

## CABINET – 17 MARCH 2026

### ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions are listed in the order in which they were received. Should any questioner not have received an answer in that time, a written answer will be provided.

<b>1. COUNCILLOR JAMES FRY</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR JUDY ROBERTS, CABINET MEMBER FOR PLACE, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION</b>
<p><u>Agenda Item 15</u>: Anecdotal evidence from people who have used the new system for booking deliveries to HWRC serving the City and Banbury is that when trying to book online, some people are given dates up to three weeks ahead.</p> <p>Yet, at the centres, staff apparently say that fewer people are turning up to bring their household waste. Staff at the centres apparently advise people to turn up, as before, without an appointment, and book on their phones when they arrive at the site.</p> <p>What do the January and February data reveal about deliveries under the new system vs. 2025 data? Are data available for the same months about fly tipping?</p>	<p>The booking system allows for bookings to be made from half an hour, up to two weeks in advance. Looking at sites serving the Banbury and City areas, at the time of drafting this response (Thursday 12 March) there are plenty of slots available today, Friday, and for the weekend ahead, with no timeslots being fully booked to capacity. This is despite there being thousands of bookings being made each week.</p> <p>Site staff should not be advising people to turn up and make on the spot bookings, and not pre-book their visits in future. This will be investigated with our site contractor to ensure this is not the case.</p> <p>As part of the changes, a reduction in visitor numbers was anticipated through improved measures to prevent illegal trader abuse of the service, as well as fewer non-Oxfordshire residents using the services, both of which come at a cost to the service. Intelligence from other authorities suggests booking systems lead to customers planning their visits better, delivering more on each trip to the HWRC, but making fewer overall visits. It is also worth noting there have been spells of bad weather since the service changes were introduced which often impacts service usage.</p> <p>We do not hold data on flytipping as this is gathered and held by the district councils. Specific data on flytipping would need to be requested from the relevant district authority. The OCC Waste Management team have been liaising with district council colleagues through the Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Partnership (ORWP) operational and enforcement groups. To date, no increases in fly tipping have been brought to the attention of the team, nor any new trends emerging since changes were introduced within the HWRCs.</p>

Please see table below for HWRC traffic data. Please note:

- Traffic data has to be treated as indicative, as this will include other traffic movements beyond pure HWRC visitor vehicle movements (e.g. operational traffic)
- Traffic count data for Stanford and Dix Pit HWRCs is not included as these systems had periods of faultiness across several months in this period. We believe that visitor trends on these sites should be similar to those at other HWRCs.
- This is a very narrow data set drawn from what is typically a quiet time of year, and longer-term trends and other data sets need to be analysed to fully understand the impacts on the service.

	Jan	Feb
2025	53088	49587
2026	44447	32128
Percentage change	-16%	-35%

**2. COUNCILLOR JAMES FRY**

Agenda Item 9: The CDEL (Capital Departmental Expenditure Limit) on the Local Transport Grant grows very rapidly from £4.0 million in 2026/27 to £9.12 million in 2029/30, without any explanatory narrative.

Please provide some detail to explain this unusually strong growth. Where is the grant spent?

**COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT**

Government has announced a 4-year consolidated funding allocation bringing together a variety of highway and transport grants received. The grants support the various highway and transport projects within the council's capital and revenue programmes. As part of the grant conditions, we are required to produce a 4-year Local Transport Delivery Plan to identify our priorities to utilise the funding over this timeframe.

