Cabinet Tuesday, 13 October 2020

ADDENDA

- 4. Questions from County Councillors (Pages 1 8)
- 5. Petitions and Public Address (Pages 9 10)

15. Delegated Powers - October 2020

To report on a quarterly basis any executive decisions taken under the specific powers and functions delegated under the terms of Part 7.1 (Scheme of Delegation to Officers) of the Council's Constitution – Paragraph 6.3(c)(i). It is not for Scrutiny call-in

Date	Subject	Decision	Reasons for
28 September 2020	Request for exemption from tendering under Contract Procedure Rule ("CPR") 20 in respect of the award of a Contract for Reablement Support Workers to support an Oxfordshire Home First New Ways of Working.	Approved an exemption from the tendering requirements under OCC's Contract Procedure Rules in respect of the award of a contract to Charterville Care in respect of the provision of reablement support workers	The contract provided capacity to cope with winter pressures during the continuing covid pandemic and to support the implementation of the new reablement model. The need for the exemption to be applied was that due to the unpredicted fast moving Covid situation the Council had not been able to go down a normal tendering route. It had also been identified that the system would need additional support to cope with a second wave of Covid on top of winter pressures.



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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Questions	Answers
1. COUNCILLOR LIZ LEFFMAN	COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
It is good to see that a number of libraries have now re-opened across the county and that volunteers are able to resume their roles. Many of our volunteers are in the vulnerable age group. What steps are being taken to ensure their safety?	In the final week before the national lockdown the Library Service suspended all its volunteering as it was felt that with many of our volunteers falling into the vulnerable group due to age or underlying health conditions this was necessary to keep our volunteers safe. Since April the Service has been working to assess how to safely restart volunteering in our libraries. Our criteria for doing so has been based on the following considerations:
	 Whether the volunteering role was able to be carried out within the guidance relating to social distancing. This has meant that some roles that involve volunteers working in groups or closely 1-1 with customers such as Rhymetime volunteers or Digital Helpers have not yet been restarted. Whether the volunteering role was critical to the delivery of the library service. This has meant some additional roles like offering volunteering places to young people carrying out their Duke of Edinburgh volunteer placements have not yet resumed.
	Two roles where the criteria above was felt to apply was to our Home Library Service volunteers and our Community Library Volunteers and work commenced in the Summer to consider how volunteering in these roles could resume. As safety measures for staff had to be put in place first, and assessed to be effective, the move towards resuming volunteering came after we had experience of how our staff were working in the new environment. A key principle in the Community Library volunteering resuming was that all the protection and support offered to staff as part of the COVID site risk

Questions	Answers
	assessment would automatically apply to volunteers, with OCC funding any masks, gloves or other items volunteers required.
	 The process followed in standing up our community library volunteers involved: Consulting with all our library Friends Groups via an online conference in August and in follow up meetings with individual groups to keep them informed of the measures being taken to safely re-open and to answer any queries or questions they had. Asking our volunteers if they were happy to return, and if so to fill out a form updating crucial contact information as well as asking volunteers to declare whether they were in a vulnerable or extremely vulnerable. Those volunteers who had responded were then sent a Risk Assessment to complete with the volunteer's consent uploaded to the volunteer database.
	The Community Library Volunteer Risk Assessment was based on the COVID-19 Library Staff Risk Assessment with the previous Risk Assessment for the Community Library role added to it, with some adaptions due to the changes in branch working since the lockdown. It was made clear to all volunteers that they had the right to cease their volunteering at any time, even when in branch, if they did not wish to continue.
	The approach for Home Library Service volunteers (visiting individuals in their homes) was largely similar, with each volunteer being asked to complete a specific Home Library Service Volunteer Risk Assessment Checklist to confirm both their health status, and also their understanding of new working arrangements to make the arrangements COVID-secure.
	We continue to monitor the level of risk to our volunteers and we have the ability to identify and email directly volunteers in different risk categories via our updated database if we have to suspend volunteering again due to a rise in infection rate in the county.

Questions	Answers
2. COUNCILLOR TIM BEARDER	COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
The Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Twitter account is sending almost weekly tweets about cyclist on the pavement, five since the 22nd of September. Could you please supply me with the communication strategy and explain why this particular problem features so high up the departments list of concerns?	1. Could you please supply me with the communication strategy The communications calendar attached as an annex shows that cycle safety was a planned theme for our prevention activities in September. This was influenced by the Dept for Transport reporting last year that, at the national level, the only groups experiencing an increase in casualties were cyclists and pedestrians. The cycle safety initiative was jointly planned with and supported by the Police. 2. Why this particular problem features so high up the departments list of concerns?
	OFRS recently presented our annual report to the Performance Scrutiny Committee and were asked to respond to concerns raised by panel members regarding cycling proficiency in children of secondary school age. OFRS was specifically asked by a Committee member to take some action regarding older children cycling on pavements which was creating local concerns for pedestrian safety.
	To provide some broader context, over the past year our most successful social media campaign (in terms of reach) was the drink driving campaign which was run last December. The next most successful campaign focused on taking extra care on the roads following lockdown in June. Activity to support the cycling on the pavements activity was very limited in comparison to most of our other social media campaigns.
	Road and cycle safety is our core business and links to our cycle safety

Questions	Answers
	training and walking to school initiatives, as well as cutting across public health priorities.
3. COUNCILLOR TIM BEARDER	COUNCILLOR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW, CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE
Could you please tell me how much land the council owns in any of the sites in South Oxfordshire District Council's emerging local plan and what is intention to do with this land should the local plan get adopted?	Three allocations in the draft South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011-2034 contain land or property that is owned by Oxfordshire County Council. In summary they are as follows:
	Policy STRAT10ii Berinsfield Local Green Space Former Abbey School Site: 3.6 hectares within Local Green Space Berinsfield CP School (Abbey Woods Academy): 1.5 hectares within Local Green Space
	This land is likely to be managed as it has in the past, for open space and school purposes.
	Policy STRAT12 – Land at Northfield [not to be confused with the school / hostel site] Guydens Farm, Garsington: 15.63 hectares
	Should the Local Plan become adopted, the County Council will seek to maximise land value in order to support the delivery of services to Oxfordshire residents.
	Policy H2g (Didcot Gateway) Lydalls Nursery school: 0.3 hectares
	The County Council supports the redevelopment of the Didcot Gateway site, which is the triangular area of land opposite Didcot train station. This development has a real opportunity to introduce a high quality development

Questions	Answers
	that can be seen as gateway to the centre of Didcot. The County Council recognises that redevelopment of the Lydalls Nursery site may bring opportunity to deliver an integrated cohesive development should opportunities to relocate the Nursery be identified. Should the Local Plan be adopted the Council will work with stakeholders to assess the viability and suitability of relocation where it is appropriate to do so.
4. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL	COUNCILLOR YVONNE CONSTANCE, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT (INCLUDING TRANSPORT)
We are facing a climate crisis, a Covid-19 crisis and a general health crisis, because of killer air pollution and because of our increasingly sedentary lifestyles. The government is telling us to encourage active travel and get cars out of city	I agree that action is required to permanently reduce congestion and pollution across Oxfordshire, particularly in and around Oxford that is why we are progressing the policy of Connecting Oxford which is part of the strategic Connecting Oxfordshire.
centres. The bus companies are desperate for us to reduce congestion and the City Council is so keen on the bus gates that they were happy to pay for them. All we need from you is leadership.	Temporary or experimental schemes could play a helpful role in achieving this. However, we have to recognise that even temporary or experimental schemes can have a major impact on people's lives and businesses and we must take the time and care to understand those impacts.
These temporary, experimental bus gates, which can easily be moved and the timings and exemptions adjusted, are the ideal way to gather evidence for the permanent scheme that we hope will follow and we hope it will follow soon.	A hastily implemented experiment can do more harm than good, dividing communities, eroding trust in the local authorities, and damaging the prospects for permanent change – which must remain our primary focus. In other parts of the country rushed emergency active travel schemes are being removed following outcry from residents and businesses. We don't want that to happen here, and particularly not with a proposal that sits at the heart of our long-term transport strategy. If we get this wrong, we won't get a second
The bus gates would encourage people to use the ring road, instead of driving through the city	chance.
centre, and encourage people to use the park and ride car parks, if they want to come into the city centre.	We have listened to local people and businesses. Opinion was sharply divided on the temporary bus gates. The deepest anxiety and anger about the temporary bus gate proposals came from Oxford residents and

Questions

People in my division, in the Botley Road area, are in despair at the solid lines of vehicles, stationary in both directions, spewing out exhaust fumes, that regularly bring the road to a standstill and threaten their health and the health of their children -- and if you decide today not to go ahead with the temporary bus gates, after all the work that has been put in, it seems they may now have to wait until 2023 for relief from this intolerable situation!

My question is – what are you going to do to *really* reduce pollution and congestion in the city centre (which can only be done by reducing the number of vehicles) and to rescue the residents in my division from the intolerable situation they are suffering?

Sadly, the current Botley Road improvement scheme will make very little difference without the bus gates: most drivers will still choose to drive into and through town, because that's what they are used to doing.

Answers

organisations, concerned that their lives would be disrupted with little warning or mitigation. However, many of those same people actually supported the scheme's objectives. Their concerns about bus gates are, we believe, surmountable. But it will take time, money, and a period of thoughtful, constructive dialogue with residents and businesses to steer a path through their legitimate concerns to arrive at an effective long-term solution. We can't do that if the scheme is rushed through in a few months.

Yes, a temporary scheme could be adjusted to try to mitigate its unforeseen impacts. But now that we have heard the strength of public feeling about the bus gates, I think making adjustments in the heat of a live experiment of this scale is a recipe for lurching from one change to the next, while the public steadily lose patience and the credibility of the scheme drains away.

Unlike many local authorities, we already had highly ambitious proposals to reduce traffic and pollution <u>before</u> COVID-19. With Connecting Oxford and the Zero Emission Zone we're going further and faster on traffic and emissions reduction than any other local authority in the country. We'll be spending almost £45m on sustainable transport schemes in the city in the next four years – excluding Connecting Oxford and the ZEZ.

Officers have put forward suggestions to accelerate this programme, and explore other alternatives to the bus gates which support it.

Our plans will be transformational – but only if they are delivered. Let's not throw away the chance of long-term transformation in our haste for short-term change. We already have a plan; let's stick to it and get it delivered.

Community Safety Annual Calendar V5.0 2020		
2020/21	Home Road and Community Safety Themes (OCC/OFRS/NPCC/NFCC/RSGB/TVRSG)	Suggested Station involvement - via Social media posts either sharing, posting, in press releases or for the main Theme for any station activities this month
Apr	2 Wheelers (NFCC/TVP/OFRS)	Share For Cyclists promote Helmet use, mind the gap / Close pass and light on Bikes -be safe be seen related to an increase in cyclists during the current situation
•	Smoking	
May	Speed Awareness (NFCC/TVP/OFRS)	Share media Fatal 4 'Its Not Worth The risk' messages with Speed as main theme - inappropriate speed contributes to 1 in 3 KSI collisions
•	Escape routes	Inc Sprinkler week and boat fire safety weeks
lun	Seat belts child Safety Week	Fatal 4 its not work the risk highlighting importance of wearing a seatbelt
Jun	Outdoor fire safety	
Jul	Summer Drink Driving (NFCC/TVP/OFRS)	Share Fatal 4 'Its Not Worth The risk' messages with Drink and Drugs as main theme, including Morning after information - 1 in 3 KSI collisions due to the influsence of alcohol or drugs
Jui	Cooking Safety	
Aug	Alcohol and Drugs (NFCC/TVP/OFRS)	Share Fatal 4 'Its Not Worth The risk' messages with Drink and Drugs as main theme, including Morning after information - 1 in 3 KSI collisions due to the influence of alcohol or drugs
J	Smoke alarm purchasing	
	One Road- Fatal Four (NFCC/TVP/OFRS) Cyclist	One Road One Week Campaign - For Thame Valley this will be the A40 from Denham to Gloucestor: share Fatal 4 'Its Not Worth The risk' messages along route, Lights on Bikes, Be safe be seen Ride safe signs and promotion for Motocyclists reminding them to ride
San	Ride Safe (Thame Valley Joint campaign)	safe
Sep	Business Safety Week	
	Home Fire Safety	In Gas Safety week, Fire door safety week, Home safety week, smoke alarm testing
_	Tyre Safe Month	Promote / Share Tyre Safe month via social media and national campaign leaflets provided
Oct	Get your Chimney swept (OFRS)	Share messages - getting chimney swept before winter season, inc candle fire safety week, student fire safety week. Halloween messaging
Nov	Older Drivers Awareness (National/RSGB/OFRS) (NFCC/TVP/OFRS/RSGB) Brake Road Safety Week	Promote Fatal 4 'Its Not Worth The risk' SDSA targeting Young Drivers Event oxford Winter Driving Messages for Press releases
	Electrical	Inc Fireworks safety, Electrical fire safet week
Dec	Impared Driving Alcohol and Drugs (NFCC/TVP/ OFRS)	Share Fatal 4 'Its Not Worth The risk' messages with Drink and Drugs as main theme, including Morning after information

	Christmas fire safety	
	Winter Driving safety	Share winter driving messages and website info Take extra Care
Jan	Smoke alarm purchasing	
Feb	Mobile phone Distraction (NFCC/TVP/OFRS)	Share Fatal 4 'Its Not Worth The risk' with Seatbelts as main theme Not wearing a mobile phone risk
	Cooking fire safety	
Mar	Fatal 4	General road safety messaging
	Smoke alarm Testing	
Campaigns		

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ITEM 5 - PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

Public Address

The following requests to address the meeting have been agreed by the Chairman:

Item	Speaker
Item 4 - Questions	Councillor Liz Leffman
	Councillor Tim Bearder
	Councillor Susanna Pressel
Item 6 – Budget & Business Planning Report	Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet member for Finance (5 mins)
Item 7 - Business Management & Monitoring Report for August 2020	Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet member for Finance (5 mins)
Item 8 – Emergency Active Travel – Emergency Bus Gates	Councillor Tom Hayes, Oxford City Council (3 mins)
	Mr Charlie Hicks
	Mr Mogford (3 mins),
	Mr G Jones, ROX, backing Oxfordshire business (3 mins),
	Mr Kawsar Shah, Jericho Traders Association (3 mins)
	Ms Scaysbrook, Oxford High Street Association (3 mins)
	Mr James Lawrie (3 mins)
	Emma Dadson, Oxford Waterside Resident's Association (3 mins)
	Mr Richard Parnham, Reconnecting Oxford (3 mins)
	Ms Pip McAllister, Jericho Connection (3 mins)
	Mark Bhagwandin, Chairman, Oxford Conservative Association (3 mins)
	Ms Liz Sawyer (3 mins)
	Ms Sushila Dhall, Coalition for Healthy

	Streets and Active Travel (3 mins)
	Councillor John Howson, local councillor for St Margaret's (5mins)
	Councillor John Sanders, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment (5 mins)
Item 9 – Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Policy	Councillor Liz Brighouse, Chair of Performance Scrutiny Committee
	Councillor D. McIlveen, Shadow Cabinet Member for Local Communities (5 mins)
Item 10 – Climate Action Framework	Councillor John Sanders, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment (5 mins)
Item 11– OSCB	Councillor Liz Brighouse, Chair of Performance Scrutiny Committee
Item 12- OSAB	Councillor Liz Brighouse, Chair of Performance Scrutiny Committee
Item 13 – CPE	Councillor Jenny Hannaby, local councillor for Grove & Wantage (5 mins)
	Councillor Judy Roberts, local councillor for North Hinksey (5 mins)