

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF COUNCIL – 24 MARCH 2026

SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS

ITEM / TIME	ITEM	PROPOSALS (M = Motion; SEC = Seconder; Am = Amendment S = Statement; Q = Question;)
<p align="center">1</p> <p>10:30</p>	<p>Minutes (Pages 11 to 17)</p> <p>To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 February 2026 (CC1) and to receive information arising from them.</p>	
<p align="center">2</p>	<p>Apologies for Absence</p>	
<p align="center">3</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest</p>	
<p align="center">4</p> <p>10:35</p> <p>10 mins</p>	<p>Official Communications</p> <p>A list of events attended by the Chair since the February Council meeting is included in Annex 1.</p> <p>On 11 March, Oxfordshire County Council recognised outstanding members of the Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service through the annual Fire and Community Safety Service Awards. Congratulations to all those awarded medals for their service.</p> <p>The Chair was honoured to attend annual community Ramadan Iftar events at Mansfield College, Blenheim Palace, and the Oxford Academy. At the Oxford Academy, he spoke to a diverse audience on their chosen theme, 'Building Community Trust'. Thanks go to the Dialogue Society for hosting these events.</p> <p>The Chair would like to draw members' attention to his Birthday Charity Quiz, which will be held on Friday, 17 April at OXSRAD Sports Centre, Court Place Farm, Oxford OX3 0NQ. Raising funds for the Chairs chosen charities, OXSRAD, Abingdon RDA, and Oxford United in the Community,</p>	

	<p>tickets are priced at £20 per person – includes a welcome drink, cheese and biscuits platter.</p> <p>Congratulations and sincere thanks go to County Hall Facilities Manager Tim Stimpson MBE on his 32 years of service to the Council including his valuable support for Chairs' fundraising events down the years; we wish him well for his retirement. If Members would like to join his retirement party, it will take place on Friday, 1 May, 4–7 pm in Common Hall (RSVP). If you cannot make it, please send any messages to clare.winterbourne@oxfordshire.gov.uk for inclusion in a memory book.</p>	
5	<p>Appointments</p> <p>Council is requested to approve the following change of membership:</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council Joint Consultative Committee for Uniformed Members of the Fire Service - Councillor Fawcett to replace Councillor Hannaby</p>	
<p>6</p> <p>10:45</p> <p>25 mins</p>	<p>Petitions and Public Address</p> <p><i>Any person may address the Council on an item on the agenda subject to the provisions in CPR 10.2 of the Constitution</i></p> <p>Petitions – up to 3 minutes to speak (10.1.2(i)) - Up to 3 minutes for reply (10.1.4)</p> <p>Public Address – up to 3 minutes to speak (10.2.1)</p>	<p>Petitions</p> <p>Sarah Green - Haddenham to Thame Greenway</p> <p>Wendy Wilkinson - Broughton Road, Banbury</p> <p>James Sheard - 'Before 9 is fine' bus passes</p> <p>Lisa Smith – Keep Roundham crossing open</p> <p>Public Address</p> <p>Item 10 - The following two expert speakers will be taken at the start of the item:</p> <p>Laura Price</p>

		Sir Michael Marmot
7	Questions from Members of the Public	
11:10 15 mins	See Annex 2 for questions and responses. One supplementary question allowed for each. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sandi Adams 2. Peter West 3. Peter White 4. Yola Drage Brunelli 5. Bernadette Evans 6. Linda Elms 7. Nicholas Hardiman 8. Richard Parnham 9. Geoffrey Sutton 10. David Stares 	Cllr Roberts Cllr Gant Cllr Gant Cllr Gant Cllr Gant Cllr Gant Cllr Gant Cllr Gant Cllr Gant Cllr Gant
8	Questions with Notice from Members of the Council	
11:25 30 mins	See Annex 3 for questions and responses. One supplementary question allowed for each. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greenaway to Gant 2. Cherry to Gant 3. Cherry to Gant 4. Malik to Gant 5. Gordon to Levy 6. Epps to Gaul 7. Withdrawn 8. Gaul to Gant 9. Gaul to Roberts 10. Henwood to Gant 11. Henwood to Gant 12. Henwood to Gant 13. Robertshaw to Bearder 14. Robertshaw to Bearder 15. Field-Johnson to Gant 16. Field-Johnson to Gant 17. Field-Johnson to Gant 18. Pressel to Gant 19. Pressel to Roberts 20. Pressel to Roberts 21. McLean to Gant 22. Kerr to Gant 23. Kerr to Roberts 24. Kerr to Gant 25. Fry to Gant 26. Fry to Gant 	

	<p>27. Fry to Roberts 28. Phillips to Gant 29. Garnett to Roberts 30. Garnett to Gant 31. Garnett to Gant 32. Evans to Higgins 33. Evans to Gant 34. Evans to Roberts 35. Snowdon to Roberts 36. Snowdon to Roberts 37. Snowdon to Gant 38. Epps to Gant 39. Crichton to Gant 40. Barlow to Gant 41. Barlow to Gant 42. Barlow to Gant 43. Jones to Roberts 44. Jones to Gant 45. Jones to Roberts 46. Walker to Gant 47. Walker to Leffman 48. Walker to Roberts 49. McLauchlan to Gant 50. McLauchlan to Gant 51. McLauchlan to Gant 52. Plumb to Gant 53. Plumb to Roberts 54. Plumb to Fawcett 55. Ashby to Hannaby 56. Ashby to Gant 57. Ashby to Roberts 58. Middleton to Gant 59. Middleton to Levy 60. Middleton to Roberts 61. Brant to Gaul 62. Mallon to Roberts 63. Fletcher to Gant 64. Fletcher to Gant 65. Baines to Gant 66. Baines to Gant 67. Baines to Gant</p>	
9	Report of the Cabinet (Pages 19 to 24)	
11:55 30 mins	<u>Leader (Cllr Leffman)</u> Page 19, Item 1 Devolution for Oxfordshire	Baines (1) Epps (1) Smith (1) Gordon (1) Middleton (1) Barlow(1)

	<p><u>Resources and Deputy Leader (Cllr Fawcett)</u> Page 19, Item 2 HR & Cultural Change - Quarterly Employee Data Report- Quarter 3 2025-26</p> <p><u>Adults (Cllr Bearder)</u> Page 20, Item 3 Oxfordshire Learning Disability Plan 2025 – 2035</p> <p>Page 20, Item 4 My Life My Choice Councillor Deal</p> <p><u>Place, Environment & Climate Change (Cllr Roberts)</u> Page 20: Item 5 Infrastructure Funding Statement 2024/25 and Section 106 Improvement Programme Update</p> <p>Page 21: Item 6 Updates to “Implementing Decide & Provide”</p> <p>Page 21: Item 7 Movement and Place Plans – Science Vale</p> <p>Page 21: Item 8 LTCP Monitoring Report 2024-2025</p> <p>Page 22: Item 9 Climate Action Framework 2026-2030</p> <p><u>Finance, Property and Transformation (Cllr Levy)</u> Page 22, Item 10 Capital Programme Update and Monitoring Report</p> <p>Page 22, Item 11 Budget and Business Planning 2026/27 to 2030/31</p> <p>Page 23, Item 12 Revenue Update and Monitoring Report (November 2025)</p>	<p>Walker (1)</p> <p>Phillips (2)</p> <p>Edosomwan (3) Hanna (3)</p> <p>Edosomwan (4) Hanna (4) Jones(4)</p> <p>Fry (5) Pressel (5) Baines (5) Hanna (5) Worgan (5)</p> <p>Baines (6) Kerr (6)</p> <p>Fry (7) Kerr (7) Jones (7)</p> <p>Fry (8) Pressel (8) Baines (8) Middleton (8) Kerr (8)</p> <p>Pressel (9) Gordon (9) Barlow (9)</p> <p>Coles (10) Baines (10) Pressel (10) Kerr (10) Jones (10)</p> <p>Baines (11) Epps (11)</p> <p>Baines (12)</p>
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	<p>Page 23, Item 13 Capital Programme Approvals - January 2026</p> <p>Page 23, Item 14 Social Value - New in-house approach</p> <p><u>Scrutiny Reports</u> Page 24 Education and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the following reports: - a) The Virtual School b) Attainment c) Fostering</p> <p>Performance and Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee report on d) Devolution for Oxfordshire e) Budget and Business Planning f) Fix my street g) Business Management and Monitoring Report (Public Health Focus) h) Parking Permits i) Social Value Policy</p> <p>People Overview and Scrutiny Committee report on Oxfordshire Unpaid Carers Strategy.</p> <p>Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports on: - j) Infrastructure Funding Statement 2024/25 and s.106 Programme Update k) Movement and Place Plans l) Local Government Reorganisation - One Oxfordshire Proposal</p>	<p>Middleton (13) Kerr (13)</p> <p>Baines (14) McLauchlan (14)</p> <p>Baines (15h)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>12:25</p> <p>5 mins</p>	<p>NOTE: The Chair will propose taking item 11 ahead of Item 10</p> <p>Officer Code of Conduct (Pages 65 to 88)</p> <p>Movers 5 mins and speaking in debate 3 minutes, CPR 15.4.2</p> <p>Council is RECOMMENDED to amend the Constitution at Part 9.6 Officers' Code of Conduct.</p>	<p>M Smith SEC Shiri</p>

<p>12:30 40 mins</p>	<p>LUNCH</p>	
<p>10 13:10 35 mins</p>	<p>Director of Public Health Annual Report (Pages 25 to 64)</p> <p>Movers 5 mins and speaking in debate 3 minutes, CPR 15.4.2</p> <p>Council is RECOMMENDED to</p> <p>a) consider the 2025/26 Director of Public Health Annual Report and specifically note the progress made to address health inequalities in Oxfordshire following the publication of the Director of Public Health Annual Report in 2019/2020, which marked a pivotal moment in Oxfordshire.</p> <p>b) support the interactive format of the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2025/26 and note the insights that can be used for informing future service delivery plans.</p>	<p>M Gregory SEC Leffman</p> <p>S Brighthouse S Markham S Pressel S Middleton S Edosomwan S Baines S Hanna S Thomas</p>
<p>12 13:45 30 mins</p>	<p>Motion by Councillor Tom Greenaway</p> <p>Movers 5 mins and speaking in debate 3 minutes, CPR 15.4.2</p> <p>Pride in the appearance of the public realm is important to our residents. Clean and well-maintained pavements make people feel good about their neighbourhood, reduce accidents, and prevent more costly problems later. Neglect leads to uneven footways, hazards for those with mobility difficulties, and higher long-term repair bills.</p> <p>Routine weed clearance on county pavements was part of highways maintenance until 2007/08, when budget cuts removed the programme. Some parishes now commission their own weed spraying and may be using glyphosate, increasingly opposed by residents because of its risks to health, pets, rivers, and biodiversity. Other parishes are now beginning to trial alternative approaches.</p> <p>Council resolves to:</p>	<p>M Greenaway SEC Epps</p> <p>S Pressel S Middleton S Walker S Worgan S Baines S Barlow S Ashby S Filipova-Rivers S Gaul S Plumb</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the historic withdrawal of routine weed clearance and the resulting concerns about accessibility, safety, and neighbourhood appearance. 2. Recognise the Council's statutory duty to keep pavements free of hazards, and that neglect increases both risks and costs. 3. Request Cabinet to seek an officer report with options for re-establishing pavement weed clearance and scheduled maintenance, including alternatives to glyphosate, and how the Council can support towns and parishes to reduce reliance on chemical spraying. 4. Request that the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Transformation give due consideration to the findings of this report as part of the next round of budget setting. <p><i>Note: The motion, if passed, would constitute the exercise of an executive function in which case it will be referred to the Cabinet together with any advice the Council may wish to give, in accordance with Rule 13.5.1 (i) of the Council Procedure Rules in the Constitution.</i></p>	
<p>13</p> <p>14:15</p> <p>30 mins</p>	<p>Motion by Councillor Glynis Phillips</p> <p>Movers 5 mins and speaking in debate 3 minutes, CPR 15.4.2</p> <p>Oxfordshire is an expensive place to live and work. Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) staff need and deserve the Oxford Living Wage (OLW).</p> <p>Paying the OLW helps tackle in-work poverty, improves staff wellbeing and retention, and supports local economic resilience. Extending to all suppliers, service-providers and contractors, via inclusion in all contracts, will multiply the impact.</p> <p>From April 2026, the Oxford Living Wage, a voluntary rate set at 95% of the London Living</p>	<p>M Phillips SEC Barlow</p> <p>S Epps S Mallon S Brighthouse S Garnett S Fawcett S Crichton S Gordon S Cherry S Levy S Leffman S Bearder S Rawlins</p>

	<p>Wage, will be £14.06 an hour. It recognises the high cost of living in Oxford, costs that OCC workers must meet.</p> <p>This Council aims for a healthier, fairer and greener county, one that delivers real social value: Paying all staff a living wage is fundamental.</p> <p>In 2025-6 OCC's lowest paid staff earnt £980 less than if an Oxford Living Wage was in place.</p> <p>OCC could also implement an Oxfordshire Living Wage, reflecting the real cost of living in Oxfordshire.</p> <p>This Council therefore commits to an Oxfordshire Living Wage and asks Cabinet to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include sufficient capacity in the 2027/2028 budget to meet the cost of implementing the Oxford Living Wage for all staff • Ensure all new contracts negotiated after such decision has been made require contractors, suppliers and service providers to pay the Oxford Living Wage and existing providers as contracts get renewed • Seek to work with Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire District Councils to explore expanding the Oxford Living Wage to be an Oxfordshire Living Wage • Publicly promote OCC's commitment to the Oxfordshire Living Wage <p><i>Note: The motion, if passed, would constitute the exercise of an executive function in which case it will be referred to the Cabinet together with any advice the Council may wish to give, in accordance with Rule 13.5.1 (i) of the Council Procedure Rules in the Constitution.</i></p>	
<p>14</p> <p>14:45</p> <p>30 mins</p>	<p>Motion by Councillor Lee Evans</p> <p>Movers 5 mins and speaking in debate 3 minutes, CPR 15.4.2</p> <p>For eleven consecutive years, under varying political leaderships, Oxfordshire County Council</p>	<p>M Evans SEC Walker</p> <p>S Saul S Roberts S McLauchlan S Henwood S Crichton</p>

	<p>was named the top performing county council waste disposal authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2025 Satisfaction Ratings of Services survey showed 72% of residents were satisfied with the way Household Waste Recycling Centres operated, with only 16% dissatisfied. - The hard-work of employees who operate our centres, alongside the conscientiousness of Oxfordshire residents, made the operation of centres a success story in our county. <p>In spite of this positive record, this Council administration has implemented a series of changes, including a mandatory booking system and the need to bring proof of address with you when using a centre.</p> <p>This Council acknowledges that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new rules for using waste and recycling centres place additional bureaucratic burdens on residents, making it harder for them to use local centres. - The implementation of these rules, we believe, has reduced the number of visits to the centres, with more waste likely to be redirected into District & City Council waste collections or, in some cases, fly-tipped. - These rules are, therefore, a threat to the high rates of recycling previously seen in our County and risk undermining public satisfaction with waste and recycling services. <p>Therefore, this Council resolves to request the Cabinet to reconsider the issue of rules for using the household waste and recycling centres; revoke these new and unnecessary burdens on local residents; and return to the popular and successful model previously operated.</p> <p><i>Note: The motion, if passed, would constitute the exercise of an executive function in which case it will be referred to the Cabinet together with any advice the Council may wish to give, in accordance with Rule 13.5.1 (i) of the Council Procedure Rules in the Constitution.</i></p>	<p>S Fletcher S Middleton S Snowdon S Cherry S Rawlins S Ashby S Fry S Hanna S Robertshaw S Levy S Mallon S Malik S Field-Johnson</p>
15	Motion by Councillor James Barlow	M Barlow SEC Garnett

<p>15:15</p>	<p>Movers 5 mins and speaking in debate 3 minutes, CPR 15.4.2</p> <p>Council notes both that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The <i>Oxfordshire Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (2024)</i> identifies flooding and extreme heat as significant, growing climate risks; driven by warmer, wetter winters, more intense rainfall events, and prolonged summer heat waves. 2. The impacts of climate and ecosystem collapse are now acknowledged to be even greater than thought in 2024, posing an existential threat to human habitation, that will dwarf any economic collapses seen to date if serious adaptation does not become ‘business-as-usual’ in the same way that fiduciary duties are. <p>The assessment illustrates the need for catchment-wide, preventative approaches that build resilience across landscapes and communities to decrease flooding impacts – i.e. to make space for water upstream of residents’ living room. For heat, urban design is key to resilience, preventing heat islands, and residents’ deaths.</p> <p>Council notes adaptation measures’ success depends on being multi-year, multi-stakeholder collaboration, community and catchment-based. Partners’ (e.g. Environment Agency) work on 6-year funding cycles, allowing capacity and capability to build appropriately – starkly different to the 1-year Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) funding bid environment.</p> <p>Council requests that Cabinet implements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained (ring-fenced for at least 6 years to match partners) and significantly increased investment to further build OCC’s capacity and capability to convene and work in catchment-based, multi-stakeholder action groups to embed climate adaptation activity as an essential part of business-as-usual • Two councillor-led action group pilots, convening, alongside officers and partners, 	<p>S Pressel S Gregory S Levy S Higgins S Gordon S Leffman S Snowdon</p>
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	<p>to build capability in resilience through action, via</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A catchment for flooding,• An urban neighbourhood for urban heat islands <p><i>Note: The motion, if passed, would constitute the exercise of an executive function in which case it will be referred to the Cabinet together with any advice the Council may wish to give, in accordance with Rule 13.5.1 (i) of the Council Procedure Rules in the Constitution.</i></p>	
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