

To: Members of the Cabinet

# Notice of a Meeting of the Cabinet

## Thursday, 13 November 2025 at 1.00 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.

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Martin Reeves Chief Executive

November 2025

Committee Officer: Chris Reynolds

Tel: 07542 029441; E-Mail: chris.reynolds@oxfordshire.gov.uk

## Membership

Councillors

Liz Leffman Leader of the Council

Neil Fawcett Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member

for Resources

Tim Bearder Cabinet Member for Adults

Andrew Gant Cabinet Member for Transport Management

Sean Gaul Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Kate Gregory Cabinet Member for Public Health and Inequalities

Jenny Hannaby Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing and

Safety

Ben Higgins Cabinet Member for Future Economy and Innovation

Dan Levy Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and

Transformation

Judy Roberts Cabinet Member for Place, Environment and Climate

Action

The Agenda is attached. Decisions taken at the meeting will become effective at the end of the working day on 19 November 2025 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: 18 November 2025





## **AGENDA**

# 1. Apologies for Absence

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

- guidance note below

## 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 <u>petition</u> must be submitted no later than 9am ten working days before the meeting.

Requests to <u>speak</u> 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. Reports from Scrutiny Committees

Cabinet to receive the report of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Local Government Re-organisation (TO FOLLOW)

# 5. Local Government Reorganisation – Submission of Proposal to Government (Pages 1 - 684)

Cabinet Member: Leader Forward Plan Ref: 2025/150

Contact: Helen Mitchell, Programme Director – Local Government Reorganisation

Helen.mitchell@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report of the Chief Executive

The Cabinet RECOMMENDED to

- A) Note all three proposals for Local Government Reorganisation (Annex 1, 2 and 3)
- B) Agree that One Oxfordshire, the single county unitary proposal is a "robust and sustainable unitary proposal that is in the best interests of the whole area" as requested by the then Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution in his letter of 5 February 2025 attached as Annex 4.
- C) Approve the One Oxfordshire proposal for submission to government in accordance with their deadline of 28 November 2025.
- D) Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Resources and S151 Officer in consultation with the Leader to make any changes to the text and/or format of the One Oxfordshire proposal prior to submission to government whilst not materially affecting the overall content of the proposal.
- E) Delegate to the Executive Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader, the formal submission of the proposal to government to meet the 28 November 2025 deadline, following any changes agreed at Cabinet and any subsequent changes made under the delegation at Recommendation D above.

## 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;
- 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.