

# **County Council**

**12 May 2026**

## **Agenda**

To: **Members of the County COUNCIL**

***Notice of a Meeting of the County Council***

**Tuesday, 12 May 2026 at 10.30 am**

**Council Chamber - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND**

If you wish to view proceedings, please click on this [Live Stream Link](#). Please note, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.



Martin Reeves  
Chief Executive

May 2026

*Committee Officer:*            **Democratic Services**  
*E-mail:* [CommitteesDemocraticServices@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:CommitteesDemocraticServices@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)

---

# AGENDA

1. **Election of Chair for the 2026/27 Council Year**
2. **Election of Vice-Chair for the 2026/27 Council Year**
3. **Minutes** (Pages 9 - 22)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2026 (**CC1**).

4. **Apologies for Absence**
5. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note**

Members are reminded that they must declare their interests orally at the meeting and specify (a) the nature of the interest and (b) which items on the agenda are the relevant items. This applies also to items where members have interests by virtue of their membership of a district council in Oxfordshire.

6. **Official Communications**
7. **Cabinet Membership and Delegation of Cabinet Functions (To Follow)**

Report by the Leader of the Council

**Council is RECOMMENDED to note the names, addresses and electoral divisions of the people appointed to the Cabinet by the Leader of the Council for the coming year and their respective portfolios.**

8. **Audit and Governance Committee Annual Report** (Pages 23 - 34)

Report by the Deputy Chief Executive & S151 Officer and the Director of Law & Governance & Monitoring Officer

Within recommended practice for Audit Committees (CIPFA, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy – Audit Committees Practical Guidance 2022), the committee reports on an annual basis to Council on how the committee has discharged its responsibilities.

**The Council is RECOMMENDED to note the contents of the Annual Report of the Audit & Governance Committee 2025/26.**

9. **Committees and Review of Political Balance** (Pages 35 - 46)

Report by the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

The Council is required by the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 to review the political balance on its committees on an annual basis.

Note that Annex 2 will be circulated with the Schedule of Business on the day before the Council meeting.

**Council is RECOMMENDED**

- a) **To decommission the Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Horton HOSC);**
- b) **To appoint the committees and committee positions listed in Schedule 1 in Annex 1 continuing with the existing terms of reference; and**
- c) **To appoint members to the committees of the Council as listed at Schedule 1 in Annex 2.**

or

- d) **To appoint the committees and committee positions, including Horton HOSC, listed in Schedule 2 in Annex 1 continuing with the existing terms of reference; and**
  - e) **To appoint members to the committees of the Council as listed at Schedule 2 in Annex 2.**
- f) **To note the review of political balance of committees to reflect the current formation of the political groups.**

**10. Scheme of Delegation to Officers (Pages 47 - 48)**

Report of the Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

As Annual Council is required under the Constitution to consider the Scheme of Delegation to Officers as set out in the Council procedure rules (CPR 1.1.2 (xi)), this report is presented in order to inform Members as to the revised timing of when this will be presented to Council.

**Council is RECOMMENDED to note that the Scheme of Delegation to Officers is being considered by the Constitution Working Group and the Council meeting on 30 June 2026 will receive their report.**

**11. Calendar of meetings 2026/27 (Pages 49 - 54)**

Report of the Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

**Council is RECOMMENDED to**

- a) **approve moving the meeting of the Education and Young People Overview of Scrutiny Committee, originally scheduled for 30 June 2026, to Friday 26**

**June 2026 with a 10:30 am start; and**

**b) note the Calendar of Meetings in Annex 1.**

## **Councillors declaring interests**

### **General duty**

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed 'Declarations of Interest' or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

### **What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?**

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your employment; sponsorship (i.e. payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licenses for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.

### **Declaring an interest**

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

### **Members' Code of Conduct and public perception**

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member 'must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself' and that 'you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned'.

### **Members Code – Other registrable interests**

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your other registerable interests then you must declare an interest. You must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and you must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Wellbeing can be described as a condition of contentedness, healthiness and happiness; anything that could be said to affect a person's quality of life, either positively or negatively, is likely to affect their wellbeing.

Other registrable interests include:

- a) Any unpaid directorships
- b) Any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority.

- c) Any body (i) exercising functions of a public nature (ii) directed to charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

### **Members Code – Non-registrable interests**

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to your financial interest or wellbeing (and does not fall under disclosable pecuniary interests), or the financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate, you must declare the interest.

In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied:

Where a matter affects the financial interest or well-being:

- a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest.

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.