

County Council

13 September 2011

Agenda

Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Part 9.1 of the Constitution for a fuller description.

The duty to declare ...

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, i.e. where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

Whose interests are included ...

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

When and what to declare ...

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

Taking part if you have an interest ...

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

"Prejudicial" interests ...

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

Exceptions ...

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

Seeking Advice ...

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.

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.

To: Members of the County Council

Notice of a Meeting of the County Council

Tuesday, 13 September 2011 at 10.00 am

County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND

Joanna Simons

Joanna Simons
Chief Executive

September 2011

Contact Officer: **Deborah Miller**
Tel: (01865) 815384; E-Mail: deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, notice is given that Items 3, 7 and 12 will be recorded. The purpose of recording proceedings is to provide an *aide-memoire* to assist the clerk of the meeting in the drafting of minutes.

Members are asked to sign the attendance book which will be available in the corridor outside the Council Chamber. A list of members present at the meeting will be compiled from this book.

The civic party will process into the Council Chamber at 9.58 am.

A buffet luncheon will be provided.

A Briefing session on Public Health will be held for all Members of the Council following the conclusion of the Council Meeting.

AGENDA

1. Minutes (Pages 1 - 36)

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2011 (**CC1**) to receive for information any matters arising therefrom.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. 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.

4. Official Communications

5. Appointments

To make any changes to the membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.

6. Petitions and Public Address

7. Questions with Notice from Members of the Public

8. 2011/12 - Requests For Virements & Changes to the Annual Treasury Management Strategy & Annual Investment Strategy (Pages 37 - 58)

Report by the Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer (**CC8**)

Under the Council's Financial Regulations, Council approval is required for temporary virements larger than £0.5m and where they represent a change in policy, and all permanent virements that represent a change in policy.

Also, as agreed by Council on 15 February 2011 any changes required to the Annual Treasury Management Strategy & Annual Investment Strategy 2011/12 are delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance. However, Council are asked to note changes that have been agreed.

Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) **approve the virements larger than £0.5m and the associated carry forwards from 2010/11 for Children, Education & Families, Social & Community Services and Environment & Economy as set out in annex 1a and 1b to the report;**
- (b) **approve the permanent virement of £1.5m from the additional grant funding to the Older People's elements of the Older People and Physical Disabilities Pool as set out in paragraph 5 and 6 to the report;**
- (c) **note the changes to the Specified and Non-Specified Investment**

instruments section of the 2011/12 Treasury Management Strategy set out in paragraphs 7 to 9 and Annex 2 to the report.

9. Treasury Management 2010/11 Outturn (Pages 59 - 78)

Report by Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer (**CC9**).

The report sets out the Treasury Management activity undertaken in the financial year 2010/11 in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice. The report includes Debt and Investment activity, Prudential Indicator outturn, changes in Strategy, any Breaches of approved Strategy and interest receivable and payable for the financial year.

Council is RECOMMENDED to note the Council's Treasury Management Activity in 2010/11.

10. Report of the Cabinet (Pages 79 - 84)

Report of the Cabinet Meetings on 21 June 2011 and 19 July 2011 (**CC10**).

11. Partnership Working in Oxfordshire (Pages 85 - 104)

Report by Head of Strategy & Communications (**CC11**).

The report provides an update on all thematic partnerships and district local strategic partnerships. Detail is also provided on the future role of the Oxfordshire Partnership and the refresh of the Oxfordshire 2030 objectives.

Council is RECOMMENDED:

(a) to note the report;

(b) that the partnership update reports are discussed Annually at Full Council rather than 3 times a year.

12. Questions with Notice from Members of the Council

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS WITH NOTICE MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE PROPER OFFICER IN WRITING BY 9.00 AM ON THE MONDAY BEFORE THE MEETING

13. Motion From Councillor Jean Fooks

“Council notes that one of the main concerns that people have raised over both the hacking scandal and the August street riots is that a clear distance needs to be maintained between politicians and the police force.

Council further notes that the police and politicians can only work together effectively when the strategic and operational functions are kept separate. There needs to be a clear understanding of the different roles that police and politicians have to play in our society in which one sets strategy and one carries out the strategy. This is one of the chief objections to the idea of replacing police authorities with Elected Police Commissioners. Council believes that having one person, doing most of his or her work behind closed doors without local accountability, is not in the best interests of policing in Oxfordshire.

Council therefore requests that this issue be raised by the Local Authority representatives currently on the Police Authority, seeking their support in opposing these proposals and advocating the retention of democratically accountable local police boards with a reasonable proportion of directly elected members, to work closely with local government, which will provide important links into other local services as well as giving the transparency that is badly needed.”

14. Motion From Councillor Richard Stevens

“This Council notes with concern that delayed transfers of care in Oxfordshire showed a serious deterioration in July 2011 resulting in 145 people being delayed in Oxfordshire hospital beds when they do not need to be there (according to official Government figures published by the Department for Health).

This Council also notes Cllr Keith Mitchell's admission on 11 August that the Council is "trying to operate a system that is just about bust", and Cllr Mitchell's view that the Council will need to "secure more funding as we have more elderly people".

This Council calls on Cabinet to:

- (i) consider carefully the outcome of the discussions relating to delayed discharges between representatives of the NHS and the Council at the Adult Services Scrutiny Committee of 6 September;
- (ii) set out the changes it proposes to make to fix a "system that is just about bust"; and
- (iii) explain in detail how the Cabinet intends to "secure more funding" to tackle the problem."

15. Motion From Councillor John Sanders

"The Cabinet member for Transport must surely be pleased that his department is to receive a ring-fenced £5 million from the Government for County transport schemes.

The money is to be spent, inter alia, on improvements to park-and-ride services and to electronic bus-stop displays. This Council requests the Leader of Council to write to the Prime Minister pointing out the greater need of Oxfordshire's other services which are being starved of financial support, for instance:

- reinstating access to day centres for elderly and disabled people by keeping the specialised transport service to take them to and from the centres.
- reinstating the money cut from care home provision for elderly people
- reinstating Oxfordshire's youth services

and for which £5 million would have gone a long way."

16. Motion From Councillor John Tanner

"This Council welcomes the high level of recycling at the Redbridge Recycling Centre in Oxford. We recognise the importance of every district in Oxfordshire having a modern recycling centre and we welcome the plans for a new recycling centre at Kidlington. We welcome, as a first step, the decision to allow public access at the weekends to the new Redbridge centre after it is refurbished.

Council therefore resolves to ask Cabinet for:

- (a) a review of the current policy which bans pedestrians from entering the existing Redbridge site
- (b) the provision of an alternative temporary site in, or close to, the south east of Oxford while Redbridge is being modernised
- (c) an extension of the times during the week when the refurbished Redbridge site will be open to the public

We welcome the achievements of the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership in boosting recycling across the County. We underline the County Council's commitment to reduction, reuse and recycling; to creating a low carbon economy; and to encouraging walking and cycling."

17. Motion From Councillor Anne Purse

"This Council notes that:

The establishment of the East-West Rail project from Oxford going east towards Milton Keynes and ultimately Cambridge has long been considered both desirable and practically possible. Although it did not get funded in the last Regional round, there is now a window of opportunity which must be grasped;

The western section of the project is important to our adjoining counties in the South East, and on into the East Midlands, providing a step change in the transport links between a number of important economic clusters, including those in Oxfordshire, that are critical to the economic recovery locally and nationally;

The importance of the project is reflected in its outstanding benefit cost ratio (in the order of 6:1) reinforced by the business case that shows the new rail service will be profitable;

Local authorities along the route have long championed the scheme;

Council therefore resolves:

- (a) to write to the Secretary of State asking him to include the East-West rail project in the next High Level Output Specification to be published in 2013; and
- (b) to write to MPs along the route asking them to join the new All Party Parliamentary Group set up by Ian Stewart, MP for Milton Keynes South, and to actively promote the project in their constituencies."

18. Motion From Councillor Larry Sanders

"The Health and Social Care Bill currently before Parliament might:

- Significantly increase the portion of Oxfordshire NHS owned and operated in the interests of profit-making corporations;
- Increase costs, fragment services and reduce quality of care;
- Lead to the closure of NHS hospitals in Oxfordshire;
- Dismantle vital cooperative relationships built over many years;
- Force drastic change on an organisation which requires stability;
- Create increased transaction costs and profits at the expense of patient care;
- Give powers to the Oxfordshire Clinical consortia to deny care, close services, introduce charges and top-up fees and sell private insurance;
- Leave Oxfordshire NHS unprotected against the full impact of European Union competition laws;
- Remove the cap on the number of private patients NHS Hospitals in Oxfordshire can treat, thus denying care to NHS patients;

For these reasons this Council requests that the Safer & Stronger Scrutiny Committee consider these issues and decide whether it should :

- call upon all members of the House of Lords, regardless of Party affiliation, to reject the Health and Social Care Bill;
- explore the reasons behind the British Medical Association and the Royal College of Nurses opposition to this Bill;
- take into account the general level of opposition by the public to the privatisation of the NHS."

19. Motion From Councillor Larry Sanders

"This Council requests that the Chief Executive explore the cost and other implications of creating a full audio recording of Council Meetings which can be easily accessed by residents and report them to the next meeting which would then consider whether such a recording system should be implemented."

20. Motion From Councillor Larry Sanders

"This Council notes the excellent work being done by the City of Edinburgh Council to establish the "Edinburgh Guarantee" for its young people. This Council also notes the importance of the existing September Guarantee operating in England to ensure all young people are offered a full time place of learning by September of the year after their 16th and 17th birthday. This Council recognises the good intentions set out in signing the Apprenticeship Pledge. However this Council realises the dire effects of unemployment on young people and commits itself to the creation of an Oxfordshire Guarantee, designed to increase the number of jobs, education or training opportunities being made available to young people, to help them move into a positive destination.

Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to begin work with the County Council's partners to establish this Guarantee, building upon the Council's existing Apprenticeship Pledge and September Guarantee and to report it progress to this Council at reasonable intervals."

Pre-Meeting Briefing

There will be a pre-meeting briefing at County Hall on **Monday 12 September 2011 at 10.15 am** for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders