

## QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

## ANNEX 2

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.

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p><b>1. COUNCILLOR NICK FIELD JOHNSON</b></p> <p>Given the concerns of Burford School, the parents and the Burford Community of the risks associated with a pedestrian crossing for pupils to cross the busy A40. I have witnessed cars driving past the School at 40mph-50mph. It will only need one foggy morning or a cold drizzly dark afternoon for a major accident to occur. Can I ask the Cabinet Minister to again review the option to build a pedestrian bridge as a safer and better option?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>There are currently no plans to build a bridge as the nature of the A40 has changed with extended 30/40mph limits within the vicinity of the school, with traffic calming measures also in place. A further pedestrian crossing is proposed to the east of the A361 roundabout to serve a housing development on the southern side of the A40 as well as permanent puffin crossing (proposed to be installed with the spring 2021).</p> <p>A temporary Puffin crossing and a temporary 30mph speed restriction was put in place (7<sup>th</sup> November 2019) to enable the footbridge to be removed, which had become in an unsafe condition. We can confirm that no injury accidents have been recorded in relation to the current temporary pedestrian crossing.</p>
<p><b>2. COUNCILLOR LIZ LEFFMAN</b></p> <p>The announcement on November 18<sup>th</sup> that a taskforce is being set up to tackle speeding across the county is very welcome. There are many communities around the county which have set up volunteer Speedwatch teams. Will the Task Force invite those groups to contribute their data as part of this project, and will there be an</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>Yes, we can confirm that the Task Force will invite the groups mentioned to contribute as part of this project.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>opportunity for those volunteers to contribute their ideas as to how traffic speeds can be reduced in their own communities?</p>	
<p><b>3. COUNCILLOR JUDY ROBERTS</b></p> <p>At two Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Environment (including Transport) meetings it has become apparent that wherever the 20 / 30 mph boundary is placed along the Botley Corridor project, there is another pedestrian crossing within 0.4 mile. Has there been any progress made towards reducing the speed limit to 20mph along the entire length as both county councillors have voiced support for this?"</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR YVONNE CONSTANCE, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>The 20mph limit has been extended twice following consultations and reports to CMD.</p> <p>No further progress into consultation has been made following the latest decision other than seeking views of OCC Road Safety and Thames Valley Police, who are of the view that we are in danger of the speed limit becoming ineffective and not observed the longer the length of road it covers.</p> <p>The extent of the revised limit includes the frontage of Waitrose (and the new toucan crossing). As we are undergoing construction works until the end of financial year 2021/22: including multiple sections of temporary traffic management, the new extents of the 20-mph limit will be implemented once all works are completed.</p>
<p><b>4. COUNCILLOR JUDY ROBERTS</b></p> <p>Since the removal of the Community Path from Eynsham to Botley from the HIF Bid 2 and it not being include in the Tranche 2 bid so has it been included in the budget for 2021-2022?"</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR YVONNE CONSTANCE, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>The B4044 cycle improvement has been included in the bid list for development budget from the capital programme for 2021-2022.</p> <p>The scheme is intended to provide a direct route for active travel from West Oxfordshire, particularly Farmoor, Eynsham and Witney, into the western end of Oxford City. The path will generally run adjacent to the B4044 between Eynsham and Botley as a safer alternative to using the existing road where safety concerns have been raised.</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>Following the scheme's removal from the HIF2 bid, OCC continued to commit to the proposal by funding an options assessment and feasibility work, which has also looked at how the scheme would tie in with Botley Road and given some consideration as to how it would tie in at the Eynsham end, although the latter requires further consideration. The feasibility report for the main B4044 element will be issued in December and a report on the additional tie ins will be completed by the end of March 2021.</p> <p>Officers have met regularly with Bike Safe and been liaising with Oxford University over issues relating to their site to progress matters.</p> <p>Development budget in 2021-2022 would enable the design work to be completed which would put OCC in a stronger position for s106 or any opportunity for Government funding.</p>
<p><b>5. COUNCILLOR GEORGE REYNOLDS</b></p> <p>Can the Cabinet member for Highways tell me when the 4 inch for roads and 2 inch for pavements depth criteria for mending potholes was brought in.</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>Investigatory levels are dimensions that relate to specific types of defect, for example; for carriageway potholes, at least 40mm in depth and 150mm diameter and for footway potholes at least 20mm in depth and 100mm in diameter or a 20mm difference in level which constitutes a trip hazard.</p> <p>The investigatory levels are not absolute thresholds – they are used to assist Inspectors to make reasoned judgements as to whether a defect has a safety implication or not. Any defects which are not identified as an immediate safety hazard are logged and considered for repair within a future programme of works.</p> <p>This approach was first adopted in 2011 and was approved by the then Cabinet Member for Transport, the approach was last reviewed in 2019 and is</p>

Questions	Answers
	in accordance with the current Code of Practice; <u>Well-managed highway infrastructure</u> .
<p><b>6. COUNCILLOR RICHARD WEBBER</b></p> <p>In the past eighteen months, the main Abingdon Road in Drayton has been dug up three times by developers or their contractors in order to fulfil the design requirements of the Drayton Neighbourhood Plan – a plan made 5 years ago. This has caused repeated major traffic hold ups through the village bringing the NDP and OCC into some disrepute. Given that the work done may still not be correct, in order to minimise any further damage to reputations will the Cabinet member agree to ensure that any further work required will be monitored while the work is being done?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>OCC Teams work with developers to ensure that traffic management, at a site, is kept to the minimum safe levels. If disruption is reported, an officer will attend to investigate, ensuring they are complying with the conditions of their permit, in this case to manually control the flow of traffic during the peak hours. Inevitably, with over 11,000 vehicles using this road each day, any work is going to cause congestion.</p> <p>Developers order their services to be installed at different marker points in the construction, sometimes this is beyond our control. The County Council encourages collaborative working on sites, wherever possible, to avoid unnecessary disruption. With this particular site, there were problems with the specifications and officers from the Road Agreements Team worked with the developer to correct this, leading to more time on the road.</p>
<p><b>7. COUNCILLOR RICHARD WEBBER</b></p> <p>Leaf litter and encroaching undergrowth reducing the effective width of footpaths and pavements all over the County is an increasing problem. It is particularly a problem for parents or guardians with pushchairs and the disabled. Please could the cabinet member explain what is currently being done to address the problem and what sort of delay can be expected before the work is</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>Unfortunately, leaf fall is inevitable at this time of year, however, street cleansing is a District Council function and they would normally have a programme of street/footway clearance to try to stay on top of the worst of the leaf fall particularly in heavily foot trafficked areas.</p> <p>With regards to the issue of vegetation encroachment, this is a county council matter and as such the Area Operation teams each year provide a programme of works to our contractors. Care does have to be taken as much</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
done?	<p>of the roadside vegetation does not form part of the public highway and our officers will issue notices to the property/landowner advising them that the vegetation needs attention.</p> <p>This year the County has had the added benefit of the Active Travel funding, which has enabled an increased programme for vegetation cutting and ‘siding out’, the term used for trimming back encroaching verge growth particularly on shared use cycle/footway areas of the network and with the emphasis and available budget towards Active Travel, Accessibility and modal shift, we expect more of this type of improvement work to be undertaken in the forthcoming years.</p>
<p><b>8. COUNCILLOR RICHARD WEBBER</b></p> <p>Whilst some appreciate the extra brightness of the new lamps being installed throughout the County, many rural villages are increasingly concerned at the amount of unnecessary light pollution. Would the Cabinet member consider organising a review of rural Parish Councils to check how the new lighting system is being received?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council can confirm that the new LED replacement lanterns will be of lower wattage than the existing light fittings currently on site. However, there will be a change of colour of the light source. Each site will be assessed (once installation work has been completed) with every effort being made to ensure that over illumination is not an issue. It would be for the relevant Cllr in the specific area to feedback resident’s views on any new street lighting as, in general, councils do not have the resources to carry this out. Normal protocol would be for residents to contact us directly with any concerns they would have with street lighting.</p>
<p><b>9. COUNCILLOR LIZ LEFFMAN</b></p> <p>I am pleased to see expansion plans for Hanborough Manor School are going ahead and to note that the structure will be airtight and insulated to a very high standard. What are the</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES</b></p> <p>Thank you very much for your question regarding the expansion plans for Hanborough Manor School. I have consulted with officers and can confirm the following in relation to heating in this new extension and the installation of solar panels</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>plans for heating this new extension, and will plans include the installation of solar panels?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching spaces to be ventilated with Hybrid Thermal Mixing (HTM F-H) units utilising natural ventilation with heat recovery (NVHR). This ensures that when the external temperatures are below a certain threshold, the fresh air is tempered with warm air from the classroom before it's brought into the room, to reduce the need for additional heating to combat the temperature drop caused by introducing cold fresh air</li> <li>• The HTM F-H units feature a low temperature hot water (LTHW) coil, allowing them to also act as the primary heat source within the teaching spaces, removing the need for additional radiators in those spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All other areas (corridors, group room) to be heated using radiant panels</li> <li>• The heat source for the LTHW coils and radiant panels will be low NoX (Nitrogen Oxides i.e. low air pollution), high efficiency gas fired condensing boilers</li> <li>• Whilst the Basic Need expansion project will not include Photovoltaic Panels (aka "PV" or solar panels), the school/Trust have made enquiries into whether they could obtain some free of charge through 'Project Leo' and the Low Carbon Hub – their understanding is that the school would be able to sue the energy generated by the panels at a lower cost, but that the Low Carbon Hub receive all income generated by government grants and selling energy back to the grid. Should they be able to arrange this, we will support them by providing any required structural and services information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>10. COUNCILLOR JEANNETTE MATELOT</b></p> <p>Two parishes in my division have a Super User. They find this extremely useful. I understand there are now changes to the FixMyStreet system and I wonder if you will be rolling out a</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>Our officers are currently in the process of coordinating the new training materials that will provide parishes and their members with the tools to access and use the system. Once this has been established, we will be in touch with the relevant organisations (with dates) to provide training sessions.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>training session for current super users and how soon would that happen.</p>	
<p><b>11. COUNCILLOR GEORGE REYNOLDS</b></p> <p>While welcoming the extension of broadband to hard to reach properties can he assure me that every effort is being made to prevent the rash of telegraph poles that are appearing in my division surely the wires should be underground.</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR IAN CORKIN, CABINET MEMBER FOR COUNCIL BUSINESS &amp; PARTNERSHIPS</b></p> <p>In most cases Openreach and other broadband infrastructure operators, will put the new fibre underground. They do this by 'blowing' fibre through existing ducting, making this delivery method the lowest cost option. However, as delivery moves to more rural areas and the technology changes to full fibre (a fibre path all the way from the exchange into homes), it is often the case that ducting simply does not exist. Existing telephone lines in rural locations are often armoured cables that are simply buried. Where ducting does exist, it is frequently in poor condition (silted/collapsed), or simply full with copper cabling.</p> <p>In these situations, the cost of installing new ducting is prohibitive. Installing ducting in a soft verge costs in the region of £60 per linear metre. If the Operator needs to install ducting in the highway, these costs can double. These additional costs would mean that even with a public subsidy, the cost of installing fibre broadband to properties geographically dispersed, would result in the hard failure of the business case for investment.</p> <p>That said, our broadband team do work with the telecoms operators with which the council has a contract, to examine costs and deployment methodology, ensuring overhead delivery is not unnecessarily used. However, in most cases if fibre is planned for overhead delivery, the choice is that or no fibre at all.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">□</p>

Questions	Answers
<p><b>12. COUNCILLOR PAUL BUCKLEY</b></p> <p>Oxford North is a large development including 480 homes, currently in the pipeline for my Division. At the Planning Committee, the County Council set a condition that it required a sum of £2.82m to be guaranteed, to pay for the additional education provision needed. Has this guarantee been obtained yet? If so, from whom?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>To mitigate the impact of the Oxford North development on Wolvercote Primary school a contribution of £2.7m was sought to expand the school to 2 forms of entry. In addition, £81k was sought towards expanding a SEND school. The County Council's position was that if this funding is not secured then there was an objection to planning permission being issued.</p> <p>A detailed viability assessment of the Oxford North development was carried out, which concluded that the development is not viable with the required CIL payments and the level of S106 contributions sought. To assist viability, the City Council took the unusual step and agreed that CIL payments from the development could be ringfenced to transport mitigation, but this was not extended to education as there will not be sufficient CIL to cover both. Despite this ringfencing, the development would still be unviable if S106 contribution towards the school were secured.</p> <p>The City Council resolved, after considering the viability of the site, that permission could be granted subject to a CIL funding agreement and S106 agreement on specified terms. The specified heads of terms of the S106 agreement did not include the education contribution sought by the County Council other than to say that the agreements will provide that funding for the schools and be considered, should ringfenced CIL money become available or if S106 contributions are no longer required for their initial use. Drafting of the two agreements is well underway and it is anticipated that they will be concluded shortly, and permission issued.</p> <p>Throughout, OCC has taken the line that permission should not be granted without funding for the schools being secured but the City Council, as the Local Planning Authority having considered the planning balance, has resolved otherwise.</p> <p>City Council officers have expressed the view that the County Council should</p>



Questions	Answers
	<p>seek the money for expanding Wolvercote Primary School from the Parish share of CIL and discussions in this respect will be had with the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Forum once permission has been granted. In addition, the County Council can apply to the City Council for a payment from their general CIL pot. As a last resort, funding for the expansion could be sought from Central Government Basic Need Funding although DfE advice is that Basic Need grant and other capital funding do not negate housing developers' responsibility to mitigate the impact of their development on education.</p>
<p><b>13. COUNCILLOR PAUL BUCKLEY</b></p> <p>How long have each of the rising bollards in Oxford city been out of action, and what is the planned timescale for them to be working again?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>The bollards have unfortunately been out of action from around March due to a variety of technical challenges with the upgrade work that was undertaken. This includes systems connecting correctly with each other, the speed of fibre connection and remote operation method. This has been escalated both within ATG and Oxfordshire and senior managers are working with the teams to help resolve. Progress is being made and we hope to be able to have some working soon, but as yet to not have a confirmed date that we can commit to when the issues will be resolved due to the nature of them.</p>
<p><b>14. COUNCILLOR TED FENTON</b></p> <p>With the government announcement of a £170 million <a href="#">Covid Winter Grant Scheme</a> allowing local authorities to help the hardest-hit families and individuals directly over the winter period and thereby recognising that local authorities are best placed to identify and help those children and families most in need.</p> <p>Could the Cabinet member explain what</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES</b></p> <p>Help will be available over the winter for vulnerable families and individuals who have been impacted by COVID-19.</p> <p>Our arrangements are aimed at supporting families with children, with most of the money to be spent on this group. The scheme will be run in partnership with and through schools and early years settings ensuring that those in receipt of free school meals, or in early years with other qualifying criteria, are supported around the school holidays periods. To maximise impact, some of the money will be allocated at the discretion of headteachers to other families</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p>arrangements are being made in Oxfordshire to distribute the fund of £1.37m for which it will be responsible?</p>	<p>in need.</p> <p>In addition to this scheme to support families directly, the city and district councils are planning local schemes to support the families and individuals they know are in most need, working closely with the local community and voluntary sector. This will include additional support to homeless people and people in temporary accommodation and others who are not helped by the family food scheme. The full details of funding allocation and how these schemes will work is also in development, aligning where possible with existing arrangements to ensure that the process is efficient.</p> <p>Provision from the voluntary sector remains vital to supporting those in need. Through the new Community Food Networks, established in partnership between the City, District and County Councils, local food advocacy charity Good Food Oxford and community food providers, we know that demand on community food providers such as food banks is growing. This includes an increase in individuals presenting to these services who have not in the past accessed this form of support. To help ensure support is available where needed, during the autumn, Oxfordshire councils funded community food providers to the value of £250,000. In addition, so far this financial year, County Councillors have supported food providers with £32,000 of Councillor Priority Funding. As part of the winter support package, a new government scheme worth £16m nationally will be providing food directly to food banks through to March. Working through our joint community hub arrangements, councils are working with the VCS to establish what additional funding from the Winter Support Grant or other sources will be needed to ensure community food providers retain sufficient capacity.”</p>
<p><b>15. COUNCILLOR EDDIE REEVES</b></p> <p>During Autumn's 'Eat Out To Help Out' period, which supported many hospitality businesses</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>To support businesses and help reduce car congestion on approaches to the city centre, we have worked with the City Council to provide an offer of free</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>across Oxfordshire, notably in the City, the Cabinet Member indicated that parking at Park &amp; Ride sites owned by Oxfordshire County Council would be made free of charge. Given the economic climate for such businesses and others across our City, can he tell members whether this Conservative &amp; Independent Alliance-run Council has any plans to extend this welcome policy over the Christmas shopping period so as to help residents support local businesses over the festive season?</p>	<p>parking at the park and ride sites over the Christmas period. More details can be found here;  <a href="https://www.oxford.gov.uk/news/article/1635/free_oxford_park_and_ride_parking_to_help_shoppers_reduce_congestion_at_the_busiest_times">https://www.oxford.gov.uk/news/article/1635/free_oxford_park_and_ride_parking_to_help_shoppers_reduce_congestion_at_the_busiest_times</a></p>
<p><b>16. COUNCILLOR CARMEN GRIFFITHS</b></p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member for Highways update me on the proposed closure of Sandy Lane by Network Rail. This is a vital link for my residents between Begbroke and Kidlington and we see no valid reason for this road to be permanently closed. It will only result in more congestion on the A44.</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>Network Rail are planning to close two level crossings north of Oxford (Yarnton Lane and Sandy Lane) as part of the Oxford Phase 2 scheme. This is essential for increasing future rail capacity for passenger and freight trains on this nationally significant section of the UK’s rail network. Removing these two-level crossings will ensure that safety is maintained and will support delivery of development in Cherwell’s Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) Partial Review - Oxford’s Unmet Housing Need.</p> <p>At this stage, Network Rail has sought pre-application advice from Cherwell District Council for the replacement footbridges. Cherwell District Council support in principle closure of the level crossings and their replacement with footbridges, with Policy PR8 of the Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) Partial Review requiring “proposals for the closure/unadoption of Sandy Lane, closure of the Sandy Lane level crossing to motor vehicles and the use of Sandy Lane as a ‘green’ pedestrian, cycle and wheelchair route between the development and the built-up area of Kidlington including the incorporation of a bridge or subway”. A planning application is expected early next year and will be subject to the usual period of public consultation and determination by</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
	<p>the District Council.</p> <p>Network Rail will also make a separate application to the Secretary of State for Transport for an Order to authorise the removal (“stopping-up”) of the public highway over the railway. The County Council will be a consultee in the process, which is separate from, but reliant on, the outcome of the planning application.</p>
<p><b>17. COUNCILLOR CARMEN GRIFFITHS</b></p> <p>Kidlington roundabout is often flooded at one side- coming from Bicester) which causes traffic to be condensed to just one lane and veer onto the bus lane causing numerous delays and tailbacks and dangerous potholes throughout the year. Can the Cabinet Member for Highways get this issue fixed once and for all?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>There are talks currently taking place between the term contractor, Skanska, and OCC in terms of improvements to cyclical gully cleansing activities in general.</p> <p>At this stage, we plan to cleanse and investigate the underlying issues. However, as the affected gullies are on the inside lane of the roundabout, we require expensive traffic management to create a safe working space.</p> <p>This will determine whether the drainage system-only is required to be cleaned or whether there are any defects and breakages in the drainage pipes.</p> <p>We have raised an instruction for these activities to now proceed, subject to the Network Coordination team on whether we can work within the Christmas Embargo period or need to postpone to January 2021.</p> <p>We will endeavour to update you as the situation progresses.</p>
<p><b>18. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</b></p> <p>There is huge pressure from residents in my division and many other people across the</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>Thank you for drawing attention to the hard work and success of the officers tracking individuals that the NHS Test and Trace Service has been unable to</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p>country to improve the test and trace system. This is widely agreed to be essential if we are to reduce deaths and save our economy. In November Oxfordshire was at last allowed to start tracing some of the people that the national scheme has been unable to find. Congratulations to our public health officers at the County Council, the districts and the City, who have hit the ground running, as they track and trace the people that Serco and Deloitte, etc, have failed to locate. When they find them, they also offer support to help them cope with their quarantine.</p> <p>Directors of Public Health and countless other experts have recognised for a long time that the national Serco test, trace, isolate and support system has not been working well enough. It is not improving. The local scheme, on the other hand, is working superbly. Please will the Leader contact the DHSC and our MPs urgently to ask them to transfer much more of this work – or all of it -- to local authorities and the NHS, together with part – or all -- of the £22 billion that has so far been allocated to it.</p>	<p>reach.</p> <p>It is true that initially the NHS Test and Trace was not performing at a level recommended by SAGE to be effective. The National system has however been improving month on month. It was recognised that to assist with the hard to reach cases a locally responsive system (with a local number) would complement the National NHS Test and Trace system.</p> <p>The Oxfordshire local contract tracing system launched on 13<sup>th</sup> October. The Oxfordshire system has been very successful and as a result we are exploring areas where we could usefully expand the local system, such as linking with more vulnerable residents earlier than 24 hours or handling some of the harder to reach contacts.</p> <p>Our partnership with NHS Test and Trace has been improving over the recent weeks and months, and we are expecting further improvements, including a new system update due on 16<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p>As you would expect, we regularly feedback to the national team about how this partnership can improve, and we expect this feedback to translate to improved performance. While the balance between national and local for contact tracing was not right earlier in the pandemic, it is now better than it was and will continue to improve. Money alone will not make this to happen, it will also require significant IT support, analytics, operational support, etc which are best placed coming from the national team. The virus does not respect boundaries so there does need to be a higher-level view alongside locally driven initiatives.</p>
<p><b>19. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</b></p> <p>I know everyone is really busy just now, but is there a date earmarked for updating us on</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR MARK GRAY, CABINET MEMBER FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b></p> <p>One of the recommendations from the LGA Peer Review in 2019 was to ‘Develop new approaches to locality boards’ and work has been underway to</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p>progress with the recommendations of the LGA Peer Review of last year? I'm particularly interested in when we will see improvements in the functioning of the Locality Groups, please.</p>	<p>research and develop a suitable model that meets the needs and ambitions of OCC. Whilst the pandemic has required some level of reprioritisation, the importance of local working and understanding local context has been re-emphasised and re-focussed by the current COVID-19 crises, and it is intended that an ambitious new model is implemented through the Re-new element of Re-start, Re-cover and Re-new planning.</p> <p>During the pandemic, there have been efforts to improve the current locality board working, with significant improvements to the Highways and Infrastructure reporting mechanism and with the appointment of a dedicated Direct Lead from the Council's Extended Leadership Team (ELT) to each locality, providing a clear, strategic link between localities, supporting Members to engage on key corporate issues and opportunities, and ensuring that Locality voice is heard across policy and operational discussions. Over the coming months, these improvements will continue to evolve, with an opportunity for Members to feedback in the January round of locality meetings to help shape further in year developments.</p> <p>To ensure a successful and meaningful locality model requires a holistic development approach and a number of projects feed into this wider ambition for OCC including the Communities Redesign and community resilience and development activity related to COVID-19 and recovery. Work on these projects are moving at pace, which will strengthen and support improvement in locality boards and anticipated final proposals are set to be developed in 2021.</p>
<p><b>20. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</b></p> <p>I asked at a recent Council meeting about the government's scheme to give our schools the equipment they need to make sure that all pupils</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES</b></p> <p>Attendance in schools in Oxfordshire has been above national throughout the pandemic; the hard work of our school leaders, Head and Governors, must be acknowledged. Where pupils have had to work remotely, they have used a</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p>can have internet access, if they are forced to work from home. Since the government scheme is falling far short of what is needed, I was delighted to hear from our Director for Children's Services that there are moves afoot to try to persuade some local businesses to donate laptops and other devices to schools. I hope these will soon make up the shortfall. Please can we all be kept up to date with the progress of this much-needed project?</p>	<p>blend of textbooks, work packs and digital devices. Over 1400 pupils (those with a social worker/ care leavers and disadvantaged students in maintained secondaries i.e. Carterton) received laptops / chrome books and 197 internet dongles, in the summer. The numbers available were determined by the DfE. Academies ordered their own devices for disadvantaged Y10s and we do not know the numbers they ordered. Some schools declined the devices as they had made provision and loaned their own school devices.</p> <p>Each academic year we have new cohorts of children in all our schools and on a daily basis, children who arrive in the LA who may require support with digital devices and internet connections. The LA is working with a range of local businesses to look at two schemes 'donate a laptop' and 'donate unused data'. We are very grateful to all Cllr s who have donated generously to date to this scheme as suggested by Cllr Waine and Cllr Sibley We will of course keep you up to date via the usual reporting systems that are in place. We are indeed grateful for her interest in the work.</p>
<p><b>21. COUNCILLOR DAMIAN HAYWOOD</b></p> <p>The EATF allocation is impressive and I applaud the cabinet members and officers in their achievement. I am concerned that we do not have the required officer resource to fully develop and implement these plans. What measures are the council taking to ensure the timetabled projects are deliverable?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR YVONNE CONSTANCE, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>We are actively reviewing resources to ensure that we have sufficient officer capacity and capability to deliver the Active Travel programme funded by the recent tranche 2 allocation of the Emergency Active Travel Fund. Designs will be prepared and consultation will be undertaken with councillors, stakeholders and the public in due course.</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p><b>22. COUNCILLOR DAMIAN HAYWOOD</b></p> <p>The Council has agreed to a rolling out of CPZs within the city up to 2024-24. Based on the impact of the introduction of CPZs in surrounding areas would the cabinet member be willing to consult residents again in areas without a CPZ to determine if their opinion has changed?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR YVONNE CONSTANCE, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>We will be working on a plan for the remaining 17 proposed Oxford CPZs, given potential funding availability.</p>
<p><b>23. COUNCILLOR DAMIAN HAYWOOD</b></p> <p>County Council staff across Oxfordshire have worked incredibly hard over the last 8 months in dealing with the pandemic. Does the cabinet member agree that they should not be included in the public service pay freeze indicated by the Chancellor this week?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>There are many individuals, our officers and staff, people in the wider world – commerce, industry, retail, small businesses, who have worked under the very difficult circumstances of Covid. Many of the people we meet in our everyday lives serving at checkout points, ensuring the delivery of foods/medicines to our shops to ensure that the supply chain isn't broken also could be included in your thought. So many are facing difficult times.</p> <p>I feel that much as I admire our staff and I constantly thank them as do the rest of the Cabinet, they cannot be singled out to be treated differently to all the other exemplary people across the country who have ensured that we have foods to eat and supplies that ensure our comforts.</p>
<p><b>24. COUNCILLOR JOHN SANDERS</b></p> <p>Will the Cabinet member assure me that every endeavour will be made to implement the Central Cowley CPZs and Low traffic Neighbourhoods in the time of this Council?"</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR YVONNE CONSTANCE, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>We are currently consulting on the three Cowley LTNs; the consultation will close on the 18<sup>th</sup> December and responses will be reported to CMD on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 at which time a final decision on whether to implement the LTNs will be made.</p>



Questions	Answers
	<p>Proposed CPZs in Cowley Centre East and West are due to go to Cabinet Member Decisions later this month and if approved the council will endeavour to progress the scheme through to implementation in the time of this council.</p>
<p><b>25. COUNCILLOR PETE SUDBURY</b></p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council is making efforts to be an environmental leader. It is rightly proud of its high levels of recycling. However, recycling, whilst useful for paper products, glass and metals, is ineffective for plastics, 80% of which are not recycled, instead being burned, landfilled or sent abroad, often to be dumped. Recycling also perpetuates (for the consumer) the "take-make-break/waste" model of linear resource use. There is an urgent need, in the UK and globally, to move towards a model of consumption that has little or no waste (known as "the circular economy" and also a critical element of "doughnut economics"). In creating a circular economy there are nine alternatives, ordered in terms of the amount by which they reduce the need for new resource extraction / production:</p> <p>The first three: Refuse, Rethink, Reduce, relate to smarter product use and manufacture.</p> <p>The next four: Reuse, Repair, Refurbish, Remanufacture, relate to extending the lifespan of a product and its parts.</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS DELIVERY AND OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>OCC has one of the highest Recycling and Composting rates in England, and one of the lowest waste arisings/head, meaning residents are very good at not producing waste in the first place. Embracing the Circular Economy is a key part of Oxfordshire's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and we are working to embed it across many of Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC) activities.</p> <p>Within waste management, waste reduction and repair are key parts of our public engagement, including promoting Love Food Hate Waste, home composting and reuse where possible. The Waste Wizard, an online tool that tells you which bin an item should be placed in, also includes details of where that item could be repaired, or donated for reuse, showing residents a different way to manage materials they no longer want or need.</p> <p>For 19 years, OCC has also fully funded the Community Action Group (CAG) network. Over 70 groups across the county work on a wide range of projects all aimed at improving their local environment and community led action is often a significant factor in changing behaviours. Many of CAGs work on projects linked to the Circular Economy. including holding regular swap shops, establishing 'Library of Things', textile repair and upcycling a range of materials and products. Earlier this year OCC and CAG were successful in being awarded £66,881 grant to establish electrical repair cafes across the county, including a link with the library service where residents could drop off broken electricals to be repaired and sold on. While COVID-19 restrictions have paused some of these activities, all groups are eager to begin again</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>The final three (the least desirable): Repurpose, Recycle, Recover (=energy recovery by incineration) relate to useful application of materials from discarded products.</p> <p>The Circular Economy is promoted by the Ellen MacArthur foundation, which engages with corporate clients (most notably its global partner BlackRock) and government as well as being active in education and training in order to promote the practical application of these principles. What is the County Council doing, in its own operations, with suppliers or clients, as an influencer in wider systems (Oxfordshire, Arc, etc.) to promote and apply these principles?</p>	<p>when allowed.</p> <p>Effective recycling systems are an important part of CE, successfully utilising resources where products are no longer able to be repaired or used again. In Oxfordshire we try to recycle as much as possible in the county or UK in order to keep resources in local systems. With regards to plastics our Materials Recycling Facilities (MRFs) use a range of sorting technology to extract the recyclable plastics so they can be reprocessed.</p> <p>OCC's Climate Action Framework highlights the circular economy as central to our goal of enabling a zero-carbon future for Oxfordshire and increasing the resilience of our economy and communities.</p> <p>The main council levers for this work reside with planning, waste and procurement, with initiatives underway to embed circular economy principles in building standards, waste strategy and social value procurement policy.</p> <p>We acknowledge that such a systemic approach cannot be delivered by a single player and are working closely with partners and suppliers, e.g., our highways contractor, Skanska.</p> <p>As part of the Highways Contract Extension Negotiations, Skanska are working with OCC to develop a carbon reduction strategy and action plan to achieve net-zero emissions from the delivery of the Highways Contract by 2030. Material use represents a key source of carbon emissions for this contract, so reuse and recycling of materials will be part of the action plan.</p> <p>It will be considered how circular economy principles and approaches can be embedded in the Oxfordshire Plan, to meet objectives for addressing the causes and mitigating the impacts of climate change. Such approaches could relate to the built environment and the design and construction of new development. A better understanding of embedded carbon and the lifecycle of materials used in new buildings could lead to better reduce efficiency and</p>

Questions	Answers
	reduction in waste arising from construction in Oxfordshire.
<p><b>26. COUNCILLOR GLYNIS PHILLIPS</b></p> <p>In the past Oxfordshire County Council trained all front-line officers to recognise and support those experiencing domestic violence. We know that there has been an increase in the incidence of domestic violence during the COVID restrictions and it is vital that we take all measures to safeguard adults and children living with domestic violence. Will the Cabinet agree to reinstate this training as a matter of urgency?’</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LAWRIE STRATFORD, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH</b></p> <p>Thank you for the question and I’m pleased to respond accordingly</p> <p>In respect of the questions relating to training for frontline staff within the County Council I can confirm the following training and practice-based learning is in place:</p> <p><u>Children’s Social Care</u></p> <p>Domestic Abuse Training remains part of the Learning and Development Plan for Children’s Social Care staff and courses have been delivered virtually during the pandemic. The Introductory Course: DA - Introduction to the Dynamics of Domestic Abuse is <u>mandatory</u> and colleagues are expected to complete this within 12-18 months of joining a Children’s Social Care team. There are a further 3 modules covering specific areas of Domestic Abuse that are taken up by frontline staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding Domestic Abuse: Young People and Intimate Partner Violence – 2 Day Course</li> <li>• Assessing Risk in Domestic Abuse Situations, Evaluating Impact on Children &amp; Parenting and Working Positively in Domestic Abuse Contexts – 2-day course</li> <li>• Domestic Abuse- Working to Improve Outcomes for Children - Working with Parents as Perpetrators &amp; Victims of Abuse and the Family as a Whole – 2-day Course</li> </ul>

Questions	Answers
	<p>In the newly launched (2 November) Children’s Social Care Family Solutions Model there are also domestic abuse adult specialist workers: 5 victim focused and 5 perpetrator focused. These posts will serve to increase knowledge and understanding amongst all members of the Family Solutions team and those professionals working alongside. I am therefore confident that we are moving towards a more enhanced level of understanding of domestic abuse within Children’s Social Care teams and specifically frontline staff.</p> <p><u>Adult Social Care</u></p> <p>As for Adult Social care, domestic abuse training is <u>mandatory</u> for the adult safeguarding team, as is safeguarding training levels 2 and 3 which include some domestic abuse learning. My understanding is that level 2 training is mandatory for other ASC teams and safeguarding level 3 managers would also complete.</p> <p><u>Children’s and Adults Social Care staff</u></p> <p>Both Children’s and Adult’s teams have Domestic Abuse Champions who are trained to a high level and are able to support colleagues where a domestic abuse case has been identified. Champions have received <u>enhanced support during the pandemic</u> to ensure that appropriate support is in place for team members during these critical times.</p> <p>In addition to the above the Oxfordshire Strategic Board commissioned a range of free multi-agency training available to all professionals working in Oxfordshire – current modules adapted to respond as digitally delivered training during the pandemic include Basic awareness of domestic abuse and coercive control, safety and risk planning and family dynamics and domestic abuse. There is also training for staff who act as Dedicated MARAC (Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference – for high risk victims) Officers (DMO’s)</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>trained within social care teams to enable appropriate referral for victims at high risk for multi-agency management.</p> <p>I hope this information reassures Members that we take Domestic Violence very seriously.</p>
<p><b>27. COUNCILLOR JANE HANNA</b></p> <p>Knowing that the extremely clinically vulnerable, the disabled, the learning disabled and BAME families have borne the brunt of excess deaths during the pandemic from COVID 19 so far across England; that these deaths have hit hardest in the under 65s and that the pandemic is far from over; many in these groups will not want to travel and attend physical sites for work or education because of COVID before they have access to the vaccine; will the leader use his influence to advocate for residents so that they are included in the highest priority for vaccination during the early part of 2021?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>I recognise the tremendous impact that COVID-19 has had on some of our most vulnerable residents and acknowledge their concerns. We continue to be informed by the evidence from experts, in this case the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). They have advised that the first priority should be the prevention of COVID-19 mortality and the protection of health and social care staff and systems. They have published their rationale at the link provided.</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-2-december-2020">Priority groups for coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination: advice from the JCVI, 2 December 2020 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>The council is working closely with our partners across the Oxfordshire system to ensure that roll out of the vaccine is prioritised and expedited so that all of those who will benefit can do so at the earliest opportunity.</p>
<p><b>28. COUNCILLOR JANE HANNA</b></p> <p>Is there a date for the constitutional review that Councillors were promised in July?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>Thank you for your query. The annual Constitutional Review is intended to be brought to the March 2021 Full Council, with consultation with members commencing in December or early January.</p>
<p><b>29. COUNCILLOR JANE HANNA</b></p> <p>Given that BAME children were four times more</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES</b></p> <p>There has been a 90% reduction in children permanently excluded from</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p>likely to be excluded than white children in Oxfordshire compared with three times more likely in other Counties before the pandemic and that BAME families are recognised as having been disproportionately negatively impacted during the pandemic, have any BAME children been excluded so far during the pandemic from Schools across Oxfordshire and is support now in place to mitigate against any increased risk of exclusion to these children ?</p>	<p>schools in Oxfordshire since 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 to date. Of these one third identify as from BAME backgrounds. Since the pandemic, Restorative Practice free training has been made available to all schools in the county. Uptake has exceeded expectation. An Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion self-assessment audit tool has been designed, created and promoted to all schools in the county by Learner Engagement Services. The pandemic has afforded the opportunity to embed and make a reality the intention to offer effective early intervention and prevention services to avoid permanent exclusions Framed conversations about Equality, Diversity and Inclusion matters have been modelled during Learner Engagement team meetings to promote confidence within officers to name bias and inequality should it be apparent with schools. Since September to date, meetings have been held between the Learner Engagement Head of Service and School Leaders from seven of the highest excluding schools in the county to offer support and challenge exclusionary practices. Information advice and guidance available to all schools on anti-bullying strategies and resources have been updated over the summer holiday 2020 to strengthen the offer regarding racist bullying and how to best counter it.</p>
<p><b>30. COUNCILLOR JENNY HANNABY</b></p> <p>On the 17th November the Cabinet member for Adult Social Care and Public Health made the decision to endorse the approach to meeting homecare and reablement need in the County through contracting a new service Living Well at Home to Strategic partnerships with providers. Reablement is an essential and crucial part of getting people safely back into their homes and was previously carried out in the Acute and Community Hospitals before discharge from hospital. Can the Cabinet member provide the</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LAWRIE STRATFORD, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH</b></p> <p>Thank you Councillor Hannaby for that question. As you say supporting people to leave hospital in a timely way and with the right level of focused support is critical to ensure people recover and regain maximum independence. Our approach is based upon the national model called Home First which focuses reablement on achieving timely discharge, maximising independence and a reduction in long-term ongoing care needs. There are a series of metrics as part of the contract that measure each of those elements.</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
evaluation of the new system proposed and what outcomes are being monitored?	
<p><b>31. COUNCILLOR JENNY HANNABY</b></p> <p>The new Living Well at Home future Commissioning is a large part of the County budget spend. As the cost of delivering the new service will be met from our Pooled Budget fund where would the accountability, monitoring and outcomes sit within the new service?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LAWRIE STRATFORD, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH</b></p> <p>Thank you for this question. The funding for this service will be from within the pool budget arrangement with Oxfordshire CCG though the contract will be held and managed by Oxfordshire County Council. As part of this the council is responsible for monitoring the outcomes and will be reporting through the normal scrutiny processes.</p>
<p><b>32. COUNCILLOR JENNY HANNABY</b></p> <p>How will reducing cost of care per hour make for good working relationships with our existing contractors used to receiving and getting a higher hourly rate and will the reduced hourly rate impact disproportionately across rural areas of Oxfordshire which have always been difficult to cover and what levers are there in the new Zoning strategy to mitigate against this risk?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LAWRIE STRATFORD, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH</b></p> <p>Thank you again for this further question. We are highly sensitive to the impact of any change in contract. We have spent a lot of time working with the market on this model, we have listened to feedback and included as much as possible in the specification. Equally so we have used population information, details of travel times and commercial sustainability in determining the zones. It is important that this is a sustainable contract and one that operates on the basis of a fair robust relationship between us and providers. We are confident that this development will deliver better outcomes for the Oxfordshire citizen, the providers of support and us as commissioners.</p>
<p><b>33. COUNCILLOR PETE SADBURY</b></p> <p>Having taken the bold decision to be a leader in tackling the Climate Emergency, the Council</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR YVONNE CONSTANCE, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>The County Council's Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) currently outlines the policy direction and priorities related to transport. This document includes the</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>must be keenly aware that transport is the biggest source of emissions in the UK and 55% of those emissions are from private cars. The Science and Technology Select Committee advises that without "progressively phasing out private car use" the UK will not hit next two legally binding carbon budgets, even after implementing the "ten Point Plan" and will be unlikely to reach net zero by 2050.</p> <p>The Council is investing in Public Transport and other forms of active transport. The increasing popularity of e-bikes opens the possibility of longer journeys (up to 5-10 miles) being accessible by bike even by those who are not young or physically fit, whilst e-scooters may open up shorter distances even to the bike-phobic. The Council can be a driver of these trends, particularly by ensuring that segregated lanes are available on strategic roads between settlements in order to minimise safety concerns (a factor cited by 80% of people as a reason they do not cycle).</p> <p>Accelerating the reduction in the use of private vehicles, whilst pushing forward with roadbuilding directed towards motor vehicles, risks the Council being left with expensive, underutilised "stranded assets". How does the Council plan to deliver significant (e.g. Greater than 20%) reductions in car travel per capita for the period of the next two carbon budgets (2023-27, 28-32), and how is that reflected in its transport and road-building spending priorities?</p>	<p>objective to reduce the proportion of journeys made by private car by making use of public transport, walking and cycling more attractive.</p> <p>LTP4 is supported by detailed strategies for local areas, freight, active travel and public transport. These strategies set out the specific schemes the county council is seeking to deliver in support of the objectives. These strategies have also been used to support a number of funding bids since adoption in 2016, including approximately £3 million for Active Travel measures as part of the recently announced government Active Travel Fund allocations.</p> <p>The County Council is currently working to update the Local Transport Plan. The updated strategy is being called the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP), to better reflect our strategy both for digital infrastructure and for connecting the whole county.</p> <p>The updated LTCP provides an opportunity to reflect new priorities, account for new funding opportunities and incorporate new ideas and strategies. This will include measures to work towards enabling a zero carbon Oxfordshire by 2050 in line with the County Council Climate Action Framework endorsed by Cabinet in October 2020. In particular, the strategy will set out in more detail the policies and schemes needed to enable a reduction in unnecessary private vehicle use through development of better sustainable travel choices.</p> <p>It is planned that the LTCP vision and objectives will be consulted upon in early 2021, following consideration by Cabinet. Following this, work will begin to develop the more detailed document and supporting strategies. It is anticipated that local councillors will be engaged on more detail of this through the Locality meetings in Summer 2021.</p>



<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>