

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.)

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: 07393 001213; E-Mail: sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

CABINET - TUESDAY, 23 APRIL 2019

<p>List published 24 April 2019 Decisions will (unless called in) become effective at 5.00pm on 1 May 2019</p>		
RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED	DECISIONS	ACTION
<p>1. Apologies for Absence</p>	<p>Councillor Reeves</p>	<p>DLG (A. Newman)</p>
<p>2. Minutes</p> <p>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2019(CA3) and to receive information arising from them.</p>	<p>Agreed subject to the following amendment:</p> <p>Minute 27/19</p> <p>Page 10 – first bullet point – add Councillor Bartholomew at the start of the sentence. second bullet point – amend first sentence to read: Explored the extent of housing growth and concerns raised with them by the public, through parish meetings and specifically by the CPRE to Councillor Bartholomew that the scale of housing would undermine the rural nature of some areas and put a strain on services.</p>	
<p>3. Questions from County Councillors</p> <p>Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet's delegated powers.</p> <p>The number of questions which may be</p>	<p>See attached annex.</p>	<p>DLG (A. Newman)</p>

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<p>asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.</p> <p>Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.</p>		
<p>4. Petitions and Public Address</p>	<p>Item 7 – Councillor Liz Brighthouse</p> <p>Item 8 – Councillor John Sanders</p>	
<p>5. OVO Energy Women's Tour</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Environment <i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> 2019/053 <i>Contact:</i> Gabby Heycock, Area Manager C <i>Tel:</i> 07979 700292</p> <p>Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>(a) support Oxfordshire being a host venue for the OVO Energy Women's cycle tour in 2019, 2020 and 2021.</p> <p>(b) agree the principle of an equal share of costs between the county, the four districts and the city council.</p> <p>(c) allocate a budget of £30,000 to pay</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>CFO (G. Heycock)</p>

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<p>the county council's share of the costs in 2019.</p> <p>(d) recommend the council agree to fund the council's share of the hosting fee for years two and three through the annual budget setting process (2020 and 2021).</p> <p>(e) agree that sponsorship, regardless of which partner attracts it, will be used to reduce the hosting costs on an equal basis.</p>		
<p>6. Review of S113 Agreement - Update from the Oxfordshire County and Cherwell District Councils Partnership Working Group</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Leader</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2019/039</i> <i>Contact: Claire Taylor, Interim Assistant Chief Executive, Transformation Tel: 07919 367072</i></p> <p>Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>(a) note the report attached at appendix 1.</p> <p>(b) endorse the recommendations in the report (appendix 1) and agree (subject to agreement by Cherwell District Council Executive) to establish a project team to develop the next phase of partnership working.</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>CE (C. Taylor)</p>
<p>7. Affinity Water: Water Resource Management Plan Consultation to April 2019 Relating to Proposed Reservoir in Oxfordshire</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Environment</i></p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p> <p>N.B Final response to make it clear that the County Council expects the Affinity Water proposal to go to public enquiry as well as the Thames Water</p>	

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<p><i>Forward Plan Ref: 2019/040</i> <i>Contact: Lynette Hughes, Senior Planner</i> <i>Tel: 07920 084360/Venina Bland, Planner</i> <i>Tel: 07741 607749</i></p> <p>Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to</p> <p>(a) Consider the issues and the draft response in Annex 1 and provide comments as appropriate; and</p> <p>(b) Agree that the final response to the consultation be signed off by the Director of Planning and Place in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Environment.</p>	<p>Revised Draft Water Resource Management Plan.</p>	<p>SDC (L.Hughes)</p>
<p>8. Compulsory Purchase Powers for Acquisition of Land Required for Delivery of Schemes</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Environment</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2019/021</i> <i>Contact: Eric Owens, Assistant Director for Growth & Place Tel: 07799 097637</i></p> <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>(a) Approve delegation of the exercising of Compulsory Purchase Powers to the Director of Planning and Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member responsible for Transport, for the purchase of land required for the delivery of the major infrastructure schemes outlined in paragraphs 8 and 10 of this report, in the event that the land cannot be acquired by negotiation; and</p> <p>(b) Note that should the whole or any part of lands required are not</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed as amended in the addenda and set out below.</p> <p>Cabinet agreed to:</p> <p>(a) Approve delegation of the exercising of Compulsory Purchase Powers to the Strategic Director of Communities, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment with the responsibility for Highways and the Leader of the Council, for the purchase of land required for the delivery of the major infrastructure schemes outlined in paragraph 10</p>	<p>SDC (E. Owens)</p>

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<p>acquired by negotiation, the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order under provisions contained in Part XII of the Highways Act 1980 for the acquisition of the land, will be progressed. This could include providing the necessary attendance, expert witness provision, etc. at a Public Enquiry if required.</p>	<p>of this report, in the event that the land cannot be acquired by negotiation; and</p> <p>(b) Note that should the whole or any part of lands required are not acquired by negotiation, the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order under provisions contained in Part XII of the Highways Act 1980 for the acquisition of the land, will be progressed. This could include providing the necessary attendance, expert witness provision, etc. at a Public Enquiry if required.</p>	
<p>9. Delegated Powers - April 2019</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Leader</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2018/180</i> <i>Contact: Sue Whitehead, Principal Committee Officer Tel: 07393 001213</i></p> <p>To report on a quarterly basis any executive decisions taken under the specific powers and functions delegated under the terms of Part 7.2 (scheme of Delegation to Officers) of the Council's Constitution – Paragraph 6.3(c)(i). It is not for Scrutiny call-in.</p>	Noted.	SW
<p>10. Forward Plan and Future Business</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: All</i> <i>Contact Officer: Sue Whitehead,</i> <i>Committee Services Manager Tel: 07393 001213</i></p> <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.</p>	Noted.	SW/AB

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

Question from Councillor Turnbull to Councillor Heathcoat

The following question was omitted in error from the last meeting and forwarded for response to Councillor Heathcoat. The question and response are set out below

“How much of the apprentice levy will be left unspent at the end of the 2018/19 financial year and will be returned to the Treasury, and what percentage of this figure was collected from schools”.

In addition, the following question on the same topic has also been received for this meeting. The question and response to both are set out below:

Councillor Roberts to Councillor Bartholomew

““How much money was collected from a) maintained schools and b) other council services as unspent from the money collected as a result of the apprenticeship levy in the year 2017-2018? What happened to the unspent funds.”

Answer:

At 31st March 19, the Council had accrued a total of £2,201,424 in our apprenticeship Levy account which is comprised of £1,981,028 employer contributions plus an additional 10% government top up. Approximately £880,053 (44%) has come from schools' contributions. These figures are cumulative from May 2017 to March 2019. These monthly payments are deducted by HMRC and accrue in our Levy account. Funds are valid for a 24-month duration, after which time they expire if they are unspent. The government has not specified what happens to these expired funds, so we assume they are returned to the Treasury.

Payments for apprenticeship training are made on a monthly basis according to Education Skills Funding Agency rules. At 31st March 19, the council had spent £255,970 (12% of our Levy funds), with a further c.£550,000 Levy funding committed to apprentices who are currently in training. In total, £879,000 of Levy funds have either been spent or are committed to be spent within the next two years.

It is helpful to have some context for this level of performance. Based on a survey of local authorities in February 2019, the Local Government Association estimate that councils in England have spent c.12-15% of their Levy funds.

Looking more closely at schools' performance, Oxfordshire maintained schools have recruited/trained 35 apprentices since the Levy was introduced in May 2017, with a total of £335,000 Levy funds committed over the duration of their training. We are looking to build on this performance in the next financial year by diversifying the range of apprenticeship training available that is relevant to Schools, including new types of apprenticeships aimed at management and leadership roles in schools, school business managers, teachers and learning mentors. We are working hard to develop appropriate procurement approaches to put in place this greater range of apprenticeship training in time for starts in the new academic year.

No funds have been returned to the Treasury yet. We estimate that, based on actual and predicted spend, we will need to start repaying the Levy in September 2019. We do not have any repayments to make ahead of this date as we will have fully spent the Levy we accumulated between April and September 2017. Current projections are that unspent Apprenticeship Levy monies will begin to expire in September 2019, at a rate of £46,706 per month, however this may change as more apprenticeship training commences.

Questions received from the following Members:

1. Question from Councillor Howson to Councillor Reeves

“How many maintained schools in Oxfordshire have either solar or photo-voltaic panels on their roofs or elsewhere on school grounds?”

Answer

‘The Council does not hold a database with this information, as schools would need to register for the FIT (Feed In Tariff) themselves, information on the installation and/or registration is not readily available.

On request at such short notice we have been able to ascertain that 30 of our maintained schools have either solar or photo-voltaic panels on their roofs or elsewhere on school grounds.’

Supplementary: Councillor Howson asked whether the Council could encourage maintained schools to introduce energy schemes and whether the Cabinet Member could engage with the Diocese of Oxford and the Arch Diocese of Birmingham to encourage them to consider such schemes for their schools. In the absence of Councillor Reeves, Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, Cabinet Member for Education & Cultural Services replied that yes she was happy to follow this up.

2. Question from Councillor Price to Councillor Heathcoat

“Could the Deputy Leader outline why the most recent Community Risk Management Plan did not include explicit reference to the planned piloting of Initial Limited Response (Crew of Three), therefore missing the opportunity for the widest possible engagement with residents, interested partners and elected members who would have a valuable contribution to make to the debate?”

Answer

Thank you for your question. The Fire and Rescue Service identified in the **2017-8** Community Risk Action Plan that :-

Project 2 “Would review and implement changes to key stations and provide area based strategic cover”.

As a result of this review an operational project was established to pilot an initial limited response. The review took the form of:-

- All Whole time watches have been visited to discuss the pilot. All On Call Stations were invited to locality meetings
- Attendance by OFRS at public meetings with town and parish locations

- FBU invited to Charlbury Fire Station to discuss changes in procedure with the operational staff
- FBU provided with all operational procedures and the relevant risk assessments for the pilot
- FBU representative attended the visit to Kent FRS to see how this had been implemented in other FRS.

Following the closing of the consultation amendments were made.

Supplementary: Councillor Price commented that it would have been good to see the details included in the current CRMP. Councillor Price asked if the consultation documents could be made available and why the local member for Charlbury had not been consulted. Councillor Heathcoat replied that the CRMP was a strategic document and the project had been included in the 2017/18 Action Plan. It had been fully consulted on and Councillor Heathcoat could provide more detail direct to Councillor Price.

3. Question from Councillor Bearder to Councillor Hudspeth

“Following our resolution at the last full council for yourself and the Cabinet Member for Transport to write to the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government – demanding that a fuller consultation is carried out asking local residents if they want an Expressway and associated construction before any route is considered, could you please update council as to where we are with this? Whether the letter has been sent or a reply received and what time scale we can expect on the actions of this motion. Could you please also supply copies of any correspondence sent or received from either party thus far.”

4. Question from Councillor John Sanders to Councillor Hudspeth

“Has the Leader or the Cabinet Member for Environment yet written to the Government asking it to conduct a consultation among Oxfordshire's residents asking them whether they want an Expressway and if not, when?”

Answer

“Yes, the letter has been sent (copy attached as an Annex), no we have not received a reply and cannot say when the reply will be sent.

It is my standard practice to send copies of any reply to all councillors.”

Supplementary: Asked whether the decision on the route being pushed back to Autumn and the likely route was an indication of the Government attempting to lessen the impact on conservative held Divisions, Councillor Hudspeth replied that throughout there had been no political nuance in the Council response.

Annex

Date: 18 April 2019

The Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP
Minister of State for Housing, Communities & Local
Government
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Leader's Office
County Hall
New Road
Oxford OX1 1ND

Councillor Ian Hudspeth
Leader of the Council

Dear Mr Brokenshire

Motion at Oxfordshire County Council – 2nd April

We are writing to you following a motion resolved at Full Council on 2nd April as follows:

“Most people accept that building more roads creates more traffic. Council instructs that the Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment jointly write to the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government – demanding that a fuller consultation is carried out asking local residents if they want an Expressway and associated construction before any route is considered.

The Leader and Cabinet Member should also ask the Minister whether the million extra houses outlined in the National Infrastructure Commission's vision for housing along the route of the arc are in addition to, or included in, the 100,000 houses planned for by the Oxfordshire authorities outlined in the growth deal”

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



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