

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 Colm Ó Caomhánaigh (Tel: 07393 001096; E-Mail: [colm.ocaomhanaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:colm.ocaomhanaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk))

### **CABINET - TUESDAY, 21 MARCH 2023**

<i>List published 22 March 2023 Decisions will (unless called in) become effective at 5.00pm on 29 March 2023</i>		
<i>RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<b>1. Apologies for Absence</b>	None	DLG (A Newman)
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b>	None	DLG (A Newman)
<b>3. Minutes</b>  To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2023 (CA3) and to receive information arising from them.	The minutes were approved and signed.	DLG (C Ó Caomhánaigh)
<b>4. Questions from County Councillors</b>	See Annex	
<b>5. Petitions and Public Address</b>	<u>7 Proposal from OUFC to OCC as landowner</u> Suzanne McIvor Cllr Ian Middleton	
<b>6. Reports from Scrutiny Committees</b>  Report of the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Scrutiny of Water Resources and the South East Regional Plan	Cabinet received the report and will respond in due course.	
<b>7. Proposal From OUFC to OCC As Landowner: Engagement and Communications Strategy, Timeframe and Memorandum of Understanding</b>  <i>Cabinet Member: Finance</i>	An amendment was agreed to Annex 1: on Agenda Page 26, under the heading "Audiences", second bullet point, replace "and local MPs" with "MPs and Neighbourhood Forums".  Recommendations approved as	CDCODR (C Taylor)

...Decisions...Decisions...

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<p><i>Forward Plan Ref: 2023/046</i>  <i>Contact: Claire Taylor, Corporate Director Customers, Organisational Development &amp; Resources,</i>  <a href="mailto:claire.taylor@oxfordshire.gov.uk">claire.taylor@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Corporate Director Customers, Organisational Development &amp; Resources (CA7).</p> <p><b>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to</b></p> <p><b>a) Agree the engagement and communications strategy set out at annex 1.</b></p> <p><b>b) Agree the memorandum of understanding (MoU) as set out at annex 2 and delegate authority to the Corporate Director, Customers and Organisational Development to sign on behalf of the Council. Whilst not anticipated, any non-material changes to be agreed in consultation with the portfolio holder for Finance and Property.</b></p> <p><b>c) Note the timetable set out at annex 3.</b></p>	<p>follows:</p> <p>d) Agree the engagement and communications strategy set out at annex 1 <u>as amended</u>.</p> <p>e) Agree the memorandum of understanding (MoU) as set out at annex 2 and delegate authority to the Corporate Director, Customers and Organisational Development to sign on behalf of the Council. Whilst not anticipated, any non-material changes to be agreed in consultation with the portfolio holder for Finance and Property.</p> <p>f) Note the timetable set out at annex 3.</p>	
<p><b>8. Business Management &amp; Monitoring Report - December 22 / January 23</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Finance</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2022/160</i>  <i>Contact: Louise Tustian, Head of Insight &amp; Corporate Programmes,</i> <a href="mailto:louise.tustian@oxfordshire.gov.uk">louise.tustian@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a> / <i>Kathy Wilcox, Head of Financial Strategy,</i> <a href="mailto:kathy.wilcox@oxfordshire.gov.uk">kathy.wilcox@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Corporate Director Customers, Organisational Development &amp; Resources, Director of Finance (CA8).</p>		

...Decisions...Decisions...

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<p><b>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to</b></p> <p>a) note the report and annexes.  b) note the virements in Annex B-2b and approve the virements in Annex B-2a.  c) approve the write - off of seven unrecoverable social care debts with a combined total of £0.135m as set out in Annex B paragraph 117.</p>	<p>Recommendations approved.</p>	<p>CDCODR (L Tustian) / DF (K Wilcox)</p>
<p><b>9. Capital Programme Monitoring Report - January 2023</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Finance</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2022/159</i>  <i>Contact: Kathy Wilcox, Head of Financial Strategy, <a href="mailto:kathy.wilcox@oxfordshire.gov.uk">kathy.wilcox@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></i></p> <p>Report by Director of Finance (<b>CA9</b>).</p> <p><b>OCC Capital Programme</b></p> <p>a) Approve the latest capital monitoring position for 2022/23 (Annex 1) and the associated updated capital programme at Annex 2, incorporating the changes set out in this report</p> <p>b) To note the approval of the Leader of the Council, in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations for the revised budget provision of £5.4m for the Ploughley Road/A41 Junction Improvement scheme in Bicester (paragraph 21)</p> <p><b>Re-profiling</b></p> <p>c) Agree the in-year re-profiling as identified in the report and (Annex 1 and 2)</p>	<p>Recommendations approved.</p>	<p>DF (K Wilcox)</p>
<p><b>10. Treasury Management 3rd Quarterly Report</b></p>		

...Decisions...Decisions...

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<p><i>Cabinet Member: Finance</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2022/189</i>  <i>Contact: Tim Chapple, Treasury Manager,</i>  <a href="mailto:tim.chapple@oxfordshire.gov.uk">tim.chapple@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Director of Finance (CA10).</p> <p><b>Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report, and to RECOMMEND Council to note the council's treasury management activity in the third quarter of 2022/23.</b></p>	<p>Recommendations approved.</p>	<p>DF (T Chapple)</p>
<p><b>11. Workforce Report and Staffing Data – Quarter 3 - October to December 2022</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Corporate Services</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2022/161</i>  <i>Contact: Joanne Pitt, Interim Director of Human Resources,</i>  <a href="mailto:joanne.pitt@oxfordshire.gov.uk">joanne.pitt@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Corporate Director Customers, Organisational Development &amp; Resources (CA11).</p> <p><b>Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report.</b></p>	<p>Recommendations approved.</p>	<p>DHR (J Pitt)</p>
<p><b>12. Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Update</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Travel &amp; Development Strategy</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2022/248</i>  <i>Contact: Lorna Baxter, Director of Finance (S151 Officer),</i>  <a href="mailto:lorna.baxter@oxfordshire.gov.uk">lorna.baxter@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Chief Executive (CA12).</p> <p>Cabinet to approve the Oxfordshire</p>		

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<p>Housing and Growth Deal Programme.</p> <p><b>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to</b></p> <p>a) <b>Subject to the decision of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership on 20 March 2023, request the Chief Executive of the Council to write to Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DHLUC) to formally accept the terms of the letter from DHLUC to Oxfordshire Leaders and Oxfordshire County Council's Chief Executive dated 5 December 2022 (Annex 1).</b></p> <p>b) <b>Agree that in accepting the terms of the letter at Annex 1, the Council will, as accountable body and in consultation with the relevant District or City Council regarding the impact on accelerated housing numbers, take responsibility for decisions necessary to manage the programme in accordance with the updated conditions set out by DLUHC.</b></p> <p>c) <b>Note that it will be necessary to agree revised Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding for the Future Oxfordshire Partnership to reflect the change in responsibility as set out in recommendation 2.</b></p>	<p>Recommendations approved with spelling corrections:</p> <p>a) Subject to the decision of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership on 20 March 2023, request the Chief Executive of the Council to write to Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (<u>DLUHC</u>) to formally accept the terms of the letter from <u>DLUHC</u> to Oxfordshire Leaders and Oxfordshire County Council's Chief Executive dated 5 December 2022 (Annex 1).</p> <p>b) Agree that in accepting the terms of the letter at Annex 1, the Council will, as accountable body and in consultation with the relevant District or City Council regarding the impact on accelerated housing numbers, take responsibility for decisions necessary to manage the programme in accordance with the updated conditions set out by DLUHC.</p> <p>c) Note that it will be necessary to agree revised Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding for the Future Oxfordshire Partnership to reflect the change in responsibility as set out in recommendation 2.</p>	<p>DF (L Baxter)</p>
<p><b>13. Cost of Living Support Measures</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Finance</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2023/007</i></p>		

...Decisions...Decisions...

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<p><i>Contact:</i> Robin Rogers, Programme Director (Partnerships and Delivery), <a href="mailto:robin.rogers@oxfordshire.gov.uk">robin.rogers@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Director of Finance (CA13).</p> <p><b>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to</b></p> <p>a) <b>Note the cost of living support measures delivered during 2022/23, as summarised in Table 1;</b></p> <p>b) <b>Agree to vary the match funding requirements for Council Tax support agreed in September 2022, as set out in paragraph 30;</b></p> <p>c) <b>Agree to the support package for 2023/24, as summarised in Table 3, noting the flexibility outlined in paragraph 31.</b></p>	<p>Recommendations approved.</p>	<p>CDCODR (R Rogers)</p>
<p><b>14. Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership and Charter</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Leader <i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> 2023/008 <i>Contact:</i> Chloe Taylor, Interim Head of Strategy, <a href="mailto:chloe.taylor@oxfordshire.gov.uk">chloe.taylor@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Corporate Director Customers, Organisational Development &amp; Resources (CA14).</p> <p><b>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to</b></p> <p>a) <b>Note that the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership has been established.</b></p> <p>b) <b>Note that the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Charter was launched on 24 January 2023.</b></p> <p>c) <b>Agree to become a signatory to the</b></p>	<p>Recommendations approved with additional recommendation:</p> <p>e) <b>Agree that the OIEP Steering Group is considered to be a Strategic Body and that the Council's representative will be the Leader of the Council. The portfolio holder for Public Health &amp; Equality will be the official substitute.</b></p>	<p>CDCOSR (Chloe Taylor)</p>

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<p><b>Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Charter.</b></p> <p><b>d) Agree to make four pledges to build on our commitment to an inclusive economy.</b></p>		
<p><b>15. Adult Social Care Market Sustainability Plan</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Adult Social Care</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2023/045</i>  <i>Contact: Pippa Corner, Deputy Director Commissioning,</i>  <a href="mailto:pippa.corner@oxfordshire.gov.uk">pippa.corner@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Corporate Director of Adult Social Care (CA15).</p> <p><b>Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to approve, following the extensive work with partners described in the paper, the draft in Annex 1 for publication and submission to Department for Health &amp; Social Care (DHSC).</b></p>	<p>Recommendations approved.</p>	<p>CDASC (P Corner)</p>
<p><b>16. Highways contract procurement - preferred model for approval</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Highway Management</i>  <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2022/249</i>  <i>Contact: Phil Whitfield, Principal Officer - Service Improvement,</i>  <a href="mailto:phil.whitfield@oxfordshire.gov.uk">phil.whitfield@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Report by Corporate Director Environment &amp; Place (CA16).</p> <p><b>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to</b></p> <p><b>a) Approve the preferred model (single provider with greater level of in-house responsibilities and use of frameworks for some activities) for the future highway maintenance</b></p>	<p>Recommendations approved.</p>	<p>CDEP (P Whitfield)</p>

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<p><b>contract for Oxfordshire.</b></p> <p><b>b) Support progression to the next stage of developing and drafting the specification, contract, and other tender documents required for procurement.</b></p>		
<p><b>17. Forward Plan and Future Business</b></p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: All</i>  <i>Contact Officer: Colm Ó Caomhánaigh,</i>  <i>Committee Officer Tel: 07393 001096</i></p> <p><b><i>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.</i></b></p>	<p>Noted.</p>	<p>DLG (C Ó Caomhánaigh)</p>



## ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions	Cabinet Member
<p><b>1. COUNCILLOR MARK CHERRY</b></p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member look into expediting Warwick Road onto the resurfacing highway schedule from Orchard Way to the traffic lights at Southam Road where its condition continues to decline? From interaction with highway officers it could be till late 2024/2025 until funding is available to resurface the road. This poses a health and safety concern to cyclists and general traffic using the road.</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>Investigation work on this scheme is due to take place shortly, with design work planned during the course of 23/24, making it difficult to bring this scheme forward. This preparation work will look at making sure the right treatment is selected and that the whole life cost from a financial and carbon perspective is understood. The current proposal is for this scheme to be delivered in 24/25, however, we will continue to keep the road safe in the interim by repairing any safety defects in line with our road safety inspection policy through regular monitoring.</p>
<p><b>2. COUNCILLOR JOHN HOWSON</b></p> <p>Last November at Cabinet I asked about whether attendance records for councillors could be made public. Will it be possible to introduce such a scheme from the start of the new municipal year this May?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIZ LEFFMAN, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>Member attendance data are available on the software used to manage the Council's public meetings and we are in discussions with the software providers with regard to how to present the data on the public website. We will start to do that from May.</p>
<p><b>3. COUNCILLOR CHARLIE HICKS</b></p> <p>Active Travel England have recently published the active travel capability ratings for Local Authorities across England and Oxfordshire County Council is rated as 2 out of 4, with the next rating happening in Summer 2023. This rating affects how much funding Local Authorities receive from Active Travel England, who have stated as a headline</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>These ratings were agreed last year – following self-assessment [we assessed ourselves as a level 3 at that time] this was then moderated down to a level 2 by Active Travel England.</p> <p>We are very clear that we would consider ourselves pushing for a level 3 and have the opportunity to do so when these ratings are</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Cabinet Member</b>
<p>message that "working with ambitious councils is at the heart of everything we do". Councils with higher ratings are in line to receive more funds.</p> <p>To become a Level 3 Local Authority on Active Travel Capability, we need to meet the criteria of: "Very strong local leadership, comprehensive plans, and a significant network in place with a growing number of people choosing to walk, wheel and cycle"</p> <p>Does he agree with me that we should be doing everything we can to achieve a Level 3 rating from Active Travel England in the next rating round in summer 2023 (especially as we are hosting a key national active travel conference this year)? And if he does agree with me on this, please can he outline what steps are being taken to maximise our chances of a Level 3 rating, including whether the opportunity is being taken in the current E&amp;P department restructure to help get Oxfordshire County Council to the Level 3 definition this summer?</p>	<p>reassessed in the summer. Most '3' rated authorities – there are only 5 in the country – are larger metropolitan combined authorities, with Nottingham and Leicester the other two. So in addition to setting out how we have developed and improved over the last year (including our Active Travel network investment programme and supporting Behaviour Change activity) we are looking at what they have been doing to achieve this rating.</p> <p>As far as restructure goes, we are very clear that the need and opportunity to Transform Environment &amp; Place is firmly linked to achieving the Council's priorities including Active Travel.</p>
<p><b>4. COUNCILLOR MARK CHERRY</b></p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member urgently, investigate safety measures such as a lower speed limit for the stretch of road around house numbers in the 170s Warwick Road, Banbury where there have been recent road collisions with parked cars causing concern to local residents?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>In view of the number of incidents reported I have asked officers to review the possibility of introducing traffic calming measures and/or adjustments to the parking arrangements. If deemed to be feasible, funding would need to be identified to enable such proposals to be designed and taken to consultation. Alongside this a reduction in speed limit to 20mph could be considered as part of the Banbury speed limit review.</p>

Questions	Cabinet Member
<p><b>5. COUNCILLOR IAN MIDDLETON</b></p> <p>The Oxfordshire County Council and Oxford United Football Club land negotiations: engagement and communications strategy appears not to include a focused local consultation with residents in my division in Kidlington or those in Cllr Gant’s division of Wolvercote &amp; Summertown who will be directly affected by the siting of a football stadium on green belt land owned by the County Council at the Triangle site in Kidlington.</p> <p>The only reference to such an exercise appears to be “an open engagement where anyone can share feedback using an online response form; email and letters will also be accepted”. This seems similar to the process that was carried out last year which captured responses from the entire country and beyond with no reliable mechanism to ascertain if the respondents lived in the local area or even in Oxfordshire.</p> <p>Given that residents in my and Cllr Gant's divisions could be living with any development for many decades to come, will Cllr Miller please confirm that the engagement and communications strategy will incorporate a separate and geographically verifiable consultation exercise with the residents of Kidlington, Gosford, Wolvercote and Cutteslowe as soon as possible, which will include the opportunity for respondents to say if they support the principle of the leasing or sale of the Triangle site to OUFC?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR CALUM MILLER, CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE</b></p> <p>Thank you for your question, which reflects your close engagement with this scheme, and follows from the previous questions you have raised. The engagement and communications strategy is set out in the Cabinet paper. It includes a clear commitment to direct and independently facilitated engagement with stakeholder groups, including local community groups. We are planning to hold these sessions in April.</p> <p>We have also set aside six weeks for independently conducted public engagement which will take place when OUFC have provided information to OCC regarding how the strategic priorities identified by Cabinet will be addressed by their proposals. Likely timeframes for this have been published within the 21 March Cabinet report. This exercise will enable responses to be analysed on a geographic basis. Our previous engagement also enabled geographic differentiation and was supported by a programme of targeted communications to encourage participation by those local to the proposed site. We have reflected this in our work to date, noting in our January Cabinet report the difference between local views and wider views regarding the broader Stratfield Brake proposals. Indeed, this is one of the factors that has shaped our engagement with OUFC on the smaller, Triangle site.</p> <p>The Cabinet has also set out our willingness to receive feedback in any form, including feedback in the form of letters, emails and commentary in online forms. Respondents are welcome to express any and all views, supportive or otherwise.</p> <p>In my discussions with parish councils prior to the Cabinet report considered in January 2023, I made clear that we would value greatly their informed responses to OUFC's proposals when these</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Cabinet Member</b>
	<p>are published. It is not for me to say how the parish councils should represent the views of local residents. However, were the parish councils to consider undertaking their own local engagement, I would welcome this. Also, reflecting feedback from the parish councils, we have ensured that a six-week window (avoiding the peak period of summer holiday) has been factored in to accommodate this activity. The Cabinet will consider any feedback provided by the parishes as part of the decision-making process.</p>
<p><b>6. COUNCILLOR IAN MIDDLETON</b></p> <p>The fundamental reason for the council entering into negotiations with OUFC is their assertion that they have no choice but to leave their existing home as their licence to occupy the Kassam stadium will end in 2026 and they have no legal right to renew.</p> <p>Cllr Miller confirmed in the January meeting of the cabinet that the licence end date had been verified. However, there is an option for the club to challenge the status of their licence in the courts and make a claim that their long term occupation of the Kassam stadium gives them the same legal protections as a lease under the Landlord and Tenant Act, including security of tenure and the automatic right to renew. There is already ample legal precedent for this which I have provided details of to Cllr Miller and officers.</p> <p>Given that it's now well over a year since the club first approached the council saying that they had exhausted all legal avenues to remain at the Kassam, and that it's now a further 2 months on since I requested clarification on this point, can Cllr Miller please confirm that the club has been asked for and has provided evidence that they have sought</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR CALUM MILLER, CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE</b></p> <p>Thank you for your question. As I explained when you asked at Cabinet in January, officers have received information from OUFC setting out the position with regards to the club's occupancy of Kassam Stadium: a description of this position was set out in the Cabinet report in January 2023. Further to this, officers understand that avenues have been previously explored with the City Council to resolve this issue.</p> <p>At the request of Cabinet, council officers are presently in the process of undertaking further due diligence with regards to all finance and legal matters, and this will be presented to Cabinet in a timely fashion in order to inform decision making. I have shared your points with officers and asked that they be raised with OUFC as part of this process.</p> <p>The County Council is planning to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with OUFC, any misrepresentation of the position regarding the Kassam would be a breach of the commitments set out in the MOU and would call into question progress with any negotiations.</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Cabinet Member</b>
to protect their own interests by making such a legal challenge on the status of their existing licence, and if not, why not?	
<b>7. COUNCILLOR JUDY ROBERTS</b>  In relation to item 16, can I be assured that serious consideration is given to the options of framework and multiple contracts?	<b>COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT</b>  The option of frameworks has been considered and, as can be seen from the recommendation in the report to Cabinet, the use of frameworks is part of that recommendation.