



To: Members of the Cabinet

Notice of a Meeting of the Cabinet

Tuesday, 10 November 2015 at 2.00 pm

County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND

Peter Clark
Head of Paid Service

October 2015

Contact Officer: **Sue Whitehead**
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Membership

Councillors

Ian Hudspeth	Leader of the Council
Rodney Rose	Deputy Leader of the Council
Mrs Judith Heathcoat	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
Nick Carter	Cabinet Member for Business & Customer Services
Melinda Tilley	Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families
Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	Cabinet Member for Cultural & Community Services
David Nimmo Smith	Cabinet Member for Environment
Lawrie Stratford	Cabinet Member for Finance
Hilary Hibbert-Biles	Cabinet Member for Public Health & the Voluntary Sector

The Agenda is attached. Decisions taken at the meeting will become effective at the end of the working day on Wednesday 18 November 2015 unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee. Copies of this Notice, Agenda and supporting papers are circulated to all Members of the County Council.

Date of next meeting: 15 December 2015

County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND

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Declarations of Interest

The duty to declare.....

Under the Localism Act 2011 it is a criminal offence to

- (a) fail to register a disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days of election or co-option (or re-election or re-appointment), or
- (b) provide false or misleading information on registration, or
- (c) participate in discussion or voting in a meeting on a matter in which the member or co-opted member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Whose Interests must be included?

The Act provides that the interests which must be notified are those of a member or co-opted member of the authority, **or**

- those of a spouse or civil partner of the member or co-opted member;
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as husband/wife
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as if they were civil partners.

(in each case where the member or co-opted member is aware that the other person has the interest).

What if I remember that I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the Meeting?.

The Code requires that, at a meeting, where a member or co-opted member has a disclosable interest (of which they are aware) in any matter being considered, they disclose that interest to the meeting. The Council will continue to include an appropriate item on agendas for all meetings, to facilitate this.

Although not explicitly required by the legislation or by the code, it is recommended that in the interests of transparency and for the benefit of all in attendance at the meeting (including members of the public) the nature as well as the existence of the interest is disclosed.

A member or co-opted member who has disclosed a pecuniary interest at a meeting must not participate (or participate further) in any discussion of the matter; and must not participate in any vote or further vote taken; and must withdraw from the room.

Members are asked to continue to pay regard to the following provisions in the code that *“You must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself”* or *“You must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned.....”*.

Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting should you have any doubt about your approach.

List of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Employment (includes *“any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain”*.), **Sponsorship, Contracts, Land, Licences, Corporate Tenancies, Securities.**

For a full list of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and further Guidance on this matter please see the Guide to the New Code of Conduct and Register of Interests at Members’ conduct guidelines. <http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/occ/Insite/Elected+members/> or contact Glenn Watson on (01865) 815270 or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.

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.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

- guidance note opposite

3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 12)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2015 (**CA3**) and to receive information arising from them.

4. Questions from County Councillors

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

5. Petitions and Public Address

6. Public Consultation Report - Supported Transport (Subsidised Buses and Dial-A-Ride) (Pages 13 - 158)

Cabinet Member: Environment

Forward Plan Ref: 2015/095

Contact: Alexandra Bailey, Service Manager, Business Development & Fleet Management Tel: (01865) 797228

Report by Director for Environment & Economy (**CA6**).

On 26th May 2015, the Cabinet approved the launch of a full public consultation on proposed changes to subsidised bus services and Dial a Ride. This report details the consultation process that was followed and summarises the main themes which arose throughout the consultation. Finally it offers a number of recommendations for cabinet to consider.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Delivery of the agreed Medium Term Financial Plan savings

In order to deliver the savings required in the MTFP, the Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- (a) Consider the consultation feedback regarding subsidised bus services.***
- (b) Proceed with reducing bus subsidies by £2.3 million and:***
 - 1. Consider the consultation feedback regarding subsidised bus services and decide which services to prioritise – off-peak, peak, or other.***
 - 2. Update the methodology used for ranking services in the following ways:***
 - i. Include additional criteria which ensure that rurally isolated and deprived areas are also prioritised.***
 - ii. Agree to continue to pay for (i.e. protect in the methodology) subsidised bus routes which are used to take entitled students from home to school, where on the whole it is cheaper for us to do so, instead of paying for separate dedicated school transport. (This will vary routes available on a year by year basis as school cohorts change).***
 - iii. Ensure a consistent methodology by treating all providers in the same way, whether they are external providers, OCC fleet or community transport providers.***

If cabinet approves this request, then approximately two-thirds of the subsidies due to be withdrawn would cease in April 2016, and the remaining third would cease in June 2016. The £2.3m savings under option 2 would be realised in financial year 16/17, assuming notice was served in November / December 2015.

The exact details cannot be finalised at this stage due to variables including whether contract renewal renegotiations are required, which could alter costs.

- (c) Cease funding the Dial a Ride service as of April 2016.***

Delivery of further savings subject to Council approval

- (d) The withdrawal of all bus subsidies would deliver the full £3.7m savings if the cabinet makes this decision, subject to full council's approval in February 2016 to further reduce the Supported Transport budget. The full £3.7m savings, would be realised once all contract termination processes have been completed.***

If Council approves this request, then the subsidies would cease at the following time:

- ***50% of subsidies (59/118 services) require 17 weeks' notice and could terminate on 20th June 2016, assuming notice was served on 22nd February 2016.***

- ***31% of subsidies (37/118 services) require 16 weeks' notice but also require 16 weeks to modify the "Authorised Change Date". This means they would take 32 weeks to terminate. They could therefore terminate on 3rd October 2016, assuming notice to change the "Authorised Change Date" was served on 22nd February 2016, and notice to terminate the contract was served 16 weeks later on 13th June 2016.***

- ***9% of subsidies (11/118 services) require 16 weeks' notice and could terminate on 13th June 2016, assuming notice was served on 22nd February 2016. These are services operated by Oxfordshire County Council.***

- ***9% of subsidies (11/118 services) will expire naturally on or before the 31st March 2016.***

Annex E shows which routes fall into each category.

Allocation of one-off, pump-prime funding

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- (e) Allocate (from the efficiency reserve) £500k of one-off, pump-prime funding for groups to bid for, in order to set-up community transport initiatives which meet an identified transport need in their area***

Exploring a new approach to Transport

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

(f) Approve the suggested implementation approach, including the request to explore the option of undertaking a larger scale commissioning exercise which includes a range of supported transport services, in addition to subsidised bus services.

N.B. Depending on the cabinet's decision on whether to withdraw all bus subsidies, this commissioning exercise will either include the remainder of the subsidy budget, or exclude it if cabinet decides to withdraw all funding.

7. Treasury Management Mid Term Review (2014/15) (Pages 159 - 172)

Cabinet Member: Finance

Forward Plan Ref: 2015/060

Contact: Lewis Gosling, Financial Manager - Treasury Management Tel: (01865) 323988

Report by Chief Finance Officer (**CA7**).

The report sets out the Treasury Management activity undertaken in the first half of the financial year 2015/16 in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice. The report includes Debt and Investment activity, Prudential Indicator monitoring and forecast interest receivable and payable for the financial year.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report, and to RECOMMEND Council to note the Council's Mid-Term Treasury Management Review 2015/16.

8. Staffing Report - Quarter 2 - 2015 (Pages 173 - 176)

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader

Forward Plan Ref: 2015/061

Contact: Sue Corrigan, County HR Manager Tel: (01865) 810280

Report by Chief Human Resources Officer (**CA8**).

The report provides an update on staffing numbers and related activity for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 September 2015. Progress is being tracked throughout the year on the movement of staffing numbers from those reported at 31 March 2015 as we continue to deliver required budget savings.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

9. **Forward Plan and Future Business (Pages 177 - 178)**

Cabinet Member: All

Contact Officer: Sue Whitehead, Committee Services Manager (01865 810262)

The Cabinet Procedure Rules provide that the business of each meeting at the Cabinet is to include “updating of the Forward Plan and proposals for business to be conducted at the following meeting”. Items from the Forward Plan for the immediately forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet appear in the Schedule at **CA**. This includes any updated information relating to the business for those meetings that has already been identified for inclusion in the next Forward Plan update.

The Schedule is for noting, but Cabinet Members may also wish to take this opportunity to identify any further changes they would wish to be incorporated in the next Forward Plan update.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.