

Divisions- N/A

COUNTY COUNCIL – 3 NOVEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CABINET

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader of the Council

1. Workforce Report and Staffing Data - Quarter 1 - April - June 2020

(Cabinet, 15 September 2020)

Cabinet noted a report that provided a summary of HR activity and a snapshot of the workforce profile including headcount and full time equivalent (fte) comparison, ethnicity, age, apprenticeships, sickness, turnover and agency spend for the quarter ending 30 June 2020.

Cabinet Members: Deputy Leader of the Council and Adult Social Care & Public Health

2. Assumption of Powers in Relation to the Control and Prevention of Coronavirus - Oxfordshire County Council Responsibilities Under the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restriction) (England) (NO.3) Regulations 2020

(Cabinet, 15 September 2020)

In July 2020 the government introduced new powers for local authorities to support local outbreak management.

Cabinet considered a report recommending that Oxfordshire County Council assumes responsibilities under The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restriction) (England) (No.3) Regulations 2020 in order to ensure that any serious and imminent threat to public health in Oxfordshire was necessarily and proportionately addressed.

Cabinet agreed to assume responsibilities and delegated powers to the City and District Councils in accordance with the above regulations.

Cabinet Member: Adult Social Care & Public Health

3. Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adult's Board (OSAB) Annual Report

(Cabinet, 13 October 2020)

Cabinet noted the annual report of the OSAB on the work of the Board and of its partners, assessing the position of the partnerships in relation to safeguarding adults at risk within Oxfordshire.

Cabinet Member: Children & Family Services

4. Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board (OSCB) Annual Report

(Cabinet, 13 October 2020)

The OSCB's remit is to co-ordinate and ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each agency on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Oxfordshire. Cabinet welcomed the annual report summarising the key achievements in the last year and providing an analysis of safeguarding arrangements.

Cabinet also noted two further supporting annual reports: the Performance, Audit & Quality Assurance Annual Report and the Case Review & Governance Annual Report.

N.B There is a virtual councillor briefing arranged for both Safeguarding annual reports on Wednesday 4 November at 9.30 -10.30 am.

Cabinet Member: Education & Cultural Services

5. SEND High Needs Funding

(Cabinet, 15 September 2020)

Cabinet considered a report that set out the background to how SEND (High Needs) top-up funding currently operates for Early Years settings and mainstream Primary and Secondary schools in Oxfordshire and seeking approval to a transfer of unallocated Dedicated School Grant funds agreed by School Forum to help support an increase in top-up funding to better meet the needs of children in these schools and settings. Cabinet agreed the transfer and confirmed that it would be a one-year top-up increase and would not be available in subsequent years.

Cabinet Member: Environment

6. Bicester Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

(Cabinet, 15 September 2020)

Cabinet approved The Bicester Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), a detailed 15-year plan that sets out how to improve cycling and walking in Bicester, including the Bicester cycle network plans.

7. Emergency Active Travel: Temporary Bus Gates

(Cabinet, 13 October 2020)

Cabinet considered a report seeking a decision on the introduction of temporary bus gates in Oxford city centre as part of the council's transport response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The report outlined the results of an online survey of public and stakeholder opinion on the temporary bus gate proposals, along with an analysis of the costs, risks, and longer term strategic implications of the scheme.

Cabinet in welcoming the level of response received to the temporary bus gates (Oxford city centre) survey and the wider debate that this stimulated agreed not to proceed with the temporary bus gates both in recognition of the split of local opinion and in consideration of their likely impact upon the council's wider strategic transport strategy and resources, and to use the invaluable feedback received to inform the development of the council's wider transport strategy. Cabinet agreed to work with Oxford City Council and other partners to accelerate, where feasible, work on the council's wider transport strategy including the provision of bus gates as part of the Connecting Oxford programme, as well as the Zero Emission Zone, the active transport programme, and measures to improve bus journey times and encourage COVID-secure bus use.

8. Climate Action Response

(Cabinet, 13 October 2020)

Oxfordshire County Council declared a climate emergency in April 2019, pledging to be carbon neutral by 2030 for its own operations and estate. The climate emergency declaration was followed by a public commitment in November 2019 to prioritise action on climate change across the council's decision-making, services and activities.

Cabinet had before them a report that sought approval of the framework that has been developed to guide the council's approach to climate action and that provided an update on the joint work being done by Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council in this area.

Cabinet approved the Climate Action Framework.

9. Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) within the Cherwell, South and Vale Districts

(Cabinet, 13 October 2020)

CPE is already in place in Oxford City and West Oxfordshire. Cabinet gave approval to make a formal application to the Department for Transport to implement CPE across the remaining districts.

10. England's Economic Heartland draft Transport Strategy Consultation; Response from Oxfordshire County Council (EEH Consultation Period - 14 July to 3 October)

(Cabinet, 13 October 2020)

Cabinet had before them a report setting out the context to the proposed OCC response to the draft EEH Transport Strategy. Cabinet endorsed the Oxfordshire County Council Response to the England's Economic Heartland Draft Transport Strategy.

Cabinet Member: Finance

11. Capital Programme Monitoring Report - June 2020

(Cabinet, 15 September 2020)

Cabinet had before them a report that set out the latest monitoring position for 2020/21 capital programme based on activity to the end of July 2020 and that provided an update on the latest ten-year capital programme to 2029/30.

Cabinet approved the updated capital programme to 2029/30.

12. Budget & Business Planning Report - 2021/22 - October 2020

(Cabinet, 13 October 2020)

Cabinet considered a report, and approved the Budget and Business Planning process for the forthcoming year that formed the context and background information ahead of and as part of the process which will culminate in Council setting a budget for 2021/22; a medium term financial strategy to 2025/26 and capital programme to 2030/31 and a Corporate Plan in February 2021.

Cabinet Member: Local Communities

13. Including Everyone: Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Framework

(Cabinet, 13 October 2020)

Cabinet had before them an update of the council's equality policy undertaken in partnership with Cherwell District Council to align approaches in a joint policy. It reflected the serious inequalities within our communities highlighted by the Director of Public Health Annual Report, the Black Lives Matter movement and the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19.

The work supported delivery of the Council's 'Thriving Communities' vision due to the cross-cutting nature of equalities, diversity and inclusion. It also aligned with the Director of Public Health Report: 'Some are more equal than others'.

Cabinet approved the Including Everyone, Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Framework and agreed the initial Including Everyone, Action Plan.

Cabinet Member: All Cabinet Members

14. Business Management & Monitoring Report

(Cabinet, 15 September and 13 October)

Cabinet noted reports setting out Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC's) progress towards Corporate Plan priorities for 2020/21 for the period of July 2020.

The reports contained three annexes:

- Annex A gave our current performance against targets and summarises progress towards overall outcomes set out in our Corporate Plan.
- Annex B set out the Leadership Risk Register which has been developed as part of the Council's work to strengthen risk and opportunities management.
- Annex C gave a financial update

IAN HUDSPETH

Leader of the Council

October 2020