

Wendy Thomas, County Councillor, Dursley Division
Report for Leonard Stanley Parish Council, April 2025

This will be my last report as I am not seeking re-election.

Highways

Safer routes to schools scheme

In March I confirmed that the Leonard Stanley C of E school is ranked in the top three of priority schools to be included in this scheme. This should involve traffic/parking restrictions being put in place around the school. I will let you know when I know more.

Transport

The Berkeley Vale Robin

The Berkeley Vale Robin is becoming one of the more popular Robin routes; please continue to promote the service. The link to The Robin homepage is [here](#).

Devolution update

As mentioned in my March update, elections will go ahead as scheduled on 1 May; new councillors will be elected to two-year terms. The local devolution timetable now looks like this:

- 21 March: submit interim proposal with options for size/boundaries of a new council
- March – November 2025: feedback from government; opportunity to refine proposal
- 28 November: final proposal/implementation plan to be submitted for approval

From GCC's cabinet meeting on 20 March, you can read the proposal submission [letter](#) and review the options [analysis](#), which favours a single unitary authority.

GCC News

Living Well in Later Life Campaign

GCC has launched this campaign to help older residents find out more about services for them. The council will be raising awareness of services, such as the Disabled Facilities Grant which can help with grants of up to £30,000 to help people to live independently for longer.

Older residents are also being encouraged to [sign up to Digi Hubs](#), which offer free support to help make the most of the internet to help to access services that make independent living easier, and to keep in touch with friends and family.

There will also be self-support advice and tools, such as the [Online Financial Assessment](#), a finances calculator to assist with planning for the costs of care. The assessment tool and [information about services for older people](#) can be found on the county council website.

New resource to help keep children safe online

GCC has launched a new webpage that gives parents and guardians information about different aspects of online harms, with details of further information and where support is available.

Young Gloucestershire are one of the partners the council consulted with to develop the webpage and help provide expert insight into the needs of children and young people. Young Gloucestershire provides young people with support and seeks to help them to develop the skills they need to thrive.

As part of the county council's commitment to stopping the risk of harm to children and young people, the council is also working with Young Gloucestershire to develop and deliver additional youth worker support to those experiencing harm online.

The Online Harms portal can be viewed on the [council's website](#).

Links:

GCC Highways Fix My Street: www.fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk

Highways info on planned road works, planned resurfacing, patching and pothole repairs: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/>

Watch Council meetings: [Home - Gloucestershire County Council Webcasting \(public-i.tv\)](#)

Submit questions to County Council meetings: stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Members of the public may submit written questions about matters within GCC's powers and duties. The deadline for this is usually 10 days before the meeting date.

Contact details:

Email: wendy.thomas@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Wendy4Dursley/