**Gloucester City Council: Gender Pay Gap 2023, comparison to previous years and benchmarking**

Gender Pay Gap (GPG) relates to Gloucester City Council’s ‘full pay relevant employee’s’ in post as at 31st March of the relevant year. Full pay relevant employees’ are defined by the *‘Government Gender Pay Gap 2023 guidance’[[1]](#footnote-1)* document (which includes casual/zero hours staff who have worked in the period, but excludes people who have not received their full pay for the month due to leave e.g., unpaid leave, reduced pay due to sickness absence, reduced pay due to maternity pay, or staff who have started/left during the month).

The gender pay gap is defined as the difference in mean and median pay between men and women. The gender pay gap is calculated as the difference between the female mean (average) and median (mid-point) hourly earnings (excluding overtime) as a proportion of the male mean and median gross hourly earnings (excluding overtime).

The pay rates used in the GPG calculations are based on an hourly pay rate, which for the purpose of the calculation, includes basic pay and takes into account various salary sacrifice and/or additional payments (excluding overtime) received by staff (as required by the statutory GPG reporting criteria).

The mean (average) places the same value on every number they use, giving a good overall indication of the gender pay gap, but very large or small pay rates or bonuses can ‘dominate’ and distort the answer.

The median indicates what the ‘typical’ situation is i.e. in the middle of an organisation and are not distorted by very large or small pay rates or bonuses. However, this means that not all gender pay gap issues will be picked up.

**GPG: Number of full relevant employees**

In 2023 Gloucester City Council had 267 GPG reporting relevant staff. This is higher than in previous years (253 in 2022, 236 in 2021, 254 in 2020, 255 in 2019 and 222 in 2018). In 2023 there remains a higher proportion of female staff (59.9%) which is consistent with previous years. The workforce gender profile has maintained relatively consistent throughout the reporting periods from 2017 – 2023 (ranging from 55.3% to 59.9% female).

Of the 267 GPG reporting relevant staff, 242 were permanent or fixed term (i.e. staff cohort usually counted within City corporate workforce reporting) and 25 zero hour / casual staff / temporary staff.

****

**GPG Starters & Leavers**

In GPG 2023 there is 14 more GPG full relevant staff than in 2022. A total of 49 staff who were in GPG 2022 were no longer in the staff cohort for 2023 (either due to leaving the council or being classed as non-full pay relevant as per the national Gender Pay Gap guidance) and 63 new staff entered the staff cohort for the purpose of the GPG 2023 calculation.

Of the 49 GPG leavers, 63.3% were female compared to 68.3% of the 63 GPG starters. The highest proportion of starters (42.9%) are within the lower quartile, where the gender split for starters was 77.8% female and 22.2% male. The highest proportion of leavers were also within the lower quartile (34.7%) where the gender split for leavers was 58.8% female and 41.2% male. The lowest proportion of starters (12.7%) are within the lower middle quartile, where the gender split for starters was 75.0% female and 25.0% male. The lowest proportion of leavers were also within the lower middle quartile (18.4%) where the gender split for leavers was 66.7% female and 33.3% male.

These differences impact the overall gender pay gap figure, due to the small number of staff in City Council relatively small changes can significantly impact the figures, resulting in the decrease of Mean GPG and increase of Median GPG for 2023 reporting.

*Graph 1 and 2, GPG starters and leavers* **GPG: Number of staff by gender**



**GPG: Mean & Median**

The Mean gender pay gap in 2023 (9.9%) is lower compared to the majority of recent years (2022, 2021, 2020 and 2018, but higher compared to 2019). Median gender pay gap in 2023 (1.8%) is higher compared with 2022 and 2019, and lower compared to 2021, 2020 and 2018. Both the Mean and Median gender pay gap in 2023 for City council are lower when compared to the ONS 2022 provisional October 2022 published figures of Mean (13.5%) and Median (12.2%).



*Table 1. GPG (mean and median) and mean and median pay shown by gender (2018-2023)*



The pay rates used in the GPG calculations are based on an hourly pay rate, which for the purpose of the calculation, includes basic pay; and also takes into account various salary sacrifice and/or additional payments (excluding overtime) received by staff (as required by the statutory GPG reporting criteria). In addition to basic pay, 7 staff received a market rate supplement payment, 50 staff received first aid allowance, 3 staff received honorarium payment and 17 staff had deductions to pay due to salary sacrifice schemes.

As at 31 March 2023, Gloucester City Council had a mean (average) gender pay gap of 9.9% and a median (mid-point) pay gap of 1.8%, a decrease from 11.0% mean and an increase from 0.0% median last year. *Table 1 s*hows both the mean and median pay for both female and male staff compared to last year. The mean male pay has increased by £0.95 and for female staff it has increased by £1.03 compared to 2022. However, the mean pay for female staff is £1.71 lower than male staff, compared to £1.79 lower last year (2022) resulting in a decrease in the mean GPG. The median male pay has increased by £1.27 whilst the median female pay has increased by £1.00 compared to last year, resulting in an increase median GPG. A higher mean and a lower median indicates that whilst there is a lower GPG when looking at the ‘typical’ (i.e. middle of an organisation), there remains a higher GPG particularly within the upper middle quartile *(this detail can be seen in Table 7 and 8).* It should also be noted that due to the low number of staff at Gloucester City Council small differences in staffing can significantly impact GPG.

The council has significantly lower figures than the national picture for the public sector. The office of National Statistics Annual Survey of hours and earnings in 2022 (provisional), reported the overall gender pay gap to be 14.9% median and the mean gender pay gap as 13.9%; with the public sector GPG as 15.9% median, and 13.6% mean.

**GPG: Mean & Median – Full Time and Part Time**

The GPG is based on hourly pay rates which ensures full time and part time employees are considered on an equal basis. Reporting on GPG for full time and part time employees is not a statutory requirement at this time, however for information / interest information on this aspect is provided below. The ONS reports on GPG in this way as part of the Gender Pay Gap and Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) and therefore benchmarking data is available.

A higher proportion (35.6%) of female staff work part time compared to (11.2% of male staff). For the purposes of this report part time is defined as less than 30 hours (for consistency with ONS reporting).

*Table 2. Proportion of Female and Male employees who work full time / part time*



The mean and median hourly pay for part time employees for both men and women is lower than full time employees. There is a higher median GPG for full time staff when Gloucester City Council’s full time and part time staff are considered separately, and there is a negative mean and median GPG for part time staff (female employees paid more than male employees). However, as more female employees work part-time the lower hourly pay rates in these roles will continue to contribute to the overall gender pay within the council. For full time staff there remains a GPG (females paid less than men), This is shown within *Table 3 and 4* below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Table 3. Mean Hourly Rate and Gender Pay Gap (FT / PT)* | *Table 4. Median Hourly Rate and Gender Pay Gap (FT / PT)* |
|

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Gender** | **Mean Hourly Rate** | **Mean GPG (FT/PF)** |
| **Female** | **Male** |
| Full time  | £16.18 | £17.90 | 9.6% |
| Part time | £14.51 | £12.50 | -16.1% |
| **Total** | **£15.58** | **£17.29** | 9.9% |

 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Gender** | **Median Hourly Rate** | **Median GPG (FT/PT)** |
| **Female** | **Male** |
| Full time  | £14.82 | £15.65 | 5.3% |
| Part time | £13.16 | £12.10 | -8.8% |
| **Total** | **£14.70** | **£14.97** | 1.8% |

 |

Gloucester City Councils Full Time GPG is lower than the national ONS GPG 2022 (provisional) mean of 11.3% and median of 8.3%. The council’s Part Time mean is lower than the national figures of 0.2%, however the council’s Part Time median is higher than the national figure of negative
-2.8%. Gloucester City Councils full time GPG is also lower than the Public Sector figures (ONS GPG 2022 - provisional) of 11.4% mean and 11.1% median and the part time GPG 18.5% mean and 16.2% median. Please see the below section on Benchmarking data for further detail.

**Pay Quartiles:** *Table 5* below shows the pay range in each quartile in the 2018-2023 GPG calculations. The pay ranges per quartile are slightly different due to national pay increases and staffing differences between the years. *Table 5. Pay range in each quartile 2018-2023*





The split for each of the 4 quartiles is broadly in line with our workforce demographics of 59.9% women (ranging from 50.7% female in upper quartile to 66.7% female in lower quartile) and 40.1% men. There are a slightly higher proportions of women in the first 3 quartiles and nearly the same number of women and men in 4th quartile (the upper pay quartile) *(illustrated within Table 6 and Graph 1).* This is a key factor for GPG as (proportionately) more women at the lower grades and fewer women at higher grades affects the mean and median pay for the female workforce. For there to be no GPG you would expect to see the workforce demographics reflected in each quartile.

T*able 6 & Graph1. Proportion of male and female staff in each pay quartile (March 2023)*



****

Examination of the pay quartiles in more detail and carrying out the GPG calculations on these subsets of data finds that in upper middle and upper quartiles there is a gender pay gap, meaning female staff are paid a lower hourly pay rate than male staff. This is particularly prominent within the upper quartile, where there is a wider variance in male and female mean hourly pay rates, which subsequently impacts the overall mean GPG. However, within the lower and lower middle quartiles there is a negative (minus) gender pay gap, meaning female staff are paid a higher hourly pay rate than male staff.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Table 7. Mean female and male hourly rate and GPG by quartile (2023)* | *Table 8. Median female and male hourly rate and GPG by quartile (2023)* |
|

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Quartile** | **Mean Hourly Rate** | **Mean GPG** |
| **Female** | **Male** |
| Lower | £11.37 | £10.92 | -4.2% |
| Lower Middle | £13.58 | £13.57 | -0.1% |
| Upper Middle | £16.22 | £16.09 | -0.8% |
| Upper | £22.68 | £25.42 | 10.8% |

 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Quartile** | **Median Hourly Rate** | **Mean GPG** |
| **Female** | **Male** |
| Lower | £11.38 | £11.17 | -1.9% |
| Lower Middle | £13.23 | £13.22 | -0.1% |
| Upper Middle | £16.47 | £16.59 | 0.7% |
| Upper  | £21.50 | £21.50 | 0.0% |

 |

*Table 10* below shows the proportion of male and female staff in each of the pay quartiles in the 2018-2023 GPG. In this years (2023) GPG report there was a higher proportion of females in the lower, lower middle and upper quartiles compared to last year (2022); however, a slightly lower proportion of females in the upper middle quartile. The lower pay quartile is the quartile with the highest proportion of females (a higher proportion than last year).

*Table 10. Proportion of male and female staff in each quartile 2018-2023*



**National Context / Benchmarking:**

* ONS: Gender Pay Gap in the UK :

In the UK the official source of statistics on the gender pay gap is the Office for National Statistics (the ONS). The Office for National Statistics calculates the gender pay gap from data drawn from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), and in April every year it publishes a Bulletin which includes its analyses of the gender pay gap. ASHE is based on a 1% sample of jobs taken from HM Revenue and Customs Pay As You Earn (PAYE) records. In 2017 the government required employer employing more than 250 staff to report their gender pay gap information; that initiative is separate from this ONS publication, ONS do not provide analysis on these submissions. (*Source* *ONS: Gender Pay Gap in the UK: – Compiled from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings[[2]](#footnote-2)*).

*Table 11 - Key Figures from the ONS GPG 2017-2022*





1. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-your-gender-pay-gap-calculations> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [ONS: Gender Pay Gap in the Uk](https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/datasets/annualsurveyofhoursandearningsashegenderpaygaptables)  *– This statistical bulletin is compiled from the ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings*  [↑](#footnote-ref-2)