



Notice of a Meeting

Performance Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 16 March 2017 at 10.00 am

Rooms 1&2 - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

Membership

Chairman Councillor Liz Brighthouse OBE

Deputy Chairman - Councillor Janet Godden

Councillors:

Sam Coates
Yvonne Constance OBE
Mark Gray

Patrick Greene
Jenny Hannaby
Stewart Lilly

Sandy Lovatt
Charles Mathew
John Sanders

Notes: *A pre-meeting briefing will take place in the Members' Board Room at 9.30am on the day of the meeting.*

Date of next meeting: 25 May 2017

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

- The performance of the Council and to provide a focused review of:
 - Corporate performance and directorate performance and financial reporting
 - Budget scrutiny
- the performance of the Council by means of effective key performance indicators, review of key action plans and obligations and through direct access to service managers, Cabinet Members and partners;
- through call-in, the reconsideration of decisions made but not yet implemented by or on behalf of the Cabinet;
- queries or issues of concern that may occur over decisions being taken in relation to adult social care;
- the Council's scrutiny responsibilities under the Crime and Justice Act 2006.

How can I have my say?

We welcome the views of the community on any issues in relation to the responsibilities of this Committee. Members of the public may ask to speak on any item on the agenda or may suggest matters which they would like the Committee to look at. **Requests to speak must be submitted to the Committee Officer below no later than 9 am on the working day before the date of the meeting.**

For more information about this Committee please contact:

Chairman	-	Councillor Liz Brighthouse <i>liz.brighthouse@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>
Policy & Performance Officer	-	Steven Jones, Tel 01865 815935 <i>steven.fairhurstjones@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>
Committee Officer	-	Colm Ó Caomhánaigh, Tel 07393 001096 <i>colm.ocaomhanaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>

Peter G. Clark
Chief Executive

March 2017

About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 63 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 678,000 residents. These include:

schools	social & health care	libraries and museums
the fire service	roads	trading standards
land use	transport planning	waste management

Each year the Council manages £0.9 billion of public money in providing these services. Most decisions are taken by a Cabinet of 9 Councillors, which makes decisions about service priorities and spending. Some decisions will now be delegated to individual members of the Cabinet.

About Scrutiny

Scrutiny is about:

- Providing a challenge to the Cabinet
- Examining how well the Cabinet and the Authority are performing
- Influencing the Cabinet on decisions that affect local people
- Helping the Cabinet to develop Council policies
- Representing the community in Council decision making
- Promoting joined up working across the authority's work and with partners

Scrutiny is NOT about:

- Making day to day service decisions
- Investigating individual complaints.

What does this Committee do?

The Committee meets up to 6 times a year or more. It develops a work programme, which lists the issues it plans to investigate. These investigations can include whole committee investigations undertaken during the meeting, or reviews by a panel of members doing research and talking to lots of people outside of the meeting. Once an investigation is completed the Committee provides its advice to the Cabinet, the full Council or other scrutiny committees. Meetings are open to the public and all reports are available to the public unless exempt or confidential, when the items would be considered in closed session.

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, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting

A hearing loop is available at County Hall.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
2. **Declarations of Interest - Guidance note on back page of the agenda**
3. **Minutes (To Follow)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2017 and to receive information arising from them.

4. **Petitions and Public Address**
5. **Business Management and Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2016/17**
(Pages 1 - 26)

10.10

Report by Corporate Services (**PSC5**)

This paper provides details of performance for quarter three 2016-17 for Performance Scrutiny Committee to consider before making comments to Council. The report is required so that the Cabinet can monitor the performance of the Council in key service areas and be assured that progress is being made to improve areas where performance is below the expected level.

The Committee is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) **discuss and note the performance reported, and make any comments necessary for escalation to Cabinet before 25 April; and**
- (b) **note the ongoing work to improve business management and performance reporting.**

6. **Draft Scrutiny Annual Report (Pages 27 - 50)**

10.40

The Scrutiny Annual Report provides a summary of the work of the council's overview and scrutiny function in 2016-17. This function includes the council's three Overview and Scrutiny Committees, and any Cabinet Advisory Groups which have been appointed by Cabinet in this time. This draft report (**PSC6**) will be considered by Performance Scrutiny Committee before being submitted to full Council for approval.

The Committee is RECOMMENDED to considered the report and discuss any changes or additions before the final version is submitted to full Council for approval in May.

7. **Children's services**

11.10

The Director for Children's Services will give the meeting an update on the new

structure of Children's Services, focussing on safeguarding and better outcomes for children.

8. Children Missing from Home and Care in Oxfordshire (Pages 51 - 60)

11.40

Report by the Strategic Lead for Missing Children (**PSC8**)

This report provides a strategic update on the number of children reported as missing from home, care and school in Oxfordshire, including children looked after by Oxfordshire County Council. It covers the period between 01st July 2016 to 31st December 2016.

The report focuses on the main patterns, trends and concerns across the county which will be of note to strategic leads. It covers best practice in line with the agreed 'joint protocol' and current risks or shortfalls and how these are being managed to ensure compliance with the relevant guidance issued by Department for Education (DfE) and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

It is not intended to reflect the full picture of all of the work undertaken by the Missing Childrens Panel and partners within the period. Many investigations and analyses are active, awaiting further intelligence development or exploration with operational partners, third party agencies, and the children and families whom we are working to safeguard.

The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

9. Overview of OCC Response to Serious Case Reviews (To Follow)

12.10

An overview report summarising Children's Safeguarding Serious Case Reviews in the last year with focus on the outcome, actions taken, identifying improvements and assurance.

10. Exempt Information

In the event that any Member or Officer wishes to discuss the information set out in the Annex to Item 11, the Committee will be invited to resolve to exclude the public from that discussion by passing a resolution in the following terms:

"that the public be excluded during the consideration of the Annex since it is likely that if they were present during that discussion there would be a disclosure of "exempt" information as described in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 and specified below the item in the Agenda".

THE ANNEX TO THE ITEM NAMED HAS NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC AND SHOULD

BE REGARDED AS 'CONFIDENTIAL' BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE THEM.

THIS IS FOR THE REASON THAT IT COULD AFFECT ONGOING CONTRACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND ONE OF ITS CONTRACTORS.

THIS ALSO MEANS THAT THE CONTENTS SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH OTHERS AND NO COPIES SHOULD BE MADE.

11. Safeguarding Children - the Corporate Parenting Panel (Pages 61 - 64)

12.40

At Performance Scrutiny Committee's meeting on 22 September 2016 the council's Statutory Lead Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services, Cllr Melinda Tilley, extended an invitation to committee members to attend a meeting of the council's Corporate Parenting Panel.

Cllr Tilley is the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel. The Panel's purpose is to act as a champion for all Oxfordshire's looked after children and care leavers, to monitor their outcomes, and ensure that all partners are engaged in supporting their needs.

Several Performance Scrutiny Committee members had expressed a wish to attend a meeting of the Panel. The meeting on 16 January had been arranged to give members a better understanding of pressures on the council's budget for Children, Education and Families and of statements in recent quarterly performance reports that our numbers of children in care were higher, and rising faster, than those of comparable authorities.

Annex 1 is deemed confidential as it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person, which if published could adversely affect ongoing contractual negotiations between the council and one of its contractors.

The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

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 **07776 997946** or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.