

County Council

1 November 2011

Schedule of Business

County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND

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OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – 1 NOVEMBER 2011

SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS

- **9.58 am – The Civic Party will process into the Council Chamber;**
- **A Briefing session on Attracting Business to Oxfordshire will be held for all Members of the Council following the conclusion of the Council Meeting.**

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	15 mins	10:00	<p>Minutes</p> <p>Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 September 2011 (CC1).</p> <p>Minute 86/11 Councillor Jean Fooks proposes the following amendment for clarification:</p> <p>“The proposer said that she understood that the motion submitted was no longer necessary and it was agreed that the matter not proceed in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.1.”</p>	S Fooks

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2.	2			Apologies for Absence	Darke, Malik, D. Turner and Seale.
3.	2			Declarations of Interest	
4.	2			Official Communications The Chairman reports as follows: (i) The Chairman has attended 3 repatriations for fallen servicemen since the Memorial Garden was dedicated. (ii) Two successful snow day events have been held. One at the Deddington depot and the other at the Drayton depot; each had approximately 50 people in attendance where they gained information on snow clearance and salt spreading. (iii) A listing of Chairman's	

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				Events is now available on the website: http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/chairman-council	
5.	2			Appointments	
6.	2	5 mins	10.15	Petitions and Public Address	<u>Petition</u> <u>Public Address</u> Ms Ruth Lyster for Agenda Item 11
7.	2			Questions with Notice from Members of the Public	None.

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8.	2	20 mins	10.20	Community Safety Partnership Strategies	(M) Mallon (SEC) Heathcoat S Goddard S Hannaby S R Smith S Fooks S Tanner S Pressel

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9.	3	40 mins	10.40	Report of the Cabinet Deputy Leader (David Robertson) Adult Services (Arash Fatemian) Finance & Property (Jim Couchman) Growth & Infrastructure (Lorraine Lindsay-Gale) Police & Policy Co-ordination (Kieron Mallon) Safer & Stronger Communities (Judith Heathcoat)	Q. Fooks (para 1) Q. Brighthouse (para 2) Q. Pressel (para 3) Q. Hannaby (para 4) Q. Stevens (para4) Q. Armitage (para 5) Q. Armitage (para 8) Q. Godden (para 8) Q. Shouler (para 9) Q. Brighthouse (para 10) Q. Fitzgerald-O'Connor (para 11) Q. Tanner (para 11) Q. Goddard (para 12)

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10.	3	30 mins	11.20	Questions with Notice from Members of the Council (1) Mathew to Rose (2) Mathew to Lindsay-Gale (3) Patrick to Mallon (4) Patrick to Mitchell (5) Armitage to Rose (6) Armitage to Rose (7) Armitage to Tilley (8) R Smith to Rose (9) R Smith to Rose (10) Tanner to Rose (11) Tanner to Lindsay-Gale (12) Tanner to Lindsay-Gale (13) Tanner to Rose (14) L Sanders to Rose (15) L Sanders to Fatemian (16) L Sanders to Fatemian (17) L Sanders to Robertson (18) L Sanders to Robertson (19) D Turner to Robertson (20) Fooks to Robertson (21) Purse to Rose (22) Altaf-Khan to Tilley (23) Altaf-Khan to Tilley (24) Fooks to Lindsay-Gale	See Annex 2

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				(25) Hutchinson to Chapman (26) Hutchinson to Fatemian	
11.	3	40 mins	11.50	Motion From Councillor Liz Brighthouse	(M) Brighthouse (SEC) Stevens (AM) Fooks (SEC) Patrick S Couchman S Tilley S Shouler S Pressel S Hutchinson See Annex 1
12.	3	30 mins	12.30	Motion From Councillor Arash Fatemian	(M) Fatemian (SEC) Robertson (AM) Fooks (SEC) Patrick (AM) Pressel (SEC) Brighthouse S Lilley S Lovatt S Stevens See Annex 1 See Annex 1
LUNCH					

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)
13.	4	30 mins	2.00	Motion From Councillor Janet Godden	(M) Godden (SEC) Goddard S Fatemian S Mitchell S Patrick S Hannaby S Fooks S Pressel S Stevens
14.	4	20 mins	2.30	Motion From Councillor Arash Fatemian	(M) Fatemian (SEC) Jones S Skolar S Hannaby S Godden S Pressel
15.	5	20 mins	2.50	Motion From Councillor Ian Hudspeth	((M) Hudspeth (SEC) Handley S Godden S Stevens S J. Sanders

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16.	6	20 mins	3.10	Motion From Councillor John Sanders	M) J Sanders (SEC) Brighthouse S Rose S Lilley S Hudspeth S Fooks S R Smith S Purse
17.	6	15 mins	3.30	Motion From Councillor Roz Smith	(M) R Smith (SEC) Chapman S Purse S Hutchinson S Pressel

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AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Agenda Item 11 – Motion from Councillor Liz Brighthouse – Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jean Fooks

“This Council notes that the Cabinet has agreed to include the current catering and cleaning services provided by Food with Thought and QCS within the scope of a Total Facilities Management Service Contract.

Given that:

1. These services are paid for from the schools Delegated Budgets.
2. Schools have indicated that they support the current service provided by Food with Thought,
3. Food With Thought is forecasting a trading surplus
4. There has been a 5.75% rise in the take up of meals.
5. Currently any profit generated is reinvested in the service

~~Inclusion of this service in a much larger contract will jeopardise all of this and the other work which has been done this includes, training staff, communicating with parents, the provision of an excellent menu leaflet which goes out and is published in the Oxford Mail and much more.~~ **Council believes that it is not proven that having a bigger contract will reduce risk to the County Council or save money, but that it would jeopardise the good work currently done by Food with Thought. In particular, it is not clear that including Food with Thought in the proposed contract would improve meal take-up or maintain the current high quality of provision**

It is difficult to understand how a commercial organisation and possibly one where share holders or financial holding companies require a profit could provide such a service to our schools and to the children of this county. This Council, therefore, calls on the Cabinet to reconsider its position and to open a dialogue with the schools as to how best ~~these services~~ **Food with Thought** can be provided.”

Agenda Item 12 – Motion from Councillor Arash Fatemian –Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jean Fooks

“This Council fully supports ‘Ox Online – The Digital Strategy for Oxfordshire’ and the campaign to get the whole county connected to Broadband as part of Oxfordshire’s Local Broadband Plan.

Council notes:

That digital exclusion correlates closely to social and financial exclusion – those without IT skills find it harder to access education and employment opportunities, and miss out on opportunities to save money by accessing goods and services online.

That 28% of premises (residential and business) in Oxfordshire, ***mostly in rural parts of the county***, are in the Ofcom Market 1 area where it is recognised that the market has failed to deliver an adequate broadband service.

That 74,500, or 28% of households are within such areas, as are 33% of Oxfordshire’s businesses and 25 % of all employees. That Race Online 2012 is a national campaign to get everyone online by the end of the Olympic year (hence the ‘race’); and

That nearly 10 million people in the UK never access the Internet. The ‘Give An Hour’ campaign hopes to help this group so that those with IT skills can ‘Give an Hour’ (gained when the clocks went back on 30th October) to show those without IT skills how to use computers and Internet.

Council resolves:

- (a) That, as part of Oxfordshire’s Local Broadband Strategy, members are asked to consider signing up as ‘Digital Champions’ to commit to helping others get online (at www.raceonline2012.org/giveanhour).
- (b) That the work, resources and aims of ‘Ox Online’ continue to be promoted through the County Council’s resources, including the website; and
- (c) ***That the Digital Oxfordshire Governance Board, about to be set up, should recommend that expenditure by Oxfordshire County Council to improve broadband speeds should prioritise areas currently having speeds less than 2Mbs.”***

Agenda Item 12 – Motion from Councillor Arash Fatemian –Amendment to be moved by Councillor Susanna Pressel

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(b) That the work, resources and aims of 'Ox Online' continue to be promoted through the County Council's resources, including the website

(c) That the director for Adult Services seeks to arrange for volunteers (for instance from Age UK and student volunteers from The Hub) to contact the Council's Well-being and Resource Centres to help the centre users get on-line."

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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.

Questions	Answers
<p>1. COUNCILLOR MATHEW</p> <p>Would the Cabinet Member for Transport outline his plans for charging the commercial vehicles parking in the remaining Park and Rides under his control? Currently commercial organisations are organising a daily collection vehicle for employees who park there free in order to transport them to their place of work</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>The Park & Ride sites we operate assist in achieving our policy of intercepting car journeys that would otherwise continue to their destination by car. Where contractors use the P&R sites they park their cars and, where charges apply, have to pay. Clearly the vehicle conveying them to the city does not In our P&R sites there is no charge but the policy does prevent very many more cars coming into the city centre.</p>
<p>2. COUNCILLOR MATHEW</p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member for Growth and Infrastructure please confirm when the results of the Consultation sessions with Proteus on OCC draft Core Strategy 2030 both on Waste and Gravel, held on 29th September 2011, will be publicly available and also confirm when the results of the final Consultation will be available publicly?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>At the two stakeholder consultation meetings on the draft Minerals and Waste Planning Strategies held on 29 September, which were facilitated by Proteus Public Relations Ltd, it was stated that the reports of the meetings by the facilitators would be published on the County Council's website following the close of the consultation period on 31 October. The reports are being placed on the website this week. It is intended to report to Cabinet on 17 January 2012 on the responses to the consultations on the draft Minerals and Waste Planning Strategies. The report to Cabinet will be a public document.</p>
<p>3. COUNCILLOR ZOE PATRICK</p> <p>In an article in The Guardian newspaper, Oxfordshire County Council is quoted as follows:</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR KIERON MALLON, CABINET MEMBER FOR POLICE AND POLICY CO-ORDINATION</p> <p>This quote is a partial extract from the County Council's response to the Home Office Consultation on Policing in the 21st Century, which was submitted on the 20th September 2010, and signed off by the Cabinet Member for Police and Policy</p>

<p>“Oxfordshire County Council said: "We are not wholly convinced of the advisability of directly elected police and crime commissioners and we have fears that their roles are likely to create competing mandates and undermine relationships between local authorities and the police."</p> <p>It added: "Given the current financial climate, we are very concerned that the cost of supporting the police and crime commissioner in his role will be greater than the current costs of a police authority and place pressure on police budgets that are already likely to be severely constrained."</p> <p>Could the Cabinet member for Police and Policy Co-ordination inform me who has provided this quote and is it taken as the view of the council?</p>	<p>Co-ordination on behalf of the Council.</p>
<p>4. COUNCILLOR ZOE PATRICK</p> <p>Can the Leader of the Council assure all council members that the Members' Protocol about informing members of issues within their divisions is being adhered to?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR KEITH MITCHELL, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>I am satisfied that strenuous efforts have been made to ensure staff are aware of the Protocol and, in the main, I am confident that it is being observed. However, you will appreciate that I am not able to give a categorical assurance that there have been no failures. Indeed, I occasionally become aware of failures myself. These are thankfully rare and my response is always to forward a copy of the Members' Protocol to the relevant officer with a request that they comply with it.</p>
<p>5. COUNCILLOR ALAN ARMITAGE</p> <p>Given the fact that there are now only two</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>It is not anticipated that charging will have a significant impact on the number of</p>

<p>Park & Rides in Oxford which will continue to offer free parking, will the council review those parts of the recently approved Local Transport Plan in respect of strategies designed to reduce the number of vehicles in the city, improve air quality and ease congestion?</p>	<p>vehicles entering the City as the cost differential between central car parks and Park & Rides + bus fare is still generally in favour of Park & Ride sites. We do not therefore see the need to review the Local Transport Plan.</p>																								
<p>6. COUNCILLOR ALAN ARMITAGE</p> <p>The council budget included assumptions in the current and future years as to increased income from Park & Rides. What is the impact on those assumptions of the decision not to introduce charges at county council's Park & Rides? How will any budget gaps be dealt with?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>With the small addition of some revenue from London-bound travellers from Thornhill, which admittedly is not yet in place, there is no negative change to our budget proposals as the change in direction is cost neutral. The change of stance does have an impact on people who park at Thornhill and Water Eaton in that they park for free, and it is unfortunate that the City Council does not have the same aspiration to reduce congestion in the inner city roads by promoting Park and Ride use out at the ring road.</p>																								
<p>7. COUNCILLOR ALAN ARMITAGE</p> <p>What has been the change during the last few years in the number of complaints to the Local Government Ombudsman about the admission procedures at schools in the county?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>The table below shows the number of complaints about schools admissions in the county investigated by the Local Government Ombudsman. Many of these complaints will include also include enquiries into the school appeals process as part of the investigation.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="848 1110 2056 1422"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Financial year</th> <th rowspan="2">Number of complaints</th> <th colspan="2">Complaint outcome</th> </tr> <tr> <th>No maladministration</th> <th>Local settlement</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2011/2012 to date</td> <td>2*</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010/2011</td> <td>8</td> <td>6</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2009/2010</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2008/2009</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Financial year	Number of complaints	Complaint outcome		No maladministration	Local settlement	2011/2012 to date	2*	1		2010/2011	8	6	2	2009/2010	4	4	-	2008/2009	3	2	1
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2009/2010	4	4	-																						
2008/2009	3	2	1																						

	<p>* one of these cases is still open</p> <p>We would not anticipate receiving many more complaints about school admissions this financial year because the main admissions round is concluded.</p>
<p>8. COUNCILLOR ROZ SMITH</p> <p>Sandhills primary school is located on Terrett Avenue. When will this highway be adopted by the County Council so that measures can be taken to improve parking and pedestrian safety?"</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>Terrett Avenue is subject to a road adoption agreement and there are a number of snags that the developer has to rectify including a drainage problem before adoption can occur. The road has been designed and built to contemporary standards for parking and pedestrian safety. At present there are no planned measures to improve parking and pedestrian safety. Once the developer has resolved the issues adoption can proceed.</p>

9. COUNCILLOR ROZ SMITH

Could the Cabinet Member inform me which local Oxfordshire running groups, residents groups and County councillors were consulted about the route decided for the recent Oxford half marathon

COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT

The organisers consulted the following organisations and most of them were invited to several meetings:

- Association of Running Clubs
- Oxfordshire Athletic Association
- Oxford City AC
- Abingdon AC
- Alchester AC
- Bicester AC
- Cherwell Runners
- Eynsham AC
- Didcot Runners
- Headington Road Runners
- Oxford Uni AC
- Oxford Brookes
- White Horse Harriers
- Witney Road Runners
- Thame AC
- Woodstock Harriers
- Radley AC
- Ozone Health Club
- David Lloyd Leisure
- Helen & Douglas House
- BBC Oxford
- BBC Radio Oxford
- Heart FM
- Oxford City Council
- Oxfordshire County Council
- Thames Valley Police
- Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service
- Oxfordshire Ambulance Service
- St John Ambulance Oxfordshire
- Oxford United Football Club
- Oxford Bus Company

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stagecoach Bus Company • Oxford Scout Groups • Oxford Association for the Blind • Oxford Venture Scouts • Tesco • Sainsbury's • Oxford Sea Cadets • Various Churches <p>All affected residents were notified by letter drop and advertisement in the local press about the road closures and associated traffic management. A public meeting was organised by the event organiser at Oxford's Town Hall to which local residents and City Councillors were invited as the event was a City Council supported event. Additionally, two Safety Advisory Group meetings were held at Oxford City Council with relevant stakeholders present.</p>
<p>10. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Would the Cabinet member join with me in congratulating Sainsbury's on building the new hamburger roundabout at Heyford Hill in Oxford? Which supermarkets does he have in mind to fund the other much needed road improvements in and around Oxford?'</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>Due to the almost trillion pound debt inherited by our current National Government from the Gordon Brown administration, it was with regret that the Coalition had to draw back in funds from things like the Regional Transport Board to move towards getting the national "books" back into balance. This left us with the loss of over £60 million for our "Access to Oxford" program which would have been a great help to travel both in Oxfordshire and in the City itself. I am very happy that Cllr Tanner joins with me in congratulating Sainsbury's, which I have already done in local media. Cllr Tanner should know me well enough by now to be aware that I will take cash from ANY source to enhance the infrastructure of our County.</p>
<p>11. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>At the last Council Cllr Lindsay-Gale kindly agreed to review the pedestrian ban at the popular Redbridge Recycling Centre in Oxford. Will the Cabinet member tell Council the outcome of that review?'</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>As stated in the last Council Meeting, pedestrian access will be reviewed as part of the redevelopment of Redbridge HWRC. The redevelopment is linked to the wider HWRC strategy and as such cannot be undertaken until after the new site at Kidlington has opened which is not expected until Winter next year.</p>

	<p>Officers have looked at whether arrangements can be implemented more quickly to allow pedestrian access. This would not be easy as a separate access would be required, the ground would need to be levelled to allow for wheelchairs and push/pull carts, dedicated walkways would need to be created with specific crossing points to protect pedestrians. The cost of these infrastructure changes would be considerable and more if they were carried out independently, rather than as part of the site redevelopment.</p> <p>There is also concern that pedestrian access would encourage people to park outside or close to the site, especially when it is busy and walk waste in. When the site is busy there is obviously more traffic and therefore more risk to pedestrians.</p> <p>We have a duty to protect the well being of visitors to our recycling centres and we take this responsibility very seriously.</p>
<p>12. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Will the Cabinet member tell Council what percentage reductions were made by the County Council in CO2 emissions and energy use in 2010/11? What percentage reductions does she plan for carbon-footprint and energy use in 2011/12 and 2012/13? Will she list the total reductions for each year, and for the Council's own estate and its schools separately?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>Overall the Council's carbon footprint for 2010/11 was 60, 585 tonnes, a 4% reduction from 2005/6.</p> <p>The Council has been recording its energy consumption from its buildings since 1990. From 1990/91 to 2010/11, carbon emissions from buildings alone have been reduced by just under 23%. This is a year ahead of the Government's target of 22% by Dec 2012 established under the Climate Change Act 2008.</p> <p>The more detailed figures requested for previous years are set out in Table 1. The summary data captures reductions in energy use due to investment in energy savings and changes in behaviour. It also reflects year-to-year changes in demand due to variations in average winter temperatures and changes in assets and service requirements – for example increases in street lighting and IT equipment. Therefore year-to-year data should be treated with caution and set in the context of the multi-year dataset.</p> <p>As an example, the Committee on Climate Change has noted that nationally emissions for 2010 rose by about 4% compared to 2009 because of the colder</p>

winter (Committee on Climate Change: Meeting Carbon Budgets – 3rd Progress Report to Parliament 2011).

Table 1 - Oxfordshire County Council carbon emissions from 2005/6 to 2010/11

	Carbon emissions by year tonnes CO ₂					2010/11 reductions compared to:			
	2005/06	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2005/6		2009/10	
						tonnes	%	tonnes	%
Corporate	27,821	27,912	25,587	26,740	26,880	942	3.38	-140	-0.52
Schools	35,125	33,187	36,388	31,173	33,705	1,420	4.04	-2,532	-8.12
Total	62,946	61,099	61,975	57,913	60,585	2,361	3.75	-2,672	-4.61

The corporate figures include emissions from energy use in buildings and street lighting, as well as emissions from business travel and waste to landfill. For consistency, the same method of calculation is used for each year. Care should be taken when comparing with other published figures because of variations in the method of calculation.

Current investment plans indicate the Council should reduce its corporate carbon footprint by 835 tonnes of CO₂ in 2011/12 with a planned saving of 901 tonnes in the schools estate. It is currently preparing its financial and energy budgets for 2012/13, so plans for future years have not been confirmed. They are also the subject of negotiation with the tenderers for the new Property & Facilities single service provider. This contract will include targets, yet to be agreed, for energy savings in the corporate estate in recognition of the rapidly rising costs of energy as much as the Government's statutory carbon budgets.

Investment in schools is the responsibility of School Governors, so the proposed savings are subject to the agreement of individual governing bodies. To support

	<p>Governors, the Council provides invest-to-save loan funding and has developed schools specific web pages at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schoolscutcarbon with advice and a draft energy strategy. Automatic meter readers (AMRs) are being installed at most schools and those with AMRs can now access a range of web-based reports.</p>
<p>13. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Does the Cabinet member sympathise with the plight of residents in the Weirs Lane area of Oxford, in my division, whose community is increasingly divided by the busy main road of Weirs Lane. Will he consider installing a pedestrian crossing so that people can cross that road without risking life and limb?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>We appreciate that a crossing in the area suggested could be helpful. There are two issues that we need to look into. The first is whether or not we can physically fit in a crossing and what impact it will have on traffic (this is after all a very important route in the city's transport network). This will be looked into when Officer time permits. The second is, of course where the money will come from. It will not score highly within County or S106 lists, so I would advise Cllr Tanner to explore possibilities with his Area Steward, as to the use of the Area Stewardship Fund. This may require support from other local Members to raise sufficient funding.</p>
<p>14. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>Given that traffic-related air pollution remains above World Health Organisation recommended minimum levels on streets such as Botley Road, Hythe Bridge Street, Thames Street, Abingdon Road, St Giles, Longwall Street, and others, and especially near residential areas around the ring-road, what is the County Council doing to reduce this threat to human health?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>The Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) Oxford area strategy contains the following measures specifically for air quality. However, most elements of the Oxford strategy will help improve air quality so I would refer Cllr Sanders to Chapter 13 of the LTP3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A city centre Low Emission Zone (LEZ) will be implemented [see below] and options will be investigated for reducing the impact of road freight transport on air quality.</i> • <i>The introduction of charging points for electric vehicles in the city will be investigated, and incentives for lower carbon emission vehicles will be considered.</i> • <i>Traffic routeing will be improved to reduce emissions in the streets with most pedestrians and residents.</i>

	<p>[These initiatives are currently being worked on actively by Highways & Transport.]</p> <p>The city centre Low Emission Zone (approved by Cabinet Member for Transport and the City Council in 2009) remains a high priority and is on track for a 1 January 2014 start date. The qualifying agreement has already reduced bus mileage and emissions in the city centre significantly by reducing bus numbers and replacing dozens of old buses with the latest low emission vehicles, including hybrid-electric buses. This means significant progress towards the 2014 LEZ standard has already been made. We expect monitoring to show significant improvements in the city centre when a full year's worth of data is available next summer.</p>
<p>15. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>Recent statistics show that each year about four hundred Oxfordshire residents would get their social care fully paid for by the NHS if Oxfordshire PCT provided Continuing Care at the same rate as the national average. In his answer to my question at the last County Council meeting Cllr Fatemian said that this does not create any additional costs for Oxfordshire County Council, because the Council operates a 'quota' system. Could the cabinet member please explain how that quota system works? If it means that people have to wait longer to receive the services they need, could he please estimate the average length of additional waiting time?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES</p> <p>Each week the number of places for home care and residential care are allocated by strategic commissioning based on need and resource availability. The reason for this is that this essentially pre-authorises purchasing of care placements by commissioning so that front line allocations can be provided quickly and efficiently when the need arises.</p> <p>Over the weeks these allocations can be varied by Commissioning as the need arises and obviously they are reviewed weekly as well as at longer term intervals.</p> <p>This mechanism has key two benefits - as confirmed above this allows front line decision making to be carried out in an authorised and efficient environment and it also provides a baseline forecast for Adult Social Care with which to model future forecast future spend requirements.</p> <p>This system actually speeds up the authorisation process for approval of services as it allows front line staff to authorise placements quickly against the released purchasing agreement for that week</p>
<p>16. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>Could Councillor Fatemian explain what it is about the population of Oxfordshire that could explain why so many fewer of them</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council has been acknowledged by the National Audit Office be leading in their partnership arrangements with the PCT and their development of Section 75 Pooled Budgets.</p>

are eligible to have their social care paid for by the NHS, meaning that the care is paid for by the County Council or they have to pay themselves, which often results in the forced sale of their homes?

This in effect allows us to manage in partnership a pot of money which pays for Continuing Health Care and also for Residential Nursing Care. In effect therefore OCC has had less cause to take a very firm line with the PCT as to what is designated Continuing Care and therefore paid out of the Health element of the pooled budget and what is designated to be funded from Social Care. The joint arrangements which we also have for the Continuing Health Care Panel also ensure that this partnership is maintained and that true and fair assessment is made of all cases.

A good deal of attention has been paid recently to ensure that Oxfordshire comply with local SHA and National guidelines on appraising Continuing Healthcare Cases. However this will also be re-examined by Scrutiny Committee as it is such an important subject.

We are however aware that this can have the unintended consequence that some patients have to contribute to their care rather than having the NHS pay. This is the main reason why the Adult Scrutiny Committee will be examining this issue at their December meeting.

Under National Guidelines where people are receiving residential care they are assessed financially as to whether they need to contribute to this care. These guidelines require the value of someone's home to be taken into account when assessing their contribution. We are acutely aware of this issue where a person's capital is diminished due to their requirement to pay for their care costs and this is now being monitored closely to enable Care Management to help people make the right choices as to both their care and how they will fund it.

17. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS

It has been emphasised how important it is for parents who come to this country from other countries to learn to speak English, for everybody's benefit, especially their children's. Could the cabinet member please tell me whether the numbers of Oxfordshire residents attending County Council English language classes has increased or decreased over the last 5 years, and if either, by how much? Could the member also tell me what changes there have been in the numbers of students receiving free English language tuition from the County Council?

COUNCILLOR DAVID ROBERTSON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCILSummary

The numbers of Oxfordshire residents attending County Council English language classes decreased over the last 5 years by 53%, from 772 in 2006/7 to 361 in 2010/11.

The numbers of students receiving free English language tuition from the County Council in the same period reduced by 84%, from 760 in 2006/7 to 120 in 2010/11.

(In 06/07 under the LSC funding rules there was no expectation that ESOL learners would pay for their learning. The only learners paying fees at that time were those that were not eligible for LSC funding. There was a change in 07/08 which ended automatic fee remission for learners on ESOL programmes)

Background

This set of data has been arrived at by looking at all learners who started an ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) programme with Adult Learning in the last 5 complete academic years. This data does not include work that falls within the FLLN (Family Learning Literacy and Numeracy) remit or partnership work the Council does with Ethnic Minority Business Service (EMBS) and doesn't take any account of the funding stream for the learner.

Statistical Information

06/07 – learner number 772 percentage expected to pay 1.55%
 07/08 – learner number 703 percentage expected to pay 55.62%
 08/09 – learner number 499 percentage expected to pay 63.13%
 09/10 – learner number 530 percentage expected to pay 63.21%
 10/11 – learner number 361 percentage expected to pay 66.76%

<p>18. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDER</p> <p>A very substantial number of Oxfordshire County Council employees have lost and will lose their jobs because of the drastic cuts in public spending. It is obviously important that these reductions be done in an equitable manner. Can the cabinet member tell me how the cuts are being managed so as to ensure that they comply with equalities legislation, which requires fairness in terms of race, gender and disability?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR DAVID ROBERTSON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>There are a number of safeguards in place to ensure that staffing reductions are managed in an equitable way, ensuring that we comply with equalities legislation. Full consultation is done, with the involvement of UNISON, for all restructures carried out across the Council and this includes details of new job descriptions, selection criteria and competency requirements. Details of the selection process will also be included in these consultation documents so that people have adequate time to prepare. The selection process may include assessments and structured interviews - all assessors are trained in line with the Council's recruitment and selection policies. Where individuals are absent due to long term sick leave, maternity leave etc then additional support is offered such as adjustments to the timetable to allow them to take part fully in the selection process. We continue to monitor staffing numbers across the Council in terms of race, gender and disability to ensure that the workforce retains appropriate balance.</p>
<p>19. COUNCILLOR DAVID TURNER</p> <p>Will you ensure that any money the County Council is to spend on Broadband speed upgrading in Oxfordshire is spent on improving areas where the speeds are very low?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR DAVID ROBERTSON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>Yes - Any funding that the county council contributes towards broadband infrastructure will be solely directed to the area of the county that contains 28% of premises (residential and business) that are in the so-called Ofcom Market 1, area where it is recognised that the market has failed to deliver an adequate broadband service.</p> <p>74,500, or 28% of households are within such areas, as are 33% of Oxfordshire's businesses and 25 % of all employees.</p> <p>The broadband service for the bulk of premises in Oxfordshire (72%) will be provided by commercial operators.</p>

<p>20. COUNCILLOR JEAN FOOKS Can you tell Council how many early retirements there have been in the year from October 2010 until September 2011? How does this compare with the preceding year and the year before that?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR DAVID ROBERTSON, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Redundancies</th> <th>Ill-Health Retirement</th> <th>Efficiency</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.10.2008-30.9.2009</td> <td>13</td> <td>7</td> <td>4</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.10.2009-30.9.2010</td> <td>28</td> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.10.2010-30.9.2011</td> <td>229</td> <td>14</td> <td>2</td> <td>245</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Redundancies	Ill-Health Retirement	Efficiency	Total	1.10.2008-30.9.2009	13	7	4	24	1.10.2009-30.9.2010	28	5	4	37	1.10.2010-30.9.2011	229	14	2	245
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<p>21. COUNCILLOR ANNE PURSE Since Council agreed in June 2007 to request developer contributions to improve cycle facilities, have officers been engaged in achieving additional developer funding for cycle routes such as the shared pedestrian and cycle route that runs alongside the A40 between Sandhills and the Holton Turn which is soon to be developed as a new entrance for Brookes University?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT</p> <p>County officers have sought and secured contributions towards cycleway provision from various developments across Oxfordshire. They have also secured actual provision as part of the larger schemes. It is difficult to be precise on how much has been secured because the cycle measure monies are often included in a flexible sum within the agreements – i.e. can be used for various transport infrastructure including cycle measures. There are also general transport works which benefit cycle use.</p> <p>In 2010/11 just under £90,000 was spent from developer contributions on cycle infrastructure. This was significantly up on the expenditure in 2009/10 on cycle measures which was around £28,000.</p> <p>Oxford Brookes University has made a planning application to South Oxfordshire District Council to change the access to their Wheatley Campus from the west of the site to the east at Holton, close to the junction with the A40. County officers are currently considering the application before making recommendations on the application. The Council does not hold any developer contributions that are restricted by legal agreement to the provision of a cycle route between Sandhills and Holton.</p>																				
<p>22. COUNCILLOR M ALTAF-KHAN Can the Cabinet member tell me when the</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT A suitable date has yet to be identified but is our intention that it should be as soon</p>																				

<p>recent results for GCSEs and A Levels will be analysed and presented at a seminar for all councillors?</p>	<p>as possible and by the end of the calendar year at the very latest.</p>
<p>23. COUNCILLOR M ALTAF-KHAN</p> <p>Can the cabinet member confirm how much support the County Council is providing to groups setting up Free Schools?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>A seminar for potential promoters of Free Schools was held in February 2011, setting out the authority's views on where additional school places are likely to be required over the next few years. Individual promoters of Free Schools have also been offered a one-to-one meeting with officers to discuss their proposals. While these meetings will have been of support to promoters, they have also been of support to the authority in ensuring that it has a better understanding of the potential new suppliers of school places, and are able to start building relationships with organisations who may in future be responsible for delivering some of Oxfordshire's educational capacity. The annually produced Pupil Place Plan provides information on school demand and capacity which is of use to promoters of Free Schools, who form part of the intended audience of this publication. Some promoters have also asked for specific additional information to inform their applications and, where we hold this information, we have provided it as we would for other enquirers (including those enquiring under FoI).</p> <p>The county is facing a significant requirement for new schools over the coming years due to housing developments and population growth. Current government policy is that we should seek providers to establish these new schools as academies. Groups interested in promoting a Free School might also be a possible academy promoter, and early engagement with them is helpful to the authority in identifying potential academy providers in the future.</p>
<p>24. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR JEAN FOOKS</p> <p>I see that while Oxford City Council has signed up to support Climate Week 2012, to be held in 12-18 March 2012, so far</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>The County Council has recently signed up to the 2012 Climate Week, and continues to support initiatives that help schools, residents and local businesses save money and reduce their carbon footprint. As an example, the Council is</p>

<p>Oxfordshire County Council is conspicuous by its absence. This is a national campaign to inspire a new wave of action on climate change. It culminates in thousands of events and activities, planned by organisations from every part of society. Showcasing real, practical ways to combat climate change, the campaign aims to renew the ambition to create a more sustainable, low-carbon future. The Prime Minister has given his support. Can Council assume that Oxfordshire will sign up and show it too is working to address the challenges faced by climate change?</p>	<p>providing grant funding to the Low Carbon Hub, which is a Community Interest Company that has been established to provide a range of services and resources to support communities across Oxfordshire to reduce their carbon emissions. The Council has also recently retendered (in Partnership with the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership) the schools environmental education service. The new provider, Groundwork Thames Valley will be starting this term to deliver their service to schools educating children on the value of waste reduction and energy efficiency.</p>
<p>25. COUNCILLOR SARAH HUTCHINSON</p> <p>Would the Cabinet member inform us how many Youth service sessions were being offered by County Council Employed Youth Workers this time last year and how many are currently being offered?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR LOUISE CHAPMAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES</p> <p>Prior to the introduction of the Early Intervention Service, in the Spring of this year, we were running 67 open access evening and weekend youth sessions per week at what are now hub and satellite sites. We are now running 76 open access evening and weekend youth sessions per week at those hubs and satellites since the start of the new service in September this year .</p>
<p>26. COUNCILLOR SARAH HUTCHINSON</p> <p>The Welfare Reform Bill will, if passed, transfer responsibility for elements of the Social Fund - Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans, to Local Authorities. Pleas could the Cabinet member let us know what progress has been made to date in planning for this. Have any decisions been made yet about how the funds will be prioritised and administered, and who is being consulted on this?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES</p> <p>Not yet. We would expect to be consulted about that issue in summer 2012. Final figures should emerge at 'Consultation' for 2013/14 perhaps in December 2012, then final figures at 'Settlement' in January or February 2013.</p> <p>The October 2011 EQIA mentioned above says that there will not be a new statutory duty requiring local authorities to deliver the service (paragraph 4). Thus funding will not be ringfenced (paragraph 5).</p> <p>It should however be possible to identify the amount that Oxfordshire receives, but this may be mixed into the details of the new funding system which will localise business rates.</p> <p>It is likely that we might administer these grants through our locality teams to ensure that they are targeted at those who most need them but this process has still to be</p>

decided

The call for evidence in February 2011 was aimed at upper-tier local authorities in England, welfare rights organisations and other customer representative groups, and any other interested groups or individuals. This included the Local Government Association and the devolved administrations in Wales and Scotland

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Members who are also Members of a District Council in Oxfordshire

Cherwell District Council

Councillor Alyas Ahmed	Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE
Councillor Billington	Councillor Kieron Mallon
Councillor Norman Bolster	Councillor G.A. Reynolds
Councillor Ann Bonner	Councillor Lawrie Stratford
Councillor Mrs Catherine Fulljames	Councillor Nicholas P. Turner
Councillor Michael Gibbard	

Oxford City Council

Councillor Mohammed Altaf-Khan	Councillor Sajjad Hussain Malik (Saj)
Councillor Alan Armitage	Councillor Susanna Pressel
Councillor Roy Darke	Councillor Val Smith
Councillor Jean Fooks	Councillor John Tanner
Councillor John Goddard	

South Oxfordshire District Council

Councillor Tony Harbour	Councillor Bill Service
Councillor Anne Purse	Councillor David Turner

Vale of White Horse District Council

Councillor Marilyn Badcock	Councillor Peter Jones
Councillor Mike Badcock	Councillor A.M. Lovatt
Councillor Jenny Hannaby	Councillor Melinda Tilley

West Oxfordshire District Council

Councillor Louise Chapman	Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles
Councillor Pete Handley	Councillor Ian Hudspeth
Councillor David Harvey	Councillor Neil Owen
Councillor Steve Hayward	