



Notice of a Meeting

Education Scrutiny Committee Monday, 25 March 2019 at 10.00 am Rooms 1 & 2, County Hall

Membership

Chairman Councillor Michael Waine
Deputy Chairman - Councillor John Howson

<i>Councillors:</i>	Ted Fenton	Jeannette Matelot	Emma Turnbull
	Mrs Anda Fitzgerald- O'Connor	Gill Sanders	

Co-optees:

<i>By Invitation:</i>	Ian Jones	Carole Thomson
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Notes: *Date of next meeting: 19 June 2019*

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

- a focus on the following key areas:
 - work in relation to the education strategy, and including review of an annual report on progress;
 - constructive challenge on performance issues highlighting issues where the Committee can support the improvement dialogue;
 - reviewing the Council's education functions including early years, Special Education Needs and school place planning;
 - reviewing the progress of, and any issues emanating from, the School Organisation Stakeholder Group with regard to admissions patterns and arrangements;
 - reviewing issues raised by the Schools Forum.
- assists the Council in its role of championing good educational outcomes for Oxfordshire's children and young people;
- provides a challenge to schools and academies and to hold them to account for their academic performance;
- promotes jointed up working across organisations in the education sector within Oxfordshire.

How can I have my say?

We welcome the views of the community on any issues in relation to the responsibilities of this Committee. Members of the public may ask to speak on any item on the agenda or may suggest matters which they would like the Committee to look at. **Requests to speak must be submitted to the Committee Officer below no later than 9 am on the working day before the date of the meeting.**

For more information about this Committee please contact:

Chairman	-	<i>Councillor Michael Waine</i> <i>Email: michael.waine@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>
Senior Policy Officer	-	<i>Sarah Jelley, Tel: (01865) 896450</i> <i>Email: sarah.jelley@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>
<i>Policy & Partnership Officer</i>	-	<i>Nina Bhakri, Tel: 07584 481243</i> <i>Email: nina.bhakri@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>
Committee Officer	-	<i>Deborah Miller, Tel: 07920 084239</i> <i>deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>

Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive

March 2019

About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 63 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 678,000 residents. These include:

schools	social & health care	libraries and museums
the fire service	roads	trading standards
land use	transport planning	waste management

Each year the Council manages £0.9 billion of public money in providing these services. Most decisions are taken by a Cabinet of 9 Councillors, which makes decisions about service priorities and spending. Some decisions will now be delegated to individual members of the Cabinet.

About Scrutiny

Scrutiny is about:

- Providing a challenge to the Cabinet
- Examining how well the Cabinet and the Authority are performing
- Influencing the Cabinet on decisions that affect local people
- Helping the Cabinet to develop Council policies
- Representing the community in Council decision making
- Promoting joined up working across the authority's work and with partners

Scrutiny is NOT about:

- Making day to day service decisions
- Investigating individual complaints.

What does this Committee do?

The Committee meets up to 6 times a year or more. It develops a work programme, which lists the issues it plans to investigate. These investigations can include whole committee investigations undertaken during the meeting, or reviews by a panel of members doing research and talking to lots of people outside of the meeting. Once an investigation is completed the Committee provides its advice to the Cabinet, the full Council or other scrutiny committees. Meetings are open to the public and all reports are available to the public unless exempt or confidential, when the items would be considered in closed session.

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting

A hearing loop is available at County Hall.

AGENDA

1. **Introduction and Welcome**
2. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
3. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note of the back page**
4. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2019 (**ESC4**) and to receive information arising from them.

5. **Petitions and Public Address**
6. **Post-16 Destination Management (Pages 9 - 18)**

10:10

Members of Scrutiny Committee have requested an update on post 16 destinations of pupils in Oxfordshire schools and academies. A particular interest was expressed in destinations of pupils at 14-19 establishments in the county and current understanding of the long-term sustainability of those establishments.

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note and consider the contents of this report.

7. **Project Athens (Carillion) Update: School Building Maintenance**

10:35

The Committee will receive a presentation on how the Schools Structural Maintenance Programme (SSMP) is compiled and the methodology used, including the information that has been transferred from Carillion and how this information has been utilised to provide a robust programme of works based upon the most urgent priority rating.

Accordingly, George Eleftheriou will present details of progress against the 2018-19 programme of works as well as details of the proposed projects for 2019-20. Outlining the main issues/mitigations, opportunities and way forward. A handout to accompany the presentation will be circulated prior to the meeting.

The Committee is asked to receive the presentation.

8. School Absence and Attendance Deep Dive Recommendations

10:55

Report by the School Absence and Attendance Working Report (ESC8) **TO FOLLOW**

A working group was setup by the Education Scrutiny Committee to understand why secondary school absence figures are higher than the national average and work that is being undertaken to address this. To achieve these aims, the working group has met with officers to consider government guidance and performance information and visited four secondary schools across the County.

This is the second of three deep dives commissioned by the Committee. The first deep dive looked at school exclusions and the final deep dive will look at educational attainment.

The key message identified through the deep dive was the importance of embedding a culture in schools that promotes inclusion and good attendance practices across staff, pupils and parents. The working group has been able to highlight a number of examples of this good practice in secondary schools across Oxfordshire.

The group have also identified common themes where work is being undertaken to address barriers to improving school attendance. These themes included access to alternative provision, In Year Fair Access Panels and access to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS).

The Committee is asked to consider and approve the recommendations.

9. Forward Plan and Committee Business (Pages 19 - 22)

11:45

An opportunity to discuss and prioritise future topics for the Committee, potential approaches to its work and to discuss the schedule for future meetings.

WORKING LUNCH FOR COMMITTEE

12:00 – 13:00

10. Ofsted Regional Director for the South East Question & Answer Session

13:00

Education Scrutiny Committee has invited Chris Russell, Ofsted Regional Director for the South East, to attend the meeting for a Question & Answer Session. This follows the publication of a new Education inspection framework by Ofsted for consultation in January 2019, which is proposed to be implemented from September 2019 onward.

Questions will be planned by the Committee in advance and communicated to Mr Russell ahead of the meeting.

The Committee welcomes this opportunity and extends its thanks to Mr Russell for committing his time to attend.

Declarations of Interest

The duty to declare.....

Under the Localism Act 2011 it is a criminal offence to

- (a) fail to register a disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days of election or co-option (or re-election or re-appointment), or
- (b) provide false or misleading information on registration, or
- (c) participate in discussion or voting in a meeting on a matter in which the member or co-opted member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Whose Interests must be included?

The Act provides that the interests which must be notified are those of a member or co-opted member of the authority, **or**

- those of a spouse or civil partner of the member or co-opted member;
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as husband/wife
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as if they were civil partners.

(in each case where the member or co-opted member is aware that the other person has the interest).

What if I remember that I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the Meeting?.

The Code requires that, at a meeting, where a member or co-opted member has a disclosable interest (of which they are aware) in any matter being considered, they disclose that interest to the meeting. The Council will continue to include an appropriate item on agendas for all meetings, to facilitate this.

Although not explicitly required by the legislation or by the code, it is recommended that in the interests of transparency and for the benefit of all in attendance at the meeting (including members of the public) the nature as well as the existence of the interest is disclosed.

A member or co-opted member who has disclosed a pecuniary interest at a meeting must not participate (or participate further) in any discussion of the matter; and must not participate in any vote or further vote taken; and must withdraw from the room.

Members are asked to continue to pay regard to the following provisions in the code that *“You must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself”* or *“You must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned.....”*.

Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting should you have any doubt about your approach.

List of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Employment (includes *“any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain”*.), **Sponsorship, Contracts, Land, Licences, Corporate Tenancies, Securities.**

For a full list of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and further Guidance on this matter please see the Guide to the New Code of Conduct and Register of Interests at Members’ conduct guidelines. <http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/occ/Insite/Elected+members/> or contact Glenn Watson on **07776 997946** or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.