

# County Council

## 13 July 2021

### Agenda

#### **These proceedings are open to the public**

Please note that Council meetings are currently taking place in-person (not virtually) with social distancing at the venue. Meetings will continue to be live-streamed and those who wish to view them are strongly encouraged to do so online to minimise the risk of Covid 19 infection.

If you wish to view proceedings, please click [on this Live Stream Link](#). However, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.

Places at the meetings are very limited due to the requirements of social distancing. If you still wish to attend this meeting in person, you must contact the Committee Officer by 9am four working days before the meeting and they will advise if you can be accommodated at this meeting and of the detailed Covid-19 safety requirements for all attendees.

**Please note that in line with current government guidance *all* attendees are strongly encouraged to take two lateral flow tests in advance of the meeting, one of the morning of the Meeting if possible.**

## 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/lnsite/Elected+members/> or contact Glenn Watson on **07776 997946** or [glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto: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.**

To: **Members of the County Council**

## ***Notice of a Meeting of the County Council***

**Tuesday, 13 July 2021 at 10.30 am**

**Spiceball Leisure Centre, Banbury**



Yvonne Rees  
Chief Executive

July 2021

Committee Officer: **Deborah Miller**  
Tel: 07920 084239; E-Mail: [deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

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## **AGENDA**

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest - see guidance note**

Members are reminded that they must declare their interests orally at the meeting and specify (a) the nature of the interest and (b) which items on the agenda are the relevant items. This applies also to items where members have interests by virtue of their membership of a district council in Oxfordshire.

- 3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2021 (**CC1**) and to receive information arising from them.

#### **4. Official Communications**

#### **5. Appointments**

To make any changes to the membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.

#### **6. Petitions and Public Address**

*This Council meeting will be held virtually in order to conform with current guidelines regarding social distancing. Normally requests to speak at this public meeting are required by 9 am on the day preceding the published date of the meeting. However, during the current situation and to facilitate these new arrangements we are asking that requests to speak are submitted by no later than 9am four working days before the meeting i.e. 9 am on 7 July 2021. Requests to speak should be sent to [Deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk) together with a written statement of your presentation to ensure that if the technology fails then your views can still be taken into account. A written copy of your statement can be provided no later than 9 am 2 working days before the meeting.*

*Where a meeting is held virtually and the addressee is unable to participate virtually their written submission will be accepted.*

*Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.*

#### **7. Questions with Notice from Members of the Public**

#### **8. Questions with Notice from Members of the Council**

#### **9. Report of the Cabinet (Pages 9 - 14)**

Report of the Cabinet Meetings held on 16 March 2021, 20 April 2021 and 22 June 2021 (CC9).

#### **10. Review of Scrutiny Arrangements**

Report by the Monitoring Officer (CC10) **Report to follow**

At the Annual Meeting, Council re-appointed the Education and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committees that had existed under the previous administration. This enabled the work of these committees to continue pending a review of scrutiny arrangements. It is now proposed that these arrangements be reviewed and that a broader set of overview and scrutiny committees be established in place of the two current overview and scrutiny committees. This is to enable a greater range and depth of scrutiny activity inclusive of a wider range of members of the Council. This item invites Council to consider establishing these committees and

their terms of reference and, if established, to make appointments to them on the basis of political proportionality.

## **11. Scrutiny Annual Report (Pages 15 - 36)**

The Scrutiny Annual Report (**CC11**) highlights the key work undertaken by the Council's scrutiny committees to address current and emerging issues including the delivery of improved services for the residents of Oxfordshire.

The report 2020-2021 is presented here to full Council, having been considered by the Performance Scrutiny Committee on 3 June 2021. Comments from the Committee will be summarised by the Chairman of the Performance Scrutiny Committee at the Meeting.

***Council is RECOMMENDED to receive the report.***

## **12. Audit & Governance Annual Report (Pages 37 - 54)**

Report by the Chairman of the Audit & Governance Committee (**CC12**).

The Annual Report sets out the role of the Audit & Governance Committee and summarises the work that has been undertaken both as a Committee and through the support of the Audit Working Group in 2020/21.

***Council is RECOMMENDED to receive the report.***

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### **Pre-Meeting Briefing**

There will be a virtual pre-meeting briefing on **Monday 12 July 2021 at 12.45 pm** for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders