

...Decisions... Decisions...Decisions

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: 07393 001213; E-Mail: sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

CABINET - TUESDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2017

<i>List published 20 September 2017 Decisions will (unless called in) become effective at 5.00pm on 27 September 2017</i>		
<i>RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
1. Apologies for Absence	Apology from Councillor Constance.	DLG (A. Newman)
2. Declarations of Interest - guidance note opposite	None.	DLG (A. Newman)
3. Minutes To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2017 (CA3) and to receive information arising from them.	Agreed and signed subject to the correction of the word "underspend" in the first sentence of the third paragraph of the preamble to minute 52/17 to read "overspend".	SW
4. Questions from County Councillors Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet's delegated powers. The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.	See attached annex.	

<p>Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.</p>		
<p>5. Petitions and Public Address</p>	<p>Item 6 - Mr Aquib Hafeez Mr Misbah Hafeez Councillor Linda Smith, Oxford City Council Jane Gallagher Mr Chris Sewell Mr Alexander Massey Dr Hilary Walker Rev Elizabeth Allison-Glenny Mr Terry Tran-Nguyen Nick Lunch Ms Lesley Williams Ms Candida March Mr Paul Roberts, Councillor Jamila Begum Azad Councillor John Sanders Councillor Helen Evans Councillor Liz Brighthouse</p> <p>Item 7 – Councillor Helen Evans</p> <p>Item 8 - Councillor Jane Murphy, Deputy Leader, SODC Councillor Neville Harris Councillor Liz Brighthouse</p> <p>Item 9 – Councillor Laura Price</p>	
<p>6. Transition Fund for Open Access Children's Centres - September 2017</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Local Communities Forward Plan Ref: 2017/093 Contact: Sarah Jelley, Senior Policy and Performance Officer Tel: 07554 103437</i></p>	<p>Cabinet agreed:</p> <p>(a) Regarding the future use of the Florence Park site to support the proposal for asset transfer and transition fund grant for Aspire. Cabinet further agreed to provide active and positive</p>	<p>ACE (S. Jelley)</p>

<p>Report by Assistance Chief Executive (CA6).</p> <p>This report deals with the undetermined decisions from the 18th July Cabinet about the Florence Park site. The report also looks at the expenditure against the 'one off' £1m fund to provide pump priming to support community-led solutions for delivering open-access services for children and families agreed by Council in February 2017. Following three rounds of grant funding and allocations to twenty six organisations, there is a remaining balance of £262,674. The report outlines the proposed approach to managing and allocating the remaining budget.</p> <p>The Cabinet is asked to make the following decisions:</p> <p>(a) Regarding the future use of the Florence Park site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1 – Support the proposal for asset transfer for Aflah Nursery (potentially subject to any further requirements that Cabinet may determine) • Option 2 – Support the proposal for asset transfer and transition fund grant for Aspire (potentially subject to any further requirements that Cabinet may determine) • Option 3 – Decline both proposals and seek an alternative solution <p>(b) Approve the proposed use of the transition fund underspend.</p>	<p>support to assist Aflah Nursery finding alternative premises; and</p> <p>(b) To approve the proposed use of the transition fund underspend and to invite Aflah Nursery to reformat their proposal as appropriate to re-apply under the new scheme for transition funding should they so wish.</p>	
<p>7. Service & Resource Planning Report - 2018/19 - September 2017</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Finance</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2017/039</i> <i>Contact: Katy Jurczynsyn, Strategic Finance Manager (Finance, Strategy & Monitoring) Tel: 07584 909518</i></p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>DOF (K. Jurczynsyn)</p>

<p>Report by Director of Finance (CA7).</p> <p>The report is the first in the series on the Service & Resource Planning process for the forthcoming year which will culminate in Council setting a budget for 2018/19 and a medium term plan and capital programme to 2021/22 in February 2018. This initial report sets the context and the starting point for the process. It sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assumptions on which the existing Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) agreed in February 2017 is based, • information arising from government and other announcements • known and potential financial issues for 2018/19 and beyond which impact on the existing MTFP, and • a proposed process for Service & Resource Planning for 2018/19 including a timetable of events. <p>The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>(a) note the report;</p> <p>(b) approve the Service and Resource Planning process for 2018/19; and</p> <p>(c) approve a four year period for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Programme to 2021/22.</p>		
<p>8. Submission of Expression of Interest to the Housing Infrastructure Fund</p> <p><i>Cabinet Member: Leader</i> <i>Forward Plan Ref: 2017/112</i> <i>Contact: Robin Rogers, Strategy Manager</i> <i>Tel: 07789 923206</i></p> <p>Report by Director for Planning & Place (CA8).</p> <p>The County Council proposes to make bids</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed subject to the following addition to recommendation (d) shown in bold below:</p> <p>The Cabinet RESOLVED to:</p> <p>(a) Agree to the submission of an Expression of Interest to the Housing Infrastructure Fund</p> <p>(b) Agree to the process set out above for the assessment of viability of schemes and for their subsequent prioritisation</p>	<p>SDC/ACE (R. Rogers)</p>

to the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF), an investment programme announced in July 2017 by the Department for Communities and Local Government and administered through the Homes and Communities Agency.

The County Council is required to develop candidate schemes and packages of schemes and make Expression of Interests for viable programmes by 28 September.

This report sets out the requirements of HIF and the process of application and assessment.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) Agree to the submission of an Expression of Interest to the Housing Infrastructure Fund**
- (b) Agree to the process set out above for the assessment of viability of schemes and for their subsequent prioritisation**
- (c) Note the current candidate scheme packages and current draft assessments**
- (d) Delegate to the Strategic Director for Communities, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Environment, and taking into account the view of the Growth Board, the final viability and prioritisation assessment and the detail of the bid submission including the detail of projects to be included within each scheme.**

(c) Note the current candidate scheme packages and current draft assessments

(d) Delegate to the Strategic Director for Communities, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Environment, and taking into account the view of the Growth Board, the final viability and prioritisation assessment and the detail of the bid submission including the detail of projects to be included within each scheme. **This should be based upon further thorough evaluation of the robustness of governance arrangements and levels of assurance on deliverability.**

Councillor Hudspeth undertook to keep Political Group Leaders informed of discussions as matters progressed.

9. Staffing Report - Quarter 1 - 2017

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader of the Council

Recommendation agreed.

DHR (S. Currell)

Forward Plan Ref: 2017/040
Contact: Sarah Currell, HR Manager – IBC Interface, Tel: 07867 467793

Report by Director of Human Resources
(CA9).

The report provides an update on staffing numbers and related activity for the period 1 April 2017 to 30 June 2017. Progress will be tracked throughout the year on the movement of staffing numbers from those reported at 31 March 2017 as we continue to deliver our required budget savings. We also continue to track reductions since 1 April 2010 to reflect the impact on staffing numbers via delivery of our Business Strategy and Transformation programme.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

10. Forward Plan and Future Business

Cabinet Member: All
Contact Officer: Sue Whitehead,
Committee Services Manager Tel: 07393 001213

The Cabinet Procedure Rules provide that the business of each meeting at the Cabinet is to include “updating of the Forward Plan and proposals for business to be conducted at the following meeting”. Items from the Forward Plan for the immediately forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet appear in the Schedule at **CA9**. This includes any updated information relating to the business for those meetings that has already been identified for inclusion in the next Forward Plan update.

The Schedule is for noting, but Cabinet Members may also wish to take this opportunity to identify any further changes they would wish to be incorporated in the next Forward Plan update.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.

Noted.



ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions received from the following Members:

1. Councillor Howson to Councillor Hibbert-Biles

‘Eighteen months ago, St Gregory the Great School was placed in financial special measures by the ESFA; recently it received a challenging Ofsted report about aspects of the work of the school; there have also been concerns about both attendance and exclusions.

What steps have the authority, the Regional Schools Commissioner and the diocese taken to ensure the children forced to attend the school because of a shortage of secondary school places in the city will receive a high quality education that ensures they can achieve their potential?’

Answer:

“As Cllr Howson knows, due to our very effective pupil place planning processes, we don't have a shortage of secondary school places in Oxford City, or anywhere else in the county for that matter. It is, however, the case that there aren't enough spare places in other schools to accommodate every pupil currently attending St. Gregory the Great.

I and Lucy Butler, Director of Children's Services, have met with the head teacher and a representative of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Our safeguarding team has put a lot of effort into helping the school's leadership address a number of pressing safeguarding issues - a return visit has been arranged for October to make sure that improvements are fully embedded. As Cllr Howson is aware, the Regional Schools Commissioner and the diocese have responsibilities given St Gregory the Great School is an Academy”

2. Councillor Phillips to Councillor Hibbert-Biles

‘The Royal College of Nursing is asking the government to provide funds for local authorities to fully fund school nursing services. Can you provide an update of the current staffing position of school nurses in Oxfordshire and the progress being made for primary schools to have access to school nurses?’

Answer

“Oxfordshire County Council supports the Royal College of Nursing in their call to Government to provide resources to local authorities for school health nursing for all children.

We are aware that other local authorities have reduced their school health nurse provision in the last few years however the Council has prioritised the public health of younger people by increasing public health nursing support in schools and colleges of further education.

Oxfordshire's School Health Nurse service provides a team of school nurses for primary schools and has school health nurses based in secondary schools and nurse's based in colleges of further education.

In line with other front line services there are difficulties with recruiting skilled professionals to work in Oxfordshire however there are currently only 3 vacancies in the service which are all being advertised to fill the posts.”

Supplementary: Responding to a further question Councillor Hibbert-Biles stated that it was not possible for there to be a school health nurse in every primary school and undertook to provide information to all councillors on the numbers of visits by school health nurses to schools.

3. Councillor Phillips to Councillor Hibbert-Biles

‘There is increasing evidence of 6th form pupils being expelled from schools because they have failed to achieve top grades in AS and equivalent internal examinations. Can you give assurances that this practise is not taking place in 6th forms in Oxfordshire?’

Answer

"Unfortunately no, I cannot give Cllr Phillips the assurance she is seeking. With the exception of two sixth forms which between them have about 150 students, the remainder, around 6,000, attend academies. Although the council is notified of formal permanent exclusions and schools are required to advise us when pupils join or leave, they are not obliged to provide us with the reasons and wouldn't I am sure, identify those departures which are due to unlawful exclusions such as appear to have been happening from the high profile Kent grammar school."

Supplementary: In response to a further question Councillor Hibbert-Biles stated that she was not aware of any anecdotal evidence that such exclusions were happening in Oxfordshire.

4. Councillor Pressel to Councillor Constance

It is now several weeks since the County Council received the draft feasibility study on options for a possible zero emission zone and/or more clean air zones. Why are we STILL waiting for the launch of the public consultation?

Air quality is a matter of huge public concern. The Cabinet MUST address it urgently, instead of wasting time and further endangering our health.

Answer

“As you will be aware the County Council alongside Oxford City Council jointly commissioned a feasibility study which considers the implementation of a Zero Emission Zone (ZEZ) for Oxford to 2035.

This is in hand and the requisite briefings to Councillors have been scheduled with a wider locality briefing planned for early October.

Once the briefings have been completed we will be sending out a press release and then commencing a public consultation (currently expected mid-end of October).