

Division(s): N/A
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## **COUNCIL – 9 SEPTEMBER 2014**

### **PARTNERSHIP UPDATE REPORT**

#### **Report by the Chief Executive**

#### **Introduction**

1. The partnership landscape within which local government operates is growing in importance and complexity. Oxfordshire County Council participates in a range of partnerships. In some cases, such as the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Safeguarding Children Board, these are a statutory requirement. Others are voluntary partnerships, and all help us to co-ordinate and join up across the public sector, and to add our perspective and organisational effort to that of other local bodies to address particular challenges.
2. This annual report to Council aims to set out some of the key activities over the past year of both the Oxfordshire Partnership, and a number of the key formal partnerships within which the County Council plays a part. There is of course a wider landscape of partnership working, ranging from informal professional networks and volunteering groups, to long-term strategic contracts.

#### **The Oxfordshire Partnership**

3. The Oxfordshire Partnership brings together organisations from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to focus their efforts on those things that are important to people who live in, work in and visit Oxfordshire and discuss how we can work together to address the challenges we face. Its aims are set out in Oxfordshire 2030, formerly the county's Sustainable Community Strategy.
4. The Partnership meets on a bi-annual basis. Since last year's Partnership report to Council, meetings have been held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013, and 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014. The first of these meetings discussed the budget challenges facing the Council, hosted a presentation from Age UK Oxfordshire on the challenge of loneliness, and received updates on other countywide partnerships, District LSPs, and the Armed Forces Community Covenant.
5. The second meeting focused on growth and community wellbeing, with presentations on partnership working to deliver economic growth and strategic planning, on Oxfordshire's population forecasts, on the joint strategic needs assessment, and on the voluntary sector from the new Chief Executive of OCVA.

6. The Oxfordshire Partnership next meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, with currently planned agenda items including the annual report from individual partnerships, and a presentation by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

## **Update Report**

7. The remainder of this report provides an update on the Oxfordshire-wide partnerships which are critical in progressing key countywide priorities, enabling partners to work across the themes of a thriving Oxfordshire, including economic growth, health and wellbeing, thriving communities, and support to the most vulnerable;
  - Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership
  - Oxfordshire Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership
  - Oxfordshire Environment and Waste Partnership
  - Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board - this report includes information about the supporting partnership boards
  - Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership
  - Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Alliance
  - Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board
  - Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board
8. Each partnership report addresses the following points:
  - The current focus for the Partnership;
  - The personnel (Chairman and supporting staff) of the Partnership
  - The Partnership's key achievements in the last year;
  - The aims for the Partnership in the year ahead;
  - The key challenges for the Partnership and how these will be addressed going forward.
9. Details of the current/future work undertaken by these Partnerships are shown in **Annex A** to this report. Each is a snapshot at a particular point in time (with the completion date shown in the preface in each case) rather than a formal report for the financial or calendar year.
10. The most significant structural changes to report since the 2013 update are that the Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership is in the process of merging with the Local Transport Board, to become the Oxfordshire Growth Board, and that the Adult Health and Social Care Board (formerly a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board) has been disbanded, with Districts instead taking a non-voting place on the Joint Management Groups which oversee the operation of pooled budgets with the health sector.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

11. **Council is RECOMMENDED to note the report.**

**JOANNA SIMONS**

Chief Executive

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Background Papers	Nil