

Divisions Affected – All

CABINET 17 June 2025

– Transport Working Group Report of Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet is **RECOMMENDED** to —
 - a) Note the recommendations contained in the body of the attached report and to consider and determine its response to the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and
 - b) Agree that, once Cabinet has responded, relevant officers will continue to provide each meeting of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a brief written update on progress made against actions committed to in response to the recommendations for 12 months, or until they are completed (if earlier).

REQUIREMENT TO RESPOND

2. In accordance with section 9FE of the Local Government Act 2000, the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee requires that, within two months of the consideration of this report, the Cabinet publish a response to this report and any recommendations.

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

3. At its meeting on 25 September 2024, the Committee established a Transport Working Group. The Committee agreed that Cllr Bennett, Cllr Haywood, Cllr Hicks, and Cllr Walker should comprise the membership, with Cllr Hicks elected as Chair and Cllr Walker as Deputy Chair.
4. The Transport Working Group was concerned that the Council was not on track to meet its objective and, through this Group, sought to scrutinise aspect of the Council's delivery to consider what was working well and what could be improved.

5. The Group conducted two deep dives, into the Oxford Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and into the Science Vale Movement and Place Strategy. In order to ensure the Group's work was focused, it concentrated primarily on the active travel targets whilst having an awareness of wider targets.
6. The Committee and the Group were very grateful to the large number of officers who had contributed to its work.

SUMMARY

7. The Transport Working Group submitted its report to the Committee on 23 April 2025 for its approval and onward submission to Cabinet. The Group made 20 recommendations which the Committee endorsed in their entirety. The recommendations focused on data, governance, capacity building, funding, partnerships, and public engagement. The recommendations were fundamentally about ensuring that the Council makes the changes necessary to meet its headline targets of the LTCP, including the necessary resources, monitoring, skills, capacity, and approach, to mean that its active travel plans are at the heart of its place-making priorities.
8. The Committee resolved to endorse the recommendations and report of the Transport Working Group and to submit the substantive report of the Transport Working Group (paragraphs 2 onwards) to Cabinet.

FURTHER CONSIDERATION

9. It will be for members of the 2025/26 Committee to set its work programme but it is anticipated that they will continue to scrutinise the Council's transport ambitions.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Under Part 6.2 (13) (a) of the Constitution Scrutiny has the following power: 'Once a Scrutiny Committee has completed its deliberations on any matter a formal report may be prepared on behalf of the Committee and when agreed by them the Proper Officer will normally refer it to the Cabinet for consideration.
11. Under Part 4.2 of the Constitution, the Cabinet Procedure Rules, s 2 (3) iv) the Cabinet will consider any reports from Scrutiny Committees.

Anita Bradley
Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

Annex: Report of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee's
Transport Working Group (with its annexe 1
'Recommendations under headings'; 2 'Emerging
Conclusions')
Pro-forma Response Template

Background papers: None

Other Documents: None

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June 2025