

To: Members of the Shareholder Committee (Cabinet Committee)

***Notice of a Meeting of the Shareholder Committee
(Cabinet Committee)***

Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 3.00 pm

Room 2&3 - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

If you wish to view proceedings online, please click on this [Live Stream Link](#).



Martin Reeves
Chief Executive

June 2026

Committee Officer: **Democratic Services**
email: committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Membership

Councillors

Tim Bearder	Leader of the Council
Laura Gordon	Cabinet Member for Environment and Economy
Judith Edwards	Cabinet Member for Local Government Reorganisation and Human Resources
Gareth Epps	Cabinet Member for Transport
Neil Fawcett	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Resources
Rebekah Fletcher	Cabinet Member for Adults
Sean Gaul	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Kate Gregory	Cabinet Member for Public Health and Inequalities
Liz Leffman	Cabinet Member for Highways Construction and Repair
Dan Levy	Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Transformation

*The Agenda is attached. Decisions taken at the meeting
will become effective at the end of the working day on
unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.
Copies of this Notice, Agenda and supporting papers are circulated*

to all Members of the County Council.

Date of next meeting: Date Not Specified

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 7 - 10)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2026 and to receive any information arising from them.

3. Declarations of Interest

See guidance note below.

4. Questions from County Councillors

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am three working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Shareholder Committee's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Committee Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Committee Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting.

5. Petitions and Public Address

Members of the public who wish to speak on an item on the agenda at this meeting, or present a petition, can attend the meeting in person or 'virtually' through an online connection.

Requests to present a petition must be submitted no later than 9am ten working days before the meeting.

Requests to speak must be submitted no later than 9am three working days before the meeting.

Requests should be submitted to committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

If you are speaking 'virtually', you may submit a written statement of your presentation to ensure that if the technology fails, then your views can still be taken into account. A written copy of your statement can be provided no later than 9am on the day of the meeting. Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.

6. Appointment of Enterprise Oxfordshire Chair (Pages 11 - 14)

Cabinet Member: Environment and Economy

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/129

Non-Key Decision

Contact: Sadie Patamia, Head of Corporate Services – Enterprise Oxfordshire
(Sadie.Patamia@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Report by Director of Economy and Place (**SC6**).

To ask the Shareholder Committee to formally appoint the Chair of Enterprise Oxfordshire Board.

The Shareholder Committee is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) Appoint Alexander Reip to the position of Chair of Enterprise Oxfordshire**

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.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which affects your own financial interest or wellbeing, a financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate or a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under other registrable interests, then 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.

Agenda Item 2

SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE (CABINET COMMITTEE)

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 19 May 2026 commencing at 3.00 pm and finishing at 3.13 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Tim Bearder – in the Chair

Councillor Laura Gordon (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Neil Fawcett
Councillor Sean Gaul
Councillor Gareth Epps
Councillor Dan Levy
Councillor Rebekah Fletcher
Councillor Kate Gregory
Councillor Judith Edwards

Officers: Jack Ahier (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Anita Bradley (Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer), Nicholas Glover (Managing Director – Enterprise Oxfordshire), Wendy Knowland (Finance Manager – Enterprise Oxfordshire), Sadie Patamia (Corporate Governance Manager – Enterprise Oxfordshire), Martin Reeves (Chief Executive), Kathy Wilcox (Head of Corporate Finance and Deputy Section 151 Officer)

The Shareholder Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting [, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting/the following additional documents:] and agreed as set out below. Copies of the agenda and reports [agenda, reports and schedule/additional documents] are attached to the signed Minutes.

52 ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR 2026/27 COUNCIL YEAR

(Agenda No. 1)

The Senior Democratic Services Officer invited nominations for the position of Chair of the Shareholder Committee for the 2026/27 council year. Councillor Fawcett proposed Councillor Bearder and Councillor Epps seconded the nomination.

With there being no other nominations, Councillor Bearder was **ELECTED** as Chair of the Shareholder Committee for the 2026/27 council year.

53 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR FOR 2026/27 COUNCIL YEAR

(Agenda No. 2)

Having taken the Chair, Councillor Bearder invited nominations for the position of Deputy Chair of the Shareholder Committee for the 2026/27 council year. Councillor Fawcett proposed Councillor Gordon and Councillor Epps seconded the nomination.

With there being no other nominations, Councillor Gordon was **ELECTED** as Deputy Chair of the Shareholder Committee for the 2026/27 council year.

54 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(Agenda No. 3)

There were none.

55 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(Agenda No. 4)

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2026 were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Agenda No. 5)

Councillor Levy declared an interest in respect of item 8 as he was a non-Executive Director of Enterprise Oxfordshire and therefore left the meeting at this point.

57 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

(Agenda No. 6)

There were none.

58 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda No. 7)

There were none.

59 APPROVAL OF AUDITORS FOR ENTERPRISE OXFORDSHIRE

(Agenda No. 8)

The Chair introduced the item to the meeting and invited officers to present the report.

Officers noted that the proposed appointment of Richardsons as External Auditors was because the appointment of auditors for Enterprise Oxfordshire was a matter reserved to the Shareholder Committee. It had been approved by the Enterprise Oxfordshire Board and confirmed that, to follow good practice, the auditors were different to those of the County Council.

Councillor Fawcett moved and Councillor Gordon seconded the recommendations and they were approved.

RESOLVED to:

- a) Agree the proposed appointment of Richardsons as External Auditors for Enterprise Oxfordshire (formally OxLEP) for financial Year 2025/26, as recommended by the company board.**

..... in the Chair

Date of signing

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SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE

16 JUNE 2026

APPOINTMENT OF ENTERPRISE OXFORDSHIRE CHAIR

Report by Director of Economy and Place

RECOMMENDATION

The Shareholder Committee is **RECOMMENDED** to:

- a) **Appoint Alexander Reip to the position of Chair of Enterprise Oxfordshire**

Executive Summary

1. Following the transfer of Local Enterprise Partnership functions to the Council on 1 April 2024, the Council became the controlling member of the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP). At its meeting on 19 November the Cabinet established the Shareholder Committee to act as the sole member of Enterprise Oxfordshire (EO), providing strategic oversight and taking those decisions which are reserved to the sole member of the company by the Articles of Association.
2. The appointment of a Board Chair are Reserved Matters and therefore must be approved by the Shareholder Committee.

Background

3. In November 2024, Cabinet agreed to introduce new governance arrangements following the transfer of Local Enterprise Partnership functions to the Council on 1 April 2024. These changes include the establishment of the Shareholder Committee as a Committee of Cabinet to take decisions on any matters that are reserved to the Council as member in the company's Articles of Association.
4. This report sets out the appointment of a new Chair of the EO Board.

Chair Appointment

5. In January 2026, following an open recruitment process, interviews were held with two candidates for the role of Chair of the EO Board.

6. The Panel concluded that neither candidate was right for the role, prompting a rethink in process.
7. Given the need to provide some stability through a transitional period, and in order to recruit a Managing Director for the company, the EO Executive recommend that a small number of candidates from the former OxLEP Board were invited to interview – with a view to an initial one-year fixed term (and an option to extend for a second year). The approach was agreed in consultation with the former Leader of the Council in her role as Chair of the Shareholder Committee.
8. Accordingly, two candidates were identified and were interviewed by the former Leader of the Council, the Director of Economy and Place and EO's Director of Business and Skills on 27 April 2026. The interview explored the candidates' motivation, strategic judgment, approach to governance, external leadership, personal values and finish with practical priorities.
9. It was unanimously agreed that Alexander Reip should be offered the position if confirmed through the Shareholder Committee. Alexander Reip has confirmed, in principle, his acceptance.
10. The following pen portrait gives Alexander Reip's background:

“Alex is a deep tech founder, and portfolio non-executive with over fifteen years of experience spanning advanced materials, clean energy, and regional economic development.

He co-founded Oxford nanoSystems in 2012, developing the nanoFLUX® surface coating technology and growing the business before its acquisition in 2025 and now operates a portfolio of strategic and governance roles under his personal brand Nurvian. He is Chief Strategic Technology Advisor at UCR Group, a Trustee at the Royal Society of Chemistry, and a Non-Executive Director at the Net Zero Technology Centre. He is also Royal Society Entrepreneur in Residence at Brunel University London.

In Oxfordshire, Alex chairs the Oxfordshire Economic Partnership Board and is Chair of Governors at North Kidlington Primary School. He is an active voice on regional growth, devolution, and the conditions needed to scale deep tech businesses in the UK.

He holds a PhD and is a Chartered Chemist and Fellow of both the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining”.
11. The EO Board agreed to recommend the appointment of Alexander Reip to the Shareholder Committee.

Financial Implications

12. There are no costs associated with the appointment of the Chair. There are therefore no financial implications arising from this report.

Comments checked by:

Rob Finlayson, Strategic Finance Business Partner – E&H, E&P
(Rob.Finlayson@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Legal Implications

13. Enterprise Oxfordshire is a company limited by guarantee of which the Council is the guarantor and sole member. The Shareholder Committee was constituted by Cabinet to manage the responsibilities of the Council as guarantor and sole member of Enterprise Oxfordshire.
14. The company has registered its Memorandum and Articles of Association with Companies House. The Articles include several reserved matters which are to be decided/approved by the Shareholder Committee and cannot be the sole responsibility of the company. The reserved matters for consideration of the Shareholder Committee includes the appointment and removal of senior management.

Comments checked by:

Jay Akbar, Head of Legal & Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer
(Jay.Akbar@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Staff Implications

15. This post is independent and Alexander Reip is not an employee of the Council. There are, therefore, no staffing implications.

Equality & Inclusion Implications

16. Enterprise Oxfordshire is committed to considering equalities of Board and senior management appointments.
17. There are no further implications arising from this report.

Robin Rogers
Director of Economy and Place

Contact Officer: Sadie Patamia, Head of Corporate Services – Enterprise Oxfordshire (Sadie.Patamia@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

May 2026

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