovely theatre to continue. I am a regular visitor (and friend) of this theatre. I'm sure the Everyman brings a lot of custom to other local businesses, restaurants and bars to name but a few.

E J Hyatt:

I would urge the Borough Council to support the Everyman Theatre. It is a beautiful building, a heritage for the town and provides so much joy and entertainment for everyone, young or old, who attend the many diverse and extremely professional productions. For Chelt to lose such an asset would be a travesty.

Peter Nightingale:

Sirs, I understand the pressures on finances but I would like to write in support of the Everyman Theatre's application for financial support, it is a wonderful facility and such an asset to the town it would be detrimental to let it decline. Regards

Kate Jacques:

The Everyman is one of the finest historic buildings in Cheltenham - much loved and much used by the people of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire. It has a marvellous track-record for innovative education and community activities

Janet Rice:

I support the proposal to provide a grant to the Everyman Theatre for refurbishment. The theatre is a real asset to the Borough and needs to be kept up to modern standards.

Kate Earnshaw:

Please help to restore the everyman. It is a good cultural benefit of living here that we have a theatre nearby and it should be maintained

Katie Richardson:

A message of strong support for the Everyman Theatre's bid for funds to help restoration. This Theatre is a gem, socially, artistically, culturally, architecturally, and is good for the tourism of the town. We have used it over many years, to introduce our sons to both the Literature Festival, to pantomime and theatre. As young men they are now all keen supporters of the arts. Thank you Everyman. Long may you continue! You deserve financial support.

Mrs Lynda Burn:

I am commenting on the Everyman Theatre. This is a wonderful facility and keeping it in good repair and functioning for our future generations to enjoy should be a priority.

Mary McKinnon:

Don't forget the Everyman Theatre, the town needs it.

Miranda Davies:

I support the application by the Everyman Theatre for a loan for refurbishment of the theatre. It is an invaluable asset for the community of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire.

Mrs S Alexander:

I wish to support the Everyman Theatre's endeavour to keep this excellent facility in Cheltenham. I make regular visits there with my 5 year old grand-daughter and we are both entranced, not only by what is on stage but also the ambience and glory of the theatre itself. Be proud of this wonderful facility and support it for all you are worth, please.

Beckie Smith:

A wonderful theatre! It should be fully supported by the Council.

Graham M Davies:

My wife and I wish to support the Everyman Theatre restoration fund request. Many people in Gloucestershire enjoy what the theatre offers and hope the council includes their request in the financial budget.

Mrs Boothroyd:

I think the council should support the restoration of the Everyman Theatre because it is in great need of refurbishment. It puts on some excellent shows & plays and is very good for the community.

Penny Kirkwood:

I am writing to support the Everyman Theatre's application for financial help. The work on the building is absolutely necessary in order to preserve this gem of a theatre - we should do all we can to enable Cheltenham to keep this important facility.

David Lane:

We would support the refurbishment of the everyman as we have enjoyed performances there.

Susan Martin:

I wish to support the proposal to support to loan of &#pound; 1,000,000 to the Everyman Theatre to enable the renovation and refurbishment of this important amenity in our town.

Emma Emmett:

I would like to lend my support to The Everyman Theatre in their bid to secure a loan for their restoration. My family and friends all enjoy going to The Everyman and would like to see their application agreed by you to help them update the theatre. Many thanks

Genevieve Matley:

I wish to support strongly the refurbishment of the Everyman Theatre which makes a valuable contribution to Cheltenham. I run a support group for visually impaired older people and we benefit regularly from audio described performances at the theatre. It's a beautiful building and contributes to the culture of the town. If it were not to be properly maintained, this would be a great loss to the town. I have opportunities to go to the theatre in Malvern and London, but for many people this is not an option. Cheltenham prides itself on its many festivals but the theatre is available all year round. So, please regard its financial support as a priority.

Mrs Christina Salmon:

Please don't forget the Everyman in the budget. Theatres are easy to strike off 'must have' lists but a solid cultural life is vital for a town- especially a hub town in a rural area. The theatre has a great range on offer - it's not at all elitist or high brow.

Angela Wright:

The Everyman theatre is an excellent theatre and needs continuing support and help to maintain it.

Brian Knowles:

I wish to support the Everyman's bid for funding to help restore the theatre building.

Dr. Rex Walters:

Please support the theatre restoration project.

Zophia Hunt:

Please, please help the everyman with money for their restoration. I grew up going to the Everyman with my grandparents and now I drive 30 miles to take my children there to enjoy the building and the shows. Chelt needs to keep this historic building going.

Jennifer Major:

Generous financial support should be given to the Everyman Theatre as it is important that Cheltenham with its prestigious festivals has a well maintained and attractive theatre.

Simon Baker:

The Everyman's catchment area is much larger than the town's draw for shopping for many people. We travel a long way (west of Gloucester) to visit the theatre and spend hundreds of pounds in adjoining shops on these visits. If shopping were the only draw we would head to Bristol.

G Thackeray:

I would like you to know that my support would be for The Everyman to get all the financial help possible

Susan Hartley:

I would like to support the Everyman Theatre's bid for financial assistance to refurbish parts of the theatre. The Everyman is a wonderful asset for the people of Cheltenham and, indeed, the whole of Glos. It attracts people to Cheltenham, who then spend money in restaurants, shops etc. My family visit regularly and enjoy the wonderful, professional productions staged there. We hope the council will be able to offer the theatre this much needed support.

Paul Curtis:

Please help fund the restoration work needed at the Everyman Theatre, which plays a vital and much valued role in the cultural life of the town. Thank you.

Heather Spurling:

I would like to support The Everyman Theatre's bid for funds.

We are extremely lucky in Cheltenham to have such a thriving theatre which deserves the Borough Council's support.

Nicola Clark:

I agree that the Everyman should be given the opportunity to make sure it retains its place in Cheltenham as a theatre and place of historical importance.

Rich Heywood:

Loan and; grant to the Everyman fully supported alongside a complete freeze on salaries for all municipal employees.

Penny Lillie:

I would like to support the bid to restore the Everyman Theatre. Without this work we may risk losing a cultural treasure for residents of Gloucestershire.

Lindsey Tilling:

I would like to register my support for the renovation of the Cheltenham Everyman Theatre.

Frances Pearce:

I would like to support the Everyman Theatre's bid for a loan for renovation. As it is such a popular theatre, and so much in keeping with the overall ambience of Cheltenham, this will surely be good for business and tourism in the town.

Ray Lock:

Please support the Everyman

Jane Henderson:

I think it is essential that monies are allocated to the refurbishment of the Everyman Theatre. It is a historic building that provides a huge local service for all ages and this should be recognised.

Mrs K Hutton:

We support the renovations for The Everyman Theatre both for now and the future audiences

Aidan Rose:

I fully support the budget allocation for restoration of the Everyman Theatre. The theatre brings lots of business and tourists into the town and gives Cheltenham a national profile with events such as the Literature Festival for which the Everyman is a key venue.

Peter & Barbara Roderick:

We feel that the grant to the Everyman Theatre will not only benefit the theatre itself but the future of so many of Gloucestershire's residents. It is not only a theatre in the true sense of the word but an educational theatre with its Studio and Out Reach projects which are available to every Gloucestershire resident. The theatre is a national treasure in itself and once lost this can never ever be regained. It is so educational to ALL ages and a centre of learning for so many. Please, please, do not let us down.

Mr & Mrs D W Harris:

The Everyman Theatre is a very important part of our lives. We fully support their efforts of improvement.

Sandie Guine:

I and my family, children and grandchildren, enjoy going to the Everyman Theatre. We feel it is a very important part of life in Cheltenham. We would like to register our support for the theatre and believe that any funds given by CBC would be well spent.

Lewis Cohen:

I would strongly recommend the council to further the refurbishment of the Everyman Theatre. It is an architectural gem and the health of a town's theatrical life reflects well on the town as a whole.

Jonathan & Julie Olver:

We back the Everyman Theatre's request for financial support from Cheltenham Borough Council. I believe the Theatre is an important part of the town's heritage and cultural identity.

Alysoun Tomkins:

I am writing in support of Everyman's Theatre funding bid. Having just moved to Cheltenham I have already attended several interesting events and feel that Cheltenham needs the Everyman

George Krasker:

The Everyman Theatre is of immense value to Cheltenham on two counts. It is a precious building, and its varied productions bring great pleasure to many Cheltonians.

Anna Drury:

Please support the Everyman Theatre in its plans to maintain this important building and the facilities it provides to the people of Cheltenham.

Genevieve Kwintner:

I am writing in support of the everyman theatre. The theatre is much loved and a fantastic part of Cheltenham. I would hope the council will give the theatre the money to make improvements so that subsequent generations can enjoy this beautiful facility just as I and my kids have, and still do.

Julie Downing:

This is such a worthwhile cause - please support it! Cheltenham needs a quality theatre and the Everyman is already jaded and losing support.

Mrs Sylvia Marden:

Please support the Everyman Theatre.

Paul White:

I'd like to see the Everyman Theatre supported more from the funds I pay to the council. It's an asset to the community.

J Holburt:

Please support the Everyman theatre.

Raymond & Mary Pitt:

We wish to support the bid from the Everyman Theatre as regular supporters with mobility problems who are well looked after.

Teresa & John Walton:

I wish to support the bid for funding for refurbishment by the Everyman Theatre. We have spent many an enjoyable evening there and feel it is a venue for people from all over the County to enjoy top-quality productions in an historic and very atmospheric building, which should be preserved.

Kay Bethencourt:

I support the grant and loan to the Everyman theatre to support the necessary upgrading of the property.

Timothy Powell:

I support the council helping to finance refurbishment at the Everyman Theatre. Cheltenham needs its own theatre

Sue Beadle:

It is so important to keep The Everyman Theatre Cheltenham open and in good repair. Not only is it of great architectural importance but also a wonderful venue of entertainment where people can gather in safety and have a good laugh, sing or cry depending on the show. All good for the human soul.

Stephen Mitchell:

I am writing to urge the Council to provide support to the Everyman Theatre. This is a facility that provides jobs, encourages and supports the arts while bringing year-round revenue into the town. The theatre is an integral part of the fabric of Cheltenham. Its being ensures people come into the town centre, trade and provide business for other outlasts and service organisations. It is vital that such an iconic part of Cheltenham receives support as its value to the town as a whole far exceeds the expenditure required for its maintenance.

Hilary Cant:

I very much support the refurbishment of the Everyman Theatre. It has a vital role in the culture and artistic tradition of the town.

Paul Southcott:

The Everyman Theatre is central to Cheltenham's claim to being an arts-friendly town. The more it can be improved, the better for Cheltenham.

Mrs S Lovejoy:

Please do help the Everyman Theatre. My family and several of my friends travel to Cheltenham to visit the theatre and always spend money in the town whilst we're there! This is a very special theatre, do please support them.

Phil Bullock:

I would like to voice my support for the funding of restoration of the Everyman theatre. This is an important part of Cheltenham's Culture. Thank you.

Michael Skaife d'Ingerthorpe:

I would like to support the Council making money available to the Everyman restoration.

Shirley Ridout:

I would urge the Council to grant the Everyman Theatre the funds needed for refurbishment. The theatre generates income from tourism and audiences from surrounding areas, as well as being an important cultural asset to the town itself. Residents do not want to have to adopt an apologetic air which will happen if the theatre is allowed to become shabby and suffer any drop in support.

Ian Kirkwood:

I wish to express my strong support for the bid for funds/loan by the Everyman Theatre. The Everyman is a critical element in the cultural life of the town; and the town sells itself very significantly on the basis of its cultural life. Architecturally the theatre is a rare gem and it would be tragic if it were simply allowed to decay. Spending some money now would avoid the risk of impossibly high bills later. When I first moved to Cheltenham (in 1965) I was thrilled to find a live and lively theatre here, and went regularly; and I still go fairly frequently today. My grandchildren have been to panto at the Everyman on several occasions and they too, like many other young people, greatly enjoyed the experience of live theatre and got a lot out of it. Pittville Park will survive as a public open space with or without extra funding; the Everyman may not survive without council support now.

Linda Gillatt:

The Everyman Theatre must be restored and maintained! Cheltenham has a world wide reputation for the arts and science and The Everyman plays a significant role in maintaining that reputation; please consider your role in this. It's such a beautiful building and represents the tradition of England.

H Gentles:

Please do what you can to support the Everyman theatre.

Jennie Clarkson:

Please allow the Everyman Theatre the money for renovations - the town really needs this theatre and would not be the same without it!!!

Jennifer Lazenby:

At all costs the Everyman Theatre and Building must be sustained. We cannot afford to have a gaping hole in the centre of town. This building together with the Pump Rooms represents what Cheltenham stands for. We must not lose it. Please do what you can to support the continued wellbeing of this lovely theatre and building.

Alison Summerskill:

I support The Everyman theatre bid for funds to aid restoration. They do great community work.

Mary Gribble:

I write to support the Everyman Theatre - it would be such a sad loss to the town if this theatre was to be allowed to decay - it needs your help please to ensure its future

Mr & Mrs G E Boxall:

We understand that the Everyman Theatre has applied for a loan to renovate the theatre and we wish to state our support. It is a beautiful and interesting old building in its own right quite apart from the extremely reasonably priced entertainment it provides for the people of Cheltenham and surrounding areas. Please help the Everyman Theatre to remain an important part of the past, present and future of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire.

Sarah Cook:

I would like to support the Everyman theatre. It is a vital resource for young and old alike, and brings a wide variety of entertainment to the people of the area. I believe strongly that it should be supported by the council in its bid for restoration and improvement.

Mr & Mrs Nick Walker:

My wife and I should like to express our support for the project to upgrade the Everyman Theatre, and hope that the Council will approve the proposed loan and grant.

Moira Keyes:

I would like to support the application for The Everyman Theatre to receive a grant towards refurbishment. It is a valuable part of the culture of the town.

Laurence Guilliford:

We regularly use the Everyman - they put on a superb range of productions. We think it that money spent on improving the facilities would be very well spent.

Philippa Roberts:

I hope that the Everyman theatre is going to receive funding. It is becoming shabby and looks bad for visitors to the town, and for us, the residents! Cheltenham likes to be seen as a centre for the arts and a shabby theatre lets down this image. Nothing has been done on it since the 80s, and much is needed.

Jonathan Armstrong:

I write in support of the request by the Everyman Theatre for £1.25m by way of loan and grant for refurbishment of their historic premises which provide such a unique and important service for the people of Gloucestershire and beyond.

Nick & Andy Smith:

We would like to support the Everyman Theatre bid for restoration funds.

Saffron Ray:

I wish to express my support for the Everyman theatre. I have enjoyed many performances there and feel it is a vital resource for the community, town and arts.

Miriam Innes:

Please support the Everyman theatre, a fantastic well-loved venue in Cheltenham. But please also do not neglect the birds and bunnies at Pittville Park. On New Year's Day, which was bitterly cold, there were still loads of children enjoying them. Could perhaps you use volunteers to help keep this wonderful resource going?

Mary Fielding:

I wish to support the Everyman Theatre's bid for funding for renovation work on the wonderful Matcham building in Regent Street. This is a beautiful and historic building which is in need of refurbishment and renovation and the Council must surely support the Theatre's efforts. Although not living in Cheltenham, we are regular and frequent visitors to the Everyman and would be devastated if it closed. We have just (23rd Jan) seen The 39 Steps there and have also seen wonderful productions with Vanessa Redgrave, Greta Scacchi, Lisa Goddard & Peter Firth, John Dankworth and Cleo Laine, and many more. This theatre, the building and its history are part of our (Cheltenham's, Gloucestershire's and national) cultural heritage. Support the funding bid!

Mrs Hilary Cass:

Please support the Everyman Theatre, such an asset to the community (and I live in Gloucester)

Bob McNally:

Save the Everyman

Ann Barradell-Black:

The Everyman is an important part of the cultural life of the town. We have been without an arts centre since the Axiom was closed - it is essential that we invest in the Everyman, to preserve and promote this important historic building.

James Thompson:

I fully support the funding proposals for the renovation of the Everyman Theatre.

L Thompson:

The Everyman Theatre is such an important and valuable cultural asset to Cheltenham that I believe the Council must support the building's renovation with funding as proposed.

Sarah Davis:

Please support the Everyman Theatre with the loan that it needs. It is an excellent local theatre and provides numerous shows suitable for all our family.

Barbara Everitt:

I support The Everyman Theatre

Colin & Jackie Etheridge:

We would like to support the financial loan and aid to the Everyman

Lucie Spurway:

The Everyman is a vital resource for a wide population and serves all ages. It is essential it is maintained to enable it to continue to support the community for years to come and to provide our children with a live cultural experience when so much of their world is screen based.

Judy Webb:

I wish to support the Everyman Theatre in their bid.

Rebecca Hutchinson:

I really support the Everyman Theatre's bid to restore the building and it's facilities. It is a wonderful building and a fantastic place for all the family-no matter what the weather!

Unknown:

I was born in Cheltenham, grew up here and now live in Churchdown. I have 3 properties in Cheltenham which I run as holiday apartments and which are very successful. The feedback I receive from my guests is always good and many return to Cheltenham for various reasons but nearly all of them return for the Arts and culture with The Everyman Theatre being one of the favourite. Many guests book an apartment because they have tickets for a show. I would very much like to see money invested in the Everyman theatre.

Peter Routliff:

I lived in Cheltenham and Gloucester between 1978 and 1986 and was a frequent visitor to the Everyman theatre.

Even now, though living in Berkshire, my wife and I are supporters of the Everyman and frequently return to Cheltenham to see shows. These visits inevitably also contain shopping and dining in the town where we do our small bit to help the local economy.

It would be a real shame if the Everyman was allowed to fade away. Please support their funding request and give us that excuse to continue to return to your wonderful town.

Arthur Smith:

We visit the everyman theatre regularly please support its restoration

Sarah Powell:

The Everyman Theatre is a much loved asset for people in Gloucestershire. We live in the Cirencester area and love our visits there.

Mrs JM Chetwynd Stapylton:

My husband and I feel the Everyman Theatre is an integral part of Cheltenham. Indeed it is one of the reasons we moved here, and it has given much joy to us and our children and grandchildren. We fully support the efforts to keep it going and restore it to its former glory.
Chris Carlton:

I think the money for the Everyman is a good thing. A town like Cheltenham should have a theatre like the Everyman

The Townsend Family:

We would like to ask the council to approve the sum of £1,250,000 towards the refurbishment of The Everyman Theatre. My husband, son and two friends are at the theatre as I write this to see the award-winning production of The 39 Steps. We have enjoyed many wonderful productions at the theatre with family and friends and wish to continue to do so in comfort and in the wonderful setting of that beautiful auditorium. The Everyman Theatre is one of the jewels in Cheltenham's crown and should have the council's support to remain so.

C Sinfield:

We support the Everyman. Keep it going with funding. We'd sponsor it too.

Amanda Taylor:

The Everyman Theatre is a fantastic venue and offers all age ranges the chance to enjoy wonderful entertainment at reasonable prices - it must be helped!

Pamela Andrews:

The Everyman is a very important part of Cheltenham and it's heritage. It badly needs funding to update it and keep it going. This should be a priority over Pittville Park.

Mr H M Woodward:

I wish to support the Everyman Theatre in their bid for funding to assist with the updating of the theatre in order that it remains an important historical feature of the town and a vital centre for the performing arts for both the residents of Cheltenham and visitors from far and wide.

M Percival:

Keep the Everyman in good shape, respect our heritage.

Jenny Clarke:

I do hope that you support the Everyman - an important amenity and source of visitor income for the town.

J M Hodges:

I do hope that the Council will give its full support to the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham. It is such an asset to the whole of the Cotswold area providing excellent programmes giving great pleasure to many at reasonable prices. It would be a great loss if we should lose this facility.

Robert Borley:

I would like to pledge my support for the refurbishment of the Everyman Theatre. I think it is an essential part of Cheltenham's heritage and I would love to feel like I would enjoy even more frequent visits.

We love the Everyman theatre and it is in need of upgrading and updating.

Philip Bernays:

I would like to express my support for the Everyman Theatre's refurbishment plans and how essential it is for the future of the Everyman that the Council supports these in every way it can. Thank you.

Warren Mason:

I fully support the refurbishment of the everyman, I am an electrician and I have recently completed work on the performing arts centre for the Cheltenham ladies collage. I recently came to the everyman and was shocked at the standard of the building and the technology of which it lacks. A refurb is exactly what it needs to pull in more performances and customers. Oh and I work for Lorne Stewart plc who could fully take on the electrical and mechanical side of the project.

David Whipp:

Please provide the support the Everyman Theatre has requested. The Theatre is important to the town. The Everyman desperately needs to secure funds so they can restore the historic auditorium and renovate the foyers. Without this, the theatre will just become shabbier and uncomfortable and audiences will inevitably decline.

The Everyman is one of the finest historic buildings in Cheltenham - much loved and much used by the people of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire. It has a marvellous track-record for innovative education and community activities.

The restoration is essential for jobs at the Everyman and for the economy of the town.

Unknown:

I would like to express the importance of the Everyman Theatre to the local community of Cheltenham and the County.

The Theatre not only provides local people with a range of artistic experiences, that can provide entertainment, culture and education but gives people the opportunity to participate in a range of drama, music and art activities. These experiences cannot be found anywhere else.

The Theatre attracts many people, of all ages, from all over the UK and so, it is important to maintain the building so that future generations can enjoy the traditions of the theatre for years to come.

As a Head of Drama in a Glos Secondary School, I have had the opportunity to take pupils to many different performances at the Everyman. It is undoubtedly the best theatre in the area and it would be a shame if it had to close due to a lack of funds.

Please consider giving the Everyman Theatre the time, consideration and funds that it deserves.

Dermot Hanna:

Having moved from Bristol to Stroud a few years ago I have really appreciated the role played by the Everyman Theatre as an Arts and Entertainment venue for Gloucestershire. Please continue to support it.

Helen Cramer:

Please give a new lease of life to the Cheltenham Everyman theatre. It is a wonderful showcase for Cheltenham and gives much kudos to the town. It is in need of some further renovation work which the Council I hope will support.

Anna Kietley:

Please ensure the Everyman continues to provide entertainment, education and fun for us all - I can't imagine Cheltenham without it!

Wanda Lozinska:

I would like the Council to fully support the Everyman Theatre. My friends and I use it often. In fact, we went only yesterday; in addition to seeing the performance there, we also had lunch in a nearby restaurant and did some shopping. So the theatre encourages people to visit Cheltenham and to spend money there. Helping them out should prove a very good investment.

Rita Kester:

I feel that the Theatre is important to the town.

The Everyman desperately needs to restore the historic auditorium and renovate the foyers.

Without this, the theatre will just become shabbier and uncomfortable and audiences will inevitably decline.

The Everyman is one of the finest historic buildings in Cheltenham - much loved and much used by the people of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire. It has a marvellous track-record for innovative education and community activities.

The restoration is essential for jobs at the Everyman and for the economy of the town.

Unknown:

The theatre is a huge asset to Cheltenham and the surrounding area. It provides people of all ages and backgrounds with a common interest.

Colin Smith:

Please support The Everyman

Mrs I Harris:

As a member of the ETA, I support the theatre and the importance of its refurbishment to prevent further problems. The theatre is an important part of many people's lives in the Cheltenham area.

Michelle Clare-Hudson:

I frequently take large numbers of pupils to productions at the Everyman and want to emphasise the importance of the services the theatre provides to education. Young people are very affected by appearance and it would be hugely detrimental to their view of theatre if they see it as taking place in shabby buildings with poor toilet facilities etc.

Hugh Dunsmore-Hardy:

We support the bid from The Everyman Theatre as it is vital that the theatre maintains its role in providing a place of good quality live theatre which is part of the town's heritage.

Mr A J Dear:

I am a supporter of the Everyman Theatre and believe the Council should assist its restoration plans by giving a loan to help with that work.

Rachel Horsfall:

Please look after the Everyman Theatre when allocating money, it's a much needed and enjoyed piece of Cheltenham.

Svetlana Yates:

I would like to support Everyman Theatre in getting the funds to support their project in restoring the building.

Jo Bennett:

Support for the Everyman and much loved theatre which is a family favourite.

Chet Mistry:

I would like to support the Everyman's Theatres proposal for the Loan.

Heidi Kirley:

The Everyman is one of the finest historic buildings in Cheltenham - much loved and much used by the people of Cheltenham and Gloucestershire. It has a marvellous track-record for innovative education and community activities. It desperately needs these funds and withholding them would be catastrophic. Please help them

Dr & Mrs B Chambers:

The Everyman Theatre is a regional asset of which Cheltenham Borough Council can be proud and it should receive the funding required to preserve and maintain its fabric.

Melanie Jones:

Please save the everyman theatre by lending it the money for refurbishment. My 850 pupils visit the Everyman in their school career and if it were not there they would have to pay considerably more to visit a theatre elsewhere. This would mean many would not go and the experiences of Gloucester pupils would diminish further!!

Pebworth First School:

The Everyman is not only important to Cheltenham but to surround areas. Our school has been visiting the Everyman for years to attend the Pantomime and we would have to travel a great detail further if it was to close.

Alison Gray:

I'm truly behind the development of the Everyman Theatre. Not only an iconic / historical building but a fabulous theatre. The warmth and atmosphere I feel when I go there is fantastic. I realise older buildings are costly to upkeep but this is a gem of a place.

Brenda James:

I feel strongly that the Everyman Theatre should be supported. We visit very fine productions about 2-3 times a year and have taken many visitors there, from Australia, Canada, London, Devon, etc. It would be a tragedy if the Everyman were to fall into disrepair.

Jan Cowl:

We are a Gloucester Infant School which brings 270 pupils plus 54 adults to the theatre every January to watch the Pantomime. The children love the show and a huge amount of school work is generated from the experience. On a personal note I attend the theatre regularly - the variety of productions is fantastic and I do not wish to travel to Bristol or Birmingham to see a show. Please, please, please authorise the money to refurbish this fantastic facility.

Keith Hudson:

I urge the Council to support the application by the management of the Everyman Theatre to finance the much needed refurbishment of the Theatre. I am a former resident of Cheltenham and make regular visits to the town and attend the Theatre on many occasions. In my opinion it is a valuable asset to the town and is much treasured by regular theatre goers.

Kate Moss:

I support the development of the Everyman Theatre as it supports local jobs, the local economy and is part of what makes Cheltenham an entertaining and versatile town.

Philip D Mason:

I am appalled to hear that vital funding may be withheld from the Everyman Theatre. My wife and I enjoy their productions when we are in the UK. We are hoping to move to the Cheltenham area this spring and would be sad to see this lovely theatre fall into disuse.

Michael Sanger-Davies:

Please register my support for the Everyman Appeal to CBC

Malcolm Hunter:

I wholeheartedly support the Everyman Theatre's bid for financial support. As a local schoolteacher I understand well what an important service the Everyman provides for our community.

Ulla Mason:

I visit Cheltenham several times a year with my English husband and we nearly always see a play or two at the Everyman's. It's a lovely theatre and we strongly support its restoration.

Marie Thomson:

I support the bid by the Everyman Theatre. I have just been to a marvellous production of 39 Steps and eaten a delicious meal in Matcham's restaurant. The Everyman is a jewel in Cheltenham's crown and must be preserved at all costs.

Ross Cook:

Please vote to support the funding bid for the Everyman Theatre. The region needs a first class theatre such as this.

Amanda Fletcher:

Please support the Everyman Theatre with its request for £1,250,000 for restoration. The Everyman is one of the finest historic buildings in Cheltenham and surely must be preserved?

Louise Jenner:

We strongly support the Everyman bid to renovate and improve the theatre. It is an historic and beautiful building and it deserves to be enjoyed by future generations of theatre-goers.

Gavin Phillips:

I believe the Everyman Theatre is a fundamental part of Cheltenham's heritage and its upkeep and refurbishment should be part of the Council's budgeting.

Dr A R Thompson:

I believe the 'Everyman Theatre' to be a wonderful asset to Cheltenham and I look to the Council to provide every possible support for its renovation and maintenance.

Dr Chris Good:

I am writing to show my support for the proposal to loan the Everyman Theatre £ 1,250,000. Keeping a vibrant working theatre in Cheltenham is part of keeping a vibrant living town.

Gill Simpson:

I am writing in support of the Everyman Theatre's application to Cheltenham Borough Council for money towards much needed restoration of the theatre. The Everyman is a unique historic theatre I am not alone in the pleasure I experience from being in the building in addition to watching the show. My family & I regularly venture to the Everyman from Stroud and a great part of the appeal is being in the building. There is no other setting in Gloucestershire quite like the Everyman in Cheltenham

Geoffrey Burton:

I would like to support the Everyman's application for a grant & loan. We live in Evesham but think the theatre is a great asset to the town.

Val Fairbairn:

I believe the Everyman Theatre is important to the town and we should go ahead with restoration ASAP.

Keith Smith:

I am writing in support of the Everyman Theatre. There are certain things that define towns and communities and set them apart from others. Cheltenham has a number of these of course - its parks, its buildings, and its culture - and in this is the Everyman Theatre. Whilst appreciating the difficulties in balancing the many needs I believe that the support for the Everyman is important to Cheltenham and its residents.

Geoff & Ingle Ellison:

We wholeheartedly support the Everyman Theatre's request for funding support in order to refurbish its premises. Our family has enjoyed some wonderful performances there and we hope to be able to do so for many more years to come.

Sarah Graves:

The Everyman is a wonderful period building and very valuable as a source of education and enjoyment to all.

Lyn Whitworth:

Please support the Everyman Theatre....it is the only theatre we have for professional companies to visit, and needs restoring.

Jennifer Stapleton:

The Everyman is in great need of restoration. It provides an excellent and unique service to the people of Cheltenham and the surrounding areas. Theatregoers are poorly catered for in the region - apart from amateur theatre.

Hilary Ablett:

Please consider the Everyman theatre in your budget proposals, as I feel it generates extra income to the town and also meets a need that is not available elsewhere.

Philip Stapleton:

The Everyman Theatre is an essential part of Cheltenham's cultural and architectural history, and even when limited funds must be spread thinly, the council must play its part in funding the renovation of the interior.

George & Sally Morton:

The Everyman Theatre is core to the cultural life of Cheltenham, raising its attractiveness as a cultural destination. It is, moreover, an iconic theatre which is our responsibility to safeguard for future Cheltonians. I sincerely hope that the Council will move to provide the necessary funding for its restoration. You are accountable not to just this generation

Gail Harwood:

I am a new resident of Cheltenham, and have found the Everyman Theatre to be a charming, very much appreciated feature of the town. The events I have attended there have been of high quality, enhanced by the lovely surroundings of an authentic period building. It would be shameful to allow this resource to dwindle into disrepair.

Valerie Fagan:

Please keep the heart of Cheltenham alive and support the Everyman. It is the jewel in the crown of West Country theatres and one we should be justly proud of. So please support the Theatre bid.

Mrs Sandra Day:

We support the bid that the Everyman has submitted to restore the theatre. As a Matchams design we must keep it restored. We go nearly every week to see the shows.

Martin Kirby:

Even though we live in Gloucester, my wife and I are regular visitors to The Everyman and see it as an asset not only to Cheltenham but the world of theatre. Our grandchildren had their first experience of live theatre at this venue and that is why it needs to be preserved for future generations.

Marianne Miller:

I think that the everyman is an important contributor to the town's standing as a "place people want to come".

Alex Jones:

Please help to renovate the Everyman theatre in Cheltenham. It is a shining light in the Gloucester area. My Family and I have enjoyed evenings out at the theatre on numerous occasions. It believe it gives the people of Gloucestershire an opportunity to enjoy excellent productions at reasonable prices, whilst not taking so long to get there that it makes it impossible to attend due to time constraints (we have four young children). My entire family fully support the theatre and hope that it can continue it's fantastic service to the community for many years to come through modernisation. The building is truly beautiful; it would be a shame to see it run down any further.

Christine Griffin:

I would like to support the Council making funds available to the Everyman - it is beginning to look shabby and as part of Cheltenham's cultural heritage this is not good.
Debbie Stiles:

I would just like to support Cheltenham Everyman Theatre in it's request for a grant for restoration. The theatre is an essential ingredient of a reasonably sized town particularly a beautiful regency town like Cheltenham. I was brought up in Cheltenham and moved to Bristol but came to a show this afternoon. We thoroughly enjoyed it. I did though notice some scaffolding and shabby areas in this beautiful auditorium. A big ask I know, but how could you not!

Elizabeth Wainwright:

I believe it essential that The Everyman is supported in its renovation programme. Investment in, and protection of, Cheltenham's cultural life is an investment in the mental health and wellbeing of its people, the education of its children, its tourist industry, and its status within the region. A town with Cheltenham's obvious cultural standing will quickly loose its appeal and become anonymous, generic and dull without a sufficiently supported theatre. The consequences of this are as financially disastrous as they are culturally. I am aware of the choice in investment between the theatre and Pittville Park. As someone who lives within the close vicinity of the park, with a young child, this is not something I take lightly.

Tricia Murphy:

Please support the restoration of The Everyman theatre

John & Joan Kloer:

We support the proposal to refurbish the Theatre

John Gibson:

Please support the bid from the Everyman Theatre for aid with its renovation. The theatre provides an educational and cultural facility unique to Gloucestershire and the South West of England. It would be a great loss to the magnificent town of Cheltenham if the theatre was allowed to decline and cease to function.

Christine Edwards:

I would like to support the application by the Everyman theatre. This is an invaluable resource for the community.

Karen Bendy:

Please save the Everyman. I live in Lincolnshire and often visit the theatre. It is beautiful and attracts some amazing performers, what an incredible, central venue. Please, please, please don't let this beautiful, important building go to waste/

Julien Crowther:

I understand that The Everyman Theatre has applied to the Council for funding to restore the historic building and improve facilities for the public. I feel it is important to support the theatre in this as it is a great asset to Cheltenham and Gloucestershire. Professional performances of a wide variety are made available to local people and this is important especially in times of recession, when times are hard and money could be diverted elsewhere.

Mr c I Major:

I wish to support the application by Everyman for financial help towards its proposed refurbishment. The theatre brings much needed business to Cheltenham throughout the year. My wife and I live near Gloucester but use the restaurant and other facilities when we go to the theatre. In particular the theatre is an essential venue during the Literary Festival

Sarah Beall:

Please support the Everyman Theatre in its bid for money to complete the restoration needed to keep it as an important part of the life of Cheltenham, and Gloucestershire as a whole. The theatre is an integral to promoting the "Arts" in the area and desperately needs restoration before it deteriorates even further!

Maria Chodera:

The Everyman Theatre was costly to renovate in the 80's and should stay on for ever and be supported by all. How many night clubs compete for the attention of the younger generation which would be denied a more cultural and educational leisure time? And where would the middle aged go for their entertainment if the venue didn't get enough support from the Council??

Swithin Fry:

I would like to support the Council making money available to the Everyman restoration. The theatre is our heritage; and does a GREAT job.

Kate & Jim Yetton:

We support the Everyman theatre in their bid for finance to fund the restoration of the theatre in preference to funding for Pittville.

Paula Owen:

I am alarmed to hear that the budget to the Everyman Theatre is under threat. The Everyman is an asset which Cheltenham should treasure and do everything they can to support. Don't let the quality of the provision given by the theatre suffer because of short sighted budget cuts.

Susan Sutton:

Please keep the proposed support for the Everyman in place; it is a very important facility for the County

H Mercer:

I should like to show my support for the requested loan from the council to refurbish 'The Everyman' Theatre

Clare Woolsey:

The Everyman Theatre has applied to the Cheltenham Borough Council for £1,250,000 to restore the theatre building. I would just like to say I fully support their application in this, as I and my parents frequently enjoy evenings at the theatre, and think it would be a great shame if we were to lose this theatre which puts on entertainment for all ages throughout the year.

Lisa Hinkley:

I have been asked by the Everyman Theatre to add my support for their project to restore the building. As a small rural school we have benefited from the use of the theatre each year at the pantomime. In addition to this we have used their outreach programmes. Visiting the theatre is always a great treat for the children and may be the only occasion they experience live music and dance. It is close enough to make it financially viable for us to visit. It would be great to know that the theatre's future is secure.

Michael Eggleton:

I would urge the council to support the Everyman Theatre's application for funding to pay for restoration work. I think the Theatre is a very important part of the town's infrastructure, and plays a leading role in delivering 'the arts' to all of us. Restoration is much needed in some areas of the Theatre, and a failure of the council to engage would soon be seen as a missed opportunity.

K Dawson:

Save our theatre

Rosy Leek:

Please please put money into the renovations of the lovely old theatre, The Everyman. We have been coming to performances regularly since we moved to Glos over 30 years ago. It would be catastrophic if this wonderful theatre was not able to survive. There is so much history in it as well as being a beautiful building and the programmes of plays have been getting better and better each year. Modern buildings just do not have the atmosphere.

Justine Foster:

I wholeheartedly support the plan to renovate the Everyman. It is a vital resource - I am going tonight!

Peter George:

The Everyman Theatre is part of what makes Cheltenham a wonderful place to live, even in these very difficult times we must do everything to preserve a building of which we can all be proud

Mrs C Chapman:

I write in support of the council contributing to the funding of the restoration work for The Everyman Theatre. The Theatre is a great asset to the town and one which attracts both visitors and locals to the town centre. The help with funding will be vital to the Theatre's future. It would not be a case of money ill-spent, but rather a sound investment for the future. The Everyman is part of the life-blood of Cheltenham generating income not only for itself but for other town businesses and the council.

David Rex:

The Everyman Theatre plays an important part in Cheltenham's role as a centre for arts and entertainment. It acts as a focus for high standards in performance and employs, and contributes to the training of, many excellent local performers. The Everyman also attracts many visitors to the town who contribute to the economy. I would like to support the Council making money available to the Everyman restoration.

Sharla Dandy:

The Everyman theatre needs restoration. It is the life blood of Cheltenham and brings a great deal of money into the town. Look at me for example, I live in Painswick but because my children are part of Everykid the children's drama club at the Everyman I come to Cheltenham every week and then go shopping spending around £100 per week.

The Everyman brings culture to everyone's life and is something for youngsters to aspire to and some of the productions provide a dream world for some Children to escape to for those precious couple of hours.

Please provide the funds necessary to renovate this wonderful building for my Children and my Children's children.

Mr M J Murphy:

This is to support the Everyman. It is an exceptional resource for Cheltenham. It provides a vital contribution for employment, recreation, education and commerce. We thoroughly agree that it should receive as much assistance from the council as possible.

T Mackay:

I fully support the proposal in the budget document for funding through donation and loan the refurbishment of the Everyman Theatre. What a gem this theatre is and more eclectic in both customer and variety of performance/play than others in the region.

Tim & Val Lewis:

Please support The Everyman Theatre restoration, it is not just a beautiful old building, but an oasis of culture and entertainment for young & old in Gloucestershire.

David Lloyd:

Please add my support to improve the theatre. The seating is totally inadequate and uncomfortable. A lot of revenue is lost as the audience cannot sit comfortably!! It is false economy not to invest in basic comfort!! Many seats are simply to be avoided because of restricted view.

Sharon Collins:

I am in support of the work planned at the Everyman Theatre which does amazing work with in the Lit Fest and also has been host to the students of the Star College with their performances. I feel that this is a very important part of Cheltenham's heritage

Paul Shelley:

The EVERYMAN THEATRE must be helped with this grant and loan!!!!

Hannah Horne:

I support the proposal to fund the Everyman's bid for a loan a grant.

Steve Allsup:

As the centre for so many arts and literature festivals, it is essential for Cheltenham to have a professional theatre. As both a user of, and performer at, the Everyman, I therefore trust the Borough Council will approve the requested funding, the majority of which is only a loan. Steve Allsup Chairman Cotswold Male Voice Choir www.cotswoldmvc.org

Alan & Linda Cook:

We, Alan and Linda Cook, fully support funding the Cheltenham Everyman Theatre for now and the foreseeable future

Paul Hipkiss:

I am letting you know of my support for the Everyman Theatre

Stan Crawford:

I support the Everyman Theatre application for a loan to refurbish the historic theatre.

Chris Smyth:

I write to support the bid by the Everyman Theatre for funds towards its proposed refurbishment in the forthcoming budget discussions. Cheltenham has established itself as a centre for the performing arts and the Everyman is at the heart of these activities. As such it is central to Cheltenham's plans and continued success.

Joan Turk:

Please support the Everyman Theatre. It is one of the treasures of Cheltenham. My husband & I have spent many happy hours at their wonderful productions.
Bryan Reid:

Yesterday, my wife and I attended the performance at the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham. We find the visits very rewarding, especially as we are retired, and would you please support the theatre's request for financial support. Thanks.

Kathryn Wyatt:

I am a teacher in Cirencester and know that the schools depend on The Everyman for live theatre. It is a historical building and part of the heritage. It should therefore be seriously considered for financial support.

Patricia Pratt, location unknown:

I wish to support the grant application by the Everyman Theatre.

The presence of live theatre in Cheltenham is a vital part of the "rich mix" of cultural and sporting events, which makes the town unique for its size.

In order to continue to attract an audience, and thus to afford to stage a varied programme of shows, the theatre needs to maintain an attractive and comfortable building. The building is also of historic importance and we have a duty of care to future Cheltenham residents to maintain it. The theatre adds much to the attractive appearance of Regent Street.

I feel that Cheltenham has a poor record for supporting the arts, witness the disappearance of the Axiom Centre and the failure to provide an alternative Arts venue. I would not like to see Cheltenham lose its theatre and become a cultural desert like Gloucester, so that residents and visitors would need to travel to Malvern in order to see live theatre. It would be interesting to know why a town the size of Malvern can sustain live theatre so successfully. Perhaps there is recognition by their local council that a thriving theatre brings visitors from a wide geographical area who bring custom to other businesses in the town.

Mrs R Iles:

Everyman Theatre is a hugely important part of Cheltenham - many middle aged and older people do not wish to use the MANY fun pubs in the town which cater for the younger element - the theatre enables families to enjoy a great night out and provides superb entertainment, not to mention the educational side it offers to our children. Please, please ensure they receive the loan that they require so that they can continue to provide such an excellent service to the town.

Jason Meek:

I would like to express my support for the restoration of the Everyman Theatre. The theatre is a vital resource for the people of Cheltenham and the surrounding areas. I have travelled regularly from Malvern for shows and festival events at the Everyman and the preservation of this historic building should be a priority for the Council.

Eight comments received were against the loan & grant to the Everyman Theatre, and in support of Pittville Park. These are included below.

Terry Langhorn, Cheltenham

I am writing to express my great concern about the apparent loss of the 'ring-fenced' allocation held for improving and maintaining Pittville Park. I hope my views can be included with others which may be taken into consideration when the decision is made.

From the available sources it is unclear where this money is scheduled to go and why. In some reports the Everyman appears to be a potential beneficiary from Pittville Park's loss, while others suggest that the allocated money is needed for the Regent Arcade.

In either case I feel that these potential projects have access to other funds, sponsors and ranges of commercial assets which Pittville Park cannot match. Both projects have powerful 'friends' whereas the Park merely has many thousands of anonymous users who wish to see their space preserved and improved.

Pittville Park is one of Cheltenham's gems, not only used on a regular basis by families but also by the Council for events including Music and other Festivals, Fiesta in the Park and other 'town' parties. Adults and children enjoy the varied facilities, many of which are now in serious need of updating or proper maintenance (for example the lakes are left to fend for themselves and no attempt is made to remove autumn leaves, branches, rubbish, bottles and cans).

Clearly the Council has previously given great consideration into competing requirements and has allocated these funds taking the precaution of 'ring-fencing' to ensure that the money is protected. Reversing this decision would bring into disrepute any future allocation or ring-fencing of funds.

I can imagine that the well-organised Everyman supporters will be appealing for these funds but this apparent black-hole is an unworthy cause for removing the funds from their assigned purpose.

Please keep the allocated funds in the existing Pittville Park category.

David Harris, Location unknown:

I feel very strongly that the council should not renege on its commitment of the £300,000 to Pittville Park. I could provide you with a large number of reasons why the money should be allocated but the main one for me must be the number of people who make use of Pittville Park. A summer's day or a winter's morning with snow on the ground. It is the council's responsibility to provide the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people. It is not about arts and heritage it is having a place where ordinary people can go and enjoy life with their families.

Irene Formoso, Cheltenham:

I am very concerned about the £300,000 which is now no longer earmarked for Pittville Park and has been returned to central funds.

At the same time £250,000 has been set aside for the Everyman Theatre. In an ideal world, both would have funds. However, we are living in difficult times and choices have to be made for the good of the community. It is precisely for this reason that I think Pittville Park should hold precedence over the Everyman.

A park is a daily joy for everyone, young and old. A simple walk in the park is accessible to all. Pretty flowers, children playing, people strolling or taking their dogs for a walk. These are all simple pleasures which the whole community can enjoy. A well maintained park literally brings people out of themselves. It is of enormous importance to the community.

Pittville Park has a long history. We are lucky to have had this park passed down to us. Let us treasure it for ourselves and future generations.

Finally, we should remember that the park is something that is visible to visitors and residents alike. It illustrates what we think of our town. If we leave it in a bad condition, we cannot expect people to want to come here. Please do not neglect Pittville Park.

Cllr Diane Hibbert:

I strongly disagree with the proposal to remove £300,000 from the capital budget allocation for Pittville Park.

This figure was previously agreed by full council and it is very apparent that at that time the majority of councillors supported continued investment in Pittville Park.

The recently completed master plan for Pittville which was supported by a wide cross section of the community identifies a number of different pieces of work that could and should be done in order to bring this most important park up to date and into a good state of repair.

Without such investment the park will soon deteriorate and show signs of neglect.

Groups such as Friends of Pittville are well positioned to seek external funding and the capital previously set aside for Pittville would also help to lever in such external funding resulting in good value for money for the council tax payer in Cheltenham.

I note from the editor comments in the echo that they are less supportive of the grant to the Everyman, now that it has become apparent that this is coming from money previously promised to Pittville Park and estate.

I urge you to acknowledge the public's dismay at this proposal and amend the budget proposals accordingly.

J Wellard, Location unknown:

I understand that there are suggestions within the forthcoming budget consultations for 2010/2011 to raid the 'ring-fenced' funds previously agreed and allocated for Pittville Park.

There seem to be conflicting suggestions as to where the funds will be re-directed. One article suggests that the money might fund repairs to the arcade, another that the Everyman theatre needs to take this allocated money.

It seems to me that both of these projects have access to commercial funds, advertising and sponsorship - all of which are beyond the scope of Pittville Park. This is one of the best open spaces in the town and used by a wide range of people from all over the county. We live near the park and use it several times a week, as do many other people. There are problems which need attention, not least the security of the Pump Room and bandstand area.

Money which has been discussed and allocated to the Pittville Park would maintain and enhance a wonderful facility and benefit far more people than the other suggested uses for funds.

Please keep the 'ring-fenced' money in the place for which it is intended.

Desmond Fitzgerald, Executive member of "Friends of Pittville":

I understand that it has been decided to remove an earmarked sum of £300,000 that had previously been reserved for Pittville Park and give £250,000 of this money to the Everyman Theatre.

As an Executive member of Friends of Pittville I, and indeed the whole Friends of Pittville Committee, are not against the Everyman's bid as it is also an important historic and cultural facility but, as a Friend of Pittville, my first priority is Pittville Park and the surrounding estate.

In addition I can state that during meetings Friends of Pittville had with CBC we were assured that this allocated money was 'ringed-fenced' for Pittville Park. Now we learn, and regrettably in an indirect manner, that we are to lose this allocation.

I therefore ask you to reconsider this proposed misappropriation and to restore it to Pittville Park, described by many as one of Cheltenham's best historic landmarks.

Janet Tudor, Cheltenham

I understand that £300,000 has been reserved for improvements, repairs etc to Pittville Park and that this money, in its entirety, is no longer likely to be kept for the purpose for which it was intended.

My husband and I came to live near the park two years ago. We have been very impressed indeed by this facility which appears to be well used and not only by those in the immediate vicinity. It will need to be financially well supported in the future to keep it in good condition and continue to be an area of which townspeople can be proud.

On race days, thousands of people from far and wide pass by the park and must take their impressions back home with them as one of the attributes the town has to offer. Children love it at all times (the play area could do with an update), picnickers flock there in the summer, people young & old love to walk there and visitors come to look at the Pump Rooms, so I would ask the Council to do the honourable thing and safeguard the money intended, as it was, for the upkeep and improvements to our Park.

We have a beautiful and precious facility here which needs ongoing care. Please do not lose sight of that fact.

Alexandra Marshall, Cheltenham

We have had information from 2 sources about the budget discussions. It is sad that we seem to have to choose between the Everyman and Pittville Park. I very much hope that the Everyman is refurbished, but we think that if we have to vote, as residents of Pittville and aware of how much it is used, we would have to come down in favour of that. Our feeling is that the Everyman does have influential friends and will raise money somehow, and that Pittville could lose out, being slightly less central and seemingly in less need.

I was puzzled by a reference in the letter received asking for support for the theatre, to an 'ill-informed' decision to support the Park. I would like to know more about this – rather a provocative reference as it stands.

A letter was received from Cheltenham VCS in support of continued voluntary and community sector funding.

It is clear that the recent financial crisis will severely affect the levels of funding available to local councils and that Cheltenham Borough Council is no exception. Recent budget consultation indicates that Cheltenham Borough Council faces pressing challenges to maintain services to the locality to the same extent or in the same manner as it has done in the past. We are acutely aware of this situation but as representatives of voluntary and community organisations we would like to put the case for the retention of financial support for our sector. VCS organisations are increasingly playing a significant role as service providers for the statutory sector - particularly within health and social care - therefore funding is essential to maintain and develop a robust infrastructure to support local organisations. Without a strong VCS these commissions (and therefore this money) will go to organisations outside of Cheltenham (and beyond Gloucester). We will demonstrate below that the voluntary and community sector provides value for money, strengthens communities, supports the local economy, protects the local environment, and its essence is enshrined in the principles of the Borough Councils corporate strategy.

There are three basic themes we would like to describe which show the value of the third sector:

Firstly that the VCS provides services and opportunities for a vast array of Cheltonians, services which are valued and whose loss would cause great suffering. Many of these are provided through independent community led organisations with multi-purpose functions, which provide a focal point for local communities and community organisations, and for community services. They serve communities of interest, including equality groups that may be at risk of social and economic exclusion, building communities from within. A number of these services are planned and managed with grant funding but often rely heavily on the goodwill of volunteers for their day to day survival. Without a basic infrastructure these charitable activities will fragment and ultimately fail and the value of the freely available resources will be lost to the town.

The second is the local multiplier effect by which monies channelled into disadvantaged communities are redistributed within those communities thus strengthening local economies.

The third is the match funding multiplier whereby funding from the Borough Council supports activities that bring in additional funding from outside the town which would otherwise not have become available. Research shows that this figure can be as much as eight times greater than the initial funded sum and provides valuable infrastructure, capital assets and salaries to a town.

Cheltenham Borough Council has a good track record of supporting the voluntary and community sector to become more sustainable and enterprising through asset development and enterprise support. The nurturing of key community enterprises, thereby facilitating a transformational change from short-term, grant funded "projects" to sustainable regeneration keystones has begun but in many cases is far from finished.

As part of the budget setting process and development of your corporate strategy we ask the following:

1. that developing community assets to enable community organisations to generate their own wealth, deliver services and strengthen community engagement should remain a priority in order that a locally based culture of self reliance can thrive
2. that support to voluntary and community organisations through 'property grants' and 'discretionary rate relief' continue
3. that the total funding currently invested by CBC in the VCS continues
 - a) at least at the current level and where opportunities exist this should be increased
 - and
 - b) regardless of which voluntary and community organisations receive it
4. that there is continued investment in the disadvantaged communities within the town

We hope that Cheltenham Borough Council will continue to foster a stronger and more resilient voluntary and community sector through strategic investment building prosperous and cohesive communities for the benefit of the people of Cheltenham for many years to come.

One unrelated comment was received, as follows:

Luke Aguirre, Cheltenham

Please will someone try and save our bowling alley.

**CLLR. JOHN WEBSTER:
RESPONSE TO BUDGET CONSULTATION**

INTRODUCTION.

I attended the following meetings for consultation on the budget:

- Cheltenham Voluntary and Community Action on 17th Dec
- C5 meeting on 18th Jan
- Soc and Com O&S on 11th Jan
- Env. O&S on 20th Jan
- E&BI on 25th Jan.

A range of issues arose which were either answered or responded to subsequently. All are covered in the final reports to Council or in written responses.

Two of the three O&S scrutiny sessions lasted well over an hour and covered a wide range of detail, some of which could only be provided after the meeting. This has been circulated to the appropriate O&S members.

Some discussion may be useful to see whether or not the budget can be subject to more searching scrutiny in future, perhaps with one panel made up of members from the three committees having a more intensive budget scrutiny session or a series of budget scrutiny meetings.

A letter was sent from Cheltenham Voluntary and Community Action generally supporting the budget and urging that at least the present levels of support be continued, particularly in relation to the subsidised leasing or renting of Council property to Voluntary Sector organisations carrying out activity that was consistent with the Council's policies.

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE.

There were only 6 responses to the General Questionnaire – too few and disparate to indicate any real pointers as to what the Council should address. None objected to the proposed level of Council Tax.

There were 8 specific contributions (including one from Cllr Hibbert) expressing concerns about the decision to re-allocate the £300,000 contributed to Pittville Park in March 2008 as part of the Council's contribution to the failed £3m Heritage Lottery Fund bid. In addition there were 336 comments received regarding the Everyman Theatre grant and loan, with 327 of these being in favour of the loan.

The reality is that for the coming year (2010/11) the bulk of the Capital Budget (over half a million pounds in all) is being allocated to the maintenance of Regent Arcade (which we have a legal obligation to do), and the installation of a new IT storage system for the Council. This is why the £300k has had to be taken back into the capital reserve. Funding for the Everyman is proposed as part of the capital programme for 2011/12.

The facts about the funding are as follows.

At Full Council on 17th March 2008 during the last Conservative administration it was agreed that the Council should contribute £1m match funding to a £3m HLF bid. The resolution that was passed made it quite clear that if the HLF bid was unsuccessful that 'Full Council will reconsider the allocation of the £1m funding'. **The funding was only ring-fenced for Pittville Park if the HLF bid came to fruition.**

The £1m was composed as follows

- £200k from 4 years general maintenance for all Parks (50k a year)
- £100k planned maintenance from the Parks budget overall.
- £200k s106 from Midwinter sale (clearly not available)
- £10k from volunteers
- £190k of 'qualifying funding' which has already been spent
- Plus £300k of capital.

The HLF bid was **unsuccessful** despite being put forward as the highest priority in the region.

A report was submitted to Council on 12th Oct 2009 which recommended ring fencing the £300k, not for Pittville Park, **but to be invested in a range of other park and open space schemes.**

When I realised the impact of the £300k on the capital programme this report was withdrawn. My view was that it should not be allocated for something else – but that it should be considered along with other bids at budget time by full Council as the original resolution required.

There may be an opportunity to submit another HLF bid for Pittville Park - however, it was advised by the SW Office of HLF '*that concurrent bids from the same authority might be considered to show a lack of strategic thinking*', and the bid for the Art Gallery and Museum had been subsequently submitted.

The key point here is that both Pittville Park and the Museum are owned and run by the Council whereas the Everyman building is owned by the Council – but it is leased to the Everyman and run as a business by the Everyman Theatre Ltd – a completely independent

and autonomous 3rd Party which therefore stands a better chance of securing HLF funding.

The fact that the Everyman has got through Stage 1 of a Heritage Lottery Grant application in September 09 convinced me that theirs was the emerging priority for funding. The Everyman's bid to HLF is £500k. The Phase I application was approved in September 09. My understanding is that the assessment of the Phase II application (in February) will require the Everyman to provide clear evidence of the theatre's funding strategy & evidence that the match funding to deliver the project is in place. The Council recommendation to provide funding for the Everyman provides the match funding the HLF is looking for.

I would like to make a number of other points about the Pittville Park funding.

- The £200k of maintenance from all Parks deprived the remaining parks in Cheltenham of 4 years maintenance funding; this funding now goes back to parks generally.
- About £25k a year will be spent on Pittville for the next two years over and above routine maintenance budgets.
- The children's play area has been improved. Further, no cuts are being proposed in the caged birds and animals which cost £20k a year to keep. This was an officer option presented for consideration and is still present in Appendix D of the budget papers. This administration has refused to make this cut and will not do so in the future.
- The original Council funding identified as match funding for the HLF bid included £200k from the sale of the Midwinter site which has not yet transpired. £2m of 'Midwinter' funding was also earmarked by the previous Conservative administration for the Museum, which this administration made available from other sources in last year's budget. Had the Pittville HLF bid been successful every other park in Cheltenham would have been penalised and we would have had to find not £300k, but half a million from Council funds to support the bid.
- There may be an opportunity for some funding for Pittville Park in the future if we sell assets, but this will almost certainly be for a much more modest scheme. I reject absolutely those who say that Pittville Park is squalid and must have millions spent on it to bring it up to standard. This is not the case. Requests have been made to refurbish the main park gates and these can be considered running up to next budget, but given that we do not know what our circumstances may be, it is not sensible at the moment to give any undertakings about this.