

These notes indicate the decisions taken at this meeting and the officers responsible for taking the agreed action. For background documentation please refer to the agenda and supporting papers available on the Council's web site ([www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk).)

The decisions take effect at the time and date specified, unless before that time written notice is given in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rules requiring the decision to be called in for review by the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

If you have a query please contact Sue Whitehead (Tel: (01865) 810262; E-Mail: [sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk))

### **CABINET - TUESDAY, 28 JUNE 2016**

<p><i>List published 29 June 2016</i>  <i>Decisions will (unless called in) become effective at 5.00pm on 6 July 2016</i></p>		
<i>RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<b>1. Apologies for Absence</b>	Councillor Rodney Rose	CLO (A. Newman)
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b>	None	
<b>3. Minutes</b>	Approved.	
<b>4. Questions from County Councillors</b>	See attached annex.	
<b>5. Petitions and Public Address</b>	A CIHT/Mouchel Streets and Places Commended Award 2016 was presented to Councillor Nimmo Smith for work by E&E in conjunction with Skanska.	
<p><b>6. Provisional 2015/16 Revenue and Capital Outturn</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Finance</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2016/002</i>  <i>Contact: Katy Jurczyszyn, Strategic Finance Manager (Finance, Strategy &amp; Monitoring) Tel: (01865) 323975</i></p> <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED in respect of the 2015/16 outturn to:</p> <p>(a) note the provisional revenue and capital outturn for 2015/16 along</p>	Recommendations agreed.	CFO (K. Jurczyszyn)

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<p>with the year end position on balances and reserves as set out in the report;</p> <p>(b) approve the debt write-off as set out in paragraph 60;</p> <p>(c) approve the virements as set out in Annex 2a;</p> <p>(d) recommend Council to approve the virements greater than £1.0m for Children, Education &amp; Families and Social &amp; Community Services as set out in Annex 2a;</p> <p>(e) recommend Council to approve the virement of £1.5m from contingency to offset the overspend within Children's Social Care; and</p> <p>(f) agree that the surplus on the On-Street Parking Account at the end of the 2015/16 financial year, so far as not applied to particular eligible purposes in accordance with Section 55(4) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, be carried forward in the account to the 2016/17 financial year.</p>		
<p><b>7. Connecting Oxfordshire Update - Local Transport Plan (LTP4) 2015-2031</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Environment</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2015/119</i>  <i>Contact: John Disley, Policy &amp; Strategy Manager Tel: (01865) 810460</i></p> <p>Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>(a) approve the Connecting Oxfordshire update, and to RECOMMEND it for adoption by Full Council at its</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed, together with the following change:</p> <p>Delete the third bullet point on page 10 of the A420 strategy document:</p>	<p>DEE (J. Disley)</p>

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<i>RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p>meeting in July 2016; and</p> <p>(b) note the contents of Annex 2 and to instruct officers to undertake work to progress proposals for Clean Air Zones in parallel with proposals for an Oxford city centre zero-emission zone.</p>	<p>“A new roundabout at the A420 junction with Coxwell Road. This upgrade is partially funded by developers of nearby strategic sites.”</p> <p>Substitute with the following bullet point:</p> <p>“A significant junction improvement will be required at the A420 junction with Coxwell Road to accommodate known housing growth in the area. The Highway Authority has been negotiating with the developers through the planning process and a full signalisation of the junction is an agreeable solution in principle.”</p>	
<p><b>8. Forward Plan and Future Business</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: All</i>  <i>Contact Officer: Sue Whitehead,</i>  <i>Committee Services Manager (01865 810262)</i></p> <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>	<p>SW/AB</p>

## ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions received from the following Members:

### 1. From Councillor Lilly to Councillor Tilley

“I am advised that a large number of children are now attending our library’s for the excellent children’s reading programmes recently introduced. How does this impact on children’s overall education?”

#### Answer

“Oxfordshire Libraries have been delivering the Summer Reading Challenge since 1999, working in partnership with The Reading Agency to engage young people across the county to take part and so maintain their reading for pleasure throughout the summer break from school. During summer 2015:

- 8402 children took part
- 4923 children read 6 or more books. 199 children joined their library in order to take part.
- 44% of those taking part were boys and 56% were girls.

Alongside the Summer Reading Challenge the Library Service offers other reading related activities throughout the year: Children’s Book Clubs, young volunteering opportunities, author events, class visits to branch libraries and other seasonal, topical events such as our hugely successful Harry Potter Night events where young people come into libraries to join in fun activities inspired by books and reading.

“Research shows that one of the most effective ways of helping children to reach their potential is to engage them in reading for enjoyment. Children who read for enjoyment make more progress in maths, vocabulary and spelling between the ages of 10 and 16 than those who rarely read and young people who read regularly are significantly more likely to attain a professional or managerial position than those who do not read.” **Clémence Pabion and Christina Clark: The Impact of Chatterbooks on Children’s Reading Enjoyment, Behaviours and Attitudes: Final report. National Literacy Trust, 2016”**

## **2. From Councillor Lilly to Councillor Carter**

“May this council be updated on the disabled Blue badge Scheme and steps being introduced to avoid Fraudulent usage.”

### **Answer**

“There are currently 25724 Blue Badge holders in Oxfordshire. Of these, 25003 are individual badges and 721 are badges used by organisations.

In the last 12 months (to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016) 9087 badges were issued and 731 applications were unsuccessful because they did not meet the eligibility criteria.

A pilot scheme for Blue Badge Enforcement was carried out in late December in Bicester, Banbury and Oxford City, focussing on a number of designated disabled parking bays in those towns, and (with their agreement) a number of major supermarkets in each town.

During the exercise over 200 badges were checked by the officers involved, who were regularly approached by members of the public with comments of thanks and support for tackling this type of crime.

In the course of three days, 10 blue badges were seized by the officers for blatant misuse. These included cases where the badge holder was not present and the badge was being used by persons not entitled to use it, using out of date badges and even using the badges of deceased persons. In each of these cases, offenders have been interviewed and legal action is under consideration.”

## **3. From Councillor Howson to Councillor Tilley**

“Who is responsible for prosecuting pupils attending academies, UTCs and free schools for non-attendance at school and what part, if any, does the County Council and the Regional School Commissioner play in the process?”

### **Answer**

“The Council is responsible for prosecuting parents of pupils who persistently fail to attend those institutions.

The role of the Council is to respond to notifications from schools of poor attendance/unauthorised absences, issue warning notices and, if necessary, initiate prosecution. In addition, the Council draws to the Regional Schools Commissioner's (RSC) attention those schools which have notably poor levels of attendance. The RSC's role would be best ascertained by asking him when he appears at Education Scrutiny Committee meeting on 04 July.”

Supplementary: Nick Graham, Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer responded to a question about the approach to prosecutions in the light of the High Court Judgement on the Isle of Wight case. He explained that as the authorising officer for all prosecutions there was a Code

he was obliged to follow. In respect of attendance cases in particular there was considerable effort to try and remedy the poor attendance and prosecution would only be considered if it was in the best interests of the child's education. He added that there was less control of the approach taken by head teachers of academies but that the guidance to all schools on fixed penalty notices was the same.

#### **4. From Councillor Patrick to Councillor Nimmo Smith**

"In the LTP4, it states that the location for a rail station in Grove will have to move from the current site where planning permission was originally granted because the recent alignment of the road bridge along the A338 means that they cannot build it there now. As the Leader has already stated his support for a station in Grove, where would he suggest would be the best location for it to be built?"

#### **Answer**

"A preferred location has not yet been identified as more work needs to be done with the rail industry and the Vale of White Horse as Planning Authority. We have stated the need to do this work in our emerging Rail Strategy."

Supplementary: Asked whether there was any timescale Councillor Nimmo Smith replied that timescales were dependent on Network Rail.

#### **5. From Councillor Webber to Councillor Hudspeth**

"Please would the Leader summarise what he sees as the implications for County Council services of the recent Referendum result?"

#### **Answer**

Councillor Hudspeth referred to rumours circulating concerning deportation and reassured members of staff that this was not happening. It was a case of waiting for Article 50 to be invoked and to see what emerged. It was now clear that there would be no emergency budget at this stage. There would be implications of the volatile market on the Local Government Pension Fund but these would need to be worked through over time. Currently it was a case of waiting to see what emerged from Government and the EU.

Supplementary: In response to a further question Councillor Hudspeth commented that the Prime Minister had allowed Cabinet members to make their own choice, Now that it was over the Conservative Party was one party, comprising the Government of this country and focussed on getting the best possible deal for the people of this country.