



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

### **Performance Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 26 March 2015 at 10.00 am County Hall**

#### **Membership**

Chairman Councillor Liz Brighthouse OBE  
Deputy Chairman - Councillor Neil Fawcett

|                     |               |                      |                |
|---------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|
| <i>Councillors:</i> | Lynda Atkins  | Yvonne Constance OBE | Steve Harrod   |
|                     | John Christie | Janet Godden         | Charles Mathew |
|                     | Sam Coates    | Mark Gray            | vacancy        |

**Notes:**                      ***Date of next meeting: 14 May 2015***

#### **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<br>E.Mail: <a href="mailto:liz.brighthouse@oxfordshire.gov.uk">liz.brighthouse@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>      |
| Policy & Performance Officer | - | Eira Hale, Lead Analyst, Tel: (01865) 323969<br>Email: <a href="mailto:eira.hale@oxfordshire.gov.uk">eira.hale@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a> |
| Committee Officer            | - | <i>Sue Whitehead</i> , Tel: (01865) 810262<br><a href="mailto:sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk">sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>  |

Peter G. Clark  
County Solicitor

March 2015

## 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 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 - Guidance note on back page of the agenda**
3. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2015 (**PSC3**) and to receive information arising from them.

4. **Petitions and Public Address**
5. **Business Management Monitoring Report for the Third Quarter 2014/15 (Pages 7 - 22)**

1010

Head of Policy, Maggie Scott will present a paper outlining the Council's performance for the third quarter of 2014/15. Director for Environment & Economy, Sue Scane will be present to allow for a focused performance discussion on key areas of concern.

***Performance Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note and discuss the performance reported in the dashboards and to make any comments necessary for escalation to Cabinet.***

6. **The Council's Response to the Findings of the Serious Case Review of Children A-F and Further Action Taken in Response to Child Sexual Exploitation in Oxfordshire (Pages 23 - 38)**

1100

The serious case review of children A-F identifies that there was a systemic failure in the period before Operation Bullfinch and the council accepts all recommendations from the review and takes full responsibility for its role in what went wrong. The council has apologised to the victims and their families, and deeply regrets that the abuse was not stopped sooner.

The capability to tackle child sexual exploitation has been transformed in Oxfordshire since Operation Bullfinch. This has been made possible by far greater understanding of this form of abuse, strong leadership and ensuring that resources have been made available to undertake the action that is required.

Interim Head of Service – Safeguarding, Hannah Farncombe and Deputy Director – Children's Social Care, Lucy Butler will present this report, which sets out the council's response to the findings in the serious case review, which have been accepted in full, and also provides a summary of the action that the council has taken since 2010 when Operation Bullfinch was launched.

***The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the Council's response to the findings***

*of the Serious Case Review into Children A-F, published in March 2015; and the further actions in progress.*

## **7. Safeguarding Missing Children (Pages 39 - 46)**

1150

Deputy Director for Children's Social Care, Lucy Butler will introduce a paper outlining the trends and patterns in relation to missing children, arguing the importance of monitoring this area of work and proposing a way forward for effective scrutiny.

***The Performance Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to:***

- (a) note report:***
- (b) become actively involved in priority setting process for the Missing Children's Panel; and***
- (c) receive an annual report on work with missing children***

## **8. Property Contract with Carillion (Pages 47 - 70)**

1220

Director for Environment & Economy, Sue Scane and a representative of Carillion will present a paper outlining the performance of the property contract with Carillion. The paper will focus on four distinct areas: Food with Thought, Caretaking and Cleaning, Design and Construction and Resilience.

***The Performance Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:***

- (a) note the performance of Carillion on the Property and Facilities contract; and***
- (b) recognise both the successes achieved thus far and the areas for improvement identified.***

**Close of Meeting: 1400**

## 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 (01865) 815270 or [glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk) for a hard copy of the document.