

County Council

13 December 2011

Agenda

Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Part 9.1 of the Constitution for a fuller description.

The duty to declare ...

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, i.e. where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

Whose interests are included ...

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

When and what to declare ...

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

Taking part if you have an interest ...

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

"Prejudicial" interests ...

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

Exceptions ...

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

Seeking Advice ...

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

To: Members of the County Council

Notice of a Meeting of the County Council

Tuesday, 13 December 2011 at 10.00 am

County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND

Joanna Simons

Joanna Simons
Chief Executive

December 2011

Contact Officer: **Deborah Miller**
Tel: (01865) 815384; E-Mail: deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, notice is given that Items 3, 7 and 11 will be recorded. The purpose of recording proceedings is to provide an *aide-memoire* to assist the clerk of the meeting in the drafting of minutes.

Members are asked to sign the attendance book which will be available in the corridor outside the Council Chamber. A list of members present at the meeting will be compiled from this book.

The civic party will process into the Council Chamber at 9.58 am.

A buffet luncheon will be provided.

A Briefing session on Children Looked After will be held for all Members of the Council following the conclusion of the Council Meeting.

AGENDA

1. Minutes (Pages 1 - 34)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2011 (CC1) and to receive information arising from them.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Declarations of Interest - see guidance note

Members are reminded that they must declare their interests orally at the meeting and specify (a) the nature of the interest and (b) which items on the agenda are the relevant items. This applies also to items where members have interests by virtue of their membership of a district council in Oxfordshire.

4. Official Communications

5. Appointments

(a) To make the following appointment:

Mrs Kathleen Medlock as the Parent Governor Representative for Primary Schools on the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

(b) To make any other changes in membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.

6. Petitions and Public Address

7. Questions with Notice from Members of the Public

8. Treasury Management Mid Term Review (Pages 35 - 46)

Report by Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer (CC8)

Cabinet at its meeting on 15 November 2011 considered a report that set out the Treasury Management activity undertaken in the first half of the financial year in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice and agreed that it be recommended to Council to note the report. The report includes Debt and Investment activity, an update on Prudential Indicators, changes in Strategy, any Breaches of approved Strategy and a forecast of interest receivable and payable in the financial year.

Council is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

9. Review of the Constitution (Pages 47 - 52)

Report of the County Solicitor & Monitoring Officer (CC9)

A major review of the Constitution took place in 2009. Since that time the Constitution has generally worked effectively. The Monitoring Officer is authorised to make changes to comply with the law, give effect to decisions of the Council or to correct or clarify matters for accuracy.

Other changes require the approval of the full Council. Some minor changes, to improve the business and efficiency of the Council, are suggested in this report. The report also specifically reviews the operation of the Council's Petition Scheme to fulfil Council's requirement for an annual review of the Scheme.

Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) Approve the addition to the Protocol on Members' Rights and Responsibilities of explicit reference to Directors' responsibilities to report to the Monitoring Officer on a quarterly basis of their arrangements for keeping members informed of local issues;***
- (b) Determine whether or not to maintain a Petition Scheme for Oxfordshire County Council;***
- (c) Amend the Councillor Call for Action Rules (Part 9.3, Annex 1) so that the committee hears, in the first instance, from the member concerned and that the consideration of evidence and witnesses occurs if and when the committee agrees to pursue the relevant Councillor Call for Action.***

10. Report of the Cabinet (Pages 53 - 56)

Report of the Cabinet meeting on 15 November 2011.(CC10)

11. Questions with Notice from Members of the Council

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS WITH NOTICE MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE PROPER OFFICER IN WRITING BY 9.00 AM ON THE MONDAY BEFORE THE MEETING

12. Motion From Councillor Arash Fatemian

This Council welcome the findings of the Commission on Funding of Care and Support chaired by Andrew Dilnot. In particular, that the recommendations from the commission remove uncertainty from the cost of social care and introduce a cap on how much any individual should pay for their care. If implemented, the recommendations from the Dilnot Commission will further the Council's Adult Social Care Directorate in closer working between health and social care and using resources to meet increased demand more effectively, resulting in better outcomes for older people.

In Summary the commission recommends that:

- Individuals' lifetime contributions towards their social care costs should be capped at £35,000 (the most appropriate and fair figure). After the cap is reached, individuals would be eligible for full state support.
- The means-tested threshold, above which people are liable for their full care costs, should be increased from £23,250 to £100,000
- There should be national eligibility criteria and portable assessments to ensure greater consistency
- All those who enter adulthood with a care and support need should be eligible for free state support immediately rather than being subjected to a means test.

Council welcomes the recommendations of the report and believe they will lead to better outcomes for Older People across the country but specifically in Oxford.

Council asks the Leader to write to the Department of Health and the local MPs to express our support for implementation of the proposals at the earliest opportunity.

13. Motion From Councillor Janet Godden

"Council welcomes the Coalition Government's proposal to extend free childcare to disadvantaged two-year-olds by April 2013 and notes that this should benefit around 1,000 infants in Oxfordshire.

Council looks forward to the new arrangements that will improve life chances for these two-year-olds, but notes that many of the county's nurseries and children's centres are currently full. Council asks Cabinet to ensure that sufficient provision will be available in appropriate and local settings for such very young children, and to report to CEF Scrutiny if there is likely to be any shortfall."

14. Motion From Councillor Sarah Hutchinson

"Between January and October 2011 youth unemployment rose by 72% across the county, with an 80% increase in Oxford West and Abingdon, a 100% increase in Banbury and a 140% increase in Witney.

Given the devastating effect that unemployment can have on young people, their life chances, and their families, and the long-term costs this inflicts on society, this council is deeply concerned about the effect of the Coalition government's policies on young people, who are being robbed of employment and educational opportunities.

Council therefore asks the Cabinet Member to write to the Prime Minister

expressing alarm at youth unemployment in Oxfordshire and asking the Government to take more action to provide our young people with long-term, properly paid jobs.”

15. Motion From Councillor John Tanner

“ This Council believes that all employees within Oxfordshire, both private and public, should have decent pensions. Elderly people who have worked hard all their lives should not be forced into poverty in their declining years, resulting in an increased call on Oxfordshire County Council services .

We regret the disruption caused to public services on 30th November. But that day of action demonstrated just how valuable are the services provided by local government staff, teachers, National Health Service employees and other public sector workers within Oxfordshire. We recognise that for local government employees, whose wages have been frozen, a cut in pension benefits is the last straw.

We applaud those dedicated public servants, including our own employees, who were prepared to lose a day's pay in order to campaign for decent pensions and proper services for the public.

It is unreasonable to ask local government employees to pay more, work longer and get less when local government public pension funds (including the Oxfordshire Pension Fund) are already funded. The public sector has a responsibility to show others what it is to be good employers, to pay decent wages and provide proper pensions.

We request the Leader to write to the Coalition Government to urge them to:

- a) negotiate just pension settlements with the public sector unions
- b) support the local government employers in providing good pensions for local government workers
- c) encourage private employers to provide pensions at least as good as the public sector.”

16. Motion From Councillor Zoe Patrick

"This council welcomes the Quality Bus Partnership and the introduction of the Smartcard joint-ticketing and joint timetabling which has followed. Council recognises that this has had some impact on helping to alleviate traffic congestion and carbon reduction in the city centre. Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to extend joint-ticketing outside Oxford to other areas of the county where more than one bus company operates and where this can help to encourage more bus usage in Oxfordshire.”

17. Motion From Councillor Susanna Pressel

“This Council has listened to the many individuals and groups who are worried that some libraries might struggle to get enough volunteers to keep them open for long enough each week.

We therefore request Cabinet in bringing forward its budget proposals to include in a reserve enough money to put back some of the staff posts which have been proposed for removal, if this becomes necessary.”

18. Motion From Councillor Larry Sanders

“It is important that as many residents as possible learn to communicate well in English. This is good for their children's education, good for the economy and good for the promotion of an inclusive and harmonious community.

Unfortunately, in recent years, Government policy has led to the reduction of the number of residents receiving free English language tuition from Oxfordshire County Council by 84%, from 760 to 120, in the period 2006/7 to 2010/11. This has led to a decrease in the number attending County Council English language classes by 53%, from 772 to 361, in the same period.

Resolved:

That this County Council:

- recognizes the importance of encouraging and aiding residents to become more effective communicators in English
- asks the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee to assemble the views of community organisations, local schools and employers and the Adult Learning team with the goal of making recommendations to these groups and other decision-makers which will encourage people to take up the educational opportunities available and which will assist them in making contact with all governmental and non-governmental agencies which could make grants which would make it possible for more people to take part.”

19. Motion From Councillor Richard Stevens

"This Council notes recent judicial decisions relating to the provision by local authorities of social and community services (including, without limitation, social care services and library services), and notes in particular the recent decision of The Honourable Mrs Justice Lang DBE in the *The Queen and Isle of Wight Council [2011] EWHC 2911 (Admin)*, in which The Honourable Mrs Justice Lang DBE approved the following statement of the Court of Appeal in *R v North East Devon Health Authority ex parte Coughlan [2001] QB 213*:

"..whether or not consultation of interested parties and the public is a legal requirement, if it is embarked upon it must be carried out properly. To be proper,

consultation must be undertaken at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage; it must include sufficient reasons for particular proposals to allow those consulted to give intelligent consideration and an intelligent response; adequate time must be given for this purpose; and the product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account when the ultimate decision is taken.."

Council calls on Cabinet to consider whether its consultation processes comply with this statement, with particular reference to the question of whether the recent consultation on library services gave the public in Oxfordshire sufficient information about the proposed running of library services by volunteers such that the proposals could be the subject of intelligent consideration and an intelligent response."

Pre-Meeting Briefing

There will be a pre-meeting briefing at County Hall on **Monday 12 December 2011 at 10.15 am** for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders

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OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 1 November 2011 commencing at 10.00 am and finishing at 3.33 pm

Present:

Councillor Patrick Greene – in the Chair

Councillors:

Alyas Ahmed	Pete Handley	G.A. Reynolds
M. Altaf-Khan	Jenny Hannaby	David Robertson
Alan Armitage	Tony Harbour	Rodney Rose
Lynda Atkins	David Harvey	John Sanders
Marilyn Badcock	Steve Hayward	Larry Sanders
Mike Badcock	Mrs J. Heathcoat	Bill Service
Maurice Billington	Hilary Hibbert-Biles	Dave Sexon
Norman Bolster	Ian Hudspeth	Chip Sherwood
Ann Bonner	Sarah Hutchinson	C.H. Shouler
Liz Brighouse OBE	Ray Jelf	Dr Peter Skolar
Iain Brown	Peter Jones	Roz Smith
Nick Carter	Stewart Lilly	Val Smith
Louise Chapman	Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	Richard Stevens
Jim Couchman	A.M. Lovatt	Keith Strangwood
Tony Crabbe	Sajjad Hussain Malik	Lawrie Stratford
Arash Fatemian	Kieron Mallon	John Tanner
Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor	Charles Mathew	Alan Thompson
Jean Fooks	Keith R. Mitchell CBE	Melinda Tilley
Mrs C. Fulljames	David Nimmo-Smith	Nicholas P. Turner
Anthony Gearing	Neil Owen	Carol Viney
Michael Gibbard	Zoé Patrick	David Wilmshurst
John Goddard	Susanna Pressel	
Janet Godden	Anne Purse	

The Council considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting and decided as set out below. Except insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda and reports, copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.

94/11 MINUTES

(Agenda Item 1)

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 13 September 2011 be approved and signed, subject to the following amendment:

Minute 86/11

Wording deleted and replaced by the following wording:

“The proposer said that she understood that the motion submitted was no longer necessary and it was agreed that the matter not proceed in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.1.”

95/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(Agenda Item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Belson, Darke, Hallchurch, Seale, D. Turner and Waine. An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Gearing.

96/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - SEE GUIDANCE NOTE

(Agenda Item 3)

Councillor Reynolds declared a prejudicial interest on Agenda Item 8, Community Safety Partnership Strategies by reason of his role as lead member for safer communities on Cherwell District Council.

97/11 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

(Agenda Item 4)

The Chairman reported as follows:

The Chairman has sadly attended 3 repatriations for fallen servicemen since the Memorial Garden was dedicated.

Two successful snow day events have been held. One at the Deddington depot and the other at the Drayton depot; each had approximately 50 people in attendance where they gained information on snow clearance and salt spreading.

A listing of Chairman’s Events is now available on the website:

<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/chairman-council>

98/11 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item 6)

The following public address was received:

Mrs Ruth Lyster spoke in support of Motion No 11, from Councillor Brighthouse and in particular spoke against the decision to include Food with Thought in the scope of the facilities management contract.

99/11 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES

(Agenda Item 8)

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 (and subsequent amendments) requires the county council (including Fire and Rescue Services) and statutory Community Safety partners to work in partnership to reduce crime and disorder in their local area. The Council had before them the report to Cabinet, which included views from Members and the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee in particular, together with the four Community Safety Partnership Strategies of Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire, Cherwell, Oxford City and West Oxfordshire.

RESOLVED: (on a motion proposed by Councillor Mallon, seconded by Councillor Heathcoat and carried unanimously) to approve the Community Safety Strategies for Oxfordshire 2011-14.

100/11 REPORT OF THE CABINET

(Agenda Item 9)

The Council had before them the report of the Cabinet meetings held on 13 September and 18 October 2011 (CC10).

In relation to paragraph 2, (Establishment Review) (Question from Councillor Brighthouse) responding to a request for information on those staff made redundant including the jobs they did, the lengths of service and how the work is now being covered Councillor Robertson undertook to provide a written response on the figures requested.

In relation to paragraph 3 (Corporate Plan Performance and Risk Management Report for the First Quarter 2011) (Question from Councillor Pressel) Councillor Robertson agreed to provide information of the risk assessments carried out in relation to the loss of staff.

In relation to paragraph 4 (Outcome of Consultation on Outsourcing of Independent Living Services for People with a Learning Disability) (Question from Councillor Stevens) Councillor Fatemian undertook to provide a written response to the question on whether the outsourcing was worth the risk to the service users.

In relation to paragraph 10 (Saxon Centre – Big Society Fund/Asset Transfer) (Question from Councillor Brighthouse) Councillor Mallon undertook to provide written details of the number of sessions for young people being held at the Centre.

101/11 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(Agenda Item 10)

26 questions with notice were asked. Details of the questions and answers and the supplementary questions and answers (where asked) are set out in Annex 1.

Councillor Rose agreed to respond in writing following a question as to whether he was aware that 20% more spaces could be gained at Thornhill P&R if the commercial use was not promoted by the availability of free parking.

Councillor Lindsay-Gale undertook to advise Councillors in writing as to the number of communications received on the recent consultation on the draft Minerals and Waste Planning Strategies.

Councillor Rose undertook to provide a written response to a question from Councillor Roz Smith on the cost of consultation over the route for the recent Oxford half marathon.

Councillor Fatemian undertook to provide a written answer to Councillor L Sanders' supplementary question on the effect on the budget or waiting times of the continuing care arrangements.

Councillor Robertson undertook to provide numbers of staff taking early retirement from October 2010 to the end of September 2011 and comparisons with the previous two years.

Councillor Rose undertook to provide further details of Section 106 arrangements relating to cycleways.

Further to question 26 Councillor Chapman undertook to provide a detailed breakdown of the sessions held including whether a qualified youth worker had been involved.

102/11 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR LIZ BRIGHOUSE

(Agenda Item 11)

Councillor Brighouse moved and Councillor Stevens seconded the following motion:

“This Council notes that the Cabinet has agreed to include the current catering and cleaning services provided by Food with Thought and QCS within the scope of a Total Facilities Management Service Contract.

Given that:

1. These services are paid for from the schools Delegated Budgets.
2. Schools have indicated that they support the current service provided by Food with Thought,
3. Food With Thought is forecasting a trading surplus
4. There has been a 5.75% rise in the take up of meals.
5. Currently any profit generated is reinvested in the service

Inclusion of this service in a much larger contract will jeopardise all of this and the other work which has been done this includes, training staff,

communicating with parents, the provision of an excellent menu leaflet which goes out and is published in the Oxford Mail and much more.

It is difficult to understand how a commercial organisation and possibly one where share holders or financial holding companies require a profit could provide such a service to our schools and to the children of this county. This Council, therefore, calls on the Cabinet to reconsider its position and to open a dialogue with the schools as to how best these services can be provided.”

Councillor Fooks moved and Councillor Patrick seconded the following amendment to the motion shown in bold italics and strikethrough:

“This Council notes that the Cabinet has agreed to include the current catering and cleaning services provided by Food with Thought and QCS within the scope of a Total Facilities Management Service Contract.

Given that:

1. These services are paid for from the schools Delegated Budgets.
2. Schools have indicated that they support the current service provided by Food with Thought,
3. Food With Thought is forecasting a trading surplus
4. There has been a 5.75% rise in the take up of meals.
5. Currently any profit generated is reinvested in the service

~~Inclusion of this service in a much larger contract will jeopardise all of this and the other work which has been done this includes, training staff, communicating with parents, the provision of an excellent menu leaflet which goes out and is published in the Oxford Mail and much more.~~ ***Council believes that it is not proven that having a bigger contract will reduce risk to the County Council or save money, but that it would jeopardise the good work currently done by Food with Thought. In particular, it is not clear that including Food with Thought in the proposed contract would improve meal take-up or maintain the current high quality of provision***

It is difficult to understand how a commercial organisation and possibly one where share holders or financial holding companies require a profit could provide such a service to our schools and to the children of this county. This Council, therefore, calls on the Cabinet to reconsider its position and to open a dialogue with the schools as to how best ~~these services~~ ***Food with Thought*** can be provided.”

Following debate the amendment was lost by 9 votes to 51 with 4 abstentions.

Following debate the substantive motion was lost by 18 votes to 46 with 1 abstention.

N.B. Councillor Carter asked that his abstention from both the above votes be recorded.

103/11 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN

(Agenda Item 12)

Councillor Fatemian proposed and Councillor Robertson seconded the following motion:

“This Council fully supports ‘Ox Online – The Digital Strategy for Oxfordshire’ and the campaign to get the whole county connected to Broadband as part of Oxfordshire’s Local Broadband Plan.

Council notes:

That digital exclusion correlates closely to social and financial exclusion – those without IT skills find it harder to access education and employment opportunities, and miss out on opportunities to save money by accessing goods and services online.

That 28% of premises (residential and business) in Oxfordshire are in the Ofcom Market 1 area where it is recognised that the market has failed to deliver an adequate broadband service.

That 74,500, or 28% of households are within such areas, as are 33% of Oxfordshire’s businesses and 25 % of all employees.

That Race Online 2012 is a national campaign to get everyone online by the end of the Olympic year (hence the ‘race’); and

That nearly 10 million people in the UK never access the Internet. The ‘Give An Hour’ campaign hopes to help this group so that those with IT skills can ‘Give an Hour’ (gained when the clocks went back on 30th October) to show those without IT skills how to use computers and Internet.

Council resolves:

(a) That, as part of Oxfordshire’s Local Broadband Strategy, members are asked to consider signing up as ‘Digital Champions’ to commit to helping others get online (at www.raceonline2012.org/giveanhour).

(b) That the work, resources and aims of ‘Ox Online’ continue to be promoted through the County Council’s resources, including the website.”

With the consent of Council, Councillor Fatemian accepted the amendment proposed by Councillor Pressel to add the following additional resolution (c) to the motion:

“(c) That the director for Adult Services seeks to arrange for volunteers (for instance from Age UK and student volunteers from The Hub) to contact the Council’s Well-being and Resource Centres to help the centre users get on-line.”

Councillor Fooks moved and Councillor Patrick seconded the following amendment to the motion shown in bold italics and strikethrough:

“This Council fully supports ‘Ox Online – The Digital Strategy for Oxfordshire’ and the campaign to get the whole county connected to Broadband as part of Oxfordshire’s Local Broadband Plan.

Council notes:

That digital exclusion correlates closely to social and financial exclusion – those without IT skills find it harder to access education and employment opportunities, and miss out on opportunities to save money by accessing goods and services online.

That 28% of premises (residential and business) in Oxfordshire, ***mostly in rural parts of the county***, are in the Ofcom Market 1 area where it is recognised that the market has failed to deliver an adequate broadband service.

That 74,500, or 28% of households are within such areas, as are 33% of Oxfordshire’s businesses and 25 % of all employees.

That Race Online 2012 is a national campaign to get everyone online by the end of the Olympic year (hence the ‘race’); and

That nearly 10 million people in the UK never access the Internet. The ‘Give An Hour’ campaign hopes to help this group so that those with IT skills can ‘Give an Hour’ (gained when the clocks went back on 30th October) to show those without IT skills how to use computers and Internet.

Council resolves:

(a) That, as part of Oxfordshire’s Local Broadband Strategy, members are asked to consider signing up as ‘Digital Champions’ to commit to helping others get online (at www.raceonline2012.org/giveanhour).

(b) That the work, resources and aims of ‘Ox Online’ continue to be promoted through the County Council’s resources, including the website; and

(c) That the Digital Oxfordshire Governance Board, about to be set up, should recommend that expenditure by Oxfordshire County Council to improve broadband speeds should prioritise areas currently having speeds less than 2Mbs.”

Following debate the amendment was lost by 9 votes to 47 with 10 abstentions.

Following debate of the substantive motion as amended it was carried unanimously and accordingly:

RESOLVED:

This Council fully supports 'Ox Online – The Digital Strategy for Oxfordshire' and the campaign to get the whole county connected to Broadband as part of Oxfordshire's Local Broadband Plan.

Council notes:

That digital exclusion correlates closely to social and financial exclusion – those without IT skills find it harder to access education and employment opportunities, and miss out on opportunities to save money by accessing goods and services online.

That 28% of premises (residential and business) in Oxfordshire are in the Ofcom Market 1 area where it is recognised that the market has failed to deliver an adequate broadband service.

That 74,500, or 28% of households are within such areas, as are 33% of Oxfordshire's businesses and 25 % of all employees.

That Race Online 2012 is a national campaign to get everyone online by the end of the Olympic year (hence the 'race'); and

That nearly 10 million people in the UK never access the Internet. The 'Give An Hour' campaign hopes to help this group so that those with IT skills can 'Give an Hour' (gained when the clocks went back on 30th October) to show those without IT skills how to use computers and Internet.

Council resolves:

(a) That, as part of Oxfordshire's Local Broadband Strategy, members are asked to consider signing up as 'Digital Champions' to commit to helping others get online (at www.raceonline2012.org/giveanhour).

(b) That the work, resources and aims of 'Ox Online' continue to be promoted through the County Council's resources, including the website;

(c) That the director for Adult Services seeks to arrange for volunteers (for instance from Age UK and student volunteers from The Hub) to contact the Council's Well-being and Resource Centres to help the centre users get on-line.

104/11 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR JANET GODDEN

(Agenda Item 13)

Councillor Godden moved and Councillor Goddard seconded the following motion:

"This Council reaffirms its conviction that the residents of Oxfordshire are deeply concerned about increasing pressures on adult social care budgets. It is unconvinced by arguments that the comparatively small saving required in the libraries budget can only be met by further cuts to adult social care. Council asks Cabinet to stop associating savings in libraries budgets with

further cuts to adult social care; as it seems to be alone in seeing this correlation as inevitable.”

Following debate the motion was lost by 16 votes to 47 with 2 abstentions.

105/11 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN

(Agenda Item 14)

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Fatemian, seconded by Councillor Jones and carried unanimously)

This Council notes the Westminster Hall Debate on the 6th September during which Tracey Crouch, MP for Chatham and Aylesford, highlighted the support for the appointment of an Older People’s Minister within government and the belief that such a post should carry with it a cross-departmental remit to secure improved outcomes for older people across government.

At a time of great national and local change in the way care and services are provided for older people not least through the Transforming Adult Social Care programme and the recommendations of the Dilnot Commission, this council recognises that this provision often sits across different departments and such an appointment could benefit Oxfordshire’s older people.

As such, Council asks that the Leader write to all the local MPs, including the Prime Minister, to express its support for the appointment of an Older People’s Minister.

106/11 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH

(Agenda Item 15)

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Hudspeth, seconded by Councillor Handley and carried by 44 votes to 7 with 10 abstentions)

The recent survey, carried out by Demos on behalf of the Disabled Charity Scope, ranked Oxfordshire County Council as third-best out of 152 local authorities for how necessary budgetary decisions least impact on direct services for the disabled. The report also sought to highlight areas of good working in Oxfordshire,

In particular:

- The development of a number of Extra Care Housing schemes, accommodation designed with the needs of frailer older people in mind and with varying levels of support and care available on site
- A move towards joint commissioning of care services for adults and children in preparation for closer working with health partners
- A current public consultation process into proposals to outsource some services for people with learning disabilities

Council:

- (a) Notes and welcomes the report and acknowledges that, whilst having to make savings due to the financial mismanagement of the previous Labour Government, it is possible to do so by providing a more efficient service that has the least impact on the users of the service.
- (b) Expresses thanks to the staff within the Children’s Services and Adult Social Services Directorates for implementing policy in such a way that it can least impact on direct services for the disabled; and
- (c) Asks that the Cabinet, particularly those responsible for Children, Education & Families and Adult Social Care, continue to try to protect the most vulnerable groups when budget and policy decisions are made going forward.

107/11 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN SANDERS

(Agenda Item 16)

Councillor John Sanders moved and Councillor Brighthouse seconded the following motion.

“This Council calls on the Cabinet Member for Transport to have charges introduced at the County-Council run Park and Rides at Thornhill and Water Eaton”

Following debate the motion was lost by 16 votes to 47 with 1 abstention.

108/11 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ROZ SMITH

(Agenda Item 17)

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Roz Smith, seconded by Councillor Chapman and carried nem con)

This Council supports Barnardo's campaign to cut children free from sexual exploitation and will take the necessary steps with our partners to tackle the risk of this abuse in Oxfordshire.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing

QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Questions are listed in the order in which they were received. The time allowed for this agenda item will not exceed 30 minutes. Should any questioner not have received an answer in that time, a written answer will be provided.

Questions	Answers
<p>1. COUNCILLOR MATHEW</p> <p>Would the Cabinet Member for Transport outline his plans for charging the commercial vehicles parking in the remaining Park and Rides under his control? Currently commercial organisations are organising a daily collection vehicle for employees who park there free in order to transport them to their place of work</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>The Park & Ride sites we operate assist in achieving our policy of intercepting car journeys that would otherwise continue to their destination by car. Where contractors use the P&R sites they park their cars and, where charges apply, have to pay. Clearly the vehicle conveying them to the city does not.</p> <p>In our P&R sites there is no charge but the policy does prevent very many more cars coming into the city centre.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Could I ask the Cabinet Member whether he is aware that 20% more spaces at the Park and Ride at Thornhill could be gained if the commercial use at this Park and Ride was not promoted by giving them free parking?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Thank you Chairman, through you. I wasn't aware of that figure so I will research that and then get back to the member.</p>
<p>2. COUNCILLOR MATHEW</p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member for Growth and Infrastructure please confirm when the results of the Consultation sessions with Proteus on OCC draft Core Strategy 2030 both on Waste and Gravel, held on 29 September 2011, will be publicly available and also confirm when the results of the final Consultation will be available publicly?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>At the two stakeholder consultation meetings on the draft Minerals and Waste Planning Strategies held on 29 September, which were facilitated by Proteus Public Relations Ltd, it was stated that the reports of the meetings by the facilitators would be published on the County Council's website following the close of the consultation period on 31 October. The reports are being placed on the website this week. It is intended to report to Cabinet on 17 January 2012 on the responses to the consultations on the draft Minerals and Waste Planning Strategies. The report to Cabinet will be a public document.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Could I ask the Cabinet Member how many communications have been received as a result of the Core Minerals Strategy 2030 Draft Plan, consultation for which closed yesterday?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Thank you Chairman, yes it did close yesterday; we have had a huge response particularly from members of public in the south of the County. They haven't been counted yet, but I will get back to Councillors with the figure.</p>
<p>3. COUNCILLOR ZOE PATRICK</p> <p>In an article in The Guardian newspaper, Oxfordshire County Council is quoted as follows:</p> <p>"Oxfordshire County Council said: "We are not wholly convinced of the advisability of directly elected police and crime commissioners and we have fears that their roles are likely to create competing mandates and undermine relationships between local authorities and the police."</p> <p>It added: "Given the current financial climate, we are very concerned that the cost of supporting the police and crime commissioner in his role will be greater than the current costs of a police authority and place pressure on police budgets that are already likely to be severely constrained."</p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member for Police and Policy Co-ordination inform me who has provided this quote and is it taken as the view of the council?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR KIERON MALLON, CABINET MEMBER FOR POLICE AND POLICY CO-ORDINATION</p> <p>This quote is a partial extract from the County Council's response to the Home Office Consultation on Policing in the 21st Century, which was submitted on the 20 September 2010, and signed off by the Cabinet Member for Police and Policy Co-ordination on behalf of the Council.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>It was interesting reading his response because it was very much like the motion we put at Council last time which we were told to withdraw, because the decision was taken, so my question is why have the Council not been informed of the decision that has been taken by the policy holder?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>This was a formal consultation from the Government; thankfully now we get far less lengthy consultations from this Government. I hope I work closely with Councillor Patrick in another place and I will say to all councillors that if they ask the question of the officers they will find out. This consultation was nationwide and every county or district council would have had a similar consultation document. I can't speak as to whether district councils or city councils as a standard. I don't know if that answers the question or not. I will stand here and debate.</p> <p>Cllr Patrick: this was a county council decision that you took and that went to a national newspaper, so wouldn't it have been good to have informed the whole County Council that this decision had been taken and this was the view of this Authority.</p> <p>Chairman: perhaps you could deal with that outside.</p> <p>Cllr Mallon: With regard to Cllr Patrick's question I don't know whether it was the Manchester or the Banbury Guardian – one of which I star in quite frequently and the other one I know little about because I pride myself in never having knowingly read it. So I don't know how it got into that national paper.</p>
<p>4. COUNCILLOR ZOE PATRICK</p> <p>Can the Leader of the Council assure all council members that the Members' Protocol about informing members of issues within their divisions is being adhered to?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR KEITH MITCHELL, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>I am satisfied that strenuous efforts have been made to ensure staff are aware of the Protocol and, in the main, I am confident that it is being observed. However, you will appreciate that I am not able to give a categorical assurance that there have been no failures. Indeed, I occasionally become aware of failures myself. These are thankfully rare and my response is always to forward a copy of the Members' Protocol to the relevant officer with a request that they comply with it.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you for the answer but I would like the Leader's assurance that he will continue to put pressure on the officers to make sure that this does happen and that members do continue to be informed of very important things happening in their divisions and that they are aware of the protocol to keep members informed.</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Yes</p>
<p>5. COUNCILLOR ALAN ARMITAGE</p> <p>Given the fact that there are now only two Park & Rides in Oxford which will continue to offer free parking, will the council review those parts of the recently approved Local Transport Plan in respect of strategies designed to reduce the number of vehicles in the city, improve air quality and ease congestion?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>It is not anticipated that charging will have a significant impact on the number of vehicles entering the City as the cost differential between central car parks and Park & Rides + bus fare is still generally in favour of Park & Ride sites. We do not therefore see the need to review the Local Transport Plan.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>I think that the answer that the Cabinet Member has given me amounts to saying well fingers crossed there won't be any deterioration in terms of air quality or congestion in Oxford but I would like his assurance that this will be actively monitored because in the Transport Plan there is no permission for measuring these things: we only have to wait until there is a next crisis?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Can I just confirm what the question was?</p> <p>Cllr Armitage: The question is whether these things will be actively monitored?</p> <p>Cllr Rose: That sort of issue is always closely monitored and will be.</p>

Questions	Answers																						
<p>6. COUNCILLOR ALAN ARMITAGE</p> <p>The council budget included assumptions in the current and future years as to increased income from Park & Rides. What is the impact on those assumptions of the decision not to introduce charges at county council's Park & Rides? How will any budget gaps be dealt with?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>With the small addition of some revenue from London-bound travellers from Thornhill, which admittedly is not yet in place, there is no negative change to our budget proposals as the change in direction is cost neutral. The change of stance does have an impact on people who park at Thornhill and Water Eaton in that they park for free, and it is unfortunate that the City Council does not have the same aspiration to reduce congestion in the inner city roads by promoting Park and Ride use out at the ring road.</p>																						
<p>7. COUNCILLOR ALAN ARMITAGE</p> <p>What has been the change during the last few years in the number of complaints to the Local Government Ombudsman about the admission procedures at schools in the county?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>The table below shows the number of complaints about schools admissions in the county investigated by the Local Government Ombudsman. Many of these complaints will include also include enquiries into the school appeals process as part of the investigation.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="824 762 2089 1018"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Financial year</th> <th rowspan="2">Number of complaints</th> <th colspan="2">Complaint outcome</th> </tr> <tr> <th>No maladministration</th> <th>Local settlement</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2011/2012 to date</td> <td>2*</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010/2011</td> <td>8</td> <td>6</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2009/2010</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2008/2009</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* one of these cases is still open</p> <p>We would not anticipate receiving many more complaints about school admissions this financial year because the main admissions round is concluded.</p>	Financial year	Number of complaints	Complaint outcome		No maladministration	Local settlement	2011/2012 to date	2*	1		2010/2011	8	6	2	2009/2010	4	4	-	2008/2009	3	2	1
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<p>8. COUNCILLOR ROZ SMITH</p> <p>Sandhills primary school is located on Terrett Avenue. When will this highway be adopted by the County Council so that measures can be taken to improve parking and pedestrian safety?"</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>Terrett Avenue is subject to a road adoption agreement and there are a number of snags that the developer has to rectify including a drainage problem before adoption can occur. The road has been designed and built to contemporary standards for parking and pedestrian safety. At present there are no planned measures to improve parking and pedestrian safety. Once the developer has resolved the issues adoption can proceed.</p>																						

Questions	Answers
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you Councillor Rose for your reply. Would the Cabinet Member readily agree with me that this situation is very disappointing given the increasing number of children attending the local school and the continuing inconsiderate drivers. Would he agree with me that given the length of time, (it is now 7 years), that the original developer has had to put these issues right before the adoption can take place that this is unacceptable?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Chairman, through you, I will certainly agree that this is unacceptable but I regret that this happens all over the county and we have no real powers to apply to the developers. I would like to have those powers, as at the moment there is just the matter of trying to actually get the developers to finish the roads before we can adopt them and then spend any money on them.</p>
<p>9. COUNCILLOR ROZ SMITH</p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member inform me which local Oxfordshire running groups, residents groups and County councillors were consulted about the route decided for the recent Oxford half marathon</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>The organisers consulted the following organisations and most of them were invited to several meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Running Clubs • Oxfordshire Athletic Association • Oxford City AC • Abingdon AC • Alchester AC • Bicester AC • Cherwell Runners • Eynsham AC • Didcot Runners • Headington Road Runners • Oxford Uni AC • Oxford Brookes • White Horse Harriers • Witney Road Runners • Thame AC • Woodstock Harriers • Radley AC • Ozone Health Club • David Lloyd Leisure

Questions	Answers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen & Douglas House • BBC Oxford • BBC Radio Oxford • Heart FM • Oxford City Council • Oxfordshire County Council • Thames Valley Police • Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service • Oxfordshire Ambulance Service • St John Ambulance Oxfordshire • Oxford United Football Club • Oxford Bus Company • Stagecoach Bus Company • Oxford Scout Groups • Oxford Association for the Blind • Oxford Venture Scouts • Tesco • Sainsbury's • Oxford Sea Cadets • Various Churches <p>All affected residents were notified by letter drop and advertisement in the local press about the road closures and associated traffic management. A public meeting was organised by the event organiser at Oxford's Town Hall to which local residents and City Councillors were invited as the event was a City Council supported event. Additionally, two Safety Advisory Group meetings were held at Oxford City Council with relevant stakeholders present.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Chairman thank you. I am sorry Councillor Rose you haven't quite answered the question here, I asked which County Councillors were consulted about the route and which local groups were consulted. You have given me a</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>I will be happy to find the answer to that question.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>list; the second one there, Oxford Athletic Association, I can confirm as of this morning did not receive any consultation about the route and their committee was not confirmed on the agreed route until the 3rd June. So my supplementary question then is how much did it cost this council in officer time to help this commercial organisation?</p>	
<p>10. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Would the Cabinet member join with me in congratulating Sainsbury's on building the new hamburger roundabout at Heyford Hill in Oxford? Which supermarkets does he have in mind to fund the other much needed road improvements in and around Oxford?'</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>Due to the almost trillion pound debt inherited by our current National Government from the Gordon Brown administration, it was with regret that the Coalition had to draw back in funds from things like the Regional Transport Board to move towards getting the national "books" back into balance. This left us with the loss of over £60 million for our "Access to Oxford" program which would have been a great help to travel both in Oxfordshire and in the City itself. I am very happy that Cllr Tanner joins with me in congratulating Sainsbury's, which I have already done in local media. Cllr Tanner should know me well enough by now to be aware that I will take cash from ANY source to enhance the infrastructure of our County.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Do the different sources of money which Councillor Rose hopes to tap into include the £19-£20 million being wasted on the Cogges Road Link?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>I think it is a great shame, Chairman, that the member doesn't ever get outside the City to see what happens in other places. Some of us actually believe that the Cogges Link Road will be a great asset to Witney and will endeavour to get it. What I would do, Chairman, is to ask if I could have a whip round the local labour groups in Oxford and to see if they want to chip in and put some money in themselves to make up for past mistakes somewhere else.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>11. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>At the last Council Cllr Lindsay-Gale kindly agreed to review the pedestrian ban at the popular Redbridge Recycling Centre in Oxford. Will the Cabinet member tell Council the outcome of that review?’</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>As stated in the last Council Meeting, pedestrian access will be reviewed as part of the redevelopment of Redbridge HWRC. The redevelopment is linked to the wider HWRC strategy and as such cannot be undertaken until after the new site at Kidlington has opened which is not expected until Winter next year.</p> <p>Officers have looked at whether arrangements can be implemented more quickly to allow pedestrian access. This would not be easy as a separate access would be required, the ground would need to be levelled to allow for wheelchairs and push/pull carts, dedicated walkways would need to be created with specific crossing points to protect pedestrians. The cost of these infrastructure changes would be considerable and more if they were carried out independently, rather than as part of the site redevelopment.</p> <p>There is also concern that pedestrian access would encourage people to park outside or close to the site, especially when it is busy and walk waste in. When the site is busy there is obviously more traffic and therefore more risk to pedestrians.</p> <p>We have a duty to protect the well being of visitors to our recycling centres and we take this responsibility very seriously.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Mr Chairman, will Councillor Lindsey-Gale stop taking about reviews; will she allow pedestrian access at Redbridge and at the new Kidlington Recycling Centre, yes or no?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>We have talked about this several times. We talked about it at the last council and I suggested to you Councillor Tanner that if you want the pedestrian access you perhaps might like to pay for it. We have investigated further after your question last time and our officers think that the cost would probably be in the region of £20,000 now if you feel that you can find that from your budgets in the City we would be very happy to implement the scheme for you.</p>

Questions	Answers																																																										
<p>12. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Will the Cabinet member tell Council what percentage reductions were made by the County Council in CO2 emissions and energy use in 2010/11? What percentage reductions does she plan for carbon-footprint and energy use in 2011/12 and 2012/13? Will she list the total reductions for each year, and for the Council's own estate and its schools separately?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>Overall the Council's carbon footprint for 2010/11 was 60, 585 tonnes, a 4% reduction from 2005/6.</p> <p>The Council has been recording its energy consumption from its buildings since 1990. From 1990/91 to 2010/11, carbon emissions from buildings alone have been reduced by just under 23%. This is a year ahead of the Government's target of 22% by Dec 2012 established under the Climate Change Act 2008.</p> <p>The more detailed figures requested for previous years are set out in Table 1. The summary data captures reductions in energy use due to investment in energy savings and changes in behaviour. It also reflects year-to-year changes in demand due to variations in average winter temperatures and changes in assets and service requirements – for example increases in street lighting and IT equipment. Therefore year-to-year data should be treated with caution and set in the context of the multi-year dataset.</p> <p>As an example, the Committee on Climate Change has noted that nationally emissions for 2010 rose by about 4% compared to 2009 because of the colder winter (Committee on Climate Change: Meeting Carbon Budgets – 3rd Progress Report to Parliament 2011).</p> <p>Table 1 - Oxfordshire County Council carbon emissions from 2005/6 to 2010/11</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="824 1054 2078 1326"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="3"></th> <th colspan="5">Carbon emissions by year tonnes CO₂</th> <th colspan="4">2010/11 reductions compared to:</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2005/06</th> <th>2007/08</th> <th>2008/09</th> <th>2009/10</th> <th>2010/11</th> <th colspan="2">2005/6</th> <th colspan="2">2009/10</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>tonnes</th> <th>%</th> <th>tonnes</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Corporate</td> <td>27,821</td> <td>27,912</td> <td>25,587</td> <td>26,740</td> <td>26,880</td> <td>942</td> <td>3.38</td> <td>-140</td> <td>-0.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Schools</td> <td>35,125</td> <td>33,187</td> <td>36,388</td> <td>31,173</td> <td>33,705</td> <td>1,420</td> <td>4.04</td> <td>-2,532</td> <td>-8.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>62,946</td> <td>61,099</td> <td>61,975</td> <td>57,913</td> <td>60,585</td> <td>2,361</td> <td>3.75</td> <td>-2,672</td> <td>-4.61</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The corporate figures include emissions from energy use in buildings and street lighting, as well as emissions from business travel and waste to landfill. For consistency, the same method of calculation is used for each year. Care should be taken when comparing with</p>		Carbon emissions by year tonnes CO ₂					2010/11 reductions compared to:				2005/06	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2005/6		2009/10							tonnes	%	tonnes	%	Corporate	27,821	27,912	25,587	26,740	26,880	942	3.38	-140	-0.52	Schools	35,125	33,187	36,388	31,173	33,705	1,420	4.04	-2,532	-8.12	Total	62,946	61,099	61,975	57,913	60,585	2,361	3.75	-2,672	-4.61
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	<p>other published figures because of variations in the method of calculation.</p> <p>Current investment plans indicate the Council should reduce its corporate carbon footprint by 835 tonnes of CO2 in 2011/12 with a planned saving of 901 tonnes in the schools estate. It is currently preparing its financial and energy budgets for 2012/13, so plans for future years have not been confirmed. They are also the subject of negotiation with the tenderers for the new Property & Facilities single service provider. This contract will include targets, yet to be agreed, for energy savings in the corporate estate in recognition of the rapidly rising costs of energy as much as the Government's statutory carbon budgets.</p> <p>Investment in schools is the responsibility of School Governors, so the proposed savings are subject to the agreement of individual governing bodies. To support Governors, the Council provides invest-to-save loan funding and has developed schools specific web pages at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schoolscutcarbon with advice and a draft energy strategy. Automatic meter readers (AMRs) are being installed at most schools and those with AMRs can now access a range of web-based reports.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Does Councillor Lindsey-Gale agree with me that 4% is a rather paltry figure; does she feel that her predecessor should have done rather better at reducing energy costs and carbon dioxide emissions and will she commit to a more robust attitude in this whole area?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Thank you Chairman, right well it is very clear that we do have to address this issue in a different way, I feel that the argument has actually moved on. We need to focus on reducing our energy costs that will improve our carbon emissions as a result. The Council's energy costs are set to rise by about between 10% and 15% for 2012 and it is forecast that a 50% increase is likely over the next 5 years. This is unavoidable pressure and it is being addressed through many energy efficiency measures and the rationalisation of our assets. When we are working to the Governments new energy reduction target of 22% by 2012 and we are putting in, as I say, a lot of measures to address this. We will also be challenging all the directorates how we deliver services and looking at new working practices. And I will just make one point about this comment on the achievement of the targets – a report was taken to the Waste Partnership last week on the progress against the local area agreement targets – taken altogether all 6 authorities have achieved a 7% reduction comparing with the 2010/11 with 2008/09. The County Council and City Council have both achieved an 8% reduction however the County Council has achieved double its target of 4% whilst the City has achieved only just over half its target of 15%.</p>
<p>13. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>Does the Cabinet member sympathise with the plight of residents in the Weirs Lane area of Oxford, in my division, whose community is increasingly divided by the busy main road of Weirs Lane. Will he consider installing a pedestrian crossing so that people can cross that road without risking life and limb?</p>	<p>We appreciate that a crossing in the area suggested could be helpful. There are two issues that we need to look into. The first is whether or not we can physically fit in a crossing and what impact it will have on traffic (this is after all a very important route in the city's transport network). This will be looked into when Officer time permits. The second is, of course where the money will come from. It will not score highly within County or S106 lists, so I would advise Cllr Tanner to explore possibilities with his Area Steward, as to the use of the Area Stewardship Fund. This may require support from other local Members to raise sufficient funding.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Would Councillor Rose agree with me that the so called Area Stewardship funds, the £700 or £800 that we have to spend locally might buy a bolishia beacon but wouldn't pay for a pedestrian crossing?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Thank you Chairman, one of the main facets of the Fund is to hopefully bring in local money to complement it to get it up to the figures that will do proper work. I presume that you have support within that locality to do this and I hope you will explore that.</p>
<p>14. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>Given that traffic-related air pollution remains above World Health Organisation recommended minimum levels on streets such as Botley Road, Hythe Bridge Street, Thames Street, Abingdon Road, St Giles, Longwall Street, and others, and especially near residential areas around the ring-road, what is the County Council doing to reduce this threat to human health?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>The Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) Oxford area strategy contains the following measures specifically for air quality. However, most elements of the Oxford strategy will help improve air quality so I would refer Cllr Sanders to Chapter 13 of the LTP3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A city centre Low Emission Zone (LEZ) will be implemented [see below] and options will be investigated for reducing the impact of road freight transport on air quality.</i> • <i>The introduction of charging points for electric vehicles in the city will be investigated, and incentives for lower carbon emission vehicles will be considered.</i> • <i>Traffic routeing will be improved to reduce emissions in the streets with most pedestrians and residents.</i> <p>[These initiatives are currently being worked on actively by Highways & Transport.]</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>The city centre Low Emission Zone (approved by Cabinet Member for Transport and the City Council in 2009) remains a high priority and is on track for a 1 January 2014 start date. The qualifying agreement has already reduced bus mileage and emissions in the city centre significantly by reducing bus numbers and replacing dozens of old buses with the latest low emission vehicles, including hybrid-electric buses. This means significant progress towards the 2014 LEZ standard has already been made. We expect monitoring to show significant improvements in the city centre when a full year's worth of data is available next summer.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>I think that the answer is extremely complacent and largely placed in the future. I see that things will be investigated and will be improved and seems to start in 2013. Since the air pollution causes the death and serious illness of real people I wonder if it would be possible for the Cabinet Member to have an estimate made of the number of deaths and serious illnesses that could occur between now and 2014 because of the complacency of his answer?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Chairman, I think some people still aren't aware of the current world that we are living in and the finances we have. If you look around the City of Oxford and see the changes in our buses which are due to our quality bus partnership and other effects we are doing as much as can possibly be expected under the current financial climate. As to producing the data that the Council requests I don't think I have got the money to spare to do that.</p>
<p>15. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>Recent statistics show that each year about four hundred Oxfordshire residents would get their social care fully paid for by the NHS if Oxfordshire PCT provided Continuing Care at the same rate as the national average. In his answer to my question at the last County Council meeting Cllr Fatemian said that this does not create any additional costs for Oxfordshire County Council, because the Council operates a 'quota' system. Could the</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES</p> <p>Each week the number of places for home care and residential care are allocated by strategic commissioning based on need and resource availability. The reason for this is that this essentially pre-authorises purchasing of care placements by commissioning so that front line allocations can be provided quickly and efficiently when the need arises.</p> <p>Over the weeks these allocations can be varied by Commissioning as the need arises and obviously they are reviewed weekly as well as at longer term intervals.</p> <p>This mechanism has key two benefits - as confirmed above this allows front line decision making to be carried out in an authorised and efficient environment and it also provides a</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>cabinet member please explain how that quota system works? If it means that people have to wait longer to receive the services they need, could he please estimate the average length of additional waiting time?</p>	<p>baseline forecast for Adult Social Care with which to model future forecast future spend requirements.</p> <p>This system actually speeds up the authorisation process for approval of services as it allows front line staff to authorise placements quickly against the released purchasing agreement for that week</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>The answer given doesn't answer the question. The shifting of the cost of care for hundreds of very disabled people from the NHS to the County Council up to the individuals must have an effect on the County's budget. Either the County is spending more money to meet the needs that have been assessed or there is some form of delay for those people and other people and my supplementary question is which is it?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Chairman, I apologise to Councillor Sanders that the question didn't seem to put his concerns at rest especially around the quota system where it specifically says that the system actually speeds up the authorisation process. However I will give a more detailed written response on the quota system to satisfy the queries that he has.</p>
<p>16. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>Could Councillor Fatemian explain what it is about the population of Oxfordshire that could explain why so many fewer of them are eligible to have their social care paid for by the NHS, meaning that the care is paid for by the County Council or they have to pay themselves, which often results in the forced sale of their homes?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council has been acknowledged by the National Audit Office be leading in their partnership arrangements with the PCT and their development of Section 75 Pooled Budgets.</p> <p>This in effect allows us to manage in partnership a pot of money which pays for Continuing Health Care and also for Residential Nursing Care. In effect therefore OCC has had less cause to take a very firm line with the PCT as to what is designated Continuing Care and therefore paid out of the Health element of the pooled budget and what is designated to be funded from Social Care. The joint arrangements which we also have for the Continuing Health Care Panel also ensure that this partnership is maintained and that true and fair assessment is made of all cases.</p> <p>A good deal of attention has been paid recently to ensure that Oxfordshire comply with</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>local SHA and National guidelines on appraising Continuing Healthcare Cases. However this will also be re-examined by Scrutiny Committee as it is such an important subject.</p> <p>We are however aware that this can have the unintended consequence that some patients have to contribute to their care rather than having the NHS pay. This is the main reason why the Adult Scrutiny Committee will be examining this issue at their December meeting.</p> <p>Under National Guidelines where people are receiving residential care they are assessed financially as to whether they need to contribute to this care. These guidelines require the value of someone's home to be taken into account when assessing their contribution. We are acutely aware of this issue where a person's capital is diminished due to their requirement to pay for their care costs and this is now being monitored closely to enable Care Management to help people make the right choices as to both their care and how they will fund it.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Councillor Fatemian says that the County Council has had “less cause to take a firm line with PCT as to which is designated continuing care because of pooled budgets” I take the admission that the County Council has not taken a firm line and I think that is a serious error. Also I am not sure that the County Council</p> <p>The question is in terms of the private people who are having to pay in same case having to lose their homes I wonder what the County Council is doing to identify those people so that they or their survivors are recompensed?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Chairman, directly as a result of a number of legitimate concerns some of which Councillor Sanders mentioned there this is due to go before the Adult Services Scrutiny Committee in December. I think it is best left for the independent members of the scrutiny committee at that meeting.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>17. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>It has been emphasised how important it is for parents who come to this country from other countries to learn to speak English, for everybody's benefit, especially their children's. Could the cabinet member please tell me whether the numbers of Oxfordshire residents attending County Council English language classes has increased or decreased over the last 5 years, and if either, by how much? Could the member also tell me what changes there have been in the numbers of students receiving free English language tuition from the County Council?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR DAVID ROBERTSON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p><u>Summary</u> The numbers of Oxfordshire residents attending County Council English language classes decreased over the last 5 years by 53%, from 772 in 2006/7 to 361 in 2010/11.</p> <p>The numbers of students receiving free English language tuition from the County Council in the same period reduced by 84%, from 760 in 2006/7 to 120 in 2010/11.</p> <p>(In 06/07 under the LSC funding rules there was no expectation that ESOL learners would pay for their learning. The only learners paying fees at that time were those that were not eligible for LSC funding. There was a change in 07/08 which ended automatic fee remission for learners on ESOL programmes)</p> <p><u>Background</u> This set of data has been arrived at by looking at all learners who started an ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) programme with Adult Learning in the last 5 complete academic years. This data does not include work that falls within the FLLN (Family Learning Literacy and Numeracy) remit or partnership work the Council does with Ethnic Minority Business Service (EMBS) and doesn't take any account of the funding stream for the learner.</p> <p><u>Statistical Information</u> 06/07 – learner number 772 percentage expected to pay 1.55% 07/08 – learner number 703 percentage expected to pay 55.62% 08/09 – learner number 499 percentage expected to pay 63.13% 09/10 – learner number 530 percentage expected to pay 63.21% 10/11 – learner number 361 percentage expected to pay 66.76%</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you for this very valuable information. The decline in free English Tuition from the County Council all leading to a sharp fall of the people attending those English language</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>I sincerely hope that we are down to just under 10 minutes left Mr Chairman for this session because of two or three questions and statements in every question.</p> <p>It was the Labour Government that reduced the funding for English speakers of other</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>classes. This was due to a change of the Government policy which penalises people who have people in their family working which is the case in Oxford certainly.</p> <p>The question is: faced with this very serious situation I want to know if the County Council could investigate what flexibility they have to provide free tuition to parents who need that tuition and what what money could be made available from other Government sources or in the voluntary sector.</p>	<p>languages and I don't see any way that this County Council under current financial pressure which has been brought about because of the mismanagement of the previous Labour Government. There is no way that we will find extra money for this particular funding.</p>
<p>18. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDER</p> <p>A very substantial number of Oxfordshire County Council employees have lost and will lose their jobs because of the drastic cuts in public spending. It is obviously important that these reductions be done in an equitable manner. Can the cabinet member tell me how the cuts are being managed so as to ensure that they comply with equalities legislation, which requires fairness in terms of race, gender and disability?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR DAVID ROBERTSON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>There are a number of safeguards in place to ensure that staffing reductions are managed in an equitable way, ensuring that we comply with equalities legislation. Full consultation is done, with the involvement of UNISON, for all restructures carried out across the Council and this includes details of new job descriptions, selection criteria and competency requirements. Details of the selection process will also be included in these consultation documents so that people have adequate time to prepare. The selection process may include assessments and structured interviews - all assessors are trained in line with the Council's recruitment and selection policies. Where individuals are absent due to long term sick leave, maternity leave etc then additional support is offered such as adjustments to the timetable to allow them to take part fully in the selection process. We continue to monitor staffing numbers across the Council in terms of race, gender and disability to ensure that the workforce retains appropriate balance.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>The answer given implies that no attempt has</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Mr Chairman we do continue to monitor staffing numbers in terms of race, gender and</p>

Questions	Answers																				
<p>been made so far to keep track of the character of the people's jobs that have been lost in terms of disability, race of gender – wouldn't it be a good idea to do that while the process is taking place, rather than wait for the end when the likelihood of the injustice will have been done?</p>	<p>disability and will carry on doing so.</p>																				
<p>19. COUNCILLOR DAVID TURNER</p> <p>Will you ensure that any money the County Council is to spend on Broadband speed upgrading in Oxfordshire is spent on improving areas where the speeds are very low?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR DAVID ROBERTSON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>Yes - Any funding that the county council contributes towards broadband infrastructure will be solely directed to the area of the county that contains 28% of premises (residential and business) that are in the so-called Ofcom Market 1, area where it is recognised that the market has failed to deliver an adequate broadband service.</p> <p>74,500, or 28% of households are within such areas, as are 33% of Oxfordshire's businesses and 25 % of all employees.</p> <p>The broadband service for the bulk of premises in Oxfordshire (72%) will be provided by commercial operators.</p>																				
<p>20. COUNCILLOR JEAN FOOKS</p> <p>Can you tell Council how many early retirements there have been in the year from October 2010 until September 2011? How does this compare with the preceding year and the year before that?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR DAVID ROBERTSON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="831 1050 1973 1310"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Redundancies</th> <th>Ill-Health Retirement</th> <th>Efficiency</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.10.2008-30.9.2009</td> <td>13</td> <td>7</td> <td>4</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.10.2009-30.9.2010</td> <td>28</td> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.10.2010-30.9.2011</td> <td>229</td> <td>14</td> <td>2</td> <td>245</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Redundancies	Ill-Health Retirement	Efficiency	Total	1.10.2008-30.9.2009	13	7	4	24	1.10.2009-30.9.2010	28	5	4	37	1.10.2010-30.9.2011	229	14	2	245
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<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Can Councillor Robertson explain why early</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>I am sorry if I misunderstood Councillor Fooks's question I think the numbers involved</p>																				

Questions	Answers
retirement isn't in his answer? It seems to me that he has mentioned redundancies; ill-health retirement was about early retirement which is in my view at any rate a different form of retirement.	there are actually within the numbers that have been given, but I will specifically chase that up and get a response to Council.
<p>21. COUNCILLOR ANNE PURSE</p> <p>Since Council agreed in June 2007 to request developer contributions to improve cycle facilities, have officers been engaged in achieving additional developer funding for cycle routes such as the shared pedestrian and cycle route that runs alongside the A40 between Sandhills and the Holton Turn which is soon to be developed as a new entrance for Brookes University?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>County officers have sought and secured contributions towards cycleway provision from various developments across Oxfordshire. They have also secured actual provision as part of the larger schemes. It is difficult to be precise on how much has been secured because the cycle measure monies are often included in a flexible sum within the agreements – i.e. can be used for various transport infrastructure including cycle measures. There are also general transport works which benefit cycle use.</p> <p>In 2010/11 just under £90,000 was spent from developer contributions on cycle infrastructure. This was significantly up on the expenditure in 2009/10 on cycle measures which was around £28,000.</p> <p>Oxford Brookes University has made a planning application to South Oxfordshire District Council to change the access to their Wheatley Campus from the west of the site to the east at Holton, close to the junction with the A40. County officers are currently considering the application before making recommendations on the application. The Council does not hold any developer contributions that are restricted by legal agreement to the provision of a cycle route between Sandhills and Holton.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you for your answer Councillor Rose, given the enormous problem with our student parking in our local villages and given that the new Brookes entrance will make the cyclists journey considerably shorter and therefore hopefully more attractive, please can I ask for either full details of what requests for</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Through you Chairman, I am happy to forward the Councillor the details of what 106's have been asked for.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>developer contributions have been made or if they have not been made full details of the process that led to a lack of a request for developer funding to improve the cycle track to acceptable standards.</p>	
<p>22. COUNCILLOR M ALTAF-KHAN</p> <p>Can the Cabinet member tell me when the recent results for GCSEs and A Levels will be analysed and presented at a seminar for all councillors?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>A suitable date has yet to be identified but is our intention that it should be as soon as possible and by the end of the calendar year at the very latest.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Chairman, will the Cabinet Member agree that it is not good enough for the members to find out from the local press that the County has done or is below the national average and that figures will not be presented until the end of the year. By the time it comes to the members it will be another year gone and what will be the actual route taken for that; will it be possible to do as soon as possible rather than waiting for that long?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Not quite sure what you are asking for. First of all don't always believe everything you read in the press. Secondly if you need information just come to me and I will get it for you.</p>
<p>23. COUNCILLOR M ALTAF-KHAN</p> <p>Can the cabinet member confirm how much support the County Council is providing to groups setting up Free Schools?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>A seminar for potential promoters of Free Schools was held in February 2011, setting out the authority's views on where additional school places are likely to be required over the next few years. Individual promoters of Free Schools have also been offered a one-to-one meeting with officers to discuss their proposals. While these meetings will have been of support to promoters, they have also been of support to the authority in ensuring that it has a better understanding of the potential new suppliers of school places, and are able to start building relationships with organisations who may in future be responsible for delivering</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>some of Oxfordshire's educational capacity. The annually produced Pupil Place Plan provides information on school demand and capacity which is of use to promoters of Free Schools, who form part of the intended audience of this publication. Some promoters have also asked for specific additional information to inform their applications and, where we hold this information, we have provided it as we would for other enquirers (including those enquiring under Fol).</p> <p>The county is facing a significant requirement for new schools over the coming years due to housing developments and population growth. Current government policy is that we should seek providers to establish these new schools as academies. Groups interested in promoting a Free School might also be a possible academy promoter, and early engagement with them is helpful to the authority in identifying potential academy providers in the future.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you for your answer but there are still groups in the region that don't know about this seminar or that support is available. Would the Cabinet Member again consider informing the local members and keep them informed what sort of information is there for the free schools support and the seminars because I never knew about this seminar happening?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Thank you Chairman, thank you for your question. I wasn't on the Cabinet then, so not guilty but the County Council is not under any obligation to do anything at all for free schools. However we did run a seminar and we do give an hour and half of officer time for people who can come with a business plan. There is to be another seminar in the spring and I will personally make sure that every local member is informed.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>24. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR JEAN FOOKS</p> <p>I see that while Oxford City Council has signed up to support Climate Week 2012, to be held in 12-18 March 2012, so far Oxfordshire County Council is conspicuous by its absence. This is a national campaign to inspire a new wave of action on climate change. It culminates in thousands of events and activities, planned by organisations from every part of society. Showcasing real, practical ways to combat climate change, the campaign aims to renew the ambition to create a more sustainable, low-carbon future. The Prime Minister has given his support. Can Council assume that Oxfordshire will sign up and show it too is working to address the challenges faced by climate change?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>The County Council has recently signed up to the 2012 Climate Week, and continues to support initiatives that help schools, residents and local businesses save money and reduce their carbon footprint. As an example, the Council is providing grant funding to the Low Carbon Hub, which is a Community Interest Company that has been established to provide a range of services and resources to support communities across Oxfordshire to reduce their carbon emissions. The Council has also recently retendered (in Partnership with the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership) the schools environmental education service. The new provider, Groundwork Thames Valley will be starting this term to deliver their service to schools educating children on the value of waste reduction and energy efficiency.</p>
<p>25. COUNCILLOR SARAH HUTCHINSON</p> <p>Would the Cabinet member inform us how many Youth service sessions were being offered by County Council Employed Youth Workers this time last year and how many are currently being offered?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LOUISE CHAPMAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>Prior to the introduction of the Early Intervention Service, in the Spring of this year, we were running 67 open access evening and weekend youth sessions per week at what are now hub and satellite sites. We are now running 76 open access evening and weekend youth sessions per week at those hubs and satellites since the start of the new service in September this year.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you for your answer could you provide a breakdown of where the sessions have taken place including information about which sessions involve qualified youth workers?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>I am happy to provide that information. I have to say that we are actually doing more and we have already heard from a member today from Chipping Norton where they are going to be offering free sessions. I am quite happy to do as asked and can I also say that does not include the targeted work that we do with our youth workers as well as in targeted</p>

Questions	Answers
	sessions that is purely open generic weekend work.
<p>26. COUNCILLOR SARAH HUTCHINSON</p> <p>The Welfare Reform Bill will, if passed, transfer responsibility for elements of the Social Fund - Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans, to Local Authorities. Pleas could the Cabinet member let us know what progress has been made to date in planning for this. Have any decisions been made yet about how the funds will be prioritised and administered, and who is being consulted on this?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES</p> <p>Not yet. We would expect to be consulted about that issue in summer 2012. Final figures should emerge at 'Consultation' for 2013/14 perhaps in December 2012, then final figures at 'Settlement' in January or February 2013.</p> <p>The October 2011 EQIA mentioned above says that there will not be a new statutory duty requiring local authorities to deliver the service (paragraph 4). Thus funding will not be ringfenced (paragraph 5).</p> <p>It should however be possible to identify the amount that Oxfordshire receives, but this may be mixed into the details of the new funding system which will localise business rates. It is likely that we might administer these grants through our locality teams to ensure that they are targeted at those who most need them but this process has still to be decided</p> <p>The call for evidence in February 2011 was aimed at upper-tier local authorities in England, welfare rights organisations and other customer representative groups, and any other interested groups or individuals. This included the Local Government Association and the devolved administrations in Wales and Scotland.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>I want to know if the Council will be carrying out consultation itself before making a final decision on how to administer the guidance; whether it is through the locality groups, in particular with families who have in the past received social funds for whom it is often a lifeline and for example debt advice services who have got an in depth understanding of the distribution needs across the County.</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Thank you Chairman, could I start by saying thank you to Councillor Hutchinson for the question in its form and also for the supplementary. The answer is that yes as a County Council we do plan to consult and if she would like to be in touch with both myself and the director for adult services outside then we would very much value her input on who should take formal part of that consultation.</p>

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Division(s): NA

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CABINET – 15 NOVEMBER 2011

TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID TERM REVIEW 2011/12

Report by Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer

Introduction

1. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA's) 'Code of Practice on Treasury Management (Revised) 2009' recommends that members are informed of Treasury Management activities at least twice a year. This report therefore ensures this authority is embracing Best Practice in accordance with CIPFA's recommendations.
2. The following annexes are attached:
 - Annex 1 Lending List Changes
 - Annex 2 Debt Financing 2011/12
 - Annex 3 PWLB debt Raised and Maturing
 - Annex 4 Prudential Indicator Update.

Strategy 2011/12

3. The approved Treasury Management Strategy for 2011/12 was based on an average *base rate forecast of 0.75%*.
4. The Strategy for Long Term Borrowing was to use internal balances only.
5. The Strategy included the continued use of the services of external fund managers, Scottish Widows Investment Partnership (SWIP) and Investec.

Economic Background

6. **Growth:** Global growth prospects deteriorated considerably over the six months to September, moving from an expectation of modest expansion to the risk of a double-dip recession. Q1 2011 GDP in the UK was 0.5%, but was just 0.2% in Q2. Even economies like Germany's, which were hitherto seemingly strong, began to flounder with growth registering 0.1% in Q2.
7. **Inflation:** Inflation remained stubbornly high. Annual CPI for September 2011 was 5.2%; CPI has remained above the MPC's 3% upper limit now for 21 consecutive months and required the Bank of England's Governor to write his seventh open letter to the Chancellor. The Bank believes the elevated rate of inflation reflects the temporary impact of several factors including, the increase in the VAT rate to 20%, past increases in global energy prices and import prices. The expectation is that in early 2012, the year on year impact of these factors will fall out and inflation will start to lower.

8. The Bank of England's August Inflation Report downgraded the growth forecast even as it acknowledged energy price rises could push CPI to 5% before inflation fell back to the 2% target over the medium-term. The UK's strategy of combining loose monetary policy (the Bank Rate had remained at 0.5% for 2½ years and Quantitative Easing at £200bn) with tight fiscal policy supported the rebalancing of the economy and also commanded support in the markets.
9. In the US, the country's weak economic and fiscal situation and an unemployment rate of 9.1% left the Federal Reserve little option but to commit to "exceptionally low" interest rates until mid 2013.
10. The European sovereign debt crisis has deepened. The agreement in July 2011 to address Greece's fiscal problems and broaden the mandate for the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) only bought time for the Eurozone as market pressure increased on Italy and Spain, but did little to address the issue of overburdened sovereign balance sheets. The further EU bailout plan agreed in late October 2011, comprising a 100bn euro loan and 50% debt write off in return for deep cuts in public spending now hangs in the balance following the announcement by the Greek Prime Minister of a referendum on the deal.
11. The European Banking Authority (EBA) released the results of the second of its stress tests in July. 8 banks (two Greek, one Austrian and five small domestic Spanish banks) out of 91 banks failed the tests. All of the UK and non-UK banks tested by the EBA and which are on the Council's lending list met the 'stressed' Core Tier 1 Ratio of 5%, none were adjudged as 'near-failed' (i.e. having ratios between 5% and 6%).
12. **Gilt yields and money market rates:** The economic uncertainty resulted in analysts postponing the likelihood of an increase in the UK Bank Rate until mid 2012. Gilts were considered a safe haven and benefited from market turmoil. Gilt yields fell to their lowest levels in five years. 5-year gilt yields fell to 1.25%, 10-year yields to 2.2% and 20-year yields to 3.05%.

Treasury Management Activity

Debt Financing

13. Oxfordshire County Council's (the Council) debt financing to date for 2011/12 is analysed in Annex 2.
14. The 2011/12 borrowing strategy is to use internal balances where necessary to refinance maturing debt. This is intended to reduce the cost of carry (the difference between borrowing rates and investment returns) and reduce counterparty risk by minimising the level of cash balances.
15. There has been no change to this strategy.
16. The Council's cumulative total external debt has decreased from £434.41m on 1 April 2011 to £424.07m by 30 September 2011, a net decrease of £10.34m. No new debt

has been arranged during the year. The total forecast external debt for 31 March 2012, after repayment of loans maturing during the year is £420.74m. The forecast debt financing position for 31 March 2012, is shown in Annex 2.

17. At 30 September 2011, the authority had 72 PWLB¹ loans totalling £374.07m and 10 LOBO² loans totalling £50m. The combined weighted average interest rate for debt as at 30th September 2011 was 4.52%.

Maturing Debt

18. The Council repaid £10.34m of maturing PWLB loans during the first half of the year. The details are set out in Annex 3.

Debt Restructuring

19. There has been no restructuring of Long Term Debt during the year.

Investment Strategy

20. Security and liquidity of cash was prioritised above the requirement to maximise returns. The Council continued to adopt a cautious approach to lending to financial institutions and continuously monitored credit quality information relating to counterparties.
21. A mixture of short term, (up to 12 months), and longer term, (greater than 12 months), deposits have been arranged throughout the first half of the financial year. An emphasis has been placed on lending to high credit quality banks and other Local Authorities.
22. The continued European bank turmoil and recent credit rating downgrades of UK banks has reduced the number of counterparties and the limits on the approved Treasury Management Lending List. A policy of lending longer term to other Local Authorities has limited the impact of this.
23. The Council used fixed and structured deposits, as well as call accounts and Money Market Funds to deposit its in-house temporary cash surpluses during the first half of 2011/12.

The Council's Lending List

24. The Council's in-house cash balances are deposited with institutions that meet the Council's approved credit rating criteria. The approved Lending List is regularly updated to reflect changes in bank and building society credit ratings. Changes are reported to Cabinet each month. Annex 1 shows the amendments incorporated into the

¹ PWLB (Public Works Loans Board) is a Government agency operating within the United Kingdom Debt Management Office and is responsible for lending money to Local Authorities.

² LOBO (Lender's Option/Borrower's Option) Loans are long-term loans which include a re-pricing option for the bank at predetermined intervals.

Lending List during the first half of 2011/12, in accordance with the approved credit rating criteria and additional temporary restrictions.

25. During May 2011, a maturity limit was breached when a 3 year loan was arranged one week in advance of the loan start date. The forward period was not taken into account when the maturity date was fixed. The maturity limit was consequently breached by one week. Also during May a 5 month loan was arranged with a counterparty which, at the time of the deal was subject to a temporary maturity limit reduction from 3 years to 1 month, due to uncertainty about the strength of the Sovereign. However, the restriction was lifted shortly afterwards, during a lending list review. There has been no financial loss to the Council as a result of the breaches of the temporary lending restrictions.

Investment Outturn

26. The average daily balance of temporary surplus cash invested in-house in the six months to 30th September was £257m. The Council achieved an average in-house return for that period of 1.11%, producing gross interest receivable of £1.429million (excluding interest accrued on Landsbanki deposits). Temporary surplus cash includes; developer contributions; school balances; council reserves and balances; trust fund balances; and various other funds to which the Council pays interest at each financial year end, based on the average earned on all balances.
27. The Council uses the three month inter-bank sterling bid rate as its benchmark to measure its own in-house investment performance. During the first half of 2011/12 the average seven-day interbank sterling rate was 0.72%. The Council's average in-house return (1.11%) thus exceeded the benchmark by 0.39%. The Council operates a number of call accounts and instant access Money Market Funds to deposit short-term cash surpluses. The average balance held on call in the 6 months to 30 September was £56.7million.

Icelandic deposits

28. On Friday 28th October, the council received notification that the Icelandic Supreme Court had upheld the decision to apply priority creditor status to the local authority test cases. However, as Oxfordshire County Council was not one of the test cases, the authority awaits confirmation from the winding up board of Landsbanki stating how they will apply the Supreme Court decision to the non-test cases and their intended next steps.

External Fund Managers

29. The Council has continued to use the services of two external fund managers: Investec Asset Management Limited and Scottish Widows Investment Partnership Limited (SWIP). Each fund manager manages £10m of the Council's cash, plus their accumulated returns. Investec began managing the fund on 13 April 2006 and SWIP on 13 July 2006. The fund managers were given slightly different investment targets and performance is measured against different benchmarks.

30. SWIP's annualised return for the first 6 months of the year was 1.05% (net of management charges); compared to their annualised benchmark of 0.48%. Investec's annualised return net of management charges for the first 6 months of the year was 0.075%, compared with a benchmark of 1.48%.

Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management

31. During the financial year, the Council operated within the treasury limits and Prudential Indicators set out in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Report. The outturn for the Prudential Indicators is shown in Annex 4.

External Performance Indicators and Statistics

32. The County Council is a member of the CIPFA Treasury and Debt Management benchmarking club and receives annual reports comparing returns and interest payable against other authorities. The benchmarking results for 2010/11 showed that Oxfordshire County Council had achieved an average return of 0.9% compared with an average of 1.1% for their comparative group of County Councils and an average of 1.2% for all 96 members. The lower average interest received was mainly due to higher than average balances in short-term deposits and lower balances in longer-term and structured products.
33. The average interest rate paid for all debt during 2010/11 was 4.3% compared with the comparative group of County Councils' average of 4.7%. Oxfordshire County Council had 88% of its debt portfolio in PWLB loans compared with a County Council member average of 84%

Training

34. As stated in the Treasury Management Strategy, key Treasury Management officers will be encouraged to study towards the new CIPFA and ACT³ joint Certificate on International Treasury Management – Public Finance. Two of the current dealers have the qualification and the newly appointed members of the treasury management team will be encouraged to study for the examinations as early as is practical.
35. On 17 October 2011 members and officers were invited to attend a half day training seminar on Treasury Management and Debt which had been prepared by the Treasury Management and Capital Financing teams. Arlingclose, the Council's Treasury Management advisors, presented some of the training sessions.

Financial and Legal Implications

36. Interest payable and receivable in relation to Treasury Management activities are only two parts of the overall Strategic Measures budget.

³ Association of Corporate Treasurers

37. The 2011/12 budget for interest receivable is £2.519m. The forecast outturn for interest receivable is £2.715m giving net forecast excess income of £0.196m. The increase is mainly due to higher average cash balances due in part to changes to grant funding which has resulted in the receipt of grant income being weighted more to the first half of the financial year. This has offset lower than expected interest rates.
38. The 2011/12 budget for interest payable is £18.808m. The forecast outturn for interest payable is £19.274m giving a net forecast overspend of £0.466m. The increase is due to no LOBO loans being repaid this year.

RECOMMENDATION

39. **The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report, and to RECOMMEND Council to note the Council's Mid Term Treasury Management Review 2011/12.**

SUE SCANE

Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer

Contact officer: Donna Ross, Principal Financial Manager Tel: (01865) 323976

October 2011

Lending List Changes during 2011/12**Counterparties added/reinstated**

Svenska Handelsbanken

Counterparties removed/suspended

Clydesdale Bank Plc
 Crown Agents Bank
 BNP Paribas
 Credit Industriel et Commercial

Lending limits & Maturity limits decreased

Maturity	New Lending limit	Maximum
Royal Bank of Scotland Plc	£5m	Overnight
Santander UK Plc	£5m	3 months
Lloyds TSB Bank Plc	£5m	3 months
Bank of Scotland Plc	£5m	3 months
Nationwide Building Society	£5m	3 months
Barclays Bank Plc	£15m	6 months
HSBC Bank Plc	£20m	6 months
Standard Chartered Bank	£20m	6 months
DnB Nor Bank	£10m	1 month
Nordea Bank Finland	£20m	1 month
Svenska Handelsbanken	£20m	6 months
Rabobank Group	£25m	6 months
All American, Canadian & Australian Counterparties	Unchanged	6 months
All other Counterparties (excl. other Local Authorities)	Unchanged	6 months

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL DEBT FINANCING 2011/12

<u>Debt Profile</u>		£m
1. PWLB	88%	384.41
2. Money Market LOBO loans	11%	<u>50.00</u>
3. Sub-total External Debt		434.41
4. Internal Balances	1%	<u>3.21</u>
5. Actual Debt at 31 March 2011	100%	437.62
6. Government Supported Borrowing		0.00
7. Unsupported Borrowing		8.92
8. Borrowing in Advance		0.00
9. Minimum Revenue Provision		<u>-20.18</u>
10. Forecast Debt at 31 March 2012		426.36
<u>Maturing Debt</u>		
11. PWLB loans maturing during the year		-13.67
12. PWLB loans repaid prematurely in the course of debt restructuring		<u>0.00</u>
13. Total Maturing Debt		-13.67
<u>New External Borrowing</u>		
14. PWLB Normal		0.00
15. PWLB loans raised in the course of debt restructuring		0.00
16. Money Market LOBO loans		<u>0.00</u>
17. Total New External Borrowing		0.00
<u>Debt Profile Year End</u>		
18. PWLB	86%	370.74
19. Money Market LOBO loans	11%	<u>50.00</u>
20. Sub-total External Debt		420.74
21. Internal Balances	3%	<u>5.62</u>
22. Forecast Debt at 31 March 2012	100%	426.36

Line

- 1 – 5 This is a breakdown of the Council's debt at the beginning of the financial year (1 April 2011). The PWLB is a government agency operating within the Debt Management Office. LOBO (Lender's Option/ Borrower's Option) loans are long-term loans, with a maturity of up to 60 years, which includes a re-pricing option for the bank at predetermined time intervals. Internal balances include provisions, reserves, revenue balances, capital receipts unapplied, and excess of creditors over debtors.
- 6 'Government Supported Borrowing' is the amount that the Council can borrow in any one year to finance the capital programme. This is determined by Central Government, and in theory supported through the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) system.
- 7 'Unsupported Borrowing' reflects Prudential Borrowing taken by the authority whereby the associated borrowing costs are met by savings in the revenue budget.
- 8 'Borrowing in Advance' is the amount the Council borrowed in advance to fund future capital finance costs.
- 9 The amount of debt to be repaid from revenue. The sum to be repaid annually is laid down in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, which stipulates that the repayments must equate to at least 4% of the debt outstanding at 1 April each year.
- 10 The Council's forecast total debt by the end of the financial year, after taking into account new borrowing, debt repayment and movement in funding by internal balances.
- 11 The Council's normal maturing PWLB debt.
- 12 PWLB debt repaid early during the year.
- 13 Total debt repayable during the year.
- 14 The normal PWLB borrowing undertaken by the Council during 2011/12.
- 15 New PWLB loans to replace debt repaid early.
- 16 The Money Market borrowing undertaken by the Council during 2011/12.
- 17 The total external borrowing undertaken.
- 18-22 The Council's forecast debt profile at the end of the year.

Long-Term Debt Maturing 2011/12**Public Works Loan Board: Loans Matured during first half of 2011/12**

Date	Amount £m	Rate %
01/04/2011	5.000	9.50
22/05/2011	3.000	9.00
13/07/2011	0.500	2.35
31/07/2011	0.500	2.35
31/08/2011	0.342	1.12
16/09/2011	1.000	9.50
Total	10.342	

Public Works Loan Board: Loans Due to Mature during second half of 2010/11

Date	Amount £m	Rate %
01/12/2011	2.000	7.50
13/01/2012	0.500	2.35
31/01/2012	0.500	2.35
28/02/2012	0.344	1.12
Total	3.344	

Prudential Indicators Position 30th September 2011**Authorised and Operational Limit for External Debt**

External Debt	Operational Limit £m	Authorised Limit £m	Actual 30/09/11 £m	Forecast 31/03/12 £m
Borrowing	543	553	424	421
Other Long-Term Liabilities	40	40	6	6
TOTAL External Debt	583	593	430	427

Capital Financing Requirement for year £429,164,000

Fixed Interest Rate Exposure

Fixed Interest Net Borrowing limit 150%
Actual at 30 September 2011 113%

Variable Interest Rate Exposure

Variable Interest Net Borrowing limit 25%
Actual at 30 September 2011 -13%

Sums Invested over 365 days

Total sums invested for more than 364 days limit £100,000,000
Actual sums invested for more than 364 days £ 37,000,000

Maturity Structure of Borrowing

	Limit %	Actual %
Under 12 months	0 - 20	4.31
12 – 24 months	0 - 25	4.33
24 months – 5 years	0 - 35	9.20
5 years to 10 years	5 - 40	14.86
10 years +	50 - 95	67.30

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Division(s): N/A

COUNCIL – 13 DECEMBER 2011

REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

Report by the Monitoring Officer

Review of the Council's Constitution

Introduction

1. A major review of the Constitution took place in 2009. There have been no significant concerns raised with the Monitoring Officer in relation to its operation. The Monitoring Officer keeps the Constitution up to date and is authorised to make changes to comply with the law, give effect to decisions of the Council or to correct or clarify matters for accuracy.
2. Other changes require the approval of the full Council. Some minor changes, to improve the business and efficiency of the Council, are suggested in this report. The report also specifically reviews the operation of the Council's Petition Scheme to fulfil Council's requirement for an annual review of the Scheme.
3. As part of the review, the Monitoring Officer discussed with each political group leader whether there were any issues of particular concern. No such issues were raised from the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat groups. The leader of the Green Group expressed his concern that the current council procedure rules for including motions on council agendas did not include his group on the same terms as the three main groups on the Council and consequently both his group and the independent member were at a disadvantage in ensuring their motions were debated.

Potential changes

Communication with councillors:

4. Members have on occasion expressed concern that procedures for keeping them informed about issues affecting their divisions are either not clear or not always followed. The position is reviewed by the Monitoring Officer and by the Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee. However, it may be appropriate to reflect more fully in the Constitution the current informal protocol whereby directors have responsibility for demonstrating to the Monitoring Officer, by quarterly report, their arrangements for keeping members informed. This requirement could be accommodated as a further paragraph within the Protocol on Members' Rights and Responsibilities, section 10 of which deals specifically with 'effective communication with members'.

Petition Scheme:

5. The Petition Scheme, at Part 11 of the Constitution, has been in operation since June 2010 and sets out clearly how members of the public can create petitions, including online petitions, and what the Council will do with these once they are received. The Localism Act 2011 **will repeal** the requirement for Council's to keep and maintain petition schemes and so it will be a discretionary matter whether Petition Schemes are retained or not.
6. The County Council's Petition Scheme has been generally well-used. For instance, seventeen e-petitions have been raised during the past year. Of these, thirteen were in relation to libraries with others relating to environmental issues. The e-petition facility on the Council's website is effectively low maintenance, for the public and for the Council. It is also possible for persons without electronic facilities to be added to an e-petition and is therefore not discriminatory. Also, it is possible for written and e-petitions to be 'joined together' therefore maximising the impact of petitions. To date, no petitions have triggered a requirement to 'hold an officer to account' or a debate at Full Council. The petitions that have been made have therefore been referred to relevant officers to consider and to report to members as appropriate. On the other hand, the Petition Scheme has not been significantly used in the past year and has not triggered wider debates. On one occasion, the availability of the Scheme has created an expectation that the County Council can achieve a resolution to an issue when a direct approach to a more relevant authority might have been more beneficial.
7. Council is asked to consider whether the Scheme should continue, having regard to the level of usage to date, the accessibility to the Council afforded by it, its low maintenance and subject to the implementation of Localism Act's repeal provisions.

Councillor Call for Action:

8. The Councillor Call for Action (Part 9.3, Annex 1 of the Constitution) allows a member of the Council to pursue a constituency matter by requesting a relevant scrutiny committee to consider the matter. This is effectively designed to be a means of last resort. The current process envisages that a preliminary meeting is held between the member and the relevant chairman in order to agree the outcomes expected and the key issues, information and witnesses required. The committee can then hear from the member and any witnesses and decide whether to take the matter up for example by including the issue as part of an ongoing programme of review or the holding of a separate meeting.
9. A question arises as to whether the calling and hearing of witnesses by the committee before it has decided to take on the issue is premature and sits better within the investigatory framework following a decision to pursue the

matter. Consequently, Council is asked to consider whether the procedures under the Councillor Call for Action should be amended such that a committee initially hears from the member concerned and then, should the matter be taken forward, the information and witnesses can be considered thereafter.

Administrative changes

10. As mentioned above, the Monitoring Officer has delegated authority to make minor administrative changes to the Constitution to comply with the law, give effect to decisions of the Council or to correct or clarify matters for accuracy. A schedule of the administrative changes are annexed to this report. A track-change version of these are on deposit in the Members' Resource Centre, for information.

Communication of Changes

11. Council on the 14 June 2011 determined that the number of hard copy Constitutions should be reduced and that the Constitution on the public website should be regarded as the definitive master copy. Any changes agreed by Full Council will be updated on the website and amended extracts provided to those Members that are already in receipt of hard copy Constitutions. In addition, an updated version will be placed in the Members Resource Centre for information.

RECOMMENDATION

12. Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) Approve the addition to the Protocol on Members' Rights and Responsibilities of explicit reference to Directors' responsibilities to report to the Monitoring Officer on a quarterly basis of their arrangements for keeping members informed of local issues;
- (b) Determine whether or not to maintain a Petition Scheme for Oxfordshire County Council;
- (c) Amend the Councillor Call for Action Rules (Part 9.3, Annex 1) so that the committee hears, in the first instance, from the member concerned and that the consideration of evidence and witnesses occurs if and when the committee agrees to pursue the relevant Councillor Call for Action.

NAME: Peter Clark
County Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer: Glenn Watson

December 2011

Annex

Review of the Constitution

Full Council – 13 December 2011

Administrative Changes

December 2011

The following is a list of administrative changes which the Monitoring Officer intends to make under his delegated authority under the Constitution to keep the Constitution up to date.

Part 2 – Articles:

Article 4 – The Full Council

2. Functions of full council

Delete 'j' about making and amending bylaws as this power has been delegated already to DOC.

4. Policy framework – various name changes of policies to update

5. Budget and policy framework:

This should cross-refer to Part 3.2 rather than 'the appendix to this article'.

Article 8 – Appointments sub-committee

1 (b) Delete reference to 'Deputy Directors'

Part 3.1 – Council Procedure Rules

13.4 – clarify that 13.5.1 (ii) (a) also applies as a rule that does not apply to a recommendation from the Cabinet, a committee of the Council or an officer (as a motion on notice)

13.5.1 (ii) – addition of the words 'except the February (or budget-setting) meeting:'

15.6.1 – clarify that an amendment should not have the effect of negating the 'whole' motion

Part 3.2 – Budget and policy framework procedure rules

(6) Call in of decision – add the word 'sent' on second line 'be **sent**' to the Cabinet with'

Part 7.1 – Management Structure

Complete replacement of this section to update job titles following restructures under the Business Strategy.

Part 7.3 – Scheme of Delegation to Officers

Amendment to 6.6 by adding a new 6.7 (delegation to directors) to clarify that the powers of the Director of E&E include “Jointly with the County Solicitor, determination of applications for certificates of lawfulness of existing or proposed use or development.”

Part 8.2 – Financial Procedure Rules

Revised version consequent on the changes made at Council earlier in the year.

Part 8.3 – Contract Procedure Rules

Various minor changes to give effect to updates and clarifications.

Part 8.4 – Officer Employment Procedure Rules

(2) As regards the structure of directorates...

(a) Add clarification that this power (for directors to modify their directorate structures) is exercised ‘with the concurrence of the head of human resources (through the Strategic Human Resources Manager)’

(3) Salaries and remuneration

Add section to say that the Council’s Pay Policy, will apply to salaries and remuneration once it comes into force in April 2012

Appointment and Dismissal of Directors

Clarification of Processes

Part 9.6 Officers’ code of conduct

8. Values – amend acronym so that I equals ‘Innovation’

12 Fraud and corruption replace ‘their’ with ‘your official capacity’

FAQ section – *Human Rights section* amend to say ‘Emails that are private...should not be viewed by the employer’

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Division(s): N/A

COUNTY COUNCIL – 13 DECEMBER 2011

REPORT OF THE CABINET

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader

1. Establishment Review – November 2011

(Cabinet, 15 November 2011)

Cabinet noted a report that gave an update on activity since the implementation of the Establishment Review and associated Recruitment Approval process on 1 August 2005. Details of the agreed establishment figure at 30 September 2011 in terms of Full Time Equivalents was provided, together with the detailed staffing position at 30 September 2011. The report also contained information on grant funded posts and those vacancies which are being covered by agency staff and at what cost.

Cabinet Member: Children, Young People & Families

2. Progress Report on CLA and Leaving Care

(Cabinet, 15 November 2011)

Cabinet considered one of a regular series of reports that came to Cabinet on its role as legal "Corporate Parent" to the Children and Young People Looked After by the Council, and those Leaving Care to live independently.

Cabinet agreed their continued support for the Corporate Parenting Strategy and noted the information on outcomes for looked After Children and the associated performance measures.

Cabinet Member: Finance & Property

3. 2011/12 Financial Monitoring & Business Strategy Delivery Report September 2011

(Cabinet, 15 November 2011)

Cabinet considered a report that set out the financial monitoring and business strategy delivery position covering the period to the end of September 2011. The report focused on the delivery of the Directorate Business Strategies which were agreed as part of the Service and Resource Planning Process for 2011/12 – 2015/16. These form part of the forecast position for each Directorate. Cabinet approved the virements as set out in the report, approved a change to the Capital Programme, agreed bad debt write off and approved the proposed charge for the issuing of each Disabled Parking Permit.

Cabinet Member: Schools Improvement

4. Woodstock Primary School

(Cabinet, 15 November 2011)

Cabinet considered a report on the outcome of consultation, on proposals to expand Woodstock CE Primary School by increasing the school admission number (at F1 entry) from 30 to 45 with effect from 1 September 2013.

Cabinet agreed the proposal for the permanent expansion of Woodstock Primary School.

Note: *As set out under Rule 17(a) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision was exempt from Call-In as it was deemed urgent and any delay would have seriously prejudiced the Council's interests, in that the Cabinet's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator if the decision was not taken within two months of the end of the Statutory Notice, in this case being 5 October 2011.*

5. St Christopher's Primary School

(Cabinet, 2 November 2011)

The Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement considered a report on the outcome of consultation, on proposals to expand St Christopher's Primary School from 1.5 to 2 forms of entry with effect from 1 September 2012.

The Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement agreed the proposal for the permanent expansion of St Christopher's Primary School

Note: *As set out under Rule 17(a) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision was exempt from Call-In as it was deemed urgent and any delay would have seriously prejudiced the Council's interests, in that the Cabinet's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator if the decision was not taken within two months of the end of the Statutory Notice, in this case being 5 October 2011.*

Cabinet Member: Transport

6. Oxfordshire Concessionary Fares Scheme

(Cabinet, 15 November 2011)

On 1 April 2011 Oxfordshire County Council took on the responsibility for administering the National Concessionary Fares scheme from the five Oxfordshire District Councils. In January 2011 Cabinet agreed the proposals for the 2011/2012 financial year and asked that a further report be submitted in time for decisions to be made for the 2012/2013 financial year and to report back on experience in running the scheme in the current year. The report submitted dealt with the reimbursement of bus companies and the formal conditions of concessionary pass usage from the start of the 2012/2013 financial year.

Cabinet agreed the formal conditions of concessionary pass usage, including a later cut off time of 24.00 hours Monday to Friday for the acceptance of Concessionary Passes. Cabinet delegated authority to the Deputy Director, Highways and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, to negotiate and agree the scheme for the reimbursement of bus companies

KEITH R MITCHELL, CBE

Leader of the Council

November 2011

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