

## CABINET – 22 JANUARY 2018

### ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Question received from the following Member:

#### 1. Question to Councillor Constance from Councillor Kirsten Johnson

“The Cities-4-People project, funded by the European Union, aims to identify local transport and mobility challenges and co-design sustainable solutions. Why were reports commissioned for Barton and Blackbird Leys, which already have regular public transport, and not arterial villages to Oxford such as Horspath and Forest Hill, which have no transport at all yet have keyworkers who need to get into Oxford for work?

Could we please use the European funding for improving Oxford’s transport to provide public transport for areas just outside the city boundaries which currently have no daily transport?”

#### Answer

- We needed to choose a potential intervention **area where it would be feasible to build on existing solutions**, as we do not have the funding or time to cover the entire development of services/infrastructure etc.
- There is no sub-contract funding available through the project.
- Project only provides funding covering staff time and a small amount for materials, travel and subsistence, and needs to be delivered within a relatively tight timeline .
- Part of the project’s research consideration is around wellbeing – the areas being considered within Oxford are those with the highest levels of social deprivation and people living on lower incomes
- The project is also focussed on cities, rather than on towns/villages etc; as we considered locations within the boundaries of Oxford city, to fit in with the theme of the research project and other partners
- This is a trial project, with the intention that it could be applied to other areas if it is successful. The project aims to consider whether the ‘co-creation’ approach of engaging with the community to identify key challenges and solutions is one which adds value to the process of consultation, and leads to a better uptake of the solution. It is therefore replicable for other areas.

Please note – potential intervention areas being considered are actually Barton and Rose Hill, though Blackbird Leys was also initially considered alongside Littlemore, and may be returned to if/when scaling up interventions, **and no reports have been commissioned**. To date research has been

undertaken within the project team and workshops engaging the communities have been delivered.

## 2. Question to Councillor Hibbert-Biles from Councillor John Howson

“Could the Cabinet Member please identify those primary schools that have not had an Ofsted inspection since 2010 with the year they were last inspected and whether they are maintained schools or academies - if an academy, which MAT they currently are associated with of if they are a stand alone academy.”

### Answer

“There are 6 primary schools that have not been inspected since 2010, four of which are maintained and two academies belonging to the Faringdon Academy of Schools and the oxford Diocesan Trust. All of the schools were outstanding when they were last inspected.

Details of the schools and the dates of their inspections can be found in the table below:”

DfE	School	maintained/academy/converting/free	MAT	Ofsted Grade School	Ofsted date
3234	Longworth Primary School	M		O	2.12.10
2106	Kingham Primary School	M		O	22.9.10
2555	Chilton Primary School	M		O	14.7.09
2208	Whitchurch Primary School	M		O	5.6.09
3232	Longcot & Fernham Church of England Primary School	A	Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS)	O	14.10.09
3828	Dr Radcliffe's Church of England (Aided) Primary School	A	Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust	O	22.3.07

## **2. Question to Councillor Yvonne Constance from Councillor Roz Smith**

The shortfall for funding the Access to Headington scheme is regrettable given the high expectations of improving traffic flow, increasing walking and cycling and to ease congestion. Would she agree that perhaps it is time for the council to re-consider the whole scheme design, in consultation with stake-holders, and how it relates to any cross city traffic measures, including increasing public transport use?

### **Answer**

Access to Headington will provide critical improvements in infrastructure in a growth area for housing, employment and schools as well as catering for demand to key hospital sites in the area. We agree that the current pause is regrettable but given the importance of the objectives of the scheme, the project, which has gone through significant consultation already, will proceed. Although as already announced, the exact nature of it what we be delivering will be determined by a funding decision on 1<sup>st</sup> February by the Local Growth Board, which will indicate whether we proceed as planned or review the design to ensure affordability within budget.

The Oxford Transport Strategy (OTS) proposes a series of projects that look to address citywide connectivity, the Botley Road project being one which is funded with others awaiting funding announcements. OTS is designed to consider the cross-city nature as one project covering the whole city would be too large to fund.