



To: Members of the Cabinet

Notice of a Meeting of the Cabinet

Tuesday, 23 February 2016 at 2.00 pm

Meeting Rooms 1&2, County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND

Peter Clark
Head of Paid Service

February 2016

Contact Officer: **Sue Whitehead**
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Membership

Councillors

Ian Hudspeth	<i>Leader of the Council</i>
Rodney Rose	<i>Deputy Leader of the Council</i>
Mrs Judith Heathcoat	<i>Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care</i>
Nick Carter	<i>Cabinet Member for Business & Customer Services</i>
Melinda Tilley	<i>Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families</i>
Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	<i>Cabinet Member for Cultural & Community Services</i>
David Nimmo Smith	<i>Cabinet Member for Environment</i>
Lawrie Stratford	<i>Cabinet Member for Finance</i>
Hilary Hibbert-Biles	<i>Cabinet Member for Public Health</i>

The Agenda is attached. Decisions taken at the meeting will become effective at the end of the working day on Wednesday 2 March 2016 unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee. Copies of this Notice, Agenda and supporting papers are circulated to all Members of the County Council.

Date of next meeting: 15 March 2016

Declarations of Interest

The duty to declare.....

Under the Localism Act 2011 it is a criminal offence to

- (a) fail to register a disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days of election or co-option (or re-election or re-appointment), or
- (b) provide false or misleading information on registration, or
- (c) participate in discussion or voting in a meeting on a matter in which the member or co-opted member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Whose Interests must be included?

The Act provides that the interests which must be notified are those of a member or co-opted member of the authority, **or**

- those of a spouse or civil partner of the member or co-opted member;
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as husband/wife
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as if they were civil partners.

(in each case where the member or co-opted member is aware that the other person has the interest).

What if I remember that I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the Meeting?.

The Code requires that, at a meeting, where a member or co-opted member has a disclosable interest (of which they are aware) in any matter being considered, they disclose that interest to the meeting. The Council will continue to include an appropriate item on agendas for all meetings, to facilitate this.

Although not explicitly required by the legislation or by the code, it is recommended that in the interests of transparency and for the benefit of all in attendance at the meeting (including members of the public) the nature as well as the existence of the interest is disclosed.

A member or co-opted member who has disclosed a pecuniary interest at a meeting must not participate (or participate further) in any discussion of the matter; and must not participate in any vote or further vote taken; and must withdraw from the room.

Members are asked to continue to pay regard to the following provisions in the code that *“You must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself”* or *“You must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned.....”*.

Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting should you have any doubt about your approach.

List of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Employment (includes *“any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain”*.), **Sponsorship, Contracts, Land, Licences, Corporate Tenancies, Securities.**

For a full list of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and further Guidance on this matter please see the Guide to the New Code of Conduct and Register of Interests at Members’ conduct guidelines. <http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/occ/Insite/Elected+members/> or contact Glenn Watson on (01865) 815270 or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

- guidance note opposite

3. Minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2015 (**CA3 (to be circulated separately)**) and to receive information arising from them.

4. Questions from County Councillors

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

5. Petitions and Public Address

6. New Arrangements for Oxfordshire County Council's Children's Services (Pages 1 - 144)

Cabinet Member: Children, Education & Families

Forward Plan Ref: 2015/118

Contact: Jim Leivers, Director for Children's Services Tel: (01865) 815122

Report of the Director for Children's Services (**CA6**)

Children's Services in Oxfordshire has and continues to be a primary priority for the Council and its partners. In particular, keeping children safe is of critical importance to

the Council and as such the Authority has a clear explicit resource commitment to supporting the most vulnerable within the community. There is however significant pressures and challenges facing public sector services that mean the current status quo arrangements are not sustainable. This item comprises an overview report together with a series of three reports which cover in some detail:

- The outcome of public consultation regarding proposals for change to early help services, including, children's centres and early intervention hubs
- Proposals for the future shape of Education and Learning Services
- Proposals for future safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Services
- Proposals for future Children's Social Care services.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) receive the outcome of the consultation exercise on the future of early help services along with the proposed alternative arrangements for Children's Services as outlined in the Cabinet Advisory Group report of September 2015 along with recommendations from the Director of Children's Services regarding future organisational arrangements for Children's Social Care;***
- (b) approve the proposed arrangements for Safeguarding and Corporate parenting services as outlined in the attached report;***
- (c) approve the proposed arrangements for Education Services as outlined in the attached report; and***
- (d) receive a further detailed report on the implementation of the proposed changes.***

(a) The Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Service_(Pages 145 - 150)

Report by Deputy Director for Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding (**CA6a**)

The impact of increasing workloads and reducing resources is affecting the current capacity in both Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting. Along with other Children, Education and Family services these areas of work need to change so as to address the high levels of demand. These services are part of a wider Children's Social Care service and include a range of specialist and quality assurance functions that are provided countywide and managed under a deputy director. These are all statutory services geared towards protecting the most vulnerable children in Oxfordshire.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) agree the proposals outlined in paragraph 19-22 of the report; and***
- (b) agree that a further report outlining in detail the proposed staffing arrangements and costs be made to the March 2016 Cabinet meeting.***

**(b) Future Arrangements for Education Support for Oxfordshire Schools
(Pages 151 - 156)**

Report by Interim Deputy Director - Education and Learning (**CA6b**)

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposed arrangements for Education and Learning Services as outlined in the attached report.

(c) Future Arrangements in Children's Social Care_(Pages 157 - 182)

Report by the Director for Children's Services (CA6c)

On 15 September 2015, Cabinet agreed to commence with a public consultation on proposals to redesign the county's children's services to focus support on the most vulnerable children, and consequently reconfigure existing the existing Early Intervention Services.

The public consultation ran from 14 October 2015 until 10 January 2016, and views were gathered on three options for delivering a new children's service which would support 0-19 year olds (up to 25 years if children have additional needs), and their families, and integrate services currently provided by Children's Centres, Early Intervention Hubs and Children's Social Care.

The report details the outcome of the public consultation and seeks approval to the proposals.

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED:

- ***That eight Children and Family Centres are developed in the locations set out in the report. These Centres will deliver services that meet the authority's statutory duties relating to Children's Centres and deliver statutory and targeted services to vulnerable children and families***
- ***That limited open access services are provided from within the eight Children and Family Centres***
- ***A mobile bus is retained to deliver services to rural communities and the traveller community as these communities are less likely to attend the main centres***
- ***To continue to support the child care settings currently based in Children's Centres through to April 2017. During this time the authority will work with the centres to ensure they are financially self-sufficient from April 2017.***
- ***Approve the inclusion of £1.9m budget in the capital programme for the new Children and Family Centres to be funded from the unallocated corporate resources.***
- ***Commit to continue conversations with organisations and groups that have shown an interest in using alternative funding streams to enable centres to remain open.***

7. 2015/16 Financial Monitoring & Business Strategy Report - December 2015 (Pages 183 - 222)

Cabinet Member: Finance

Forward Plan Ref: 2015/097

Contact: Kathy Wilcox, Chief Accountant Tel: (01865) 323981

Report by Chief Finance Officer (**CA7**).

This report focuses on the management of the 2015/16 budget. Parts 1 and 2 include projections for revenue, reserves and balances as at the end of December 2015. Capital Programme monitoring is included at Part 3.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) note the report;**
- (b) note the Treasury Management lending list at Annex 4;**
- (c) approve an increase of £0.935m for the A34 Milton Interchange scheme;**
- (d) approve the full budget of £11.165m for the Eastern Arc Phase 1: Access to Headington project and to proceed to detailed design; and**
- (e) note the changes to the Capital Programme set out in Annex 7b and 7c.**

8. Progress Report on Looked After Children and those Leaving Care (Pages 223 - 246)

Cabinet Member: Children, Education & Families

Forward Plan Ref: 2015/117

Contact: Matthew Edwards, Corporate Parenting Manager Tel: (01865) 323098

Report by Director for Children's Services (**CA8**).

This report reviews the performance and outcomes of Looked After Children and Care Leavers since April 2014 and identifies key challenges moving forward particularly around understanding the causes for and then addressing the growth in the looked after population.

It focuses on the significant rise in Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking children (UASCs) and makes recommendations for meeting the growing challenges in this area which are affecting all local authorities.

This report provides early evidence that the Placement Strategy is already having an impact on front line practice and recommends the Placement Strategy Board is tasked with measuring the effectiveness of Cabinet's significant investment in making sure children are safe and securely attached, improving outcomes and reducing external placements.

This paper RECOMMENDS that further analysis of the child in need and child protection populations are undertaken to isolate more specific risk factors for care and what constitutes an effective intervention. This work should draw on the learning and recommendations of the Neglect pilot and OSCB's reviews of adolescents who have died and suffered or caused serious harm.

This paper RECOMMENDS that a multi-agency group is established to devise a county-wide strategy to respond to the growing challenges nationally of Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers and Refugee families.

Oxfordshire has taken a radical and proactive approach to the spiralling costs of external placements and has significantly invested to create in-county edge of care, fostering and residential capacity. The effectiveness of this investment in safeguarding, improving outcomes and reducing external placement costs will require close scrutiny over the coming year. This paper RECOMMENDS that the Placement Strategy Board is tasked with measuring the impact and cost savings of the Placement Strategy reporting up to Cabinet.

9. Staffing Report - Quarter 3 - 2015 (Pages 247 - 250)

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader

Forward Plan Ref: 2015/098

Contact: Sue Corrigan, County HR Manager Tel: (01865) 810280

Report by Chief Human Resources Officer (**CA9**).

This report gives an update on staffing numbers and related activity during the period 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015. It gives details of the actual staffing numbers at 31 December 2015 in terms of Full Time Equivalents. These are shown by directorate in Appendix 1. In addition, the report provides information on the cost of posts being covered by agency staff.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

10. Follow up to a Call in of a decision by the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Hudspeth substituting): Proposed Bus Lane & Parking/Waiting Restrictions - Orchard Centre (Phase 2), Didcot (Pages 251 - 322)

At their meeting on 4 February 2016, the Performance Scrutiny Committee considered the decision of the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Hudspeth substituting) made on 14 February 2016 following proper notice of a call in. The Committee agreed to refer the decision back to Cabinet for it to consider in the light of the following material concern: that the officers dealing with the matter had not been made aware of the fact that a 1500+ signature petition had been presented to Council opposing the proposal;

The following documents are attached (**CA10**):

- (a) a report setting out the names of the Councillors who have required the call in and the reasons given for the Call in.
- (b) the report considered by the Leader of the Council together with an extract of the minutes of the delegated decision session.
- (c) additional information provided to the Performance Scrutiny Committee in response to the call in
- (d) a note of the material concern of the Performance Scrutiny Committee
- (e) report by the Deputy Director for Environment & Economy to Cabinet.

11. Forward Plan and Future Business (Pages 323 - 324)

Cabinet Member: All

Contact Officer: Sue Whitehead, Committee Services Manager (01865 810262)

The Cabinet Procedure Rules provide that the business of each meeting at the Cabinet is to include "updating of the Forward Plan and proposals for business to be conducted at the following meeting". Items from the Forward Plan for the immediately forthcoming

meetings of the Cabinet appear in the Schedule at **CA11**. This includes any updated information relating to the business for those meetings that has already been identified for inclusion in the next Forward Plan update.

The Schedule is for noting, but Cabinet Members may also wish to take this opportunity to identify any further changes they would wish to be incorporated in the next Forward Plan update.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.
