

These notes indicate the decisions taken at this meeting and the officers responsible for taking the agreed action. For background documentation please refer to the agenda and supporting papers available on the Council's web site (www.oxfordshire.gov.uk.)

The decisions take effect at the time and date specified, unless before that time written notice is given in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rules requiring the decision to be called in for review by the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

If you have a query please contact Sue Whitehead (Tel: (01865) 810262; E-Mail: sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

CABINET - TUESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2014

<i>List published 26 November 2014 Decisions will (unless called in) become effective at 5.00pm on 3 December 2014</i>		
<i>RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
1. Apologies for Absence	Cllr Nick Carter	HLC (A. Newman)
2. Declarations of Interest	Item 8 - Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale as a local councillor.	HLC (A. Newman)
3. Minutes To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2014 (CA3) and to receive information arising from them.	Agreed and signed.	SW
4. Questions from County Councillors	See attached sheet.	
5. Petitions and Public Address	Item 6 – Councillor Hards, Item 8 – Councillor John Sanders, Councillor Anne Purse, Councillor Mathew, Councillor Atkins, Mr John Taylor, PAGE, Mr Arnold Grayson, CPRE, Mrs Julie Hankey, OUTRAGE Mr Ian Mason, BACHPORT Item 9 – Councillor Gill Sanders, Item 10 – Councillor John Sanders, Item 11 – Councillor Brighthouse, Item 13 – Councillor Christie, Item 15 – Mr Andy Cattermole, Taylor Wimpey	

...Decisions... Decisions...

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<p>6. Treasury Management Mid Term Review (2014/15)</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Finance <i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> 2014/095 <i>Contact:</i> Greg Ley, Financial Manager – Pension Fund Investments Tel: (01865) 323978</p> <p><i>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report, and to RECOMMEND Council to note the Council’s mid-Term Treasury Management Strategy Statement & Annual Investment Strategy 2014/15</i></p>	<p>Recommendations agreed</p>	<p>CFO (G. Ley) HLC (D. Miller)</p>
<p>7. Action Plan in Relation to Recent Serious Care Review Overview Report</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Children, Education & Families <i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> 2014/163 <i>Contact:</i> Hannah Farncombe, Safeguarding Manager Tel: (01865) 815273</p> <p><i>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the action being taken in response to the Serious Case Review.</i></p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>DCS (H. Farncombe)</p>
<p>8. Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Environment <i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> see below <i>Contact:</i> Peter Day, Minerals & Waste Policy</p> <p>Report by Director for Environment & Economic Development</p> <p>This report covers four separate but connected Minerals and Waste Local Plan:</p>		
<p>(a) Oxfordshire Local Aggregate Assessment 2014</p> <p><i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> 2014/120</p> <p>To seek agreement to the Local Aggregate Assessment</p>		

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<i>RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p>Assessment for 2014, setting out the Council's updated annual assessment of the demand for, and supply of aggregate minerals in Oxfordshire.</p>		
<p>(b) Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Core Strategy - Proposed Submission Document</p> <p><i>Forward Plan Ref: 2014/026</i></p> <p>To seek agreement to the Minerals & Waste Local Plan: Core Strategy – Proposed Submission Document, setting out the Council's proposed planning strategy and policies for minerals and waste developments in Oxfordshire to 2030, for publication for comment and submission to the Secretary of State for examination.</p>		
<p>(c) Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Local Plan - Review of Statement of Community Involvement</p> <p><i>Forward Plan Ref: 2014/123</i></p> <p>To recommend to Full Council a revised version of the Council's Mineral & Waste Statement of Community Involvement for adoption.</p>		
<p>(d) Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Development Scheme (Sixth Revision) 2014</p> <p><i>Forward Plan Ref: 2014/121</i></p> <p>To seek agreement of a revised Minerals & Waste Development Scheme 2014, setting out the Council's updated programme for the preparation of the Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Local Plan.</p>		
<p><i>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to</i></p>	<p>Recommendations agreed (by 5 votes</p>	<p>DEE (P.</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED	DECISIONS	ACTION
<p>A.</p> <p>i. <i>approve the Oxfordshire Local Aggregate Assessment 2014 at Annex 1 for use as the basis for provision for mineral working in the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan and for calculating the Oxfordshire landbank;</i></p> <p>ii. <i>authorise the Deputy Director Strategy & Infrastructure Planning in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment to make any necessary minor corrections and amendments and publish the Oxfordshire Local Aggregate Assessment 2014 on the Council website.</i></p> <p>B.</p> <p>i. <i>agree the amended Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Part 1 – Core Strategy at Annex 3 in principle as the basis of a complete amended version of the Plan for recommendation to Council for publication and submission to the Secretary of State under Regulations 19 and 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012; and</i></p> <p>ii. <i>authorise the Deputy Director Strategy & Infrastructure Planning in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment to finalise the Plan for recommendation to Council.</i></p> <p>C.</p> <p>i. <i>adopt the Oxfordshire Statement of Community Involvement with</i></p>	<p>for and 0 against with 3 abstentions).</p>	<p>Day)</p>

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<p><i>the amendments as shown in Annex 5 to replace the existing Oxfordshire Statement of Community Involvement adopted on 7 November 2006; and</i></p> <p><i>ii. authorise the Deputy Director Strategy & Infrastructure Planning in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment to make any further factual corrections or updating required and finalise the adopted Statement of Community Involvement for publication.</i></p> <p><i>D.</i></p> <p><i>i. approve the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (Sixth Revision) 2014 at Annex 6, subject to final detailed amendment and editing, to have effect from 23 December 2014;</i></p> <p><i>ii. authorise the Deputy Director Strategy & Infrastructure Planning to:</i></p> <p><i>(a) carry out final detailed amendment and editing of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment;</i></p> <p><i>(b) take the necessary steps to bring the revised Scheme into effect from 23 December 2014 and publish the revised Scheme, in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).</i></p>		

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<p>9. Progress Report on the Delivery of the Placement Strategy - For Children In and on the Edge of Care 2013-16</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Children, Education & Families <i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> 2014/097 <i>Contact:</i> Matthew Edwards, Corporate Parenting Manager Tel: (01865) 323098</p> <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to endorse the initiatives set out in paragraph 13 of this report.</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>DCS (M. Edwards)</p>
<p>10. Statutory Rights of Way Management Plan</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Environment <i>Forward Plan Ref:</i> 2014/023 <i>Contact:</i> Steve Smith, Service Manager, Network & Asset Management Tel: (01865) 810435</p> <p><i>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:</i></p> <p>(a) note the results of the consultation on the draft Rights of Way Management Plan;</p> <p>(b) approve the proposed changes to the consultation document;</p> <p>(c) adopt the Rights of Way Management Plan for the period January 2015 - December 2025; and</p> <p>(d) extend the lifespan of the current Rights of Way Improvement Plan to December 2014.</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>DEE (S. Smith/P. Harris)</p>
<p>11. Energy Procurement</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member:</i> Business & Customer Services</p>		

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<i>RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p><i>Forward Plan Ref: 2014/143</i> <i>Contact: Lawrence Bunn, Principal Strategic Procurement Manager</i> <i>Tel: 07973 701827</i> <i>Victoria Fletcher, Environment & Resource Efficiency Manager Tel: (01865) 815420</i></p> <p><i>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:</i></p> <p><i>(a) approve the proposal to using the energy framework contracts established by LASER for the period 2016-20.</i></p> <p><i>(b) delegate to the Deputy Director – Commercial the authority to decide on the preferred in-contract purchasing option.</i></p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>(DEE (L. Bunn/V. Fletcher)</p>
<p>12. Governance Review 2014 - November</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Leader</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2014/134</i> <i>Contact: Peter Clark, County Solicitor & Monitoring Officer, Tel: (01865) 323907</i></p> <p><i>Cabinet is recommended to consider and endorse the direction of travel of the review.</i></p>	<p>Recommendation agreed subject to the proposal relating to the Appeals & Tribunals Sub-Committee being amended to take account of the comments of Audit & Governance Committee by retaining a member on Panels dealing with Home to School Transport Appeals.</p>	<p>HLC (G. Watson)</p>
<p>13. Staffing Report - Quarter 2 - 2014</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2014/096</i> <i>Contact: Sue Corrigan, Strategic HR Manager Tel: (01865) 810280</i></p> <p><i>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:</i></p> <p><i>(a) note the report;</i></p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>CHRO (S. Corrigan)</p>

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<p>(b) confirm that the Staffing Report meets the Cabinet's requirements in reporting and managing staffing numbers.</p>		
<p>14. Provision of Education Services to Oxfordshire Schools</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Children, Education & Families</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2014/180</i> <i>Contact: Margaret Dennison, Interim Deputy Director Education & Early Intervention</i></p> <p><i>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to agree that Oxfordshire County Council should formally withdraw from work to develop a partnership arrangement with Hampshire County Council in relation to school based services.</i></p>	<p>Recommendation agreed.</p>	<p>DCS (M. Dennison)</p>
<p>15. Follow up to the Call in of a Decision by the Cabinet Member for Environment: Proposed Pelican Crossings - A415 Marcham Road and Ock Street, Abingdon</p> <p><i>Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the complexity of the information they will be asked to consider and agree to defer consideration of the Scrutiny Committee Call to the December meeting.</i></p>	<p>Recommendation agreed.</p>	<p>DEE (D. Tole) HLC (D. Mytton)</p>
<p>16. Forward Plan and Future Business</p>	<p>Noted.</p>	

Questions received from the following Members:

1. From Councillor Howson to Councillor Melinda Tilley

'It is disappointing that the early years foundation stage profile (EYFSP) results for Oxfordshire published by the DfE on the 20th November were among the worst of all the authorities in the South East region for achieving appropriate standards in all early learning goals (ELGs) despite the efforts of many professionals working with young children: what further steps does she think are possible to at least raise the standard in Oxfordshire to that of the regional average?'

Answer

- “Firstly, it is only the second year of this specific assessment, which is conducted through adults observing children during classroom activities. The assessment is not as objective as, for example, the marking of examination papers. In Oxfordshire there has been very rigorous training of teachers and other adults conducting the assessment. Oxfordshire works with a number of neighbouring local authorities to check that assessments are consistent across different local authority areas, but not with all the local authorities that you mention. Oxfordshire scored the second highest ‘Good Level of Development’ out of these six local authorities.
- Secondly, Oxfordshire’s results increased considerably from 2013 to 2014, with a 12% increase in the number of children reaching a ‘Good Level of Development’.
- Bearing in mind these contextual factors, the results are not as disappointing as might initially be thought. However, you are right to ask what is being done to address under-achievement in the Foundation Stage.
- From analysis of the data, it is scores in Literacy which have been lower in Oxfordshire, specifically in writing, and particularly boys’ writing.
- The following activities are funded by the County Council to address this, and to aim to raise the standard in Oxfordshire to the regional average:
 - Training is delivered to schools where the results were particularly low.
 - In schools where teachers working in the foundation stage are inexperienced, additional training is offered.
 - Advisors and lead teachers work with pre-school settings (day nurseries, playgroups, childminders etc), checking that their assessments are accurate, so that accurate assessments can be passed to schools when children transfer.
 - Advisory support is provided for schools and settings that are inspected by Ofsted as offering less than a good standard of early education.
 - Children’s centres work with their local pre-school providers to help children facing difficulties to enjoy and benefit from their early learning experiences. Children’s centres also help parents to develop strong learning opportunities at home.
- Examples of locally successful work, such as a storytelling project in Banbury, are shared so that Oxfordshire schools and settings can learn from success elsewhere”

Supplementary: Councillor Howson indicated he was willing to do everything possible to improve the situation and queried what if anything was coming from the 3 groups to bring the County up to near neighbours. Councillor Tilley welcomed Councillor Howson’s support and added that new ideas were constantly being developed. Most recent was a scheme for children to read to dogs as often they may do this when not willing to read to a person.

2. From Councillor Tanner to Councillor Nimmo Smith

“Having told full Council on November 4th that the Oxford southern by-pass road works would finish on time at the end of November, does the Cabinet member now feel he should have been more cautious? Would he estimate the costs to local businesses of the road works over-runs and the daily traffic delays, and would he apologise to drivers in and around Oxford for the disruption to their personal and working lives?”

Answer

The information I provided at Cabinet was correct at the time, and I was very disappointed to subsequently have to announce that the contraflow will be in place for a few more days at Kennington.

We recognise that the work we are doing at the moment is causing frustration for all road users, including business. Ultimately, while the delays that people are experiencing at the moment are frustrating, the work is being done to ensure that the transport system is sustainable and able to meet the ambitions of residents and business.

I know that many people will be upset that after months of delays and were looking forward to the road being back to full capacity. I am sorry that this has not happened.

The start of work at Kennington was delayed significantly by work Thames Water needed to do, however major schemes like this throw up challenges and you have to work hard to overcome them. In addition the recent wet weather delayed crucial waterproofing work on a number of bridges, meaning that resurfacing will now take place around a week later than hoped. Allowance for delays had been built into the programme, but this had been reduced by one of the specialist subcontractors involved in the work recently going into liquidation, and an alternative subcontractor needing to be found at short notice.

Given the delays to the start of work, and challenges like the discovery of an unmapped electricity cable earlier in the project, the team on site have done well to accelerate the remaining works. The team will be continuing to work at nights and weekends to complete the work as quickly as possible.

With regard to your request for me to estimate the cost to the economy of undertaking the work, I am not going to do this but what I can say is that this cost would pale into insignificance against the on-going impact of not doing anything.

The good news is that there is relatively little work left to be done now and work is progressing well. Drivers can look forward to the roadworks being removed very soon and long term significant improvements to their journeys.

Supplementary: In response to a question about the timescales, Councillor Nimmo Smith advised that the contra-flow should be off by the 8th December with final works being completed by the end of December.

3. From Councillor Hards to Councillor Rodney Rose

“Please would you confirm that you will put pressure on Thames Water to complete the upgrade to the sewage pumping station on Mendip Heights, Didcot, where my constituent had raw sewage on his door step and no functioning drains AGAIN on Tuesday/ Wednesday 11/12 November? According to my contact, one of the new pumps tripped out several days before the

problem arose but Thames Water did not fix it promptly. Thames Water proposed in June to fit more modern and reliable pumps and a second “line”. The second line was I believe approved by Thames Water’s Board but has not yet been installed.”

Answer

“Clearly I have every sympathy with your constituent and the difficulties they are facing as a result of failures by Thames Water however this appears to be an issue that you should be raising with the Consumer Council for Water who are the appropriate bodies for this matter. The guidance from the Council is that you must follow the Companies complaints process first and go to them if you have an unsatisfactory response. I suggest you let Thames Water know that this is what you will be doing if they do not respond promptly to the problem.”

Supplementary: Councillor Hards queried how realistic was the growth plan over the next 15 year for the area? Councillor Rose replied that what was important was that the sewage system should work now. He undertook to meet with Councillor Hards in the local area to discuss the problem.

4. From Councillor Phillips to Councillor Hibbert Biles

'Cabinet Member for Public Health and the Voluntary Sector, Professor Sir Michael Marmot has advised that 75% of local authorities have taken on board his 2010 recommendations from his report 'Fair Society Healthy Lives' and used them to formulate their local plans and strategies. Is Oxfordshire included in the 75% and if not why not? and if so is there an example of how these recommendations have influenced policy implementation?'

Answer

“As there was a similar question from Cllr Pressell at Council I suggest Councillor Phillips looks at the minutes printed in the November Council papers.”

Supplementary: Responding to a question requesting confirmation that the County Council had taken on board the recommendations Councillor Hibbert-Biles gave an assurance that the Council implemented the recommendations not as part of a Marmot Plan but the policy objectives formed the basis of several of the Council’s Plans for example in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

5. From Councillor Phillips to Councillor Melinda Tilley

“Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families, The Regional Education Commissioner has recently not supported this Council’s recommendation for the sponsoring academy for the new primary school on the Barton development. What is the reason for this decision and what action has been taken to challenge this decision?”

Answer

The reasons for the rejection of the Council’s recommendation that Cheney School be the sponsor of the new Barton primary school were not stated in the letter advising the Council of this decision. At a meeting between officers and the Regional Schools Commissioner on the 17th November, he stated that if Cheney School wished to submit a new bid as part of the re-run of the Council’s sponsor selection process, he could see no reason why it shouldn’t be allowed

so to do. He also said that a further letter would be sent to Cheney School giving reasons why its sponsorship of the new Barton school had not been approved.

We now understand that the headteacher will submit a revised and more comprehensive bid.

Councillor Tilley added that at the School Stakeholder Group she had been asked to write to the Commissioner to express dissatisfaction with the process and particularly that reasons were not given.