

County Council

12 July 2016

Schedule of Business

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OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – 12 JULY 2016

SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM	PAGE NO.	MAXIMUM DURATION	APPROX START TIME TIME LIMIT PER DEBATE	SUBJECT	PROPOSALS (M = Motion; SEC = Seconder; Am = Amendment S = Statement; Q = Question; REC = Recommendation to be determined)
1.	1	30 mins	10.00	Minutes Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 May 2016 (CC1).	
2.	1			Apologies for Absence	
3.	2			Declarations of Interest	
4.	2			Official Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queen’s Honours list • Labour MP Jo Cox 	

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5.	2			Appointments	
6.	2			Petitions and Public Address	<p><u>Petitions</u></p> <p>Mr Simon Hunt, Chair of Cyclox regarding implementation of the LTP4;</p> <p>Mr Chris Terry, Iffley fields Residents Association Parking Working Group regarding a CPZ for Iffley Fields.</p> <p><u>Public Address</u></p> <p>Sushila Dhall, Chair of Oxford Pedestrians Association in relation to Agenda Item 10 LTP4.</p>
7.	2			Questions with Notice from Members of the Public	None.

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8.	2	30 mins	10.30 am	<p>Questions with Notice from Members of the Council</p> <p>(1) Howson to Stratford (2) Howson to Tilley (3) Howson to Tilley (4) Greene to Heathcoat (5) Constance to Heathcoat (6) Lovatt to Heathcoat (7) Harrod to Heathcoat (8) Rooke to Tilley (9) Lilly to Tilley (10)Lilly to Nimmo Smith (11)Lilly to Hudspeth (12)Bartholomew to Nimmo Smith (13)Tanner to Rose (14)Tanner to Nimmo Smith (15)Tanner to Carter (16)Johnston to Tilley (17)Williams to Nimmo Smith (18)Williams Nimmo Smith (19)Coates to Nimmo Smith (20)Coates to Tilley (21)Coates to Tilley</p>	

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				(22) Williams to Hudspeth (23) Pressel to Lindsay Gale (24) Godden to Nimmo Smith (25) Godden to Nimmo Smith (26) Pressel to Nimmo Smith (27) Pressel to Nimmo Smith (28) Brighthouse to Hudspeth	
9.	2	30 mins	11.00 am	Report of the Cabinet Deputy Leader (Rodney Rose) Adult Social Care (Judith Heathcoat) Children, Education & Families (Melinda Tilley) Environment (Nimmo Smith) Finance (Lawrie Stratford)	Q. (1) Tanner, (2) Price Q. (4) Godden, (5) Fooks, G. Sanders, Pressel Q. Q. (7) Howson, Pressel, Cherry, Dhesi (8) Mills, Handley, Owen, Fooks, Smith, Price (9) Fooks, Curran, Pressel (11) Smith

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10.	2	1 hr 15 mins	11.30 am	Connecting Oxfordshire Update – Local Transport Plan 4	(M) Nimmo Smith (SEC) Hudspeth S Mallon S Mills S Hibbert-Biles S Johnston S Smith S Fooks S Howson S Godden S Patrick S Curran S Pressel S Hards S Dhesi S Cherry S Beal S Phillips S Tanner S G. Sanders S Williams S Coates S Harris

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11.	3	10 mins	12.45	Proposed Fees for the Supply of Traffic Accident Data	(M) Nimmo Smith (SEC) Stratford S Mathew
LUNCH		12.55			
12.	3	15 mins	1.45 pm	County Council Meeting Dates Members are asked to note that the start time of Council appearing in the recommendations in the report and on the face of the Agenda should read 10.30 am and not 10.00 am.	(M) Waine (SEC) Patrick (AM) Williams (SEC) Coates
13.	4	10 mins	2.00 pm	Virements to Council	(M) Stratford (SEC) Hudspeth

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14.	4	15 mins	2.10 pm	Report of the local Government Ombudsman	(M) Heathcoat (SEC) Hudspeth S Godden S Phillips
15.	4	35 mins	2.25 pm	Motion From Councillor Kieron Mallon	(M) Mallon (SEC) Fatemian (AM) Cherry (SEC) S Godden S Howson S Cherry S Dhesi S Beal S Christie

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16.	5	40 mins	3.00 pm	Motion From Councillor Richard Webber	(M) Webber (SEC) Hudspeth (AM) Hudspeth (SEC) Tilley S Fooks S Rooke S Smith S Purse S Godden S G. Sanders S Price S Dhesi
17.	5	25 mins	3.40 pm	Motion From Councillor Kevin Bulmer	(M) Bulmer (SEC) Stratford S Webber S Hannaby S Curran S Hards S J. Sanders

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18.	6	15 mins		Motion From Councillor Lynda Atkins	(M) Atkins (SEC) Lovatt S Dhesi S Hards S J. Sanders
19.	6			Motion From Councillor Bob Johnston	(M) Johnston (SEC) Howson (AM) Rose (SEC) Nimmo Smith S Patrick S Hannaby S Curran S Williams S Coates
20.	6			Motion From Councillor Janet Godden	WITHDRAWN

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21.	7			Motion From Councillor David Williams	(M) Williams (SEC) Coates S Webber S Brighthouse S G. Sanders S Phillips
22.	7			Motion From Councillor David Williams	(M) Williams (SEC) Coates S Tilley S Webber S Christie S Curran
23.	8			Motion From Councillor David Williams	(M) Williams (SEC) Webber S Tanner

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24.	8			Motion From Councillor David Williams	(M) Williams (SEC) Coates S Curran S Hards S S

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AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Agenda Item 12 – County Council Meeting Dates - Amendment to be moved by Councillor David Williams

Council is RECOMMENDED to agree the schedule of meeting dates for the 2017/18 Council Year and in particular to amend Rule 5.1 of the Council Procedure Rules with effect from the Annual Council Meeting in 2017 to reflect the new start and end times proposed for Council of 10.30 am and 4.00 pm respectively. and the end of business on the Council Agenda.

Agenda Item 15 – Motion From Councillor Kieron Mallon – Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mark Cherry

"This Council notes emerging proposals for changes to Hospital services in Banbury and resolves to **set up a working group including Banbury County Councillors**, ~~instruct officers to examine a case that looks to~~ **preserve the services that are currently available to local residents** ~~protect consultant led paediatrics and maternity provision at the Horton.~~"

Agenda Item 16 – Motion From Councillor Richard Webber – Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ian Hudspeth

Council **continues to** supports the general principle that those in greatest need should have the highest priority. However, Council regrets that it has been compelled to abandon the concept of universal provision offered by our children's Centres in Oxfordshire as a result of the Government's cuts in Local Authority funding. ~~Council asserts that it intends to restore a universal service as soon as financial constraints allow.~~

In the meantime, Council is aware that, as a result of the focus on the most needy children and families in our County, there will be large areas – particularly in the West which now have no Children Centre buildings - the same areas likely to suffer most from rural isolation as the Council removes bus subsidies.

Ensuring that there was some compensation for these areas was a key statement agreed by Council in its February budget. Council therefore believes that it is now essential that the effects of the loss of Children's Centres, in these areas, is compensated for by:

1. Offering active support to the parents, volunteers and Parish Councils taking over or hoping to take over the vacated Centres.
2. ~~Ensuring that rents to such bodies are kept to a minimum in order to allow them to produce realistic, and sustainable business plans.~~
- 3.2 Persuading District Councils to join us in giving as much support to these bodies as possible.
- 4.3 That the £1m Transition Fund agreed at the February budget should be committed to these areas to achieve the above.

Agenda Item 19 – Motion From Councillor Bob Johnston – Amendment to be moved by Councillor Rodney Rose

"Council calls on the officers to ***investigate the cost and partnership funding available to*** develop the business case ***and identify the county funding contribution required for the business case*** for a new fast rail service to go from Bristol to Swindon, Grove/Wantage and Milton Keynes. In doing so they should co-operate with similar efforts in Wiltshire and elsewhere. This will improve the cost/benefit ratio for the new station at Wantage/Grove.

County officers are asked to discuss with Network Rail and the DfT for the inclusion of a station at Wantage/Grove into the funding during Network Rail's next control period starting in 2019 with a view to the station being opened by the end of the control period. The station will reduce wear and tear on local roads and reduce commuting time between the rapidly growing communities in South Oxfordshire. It will also improve access to skills and education for both 16 - 19's and adults living in those parts of the County."

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.

	Answers
1. COUNCILLOR JOHN HOWSON What is the current share of the deficit in the Oxfordshire Local Government Pension Scheme currently attributable to academies and free schools and how is that deficit recoverable?	COUNCILLOR LAWRIE STRATFORD, CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE The Fund actuary last completed this analysis in 2015, when £17.08m or 5% of the deficit was attributable to those schools who had converted to academies at that time. The figure will be updated as part of the Actuary's current work on the 2016 Valuation, and is likely to be in the range of 5% to 10%. If all schools were to convert to academy status, the total share is likely to be between 10% and 15%. All academies are required to make regular payments to recover their share of the deficit, in accordance with figures calculated by the Fund Actuary. These calculations aim to ensure the contribution rates payable by the Academy remain as stable as possible, whilst ensuring the deficit is fully recovered over a maximum of 25 years. In the event that an academy had its funding agreement withdrawn, the Actuary would calculate the current deficit owed, and the Fund would seek immediate re-imburement from the Trust. The Secretary of State for Education has previous provided a guarantee to fund all payments. They may though choose to ask any successor Trust to take on the deficit and meet it from their funding allocation. In the event that the Fund was unable to recover the deficit from one of these sources, it would fall to be met by either the other employers in the Fund, or if the academy was a small employer belonging to the small academy pool, then by the remaining academies in the pool.

<p>2. COUNCILLOR JOHN HOWSON</p> <p>Various locations within Oxford have been suggested for a new free school serving secondary age pupils. What information has the County been provided by the Education Funding Agency about a site for the new school in order that pupil place planning across the county can continue in an orderly fashion?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>Officers have been actively engaged by the River Learning Trust (sponsor of The Swan Free School) and the EFA in trying to identify potential sites in Oxford City. The Council's pupil forecasts and data about patterns of secondary school applications and admissions were made available to the River Learning Trust to both provide a basic need justification for The Swan free School and also to identify where in Oxford City it might best be located. The sponsor's and EFA's current preferred location for The Swan School remains The Harlow Centre and officers' views are that this would be appropriate due to its proximity to The Cherwell School which is the most over-subscribed secondary school in the County. This would make it accessible to those children whose parents apply for but are unable to secure places at The Cherwell School whilst minimising the potential impact upon, in particular, The Oxford Academy which is currently heavily under-subscribed.</p>												
<p>3. COUNCILLOR JOHN HOWSON</p> <p>Thames Valley Police recently published figures showing a doubling of reported crimes of violence against the person and a trebling of possession of offensive weapons by children at schools in their area between 2011/12 and 2015/16. Has the same increase been the case just for Schools in Oxfordshire or have our schools fared better with lower increases in reported crimes of these types?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>I am afraid that data are not held or recorded by schools or centrally in a way which allows easy retrieval and direct comparison with the figures you quote. A partial response is however available in respect of the possession of offensive weapons. When a pupil is permanently excluded, one of the questions asked and recorded is "Was a weapon involved?" Over the period 2011/12 to 2015/16, our record of permanent exclusions where a weapon was mentioned for any reason (possession, threat, use of) is as follows.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="887 1182 1693 1415"> <tr> <td>2008/09</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2009/10</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010/11</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>	2008/09	4	2009/10	4	2010/11	4	2011/12	1	2012/13	5	2013/14	1
2008/09	4												
2009/10	4												
2010/11	4												
2011/12	1												
2012/13	5												
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	2014/15	11
	2015/16 (to date)	7
<p>4. COUNCILLOR PATRICK GREENE</p> <p>Does the cabinet member for adult social care agree with me that a recent survey found that 90 per cent of service users in Oxfordshire were extremely/very or quite satisfied with care received is very impressive, particularly in the context of the cuts that have had to be made in recent years?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</p> <p>The survey is a national survey that has been run for the last 5 years. In that time satisfaction has remained around 90%. What is particularly pleasing is the fact that the proportion of people who are very satisfied has risen from 60% to 65%. Over 700 people in Oxfordshire responded to a survey sent to a sample of 2000 clients. The results therefore are statistically robust. The survey also asks people whether we are meeting their care needs - Oxfordshire's figure is above the last published national average, whether they feel safe and services make them feel safer, again Oxfordshire's figure is above the average and whether they have enough social contact, and Oxfordshire's figure again is above the national average.</p>	
<p>5. COUNCILLOR YVONNE CONSTANCE</p> <p>Would the cabinet member for adult social care join me in congratulating Vale House Care Home in Sandford on Thames, which specialises in dementia care, for becoming the first in the county to be rated "Outstanding" by CQC? The council commissions more than half of the beds in this home. It is very rare that the inspectorate awards its highest ranking. Would the cabinet member agree that this is an achievement that all county councillors should note with some pride?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</p> <p>Thank you for highlighting this achievement by one of this council's contracted providers.</p> <p>When the Care Quality Commission was consulting on its new Inspection and Rating system this council advocated that Outstanding should really mean Outstanding and as you say - it is very rare that the inspectorate awards this rating.</p> <p>I was really pleased to hear about Vale House achievement. We have an excellent and longstanding partnership with Vale House who thoroughly deserves this recognition. This home has the ability to accept and care for people with dementia in its most difficult forms and they do a tremendous job.</p> <p>In Oxfordshire I am aware of two other social care services that have</p>	

	<p>achieved this rating. They are Caretree Limited, a domiciliary care agency from Abingdon, and The Grange Care Centre from Stanford in the Vale - so I feel that this rating for Vale House is one that should certainly be recognised and I will be writing to all three to express my congratulations.</p>
<p>6. COUNCILLOR SANDY LOVATT</p> <p>I am told that the cabinet member for adult social care has congratulated staff in adult social care after recent Government survey work showed that the county council's adult social care team is sixth best local authority in England for delivering good outcomes for service users of adult social care and for informal carers. Could she please add the congratulations of all county councillors on this tremendous achievement?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</p> <p>Our adult social care service's performance in 2014-15 was ranked 6th best in the country against the nationwide social care outcome framework, and this strong performance continued in 2015-16.</p> <p>These meant services were judged as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing the quality of life for people with care and support needs People in Oxfordshire responding to a national survey said they had more of their personal care needs met, than the national average level. More are offered direct payments, allowing them control over the care they have, more adults of a working age with social care needs were supported into employment and people who used services and their family who support them reported they did not feel socially isolated. • Delaying and reducing the need for care and support People are supported at home for as long as possible - though the council has high levels of delayed transfers of care and levels of reablement services are below the level we would want. Robust action plans are in place to address both these issues • Ensuring that people have a positive experience of care and support: Levels of satisfaction in national surveys of people who use services and their family and friends who support them is higher than the national average. 90% of people who use services are satisfied, with 67% very satisfied. • Safeguarding adults who circumstances make them vulnerable and protecting from avoidable harm.

	People who use services report that they feel safe. Safeguarding enquiries are dealt with in a timely manner.
<p>7. COUNCILLOR STEVE HARROD</p> <p>The national Guardian newspaper recently ran a very positive piece about how the county council handled the transfer of supported living accommodation for 220 adults with learning disabilities to a new provider from Southern Health. The piece highlighted how the council wrote to service users and their families to ask if they'd like to be involved in the process of choosing new providers. Several did just that – and the result is that the newly commissioned service has been heavily influenced by users. Does the cabinet member agree that this proves that the best people to know what makes good care are the people who receive it and their families and it is good to see the council acknowledging that in such a proactive way?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council has a strong history of service user involvement in helping to shape future services and in providing feedback on how good the services are. We have had support from service users during consultation exercises, in helping to develop our plans for future service commissioning, in various procurement exercises and in helping and contributing to the quality monitoring of services. The council has also facilitated the development of Customer Standards for Home Care Services and Care Home Services with standards being written and agreed by service users, their carers and service providers; and of course we have our Hearsay events where we receive feedback from service users.</p> <p>Finally, like you I was particularly pleased with the positive outcome to the supported living change particularly given that we were dealing with such a large number of service users and the feedback we have had is that these new services are operating well. This has further confirmed that what we do in Oxfordshire represents good practice and I will continue to support service user involvement in this way.</p>
<p>8. COUNCILLOR ALISON ROOKE</p> <p>When will the vacancies for parent representatives on the Education Scrutiny Committee next be advertised?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>It is the Council's intention to advertise the vacancies over the summer, with a view to having new places filled by the start of the new school year or as soon as possible thereafter.</p>

<p>9. COUNCILLOR STEWART LILLY</p> <p>Could the cabinet member please advise council as to how many of the Counties Children’s Centres are the Council in detailed discussion about maintaining a service by their own initiatives and their own means?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>There are 10 County Children’s Centres involved in such discussions.</p>
<p>10. COUNCILLOR STEWART LILLY</p> <p>It is becoming too apparent that district councils in Oxfordshire are regularly taking forward S.106 agreements on a <i>Bi-Partied</i> basis (i.e. District and developer only)and either forgetting or by-passing the County Council from inclusion. I am recently aware of a development for 280 dwellings in The Vale of White Horse where OCC were omitted from the document. What steps are being taken to counter this disrespectful attitude?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>It is indeed correct and of no small concern that since early this year South and Vale have adopted the practice of excluding the County Council from the majority of S106 agreements - there are exceptions for appeal cases, strategic sites in excess of 400 dwellings and where land transfers are required. It is understood that the main driver for the use of such agreements has been a concern about ensuring a 5-year supply of land for housing and that negotiations on county matters can be protracted. However, in view of the potentially very serious ramifications for the County Council and indeed the people of Oxfordshire – in terms of the under-funding of critical infrastructure, failure to secure commitments for county requirements in S106 agreements (e.g. for the future completion of highways agreements for essential highway works) and agreement provisions which provide the County with no certainty as to when funding on County matters will be passed to the County - we have made strong representations to the relevant Districts and have put forward proposals that tri-partite agreements are used but with “incentivisation” for the County to ensure speedy completion of agreements which should address the concerns of South and Vale (failing which bi-partite arrangement may be used). Other measures we will be promoting will include further improvements to our own “Single Response” process and a “One Team” approach to planning applications, wherein District and County officers will work much more closely together at all stages, from pre-application discussions with developers through to the final conclusion of the legal agreements.</p>

<p>11. COUNCLLOR STEWART LILLY</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p>
<p>May I enquire as to the latest information on the England's Economic Heartland discussions?</p>	<p>England's Economic Heartland, which is an alliance of principal authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships between Oxfordshire and Cambridgeshire, has been evolving over the last 12 months. As you will recall it started out as the tri-county alliance with Oxfordshire as one of the founding members, but it has grown significantly. Partly the attraction of the Heartland is the desire of strategic authorities likes ours to work together on major transport-related matters and to this end, the Alliance is seeking to become a sub-national transport body or STB, of a scale and nature like Transport for the North, and Midlands Connect. Under this arrangement we will be able to seek capacity building funding and in future it is likely to be a main conduit for major infrastructure funding so it is important we are part of such a body as soon as possible and we are making very good progress on this.</p>
	<p>The Heartland area is also the beneficiary of a detailed investigation by Lord Adonis' National Infrastructure Commission which is, at the request of the Chancellor, looking at the economic potential of the alliance area and the barriers to achieving that economic potential. It is anticipated the first phase of the Commission's reporting will be out in the autumn and we expect it to be very favourable relating to the need for future investment in this area, including Oxfordshire. The timing of this report will hopefully help to further convince Government to protect funding for such major infrastructure projects like East-West Rail and upgrading the A34 as part of the potential Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. I hosted the Chief Executive of the National Infrastructure Commission at the latest Alliance meeting last week here at County Hall and I am pleased to say that there is real energy from all the Alliance partners to contribute to this study and to make the Heartland a real success.</p>

12. COUNCILLOR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

At the recent summit meeting to discuss the proposed 'Third Reading Bridge', it became clear that Berkshire councils, MPs and enterprise partnerships are trying to build unstoppable momentum to ensure the bridge is built. Indeed one supporter tried to interpret LTP4 as being loosely in favour of the proposal and asked that the Oxlep SEP be amended to show similar loose support.

The stated objective of those in favour of the bridge is to take 55,000 cars out of the centre of Reading. South Oxfordshire's country roads cannot accommodate significant traffic increases, so could the Cabinet Member clarify whether a new road would be built through an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to connect with the A4130 or through Emmer Green to connect with the A4074, if the Strategic Outline Business Case indicated that a new bridge would benefit the region as a whole?

COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT

The recent meeting referred to reiterated Oxfordshire County Council's stance as expressed in its LTP4. It is my understanding that the Berkshire councillors were expressing their appreciation that OCC had taken a formal stance to support the work on the Third Thames bridge and move the debate on. While this is correct, this position clearly retains OCC's right to not support the bridge if the proposals were to be detrimental to Oxfordshire communities.

The Strategic Outline Business Case has clear parameters to indicate how the additional bridge would mitigate impact on the local network of any changes the bridge may induce from its construction. The Strategic Outline Business case will need to look at a range of options that include, for example, the restriction of one of Reading's existing bridges to public transport. This could help increase the all mode trip capacity across the Thames, while providing more reliable journey times for car traffic across the new bridge for Readings existing and new residents. This option for instance would not provide a great deal of extra strategic capacity to the wider network and would likely be used and of benefit primarily by existing users of Readings crossings.

It is too early to comment on any potential impact in Oxfordshire or the necessary mitigation which may be required. We are still at a point where we need to await the business case output to determine what the potential impact of any proposal is likely to be and the impact and mitigation measures that must go along with it that relate to Oxfordshire. It is my view that we must continue to press the case for robust evidence before anyone assumes what the most beneficial proposal might be, or before anyone assumes what mitigation may be acceptable.

<p>13.COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Given the continued threat to my Oxford division from flooding, would the Cabinet member say what progress has been made in establishing a flood relief channel and swales on the west side of the city?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>Hopefully Councillor Tanner has attended the announcement of the route on 28 June at City Hall and so is aware that this significant milestone has been achieved following extensive consultation with the local community. The next stage will be for the outline business case to be submitted by the Environment Agency to Central Government for approval. To maintain the current programme this needs to be done by late spring 2017 and the team are on programme to achieve this.</p>
<p>14. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Would the Cabinet member say what progress has been made in applying double yellow lines for the full length of the cycle lanes in Donnington Bridge Road in Oxford, between Meadow Lane and Iffley Road? These cycle lanes are far too often dangerously blocked by parked cars.</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>There are streets in the city where advisory cycle lanes are sometimes blocked by legally parked vehicles. The OTS sets a clear ambition to address this, but it will not happen overnight. Removing on-street parking – particularly in residential areas such as Donnington Bridge Road – is not uncontroversial, as we have seen recently with the Headington proposals.</p> <p>The costs of any changes would need to be met, including the considerable time and effort needed to design and consult on proposals that strike an appropriate balance between the needs of residents and cyclists.</p> <p>In the absence of any funding specifically for this area, this is not something we are currently progressing, except as part of funded schemes such as Access to Headington.</p>
<p>15. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>What are the implications of the European Referendum result for the County Council and the people of Oxfordshire?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>Following David Cameron honouring his pledge to offer a referendum on our membership of the European Union, the British people have voted to take more direct control of the decisions which affect them.</p> <p>That process must not stop at the gates of Parliament. This is an opportunity to remake our democratic system, and must be used to drive, not delay, the</p>

process of devolving power from Westminster and Whitehall to England's cities and counties, and from those cities and counties to the towns, villages, and neighbourhoods within them.

The priorities of the county council will remain the same - to support economic growth, to protect the most vulnerable, and to drive efficiency in public services. To support these priorities, our work on stripping out another level of bureaucratic decision making by developing proposals for a new council for the whole of Oxfordshire will continue, as will our ambition to win a wide-ranging devolution deal from central government.

As we go through a period of both uncertainty and opportunity, it will be more important than ever for local partners in the public sector and beyond to work collaboratively and creatively to ensure Oxfordshire has good public services fit for the future.

Finance

- There is likely to be short and medium term volatility in the market, while the long term impact remains uncertain.
- In the short term, market volatility is unlikely to affect the financial position of the council, but there might be implications if there is a change in government policy or an emergency budget.
- Value of the pension fund could be affected but the valuation approach is to adopt a "smoothed" economic model. This means that for the 2016 valuation our actuary will base their financial assumptions on the average financial conditions over the period from 1 January 2016 to 30 June 2016 for both assets and liabilities.
- Reduction in the bank rate would reduce the interest we receive on deposits but it's likely to be a small impact as the rate is already so low.

Environment & Economy

- The housing industry could be affected by the uncertainty in the financial markets.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •There might be an impact in the long term in relation to the Knowledge Spine and the Oxfordshire Enterprise Zone, including availability of EU funding streams. •Further consideration needs to be given to the state of play with major contractors as there might be implications in the long term. •Further consideration to be given to the impact on major EU employers and European agencies based in Oxfordshire. •Opportunity to reassert Oxfordshire’s significant contribution to the national economy. <p>Legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •EU legislation already enacted by national legislation. •It was noted it will take around 2 years to fully withdraw from the European Union once the Article 50 of the Lisbon treaty is triggered. •Further consideration to be given to potential changes to the devolution agenda <p>Adult Social Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The main concern would be the introduction of any emergency immigration measures. However, this does not look likely in the short term. We will need to wait to see what the new government does in October. <p>Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Devolution agenda likely to continue, but focus will depend on the national direction of travel. •Further consideration to be given to the implications of the position in Scotland. •Further consideration to be given to announcements from other local councils <p>One concern is residents who are from the EU, I need to make clear that there is no immediate change to their status nor eligibility to work in Oxfordshire and we welcome the contribution that they make to the County’s economy.</p>
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	<p>There is also the issue of hate crime that has recently occurred in certain parts of the country. This is illegal and I would support the prosecution of anybody involved in such action.</p>
<p>16. COUNCILLOR BOB JOHNSTON</p> <p>There is widespread agreement that the loss of universal access to Children's Centres will much reduce preventative work with children and families in Oxfordshire. How many of the emerging offers from charities, voluntary groups and others to provide some services include an element of universal provision?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>A great deal of interest is being shown by community groups to look at how they can keep centres open and keep running universal services.</p> <p>OCC staff are actively working with all those centres which are not one of the 18 designated sites and are on a school site as to how the children centre space can be utilised to provide children's services going forward. Proposals including looking at provision of childcare and where possible space allowing for the child care provision to run in conjunction with open access universal provision type activities eg stay and play health groups .</p> <p>Of those centres that are not one of the eighteen identified or on a school site conversations are taking place with local community groups which include parish and town councils voluntary sector and partners in relation to each of the sites to again look at how children's services can be delivered into the future. An important component of the service is provision of universal services and all groups, as part of their business planning and modelling, are looking at how this can be delivered.</p> <p>It is true to say that some of these groups are more established than others and are further ahead in terms of models and business plans. Others are in the early stages of bringing people around the table to look at options. Some buildings have more than one group expressing an interest in delivering services including universal provision. OCC are actively supporting groups and encouraging them to build a significant proportion of universal provision into the models.</p>

<p>17. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</p> <p>Could the portfolio holder for transport confirm that relocation of the bus stops in the City Centre began before the public consultation regarding the best location of the new bus stops had closed? Would he further confirm that the new locations and bus routes will be easily accessible to all those with disabilities?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>The bus stops that have recently been relocated are related to the 5 month temporary closure of Queen Street, which commenced from 6th June and runs until November. This is in order to accommodate the current phase of the Westgate construction works, and was not related to the recent informal consultation.</p> <p>Relating to the positioning of bus stops themselves, the majority of bus stops will remain where they are now, but some services will be re-allocated to different stops, as detailed in the consultation. The current proposals have been worked up in conjunction with bus operators and Westgate. Please note that there is another round of (formal) consultation to undertake in the summer prior to any decisions being taken on the revised permanent bus stop proposals.</p>
<p>18. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</p> <p>Could the portfolio holder for transport give an indication of what progress has been made to move forward opening the Cowley to Wheatley rail link to public use? Would he agree with me that progress is painfully slow and that all the proposed new rail links in Oxfordshire are needed now not in 15 years' time?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>The original Oxford – Princes Risborough railway closed in 1963 although a short section remains in use for freight traffic serving the BMW Plant. A few years ago, Chiltern Railways evaluated reusing the old railway alignment as part of a franchise commitment to introduce a new Oxford to Marylebone service. They concluded that a corridor via Bicester had significant advantages and this was developed into what is now East West Rail (Phase 1). Reinstatement of the railway on its old alignment is not possible due to a number of issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Large sections of old alignment have been built on by housing, industrial and other development – for example it has been breached by the M40 and Oxford Services and housing has been built on the old alignment through Wheatley; · The cutting approaching Horspath Tunnel has been filled and the tunnel can only accommodate a single track; · The old alignment now passes through the middle of the BMW Plant at

	<p>Cowley.</p> <p>More recently the Council commissioned a study to assess the viability of introducing a half-hourly passenger service to Cowley to support employment and housing development in the Oxford Eastern Arc, with new stations near the Oxford Science Park and Oxford Business Park. The study concluded that, even though a direct service to London had the greatest potential to generate new rail trips, it failed to cover the cost of operating the service. Chiltern Railways carried out their own follow-on assessment in 2015 based on extending one of their new London Marylebone to Oxford services to provide an hourly weekday service with extra trains at peak times. Both studies identified the existing, congested main line south of Oxford station as a major barrier to developing the Cowley Line, mainly due to the number of trains using the line. It means that it is not possible to create a robust timetable that is reliable, conflict-free and has the required separation between trains without provision of 'dedicated' extra track which is very costly.</p> <p>The Council's new Rail Strategy makes clear that we want Network Rail to focus on providing more capacity through and south of Oxford station as part of their Oxford Corridor Capacity Improvement scheme currently being developed for the next five-year railway investment period which runs from 2019 to 2024. This will be the first phase in creating a four-track railway all the way to Didcot to cater for forecast growth. As well as potentially enabling the Cowley line, this would also unlock some other strategic goals, such as direct trains to Heathrow and enhanced East West Rail services.</p> <p>Because the rail industry works on five-yearly investment cycles, rail planning horizons can be lengthy as major infrastructure schemes have to be prioritised (nationally) and are often planned with more than five year lead times. Chiltern Railways are focused on the work that will allow their services from London Marylebone to be extended to Oxford from December this year. Their existing franchise ends in December 2021 and given this and the need to resolve main line capacity first, we expect it won't be until their next franchise that a service to Cowley will become a realistic proposal, if proven</p>
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	viable”
<p>19. COUNCILLOR SAM COATES</p> <p>Due to exceptional pressures upon parking outside primary schools at school run times in Oxford, where these schools are expanding, will the County Council look at measures to increase traffic restrictions in the vicinity of such schools - where problems have already been identified to council officers and county councillors?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>It is acknowledged that there are significant traffic congestion and parking issues at many primary schools across the County at the beginning and end of the school day, despite considerable past work in developing school travel plans to facilitate walking and cycling as an alternative to students being transported by car. However these problems tend to be of comparatively short duration and – reflecting the location of the majority of primary schools – the impact is mostly on lower tier roads. Also, despite understandable concerns over road safety, in practice the number of reported injury accidents in the vicinity of primary schools is very low.</p> <p>As you will be aware in the vicinity of many schools in Oxford, waiting restrictions are already in place as well as the standard School Keep Clear markings. In general there is little scope for any further measures to manage parking other than through changing driver behaviour or by higher levels of enforcement; this latter is particularly difficult to achieve due to the parking infringements being very short-term in nature.</p> <p>Where schools are being enlarged, as part of the development control process our officers do give very careful consideration to possible measures to mitigate the traffic impacts. It is normal practice to place a planning condition on the development that requires a school to produce an updated school travel plan and monitor / update this plan for a period of 5 years post expiation; the school can either produce the plan themselves, commission an external consultant or engage the Council’s Travel Plans Team to work with the school to produce the plan.</p>

<p>20. COUNCILLOR SAM COATES</p> <p>We were recently told that 18 Children’s centres would be saved but that a further 22 were ‘under review’ presumably with the County Council seeking funding from other public bodies and private charities who may contribute to the upkeep of the Centres. Could the Portfolio holder give an early indication if these attempts to involve others have been successful or show promise and if so what are the prospects of extra centres being saved from closure in March next year?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>A great deal of interest is being shown by community groups to look at how they can keep centres open. At all those centres which are not one of the 18 identified above and are on a school site, OCC staff are working with schools (and in some circumstances schools and community groups) about how the children centre space can be utilised to provide children’s services going forward including child care and, where possible, in conjunction with children centre type activities (eg ‘stay and play’, health groups etc)</p> <p>Of those centres that are not one of the eighteen identified or on a school site, conversations are taking place with local community groups which include parish and town councils, voluntary sector and partners in relation to each of the sites to again look at how children’s services can be delivered into the future. Given this level of activity we think that prospects are positive in relation to keeping extra centres open after March 2017.</p>
<p>21. COUNCILLOR SAM COATES</p> <p>There have been some shocking reports of unaccompanied refugee children going missing from council care in the UK. Could I ask what is being done to prevent unaccompanied refugee children in Oxfordshire from going missing from care?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>Within Oxfordshire Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children reported as missing are treated as our own indigenous children. We apply the same processes and quality assurance benchmarking across the board, which is different from other local authorities many of whom often separate these two groups of children out with each having a separate process. Oxfordshire is of the view that all children whom live within our county are ours, are treated equally, and we keep our arms around all of them without exception.</p> <p>The OSCB Joint Protocol for Missing Children clearly defines the process of how any child reported missing will be safeguarded. This is then quality assured by our monthly Missing Children’s Panel. The Oxfordshire’s panel is seen as an example of good practice nationally with the chairs invited to share our learning as speakers at national conferences on the topic of Safeguarding Missing Children.</p>

	<p>During a recent Ofsted inspection our processes and panel were described as being able to; “carefully monitor children and young people who go missing repeatedly. Effective panel meetings ensure that robust assessment, monitoring and a review of risk and impact is considered for each child. Where risk of exploitation is identified, suitable investigative responses and strategies to disrupt perpetrator activity are put in place. Inspectors observed appropriate professional challenge and escalation of action, with the meeting’s chair providing clear strategic direction to ensure that children received timely and appropriate support in order to mitigate the risk to them.</p>
<p>22. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</p> <p>Will the leader of the County Council give an indication of what is likely to happen to the LEP in the County submission for devolution reform? Could he indicate if the Government are considering an Elected Mayor for the overall democratic accountability of the Combined Authority of which presumably the LEP is an integral part?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>No detailed county submission has yet been prepared, as the decision on such a submission will be a matter for Cabinet following the findings of the Independent Review currently being conducted. Significant research and engagement are being undertaken, including conversations with local stakeholders of whom the LEP and business more widely, form a key part.</p> <p>LEPs exist across the country in both unitary and non-unitary areas, and therefore I do not envisage that a move to unitary local government would require a fundamental change to the LEPs key role in bringing together the public and private sector to plan for the future of our thriving economy and secure investment in the infrastructure needed to deliver this.</p> <p>Nonetheless a single local authority for Oxfordshire able to bring together planning for housing, transport, and growth would provide an opportunity to increase how effectively the local government side of the LEP engages with it. This might include commissioning some services currently delivered by the Districts relating to economic development from the LEP, in the same way as the County has transferred economy and skills functions across.</p> <p>I am not privy to conversations between the Districts and Government, and am therefore not able to comment on whether the Combined Authority they are proposing to sit above the small unitaries they wish to create would have an elected mayor or not.</p>

	<p>Clearly in other areas this has been something which Government have strongly pushed in negotiations. I have to say if there were a mayoral combined authority and district-sized principal authorities; it isn't obvious to me that their proposals would have abolished two-tier local government in any meaningful way.</p>
<p>23. COUNCILLOR SUSSANA PRESSEL</p> <p>Please can you pass on my heart-felt thanks to Liz Stock, who is about to retire after, I think, 41 years at OCC and 26 years at the Oxfordshire County Music Service, much of it as deputy head of service? I'm sure I'm speaking on behalf of everyone here in congratulating her on what she has achieved.</p> <p>Among my happiest times in recent years have been at some of the many concerts put on by the Music Service, including one last month which was celebrating the ninth year of the Christ Church Cathedral School Singing Project. So far 44 primary schools have been involved in this from all over the County.</p> <p>We can be very proud of our Music Service, thanks in no small part to Liz. She will be greatly missed, as I'm sure you agree.</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY, CULTURAL & COMMUNITY SERVICES</p> <p>Thank you Councillor Pressel for your question, and yes, of course I would be delighted to pass on your thanks to Liz Stock on her retirement. Throughout her long career she has undoubtedly contributed a great deal to the musical experiences and wellbeing of thousands of children in Oxfordshire. Our Music Service is nationally respected and we should be extremely proud of their achievements, as you say, in no small part due to Liz's inspirational influence. She will be greatly missed. I hope I can also pass on to her our best wishes from everyone in this chamber. I would like to remind Councillors that there will be leaving reception for Liz at 6pm on Thursday 14th July.</p>
<p>24. COUNCILLOR JANET GODDEN</p> <p>Who is responsible for the installation of the new real-time display indicators at bus stops,</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>The County Council voted to remove the budget for real time passenger information in February but I have worked hard with Officers and the Bus Operators to put together a funding package that allows the signs to remain in</p>

and when will they be working again?	place. We are responsible for the ongoing contract to install, maintain and operate the system and it is hoped that, Following completion of our negotiations with the bus operators the 270 electronic signs will start showing real time bus information again very soon. Assuming we do not come across any further challenges, we are expecting the displays to be working again from 8 th July 2016.
<p>25. COUNCILLOR JANET GODDEN</p> <p>Please can a clear statement be put on the website explaining the council’s statutory responsibilities with regard to grass cutting (verges, roundabouts, at junctions), and how it is meeting them?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Thank you for your question and I, like many Members, am only too aware of local concerns about the height of the verges at the moment, especially in rural areas.</p> <p>There is a clear statement on the website – here https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/verge-maintenance and here https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/grass-verge-cutting-programme-2016 . Of course the Council’s overarching responsibility for highway maintenance is set out in S41 of the 1980 Highways Act which states that “The authority who are for the time being the highway authority for a highway maintainable at the public expense are under a duty..... to maintain the highway.”</p> <p>With regard to meeting our obligations we have almost completed cutting the visibility splays at junctions around the County and will then be moving on to the sections between junctions. Cllr Godden will be aware that we are working with many town and parish councils through the Oxfordshire Together programme to encourage local delivery of work like grass cutting, and that is proving a real winner in many parts of the County. May I take this opportunity to thank those Parishes that are working with us in this way and encourage those who have yet to do so to come and join us.</p>
<p>26. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</p> <p>Please can you review the criteria for the “intervention levels” for road repairs? At</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council’s policy for potholes allows for a risk based</p>

<p>present the benchmark is the depth of a pothole in a road. This takes no account of the different criteria needed for ensuring the safety of cyclists. If we do want to encourage walking and cycling, rather than simply paying lip-service to it, we need to improve the maintenance at the edge of roads, where cyclists generally cycle, and which in places get badly damaged by buses. Our current criteria do not take this into account.</p>	<p>approach rather than interventions based only on absolute dimensions, reflects best practice across the country and was reviewed as part of the Strategic Peer Review of the Highways Service undertaken in July 2013.</p> <p>This process has been reinforced to our Highway Inspectors and the policy is applied such that if a defect is on a shared carriageway surface the defect should be treated as if it was a cycleway (if it is in the marked out area for cyclists).</p> <p>The risk based approach is used as the 40 or 20mm dimensions are investigatory levels not intervention criteria. Ultimately, it is down to the Inspector to make a professional judgement about the likely impact when determining the response category to assign for repair, and this is done by considering the Investigatory levels alongside the overall assessment of risk. These levels have been determined taking into account the budget situation and the need to respond to Category 1 defects in a timely manner.</p> <p>We have provided similar guidance previously to ensure that, for example, pedestrian refuges are considered as footway although they are in the centre of the road.</p>
<p>27. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</p> <p>Please can you work with the Planning Department to review the standards for cycle parking? Even city centre sites are often not required to have more than a very few cycle parking spaces. Bike theft is a huge problem and the police say that people should lock their bikes to a secure stand. The lack of cycle stands is a great disincentive to cycle for people with expensive bikes, so some people drive instead, adding to pollution and congestion.</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>The County Council will be working with the Planning Department at Oxford City Council to review the current cycle parking standards for new developments as part of the City Council's new Local Plan and in light of our own Oxford Transport Strategy.</p> <p>The Oxford Transport Strategy will set out the County Council's vision for improving transport access into and around the city by reducing congestion, improving public transport and making Oxford more cycle and pedestrian friendly.</p> <p>The County Council will also continue to work with developers within the city to ensure that the appropriate number of cycle parking spaces is provided for</p>

	<p>each development. For instance, the Westgate development shall be providing some 1000 cycle parking spaces.</p>
<p>28. COUNCILLOR LIZ BRIGHOUSE</p> <p>In the light of the fall-out from the Vote to Leave the European Union and the fact that the majority of Oxfordshire Residents voted to Remain, will the Leader of the Council work with others to ensure all steps necessary, including not activating Article 50, are taken to protect the funding of Research and Scientific Establishments across Oxfordshire including those in my division?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>I'm sure that Cllr Brighouse is aware that I campaigned to remain within the EU. I am a great believer in democracy and accept the will of the majority of the electorate of the United Kingdom to leave the EU.</p> <p>I can confirm I will not be campaigning to stop the Government carrying out the will of the majority of the United Kingdom in invoking Article 50 as that would be undemocratic.</p> <p>I can confirm that I will be campaigning to retain funding within Oxfordshire not just for Research and Scientific establishments but for all areas across the county such as skills, and apprenticeships.</p> <p>Now is the time that we need more economic growth to ensure we have the funds to protect the vulnerable in society. Oxfordshire can play its part by being the driver for economic growth not just within the county but across the country.</p>

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