



## ***Notice of a Meeting***

### **People Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**Thursday, 17 February 2022 at 10.00 am**

**Council Chamber - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND**

**These proceedings are open to the public**

Please note that Council meetings are currently taking place in-person (not virtually) with Covid precautions 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.

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 a lateral flow test in advance of the meeting.**

#### **Membership**

Chair - Councillor Ian Corkin  
Deputy Chair - Councillor Kate Gregory

*Councillors:*

Juliette Ash	Andy Graham	Michael Waine
Hannah Banfield	Nigel Simpson	
Imade Edosomwan	Bethia Thomas	

**Notes:**      ***Date of next meeting: 7 April 2022***

<b>For more information about this Committee please contact:</b>	
Chair	Councillor Ian Corkin Email: <a href="mailto:ian.corkin@oxfordshire.gov.uk">ian.corkin@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>
Committee Officer	<i>Colm Ó Caomhánaigh, Tel: 07393 001096 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:colm.oconomhnaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk">colm.oconomhnaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a></i>

Stephen Chandler  
Interim Chief Executive

February 2022

## What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

- All services and preventative activities/initiatives relating to children, young people, education, families and older people.
- Enables the council to scrutinise its statutory functions relating to children, adult social care and safeguarding. Includes public health matters where they are not covered by the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- This committee will also consider matters relating to care leavers and the transition between children's and adult services

## 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 4 working day before the date of the meeting.**

## 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 4 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. **Introduction and Welcome**
2. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
3. **Declaration of Interests - see guidance note on the back page**
4. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2021 and to receive information arising from them.

## 5. **Petitions and Public Address**

*Currently council meetings are taking place in-person (not virtually) with Covid safety procedures operating in the venues. However, members of the public who wish to speak at this meeting can attend the meeting 'virtually' through an online connection. While you can ask to attend the meeting in person, you are strongly encouraged to attend 'virtually' to minimise the risk of Covid-19 infection.*

***Please also note that in line with current government guidance all attendees are strongly encouraged to take a lateral flow test in advance of the meeting.***

*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 Friday 11 February 2022 Requests to speak should be sent to [colm.ocaomhanaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:colm.ocaomhanaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk). You will be contacted by the officer regarding the arrangements for speaking.*

*If you ask to attend in person, the officer will also advise you regarding Covid-19 safety at the meeting. If you are speaking 'virtually', you may submit 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. Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.*

## 6. **Overview of Home to School Transport in Oxfordshire (Pages 9 - 18)**

Report by Corporate Director for Children's Services

Officers were asked to provide an overview to include the following information.

- Current arrangements including parental preference
- Pupil projections, expansion plans and need
- How to create fairness within the system
- How to decarbon the service

- Service User experience and opinion

**The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the report.**

**7. Serious Case Review: Child R (Pages 19 - 22)**

Report by Corporate Director for Children's Services

The Serious Case Review (SCR) concerns child R who was 13yrs old when she took her own life in 2013 in an out of county residential establishment.

**The Committee is recommended to note the findings and recommendations of the Serious Case Review for Child R and to note the actions taken to date.**

**8. Consultation on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in Oxfordshire (Pages 23 - 52)**

Report by Corporate Director of Children's Services

A public consultation on proposed changes to arrangements for SEND for children and young people in Oxfordshire was launched on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022. It is intended to run until 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

**The People Overview & Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to consider this paper and formulate a joint response to the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) Consultation which closes on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

**9. Work Plan 2021/22 (Pages 53 - 56)**

Report by Director of Law and Governance

This report presents the People Scrutiny Committee Work Plan for 2021/22.

**The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the Work Plan (as set out in Appendix 1).**

**Close of meeting**

## 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](mailto:glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk) for a hard copy of the document.