



Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Environment and Economy

***Friday, 11 September 2026 at 1.00 pm
Online***

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

Items for Decision

The items for decision under individual Cabinet Members' delegated powers are listed overleaf, with indicative timings, and the related reports are attached. Decisions taken will become effective at the end of the working day on Wednesday 16 September unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

Copies of the reports are circulated (by e-mail) to all members of the County Council.

These proceedings are open to the public

Martin Reeves OBE
Chief Executive

September 2026

Committee Officer: **Jack Ahier**
Email: committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Note: *Date of next meeting: 9 October 2026*

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Items for Decision

1. Declarations of Interest

See guidance note below.

2. 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 an item on the agenda.

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 Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

3. 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.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 7 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2026 and for the Chair to sign them as a correct record.

5. Updating Thresholds for Section 19 Flood Investigation Reports (Pages 9 - 20)

Cabinet Member: Environment and Economy

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/105

Key Decision

Contact: James Linnane, Senior Flood Risk Management Officer

Report by Director of Economy and Place (**CMDEE5**).

To consider proposals to update the Section 19 Flood Investigation reports.

The Cabinet Member is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) **Recognise the statutory duties of the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, including the role of thresholds in triggering formal investigations.**
- b) **Acknowledge the extent of the 2024 flooding events and the significant number of Section 19 flood investigations undertaken.**
- c) **Consider the findings of the review of current Section 19 thresholds, informed by analysis of recent investigations and their effectiveness.**
- d) **Approve the proposed simplification and update of the thresholds for initiating Section 19 investigations to support clearer, more consistent, and timely decision-making.**

6. DSIT 5G Innovation Regions Project – England's Connected Heartland (Pages 21 - 32)

Cabinet Member: Environment and Economy

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/178

Key Decision

Contact: Craig Bower, Programme Director – Digital Connectivity

Report by Director of Economy and Place (**CMDEE6**).

Request to authorise delegated approval of change control to an increase the programme budget to £6.14M by change control by acceptance of £0.54M of additional grant funding and additional ringfenced Digital Infrastructure gainshare of £0.9M due to an extension of the project timelines to as a result of technical challenges which have required design changes.

The Cabinet Member is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) **Approve acceptance of two additional Department for Science, Innovation and Technology grant payments for the 5G Innovations Regions Project, totalling £540,000, increasing the total grant funding for the programme to £4,340,000.**

- b) Approve an additional £900,000 investment from the Digital Infrastructure Gainshare fund, increasing total Gainshare funding for the programme to £1,800,000 and the overall programme budget to £6,140,000;**
- c) Delegate authority to the Director of Economy and Place in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and the Head of Legal and Governance Services to finalise the associated funding contract changes within the approved budget envelope.**

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.