

COUNTY COUNCIL – 11 SEPTEMBER 2018

THEMED DEBATE ON A NEW OPERATING MODEL FOR OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Executive

Introduction

1. The Operating Model is a detailed description of how the Council will work in the future, with the key aims of putting better outcomes for residents and the delivery of the Thriving Communities Vision at the centre of all plans and operations.
2. Development activity since March has produced a detailed design for the Operating Model and Cabinet is due to consider the proposal on 18 September 2018.
3. The draft Cabinet Report and Annexes, including the full Business Case for the Target Operating Model (which incorporates an Executive Summary), are attached to this report.
4. These papers are made available to County Council in order to help inform a Themed Debate on the Operating Model. The views of members expressed at Council will be collated and used to inform Cabinet's decision.

The Business Case

5. The purpose, approach and structure of the Business Case for a new Operating Model is set out in the attached Cabinet report.
6. Fundamentally, the Operating Model seeks to describe the way that the Council will function in the future. The Operating Model, in itself, does not determine *what* the Council will do but *how* it will work. It is therefore closely aligned to the Corporate Plan and the wider strategic policy and planning framework, which set out the Council's agreed priorities and objectives, and is integral to the delivery of that framework.
7. The Business Case is set out in full at Annex 1 of the Cabinet report, introduced with an Executive Summary.

Member Engagement ahead of decision making

8. Ahead of the Cabinet meeting planned to consider this report on 18 September 2018, there will have been a number of opportunities for all Councillors to formally and informally review the Operating Model and to engage with senior officers – in addition to opportunities throughout the development of the approach, as set out in the Cabinet report. These are summarised as follows:

4 Sept	All Member Briefing
6 Sept	Performance Scrutiny Committee
6 Sept	Audit & Governance Committee
11 Sept	County Council – themed debate

9. It is anticipated that views from these forums will be brought to Cabinet.
10. This report and the associated documents will have been available to all members from late August, following the publication of Performance Scrutiny and Audit and Governance Committee papers.

Themed Debate

11. Members of Council are invited to participate in a themed debate on the Operating Model. Members may wish to reflect on the following questions:
- Will the Operating Model contribute to delivering the Thriving Communities Vision?
 - Do the proposals address long-standing concerns on how the Council operates?
 - Is this the right strategy to address transformation savings already required within the Medium Term Financial Plan?
 - Taken overall, do the proposals describe the kind of Council that Members want to lead, on behalf of residents, into the next decade?

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Chief Executive

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August 2018

Attachment 1: Draft Cabinet Report *Implementing a new Operating Model for Oxfordshire County Council*

- Annex 1: Business Case
- Annex 2: Service and Community Impact Assessment