

Notice of a Meeting

Adult Services Scrutiny Committee Wednesday, 9 September 2009 at 10.00 am County Hall

Membership

Chairman – Councillor Don Seale

Deputy Chairman – Councillor Mrs Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor

Councillors:

Arash Fatemian	Anthony Gearing	Tim Hallchurch MBE
Jenny Hannaby	Sarah Hutchinson	Larry Sanders
Dr Peter Skolar	Alan Thompson	

Notes: *All members of this Committee are asked to note that there will be a pre-meeting at 9.30 am on the day of the meeting in Committee Room 2.*

Date of next meeting: 15 October 2009

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

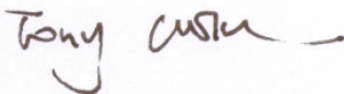
- Adult social services; health issues;
- Conduct of best value reviews as specified in Paragraph 9 of Schedule 2 to the Functions Regulations

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 Don Seale E. Mail: don.seale@Oxfordshire.gov.uk
Committee Officer	-	Kath Coldwell, Tel: (01865) 815902 E.Mail: kath.coldwell@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Tony Cloke
Assistant Head of Legal & Democratic Services

August 2009

About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 74 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 630,000 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 10 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 - see guidance note**
3. **Minutes** (Pages 1 - 20)

To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 8 July 2009 (**AS3**) and to note for information any matters arising on them.

4. **Speaking to or petitioning the Committee**

SCRUTINY MATTERS

To consider matters where the Committee can provide a challenge to the work of the Authority and its partners

5. **Oxfordshire Learning Disability Partnership Board: Presentation and Q&A**

10:15

Contact: Eddie McDowall (Valuing People Manager – Oxfordshire Learning Disability Partnership Board) (01865 228191)

Mr McDowall, together with Ms Ann Nursey (Assistant Head of Adult Social Care – Learning Disabilities - OCC), Mrs Gail Hanrahan (Parent Carer), Mr Mike Edwards (Service User) and Mrs Sue Haffenden (Chairman of the Oxfordshire Learning Disability Partnership Board) will give a presentation to the Committee on the work of the Oxfordshire Learning Disability Partnership Board.

The Committee is invited to receive the presentation and conduct a question and answer session.

6. **Transforming Adult Social Care: Progress Update and Q&A** (Pages 21 - 26)

10:50

Contact: Alan Sinclair, Programme Director – Transforming Adult Social Care (01865 323665)

It has been agreed that a report on Transforming Adult Social Care will be brought quarterly to this Committee (**AS6**) and will include detail on self directed support.

Mr Sinclair will attend to provide the update and to answer the Committee's questions.

The Committee is invited to track progress and to conduct a question and answer session.

7. Fair Access to Care Services Consultation - Q&A and Response (Pages 27 - 98)

(Consultation on the revision of the FACS Guidance to support councils to determine eligibility for social care services).

11:20

Contact: Varsha Raja (Assistant Head of Service – Commissioning and Redesign) (01865) 323618

On 14 July 2009 the Department of Health issued a consultation document on Fair Access to Care Services, which is attached at **AS7(a)(i)**. This needs to be read in conjunction with the draft revised guidance (**AS7(a)(ii)**). These guidelines determine whether people are eligible for social care. This is a major review and responses are due by 6 October 2009. The Directorate is setting up arrangements to consider the consultation and then will want to consult with service users and carers. Consultation with elected members is also vital. A short briefing paper is attached (**AS7(b)**).

The Director for Social & Community Services together with Mr Paul Purnell (Head of Adult Social Care) will attend for this item to introduce the consultation and to answer members' questions.

The Committee is invited to discuss the consultation document, asking questions as necessary, and to forward its comments to the Directorate.

REVIEW WORK

To take evidence, receive progress updates and consider tracking reports.

8. Self Directed Support Task Group: Update

12:20

[Lead Member Task Group comprises Councillors Jenny Hannaby, Sarah Hutchinson, Larry Sanders and Lawrie Stratford]

The Committee is invited to receive an update on the work of the Task Group.

BUSINESS PLANNING

To consider future work items for the Committee

9. Annual Scrutiny Work Programme September 2009 - July 2010

12:30

Contact: Desmond Fitzgerald, Policy and Review Officer, (01865 810477)

The proposed scrutiny work programme consists of ideas generated by members, officers and the public. Each idea has been assessed against the criteria outlined in the proposal form. This includes an analysis of how the proposed review relates to the council's strategic priorities, its current performance in this area and whether it is an area where scrutiny can contribute to upstream policy development. The proposed reviews were discussed with the relevant directors or heads of service and their comments are included on the proposal form for members to consider.

Members are asked to consider the proposals relevant to their committee (**AS9 – to follow**) and to decide which work they wish to undertake and with what priority.

The Committee is asked to identify its priorities for its work programme, including its first choice activity.

10. Forward Plan

13:30

The Committee is asked to note any items of interest.

13:35 approx Close of Meeting

Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Section DD of the Constitution for a fuller description.

The duty to declare ...

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, ie where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

Whose interests are included ...

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

When and what to declare ...

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

Taking part if you have an interest ...

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

"Prejudicial" interests ...

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

Exceptions ...

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

Seeking Advice ...

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.