

These notes indicate the decisions taken at this meeting and the officers responsible for taking the agreed action. For background documentation please refer to the agenda and supporting papers available on the Council's web site ([www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk).)

The decisions take effect at the time and date specified, unless before that time written notice is given in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rules requiring the decision to be called in for review by the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

If you have a query please contact Sue Whitehead (Tel: (01865) 810262; E-Mail: [sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk))

## CABINET - TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2015

<i>List published 11 November 2015 Decisions will (unless called in) become effective at 5.00pm on 18 November 2015</i>		
<i>RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<b>1. Apologies for Absence</b>	None.	HLG (A. Newman)
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b>  - guidance note opposite	None.	HLG (A. Newman)
<b>3. Minutes</b>  To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2015 ( <b>CA3</b> ) and to receive information arising from them.	Agreed and signed subject to the following correction:  Minute 90/15 – Last sentence of the preamble to read: "Councillor Heathcoat added that no partner or agency would agree to funding a provision in perpetuity."	SW
<b>4. Questions from County Councillors</b>	See annex	
<b>5. Petitions and Public Address</b>	Item 6 – Cllr Roy McMillan, Chairman of South Stoke Parish Council Mr Hugh Jaeger, Chair of Bus Users Oxford and a Director of Bus Users UK Councillor Roz Smith Councillor Susanna Pressel* Councillor Kieron Mallon Councillor Laura Price Councillor Steve Curran Cllr Liz Brighthouse * submitted a petition in support of the No 17 bus route	

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<p><b>6. Public Consultation Report - Supported Transport (Subsidised Buses and Dial-A-Ride)</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Environment  <i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> 2015/095  <i>Contact:</i> Alexandra Bailey, Service Manager, Business Development &amp; Fleet Management Tel: (01865) 797228</p> <p>RECOMMENDATIONS</p> <p>Delivery of the agreed Medium Term Financial Plan savings</p> <p>In order to deliver the savings required in the MTFP, the Cabinet is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> to</p> <p>(a) Consider the consultation feedback regarding subsidised bus services.</p> <p>(b) Proceed with reducing bus subsidies by £2.3 million and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consider the consultation feedback regarding subsidised bus services and decide which services to prioritise – off-peak, peak, or other.</li> <li>2. Update the methodology used for ranking services in the following ways:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Include additional criteria which ensure that rurally isolated and deprived areas are also prioritised.</li> <li>ii. Agree to continue to pay for (i.e. protect in the</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Recommendations agreed subject to amendment:</p> <p><b>Delivery of the agreed Medium Term Financial Plan savings</b></p> <p>In order to deliver the savings required in the MTFP, the Cabinet <b>RESOLVED</b> to:</p> <p>(a) Consider the consultation feedback regarding subsidised bus services;</p> <p>(b) Proceed with reducing bus subsidies by £2.3 million and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Having considered the consultation feedback regarding subsidised bus services to prioritise off peak services</li> <li>2. To update the methodology used for ranking services in the following ways:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Include additional criteria which ensure that rurally isolated and deprived areas are also prioritised.</li> <li>ii. Agree to continue to pay for (i.e. protect in the methodology) subsidised bus routes which are used to take entitled students from home to school, where on the whole it is cheaper for us to do so, instead of paying for separate dedicated school</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>DEE (A. Bailey</p>

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<p>methodology) subsidised bus routes which are used to take entitled students from home to school, where on the whole it is cheaper for us to do so, instead of paying for separate dedicated school transport. (This will vary routes available on a year by year basis as school cohorts change).</p> <p>iii. Ensure a consistent methodology by treating all providers in the same way, whether they are external providers, OCC fleet or community transport providers.</p> <p>If cabinet approves this request, then approximately two-thirds of the subsidies due to be withdrawn would cease in April 2016, and the remaining third would cease in June 2016. The £2.3m savings under option 2 would be realised in financial year 16/17, assuming notice was served in November / December 2015.</p> <p>The exact details cannot be finalised at this stage due to variables including whether contract renewal renegotiations are required, which could alter costs.</p> <p>(c) Cease funding the Dial a Ride service as of April 2016.</p> <p>Delivery of further savings subject to Council approval</p>	<p>transport. (This will vary routes available on a year by year basis as school cohorts change).</p> <p>iii. Ensure a consistent methodology by treating all providers in the same way, whether they are external providers, OCC fleet or community transport providers.</p> <p><i>N.B. If cabinet approves this request, then approximately two-thirds of the subsidies due to be withdrawn would cease in April 2016, and the remaining third would cease in June 2016. The £2.3m savings under option 2 would be realised in financial year 16/17, assuming notice was served in November / December 2015.</i></p> <p><i>The exact details cannot be finalised at this stage due to variables including whether contract renewal renegotiations are required, which could alter costs.</i></p> <p>(c) Cease funding the Dial a Ride service as of April 2016.</p> <p><b>Delivery of further savings subject to Council approval</b></p> <p><b>Cabinet RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>(d) to note the delivery of further savings to deliver the full £3.7m savings by the withdrawal of all bus subsidies, subject to full council's approval in February 2016 to further reduce the Supported Transport budget</p>	

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<p>(d) The withdrawal of all bus subsidies would deliver the full £3.7m savings if the cabinet makes this decision, subject to full council's approval in February 2016 to further reduce the Supported Transport budget. The full £3.7m savings, would be realised once all contract termination processes have been completed.</p> <p>If Council approves this request, then the subsidies would cease at the following time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 50% of subsidies (59/118 services) require 17 weeks' notice and could terminate on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016, assuming notice was served on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016.</li> <li>➤ 31% of subsidies (37/118 services) require 16 weeks' notice but also require 16 weeks to modify the "Authorised Change Date". This means they would take 32 weeks to terminate. They could therefore terminate on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016, assuming notice to change the "Authorised Change Date" was served on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016, and notice to terminate the contract was served 16 weeks later on 13<sup>th</sup> June</li> </ul>	<p>and to note that the full £3.7m savings, would be realised once all contract termination processes have been completed.</p> <p><i>N.B. If Council approves this request, then the subsidies would cease at the following time:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 50% of subsidies (59/118 services) require 17 weeks' notice and could terminate on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016, assuming notice was served on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016.</li> <li>➤ 31% of subsidies (37/118 services) require 16 weeks' notice but also require 16 weeks to modify the "Authorised Change Date". This means they would take 32 weeks to terminate. They could therefore terminate on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016, assuming notice to change the "Authorised Change Date" was served on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016, and notice to terminate the contract was served 16 weeks later on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016.</li> <li>➤ 9% of subsidies (11/118 services) require 16</li> </ul>	

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<p>2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 9% of subsidies (11/118 services) require 16 weeks' notice and could terminate on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016, assuming notice was served on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016. These are services operated by Oxfordshire County Council.</li> <li>➤ 9% of subsidies (11/118 services) will expire naturally on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.</li> </ul> <p>Annex E shows which routes fall into each category.</p> <p><u>Allocation of one-off, pump-prime funding</u></p> <p>The Cabinet is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> to:</p> <p>(e) Allocate (from the efficiency reserve) £500k of one-off, pump-prime funding for groups to bid for, in order to set-up community transport initiatives which meet an identified transport need in their area</p> <p><u>Exploring a new approach to Transport</u></p> <p>The Cabinet is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> to:</p> <p>(f) Approve the suggested implementation approach, including the request to explore the option of</p>	<p><i>weeks' notice and could terminate on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016, assuming notice was served on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016. These are services operated by Oxfordshire County Council.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>9% of subsidies (11/118 services) will expire naturally on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Annex E to the report shows which routes fall into each category.</i></p> <p><b>Allocation of one-off, pump-prime funding</b></p> <p>Cabinet <b>RESOLVED</b> not to allocate the £500K reserve but instead noted that once the council's future funding position is clearer Cabinet would establish a broader pump priming fund (along the lines of the Big Society Fund) that could include community transport along with other similar initiatives.</p> <p><b>Exploring a new approach to Transport</b></p> <p>The Cabinet <b>RESOLVED</b> to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(e) approve the suggested implementation approach, including the request to explore the option of undertaking a larger scale commissioning exercise which includes a range of supported transport services, in addition to subsidised bus services.</li> </ul>	

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<p>undertaking a larger scale commissioning exercise which includes a range of supported transport services, in addition to subsidised bus services.</p> <p>Depending on the cabinet's decision on whether to withdraw all bus subsidies, this commissioning exercise will either include the remainder of the subsidy budget, or exclude it if cabinet decides to withdraw all funding.</p>	<p><i>N.B. Depending on the Cabinet's decision on whether to withdraw all bus subsidies and subject to Council's decision on the Supported Transport budget this commissioning exercise will either include the remainder of the subsidy budget, or exclude it if cabinet decides to withdraw all funding</i></p>	
<p><b>7. Treasury Management Mid Term Review (2014/15)</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Finance</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2015/060</i>  <i>Contact: Lewis Gosling, Financial Manager - Treasury Management Tel: (01865) 323988</i></p> <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report, and to RECOMMEND Council to note the Council's Mid-Term Treasury Management Review 2015/16.</p>	<p>Recommendation agreed.</p>	<p>CFO (L. Gosling)</p>
<p><b>8. Staffing Report - Quarter 2 - 2015</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2015/061</i>  <i>Contact: Sue Corrigan, County HR Manager Tel: (01865) 810280</i></p> <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report.</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed</p>	<p>CHRO (S. Corrigan)</p>

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<p><b>9. Forward Plan and Future Business</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: All</i>  <i>Contact Officer: Sue Whitehead,</i>  <i>Committee Services Manager (01865 810262)</i></p> <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>	<p>SW/AB</p>

Questions received from the following Members:

**Question from Councillor Susanna Pressel to Councillor Hilary Hibbert Biles**

“Councillor Biles gave the following answer to a supplementary question from me in Council on 8 September (page 28 on the agenda of our last Council meeting):

"I think children's centres do promote oral health but in actual fact it is the responsibility of the NHS not this Council. We are a monitoring organisation."

Please could you tell me if this is correct?

The latest Public Health Annual Report in its section on oral health says that the local authority "has an emphasis on prevention". It gives a long list (page 55 to 56) of what we do, with much of the work being in pre-school settings, so I'm puzzled by the Cabinet member's statement. I hope this work won't be lost if the children's centres are closed."

**Answer**

“On 1st April 2013 the statutory responsibility for the commissioning of commissioning dental epidemiology transferred from the NHS to local government.

The dental public health functions of LAs are described in regulations and include a statutory requirement to provide or secure provision of oral surveys. The statutory instrument states that:

*A local authority shall provide, or shall make arrangements to secure the provision of, the following within its area—*

*Oral health surveys to facilitate—*

- i. the assessment and monitoring of oral health needs,*
- ii. the planning and evaluation of oral health promotion programmes,*
- iii. the planning and evaluation of the arrangements for provision of dental services as part of the health service, and*
- iv. where there are water fluoridation programmes affecting the authority's area, the monitoring and reporting of the effect of water fluoridation programmes.*
- v. The local authority shall participate in any oral health survey conducted or commissioned by the Secretary of State under paragraph 13(1) of Schedule 1 to the 2006 Act (powers in relation to research etc.) so far as that survey is conducted within the authority's area.*

Domain 4 (Healthcare public health and preventing premature mortality) of the Public Health Outcomes Framework includes an indicator relating to “tooth decay in children aged 5.” Continued local dental epidemiology survey provision will be required for the monitoring of this indicator.

Oxfordshire County Council have a requirement to provide a capacity to collect dental epidemiology (surveys) which help inform on the local oral health of the population. This information can help NHS England in understanding the need for dental services locally.

In April 2015 OCC let a contract to Community Dental Services CIC for the collection of dental epidemiology, thus meeting the Council's statutory requirement. The County Council collect data in line with the National Dental Intelligence Programme which provides a scientifically robust methodology and allows comparability of local data with regional and national data.



All Dental Services are commissioned by NHS England, which does include an element of oral health promotion in these contracts. Oral health promotion is on the same footing as providing dental services which is a clear NHSE responsibility.

OCC does not have a statutory obligation to deliver oral health promotion.”

Supplementary: In response to a question concerning the outcome of the steps taken Councillor Hibbert Biles advised that the survey results were not yet available and she would let Councillor Pressel have this information once it was available.

### **Question from Councillor Glynis Phillips to Councillor Hilary Hibbert Biles**

“Does the Cabinet Member for Public Health and the Voluntary Sector share the Association of Directors of Public Health 'deep concern and disappointment' about the Tory governments' £200m cut to non-NHS public health budget which will result in a 6.2% reduction to Oxfordshire's budget and explain what this cut means for the county's Public Health services?”

### **Answer**

“Yes, the cut to the non-NHS public health grant is disappointing. Our Government has to make difficult choices in all areas of public spending.

Prudent management of the Public Health grant by the County Council means that we plan to make this reduction without impact on front-line services.”

Supplementary: Councillor Phillips referred to a further 10% cut in the medium term to the non-NHS public health grant and whether this would impact on front-line services. Councillor Hibbert-Biles replied that it was not certain what future funding would be and the Council had to wait and see what it was.

### **Question from Councillor John Howson to Councillor Melinda Tilley**

“To ask the cabinet member the cost of non SEN home to school transport contracts in Oxfordshire for the summer and autumn terms of 2015 compared with the same periods in 2014 and the same figures for SEN transport? Within these figures, how much is due to in-year pupil arrivals that could not be placed within statutory walking distance of a school?”

### **Answer**

See attached Annex.

Supplementary: Councillor Howson noted that some of the information was awaited and explained that his concern was over whether the expected savings would be delivered and if not whether representation should be made to government over funding. Councillor Tilley confirmed that the additional information would be sent to Councillor Howson.

### **Question from Councillor Roz Smith to Councillor Nick Carter**

"Delays with the start of the building project at Windmill School are well documented. Would the cabinet member agree that lessons have been learnt regarding the lack of early communication from Carillion, and continuing communication that lead to unnecessary stress and wasted time?"

### **Answer**

As with all our building projects we are always learning lessons and seeking to improve the way they are taken through from inception to completion. Schools provide an added complexity due to;

1. the fact that there is an additional link between the school and its governors and the council and;
2. the delivery timetable is more rigid due to school term dates.

The council is working closely with Carillion to improve communications with schools and they have changed their structure to reflect this need.

Supplementary: Councillor Carter undertook to look into concerns raised by Councillor Smith that materials were being ordered and not used. However he commented that if additional materials were having to be specified then this was likely to be as a result of changes made to the original specification not just by Carillion.

