

## Notice of a Meeting

### Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Monday, 20 December 2010 at 5.15 pm County Hall

#### Membership

Chairman - Councillor Melinda Tilley  
Deputy Chairman - Councillor Nick Carter

*Councillors:*

Norman Bolster	Peter Jones	Dr Peter Skolar
Liz Brighthouse OBE	A.M. Lovatt	David Wilmshurst
Jean Fooks	Chip Sherwood	

#### Notes:

**Date of next meeting:** 13 January 2011

#### What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

- Corporate and community leadership; corporate strategies; regional issues
- Local strategic partnerships and District Council liaison
- Social inclusion & equality; services for members
- Finance; procurement; property
- Culture change and customer focus; human resources; communications strategy; information and communications technology
- The elections and appointments functions of the Democracy & Organisation Committee
- The functions of the Pension Fund Committee

#### 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	-	Councillor Melinda Tilley E.Mail: melinda.tilley@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Committee Officer	-	Sue Whitehead, Tel: (01865) 810262 sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Peter G. Clark  
County Solicitor

December 2010

## About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 74 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 630,000 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. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
2. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note on the back page**
3. **Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2010 (**SYP3**(to be circulated separately)) and to note for information any matters arising on them.

4. **Speaking to or petitioning the Committee**

### SCRUTINY MATTERS

**To consider matters where the Committee can provide a challenge to the work of the Authority and its Partners**

5. **Service & Resource Planning 2011/12 - 2015/16** (Pages 1 - 178)

The report (which is to be considered by each of the Scrutiny Committees on 20 December) forms part of a series relating to the Service and Resource Planning process for 2011/12 to 2015/16.

Each Committee will meet in turn to consider the Business Strategies and savings proposed for their service areas. Comments from each Committee will then be considered by Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee on 13 January 2011 prior to being fed back to Cabinet in order that they can take the comments into consideration in proposing their budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) in January 2011.

The following annexes are attached:

Annex 1	Summary of proposed savings
Annex 2a	Children, Young People & Families Business Strategy
Annex 2b	Social & Community Services Business Strategy
Annex 2c	Community Services Business Strategy
Annex 2d	Community Safety Business Strategy
Annex 2e	Environment & Economy Business Strategy
Annex 2f	Customer Services Business Strategy
Annex 2g	Chief Executive's Office Business Strategy
Annex 3	Capital Prioritisation Assessment (to follow)
Annex 4	Areas for consideration by each Scrutiny Committee

The Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer will be available to respond to questions, together with the Leader and Deputy Leader..

Officers from Financial Services will also be present at the meeting to answer any questions that the Committee may wish to ask.

***The Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider and comment upon the Directorate Business Strategy and proposed savings***

## Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Part 9.1 of the Constitution for a fuller description.

### **The duty to declare ...**

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, ie where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

### **Whose interests are included ...**

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

### **When and what to declare ...**

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

### **Taking part if you have an interest ...**

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

### **"Prejudicial" interests ...**

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

### **What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...**

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

### **Exceptions ...**

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

### **Seeking Advice ...**

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.