

CABINET

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 21 April 2015 commencing at 2.00 pm and finishing at 2.35 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Ian Hudspeth – in the Chair
Councillor Rodney Rose
Councillor Mrs Judith Heathcoat
Councillor Nick Carter
Councillor Melinda Tilley
Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
Councillor David Nimmo Smith
Councillor Lawrie Stratford
Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles

Other Members in Attendance: Councillor Liz Brighthouse (Agenda Item 7)
Councillor Jean Fooks (Agenda Item 5)
Councillor Nick Hards (Agenda Item 6)
Councillor Phillips (Agenda Item 4)

Officers:

Whole of meeting Joanna Simons (Chief Executive); Sue Whitehead (Chief Executive's Office)

Part of meeting Item	Name
6	Kathy Wilcox, Corporate Finance
7	Claire Phillips, Chief Executive's Office

The Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting, and decided as set out below. Except insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda, reports and schedule, copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.

30/15 MINUTES

(Agenda Item. 3)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2015 were approved and signed.

31/15 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

(Agenda Item. 4)

Councillor Phillips had given notice of the following question to Councillor Hibbert Biles:

'I am disappointed to note in the Business Management and Monitoring Report Q3 that all Public Health indicators are below target. How long is the Cabinet Member going to tolerate this situation and when can we expect targets to be met in the following areas ?

- % of Primary School children classed as obese in Year 6

-% of people offered a health check who have taken up the offer-

Number of people who have received a health check that were identified as high cardiovascular risk

-Support 3800 people to become "4 week quitters per annum

-Number of opiate users who left drug treatment successfully who do not represent for treatment again within 6 months as a percentage of the total number of non-opiate users in treatment-

Number of non-opiate users who left drug treatment successfully who do not represent again within 6 months as a percentage of the total number of non-opiate users in treatment'

Councillor Hibbert Biles replied:

"The Cabinet Member does not tolerate the situation, but has deliberately approved ambitious targets through the Health and Wellbeing Board to help the many organisations who are responsible to take a serious approach to Public Health issues and so keep an upward pressure on improvement.. The red targets should therefore be seen as the cabinet's fearless determination to tackle these problems head -on. The truth is that either Oxfordshire is already successful compared with elsewhere or is taking vigorous and successful action to improve the health of local people.

For example:

Childhood obesity: Oxfordshire already is well ahead of the national average and obesity is low (16.9% compared with 19.1%). Obesity is everyone's business and all individuals, families and organisations have a role to play. The target is deliberately ambitious to encourage partners such as schools and District councils to continue to play their part. We have worked closely with schools to make sure that a very high proportion of our children are weighed and measured each year, and we believe that this thoroughness makes Oxfordshire's figure slightly higher than in authorities where more children opt out of the test.

Health checks: we have the best performance on health checks in the Region and outstrip national performance (48.3% for Oxfordshire compared to 47.5% for Thames Valley and 46.4% for England). We pay general practices to carry out these checks and we keep the target ambitiously high to get the best performance from general practice and so give the people of Oxfordshire the best value for money. Oxfordshire has used an innovative approach to monitoring these contracts and is a leader on the national stage.

Smoking cessation: There has been a national trend which has shown a 20% fall in successful quitters across the board In 2014/15 and the numbers of smoking quitters in Oxfordshire followed this trend.. We were not complacent

about this however and so we have let a new ambitious contract from the 1st April 2015, and expect to see improvements from the new service provider who won the contract. In short, we saw a national problem which was reflected locally and have taken the proper action to improve matters.

Opiate and non-opiate abstinence. The Council inherited this service from the NHS when performance was very poor indeed. Since the service has been under Council management, it has been completely overhauled and as a result, performance is steadily improving. As part of this programme of improvement, we have just successfully concluded a major initiative to re-let the main contract for adult services and the new service started on the 1st April 2015. We have kept the target deliberately high as a statement of ambition and to show our commitment to service improvement.”

Supplementary: With regard to childhood obesity Councillor Phillips welcomed that a high proportion of our children are weighed and measured each year and asked having found out the position what happened next. Councillor Hibbert Biles replied that they continued to be weighed and measured.

32/15 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item. 5)

The following petitions were submitted:

A petition from Mr Rob Whitty, resident of Wolvercote requesting a sound barrier is finally installed between Wolvercote and the A34.

A petition from Ms Harriet Milles, resident of Wolvercote & Councillor Jean Fooks requesting traffic calming in Wolvercote Green.

The following requests to speak had been agreed:

Item 6 - Councillor Nick Hards, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance

Item 7 – Councillor Liz Brighthouse, Chairman Performance Scrutiny Committee.

33/15 2014/15 FINANCIAL MONITORING & BUSINESS STRATEGY DELIVERY REPORT - FEBRUARY 2015

(Agenda Item. 6)

Cabinet had before them a financial report on revenue and capital spending against budget allocations, including virements between budget heads.

Cabinet were advised of an amendment set out in the addenda of the introduction of the pre-application charging for highways advice set out in Part 4 and Annex 7b to 1 July 2015.

Councillor Nick Hards, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance, welcomed the reduction in the overspend to £1.2m although noted that use of reserves was a one-off measure. He highlighted the measures taken to reduce the deficit and queried how this would impact on services such as Children's Centres and home to school transport. There would be an on-going issues with services that were not statutory and there would need to be meaningful discussions with the next government. Councillor Hards highlighted a number of individual matters referred to in the report including: the good news on the home support package set out in paragraph 26; the correct use of the parking reserve account; the sensible approach taken to monies received for specific purposes as set out in paragraph 77 and recognition of the one-off set up costs of the Hampshire Partnership.

Councillor Stratford, Cabinet Member for Finance responded to the comments made and recognised the challenge for services and in particular for Children, Education & Families. He had asked that the Council look at the impact of measures taken on the front line services.

Councillor Stratford introduced the contents of the report and advised that it was his expectation that there would be a further reduction in the overspend once the end of year figures were available.

Councillor Judith Heathcoat, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care paid tribute to the hard work of staff in Social and Community Services.

Following a question from Councillor Carter, Cabinet Member for Business and Customer Services in relation to paragraph 79 on schools revenue balances, Cabinet was advised of the ongoing work looking at the baances held. It was noted that the position was very complex with reserves held for a number of reasons.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) note the report and annexes;
- (b) approve the return of £0.640m Supplementary Estimate relating to the Severe Weather Recovery Grant as set out in paragraph 64;
- (c) approve the creation of the Government Initiatives Reserve and the contribution of £0.840m as set out in paragraph 77;
- (d) approve the write off part of the developer contribution as set out in paragraph 69;
- (e) approve the changes to fees and charges set out in Part 4 and Annex 7a and 7b, subject to the introduction of the pre-application charging for highways advice being amended to 1 July 2015;
- (f) approve the changes to the Capital Programme set out in Annex 8c;

- (g) approve the release of £3.9m to expand the Broadband programme and to contractually commit to the construction of the revised programme as set out in paragraph 97; and
- (h) Approve allocation of £2.450m Local Growth Fund capital funding as a contribution towards the construction of stages 1 and 2 of the Wantage Eastern Link Road by the developer of the Crab Hill development as set out in paragraphs 98 to 100.

34/15 CABINET BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & MONITORING REPORT FOR QUARTER 3

(Agenda Item. 7)

Cabinet had before them a report that detailed performance for quarter three (2014-15) for the Cabinet to consider. The report is required so that the Cabinet can monitor the performance of the Council in key service areas and be assured that progress is being made to improve areas where performance is below the expected level.

Councillor Brighouse, Chairman of the Performance Scrutiny Committee reported on the discussions held at a meeting of the Performance Scrutiny Committee on 26 March, a note of which is attached as an annex to the minutes.

Councillor Rose introduced the contents of the report noting that the targets were stretching but that with regard to the fire and rescue service emergency response times (paragraph 21) their response to the recent fire at The Randolph Hotel in central Oxford had been exemplary.

Cabinet Members highlighted individual areas of performance within their areas of responsibility.

Following discussion of the performance reported in the dashboards it was:

RESOLVED: to note the performance reported in the dashboards.

35/15 DELEGATED POWERS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE - APRIL 2015

(Agenda Item. 8)

RESOLVED: to note the executive decision taken by the Chief Executive under the specific powers and functions delegated to her under the terms of Part 7.4 of the Council’s Constitution– Paragraph 6.3(c)(i):

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Reasons for Urgency</i>
11 March 2015	Request for Exemption from the Contract Procedure	Approve an exemption from tendering with the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules in	To ensure continuity of service provision whilst options for future service delivery are considered..

	Rules – Request in relation to the provision for the extraction of data from GP Practice Medical Notes to manage activity data for public health services in GP primary care settings	respect of the continuation of the procurement data service from Central Southern Commissioning Support Unit for a period of 12 months from 1 April 2015 at a cost of £58,993.	
11 March 2015	Request for Exemption from the Contract Procedure Rules – Champion Recruitment	Approve an exemption from tendering with the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules in respect of a 12 month interim contract with Champion Recruitment for the supply of temporary agency staff, with a value of c£5 million.	To ensure continued provision of the service and to provide the necessary time for the County Council to consider its future resourcing strategy and needs, and to put in place the appropriate procurement strategy.

36/15 FORWARD PLAN AND FUTURE BUSINESS

(Agenda Item. 9)

The Cabinet considered a list of items for the immediately forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet together with changes and additions set out in the schedule of addenda.

RESOLVED: to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing 2015

**Summary of Points Raised at Performance Scrutiny Committee -
Business Management Monitoring Report for the Third Quarter 2014/15**

Background

The report was previously considered by Performance Scrutiny Committee on 26 March 2015.

Focus of discussions at Performance Scrutiny

- Session focused on E&E performance, with Sue Scane attending to answer committee questions. The main discussion was around the performance of Section 106 monies.
- Members were not assured that the directorate had sufficiently transparent and effective processes in place to monitor the collection and use of S106 monies.
- Their main concern being to ensure that OCC make best use of all S106 negotiations and then that all agreed money is both collected and spent appropriately.
- There was also brief discussion around the success of the Broadband project and around the number of apprenticeships that are being offered through OCC, Skanska and Carillion.

Key Actions

- Sue Scane agreed to consider a greater locality focus within the management of S106 and to look at the availability of information at a parish level.
- The Committee called for, and the directorate agreed to provide, a detailed S106 report to a future meeting (June). The paper will focus on providing an understanding of the central process, assurance that the process is effective and transparently reported, outlining the communication channels for members regarding S106.

Additional Information

- Members raised concerns about the performance around the timeliness of visits and reviews for looked after children and children on child protection plans. This will be looked at in more detail when CEF is the focus of the meeting. In the meantime the service is providing a briefing for committee members to outline the investigation, and the outcomes of those investigations, that take place when visits/reviews are late.
- There was also a brief discussion around educational attainment and the gap in attainment that opens significantly between KS2 and KS4. This has been referred to the Education Scrutiny Committee for further scrutiny.
- The final concern that members raised was around the increased waiting time for adult social care assessments and what happens to people waiting, in terms of intermediate care provision. The service is preparing a briefing note to committee members to answer this question.