

County Council

12 July 2022

Agenda

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 email democracy@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, 12 July 2022 at 10.30 am

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

If you wish to view proceedings, please click on the live stream link shown on the website.

Please note, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.



Stephen Chandler
Interim Chief Executive

July 2022

Committee Officer: **Chris Reynolds**
Tel: 07542 029441; E-Mail: chris.reynolds@oxfordshire.gov.uk

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 2018, notice is given that the meeting will be recorded. The purpose of recording proceedings is to provide an *aide-memoire* to assist the clerk of the meeting in the drafting of minutes.

Members are asked to sign the attendance book which will be available in the corridor outside the Council Chamber. A list of members present at the meeting will be compiled from this book.

AGENDA

1. Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2022.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. 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.

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

Members of the public who wish to speak at this meeting can attend the meeting in person or 'virtually' through an online connection. In line with current Government advice, those attending the meeting in person are asked to consider wearing a face covering. Normally requests to speak at this public meeting are required by 9am on the day preceding the published date of the meeting. However, during the current situation and to facilitate 'hybrid' meetings we are asking that requests to speak are submitted by no later than 9am four working days before the meeting i.e. 9am on Wednesday 6 July 2022. Requests to speak should be sent to chris.reynolds@oxfordshire.gov.uk . 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 9am 2 working days before the meeting. 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 7 - 12)

Report of the Cabinet meetings held on 24 May and 21 June 2022

10. Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Annual Report (Pages 13 - 24)

The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is under a constitutional duty to prepare an annual report. That report is appended to this paper and it documents the breadth and depth of the Committee's work over the 2021/22 municipal year.

Council is RECOMMENDED to: -

Endorse the Joint Committee's Annual Report

11. Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (Pages 25 - 516)

Report of the Corporate Director of Environment and Place

This report updates Council on the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP). It summarises the results of the LTCP consultation and outlines the key changes to the final LTCP. It also includes information about changes to the supporting strategies for Freight and Logistics, Innovation Framework and Active Travel. It is proposed that the content of the documents found in appendixes 2-5 are all adopted by the council

Council is RECOMMENDED to

- a) **Adopt the content of the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan document, and the supporting strategies, as council policy.**
- b) **Acknowledge the Cabinet resolution on 21 June 2022 to delegate the decision on the final Local Transport and Connectivity Plan document, including graphical format, to the Corporate Director for Environment and Place in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Travel and Development Strategy.**

12. Joint Shared Services and Personnel Committee

Report TO FOLLOW

Following the Joint Shared Services and Personnel Committee meeting on 4 July 2022, the Council will be asked to consider a recommendation to disband the Joint Shared Services and Personnel Committee as from 31 August 2022.

13. Exempt Items

It is RECOMMENDED that the public be excluded for the duration of the following item since it is likely that if they were present during these item there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and specified below in relation to those items and since it is considered that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public

interest in disclosing the information.

THE REPORT AND ANNEXES TO AGENDA ITEM 14 HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC AND SHOULD BE REGARDED AS 'CONFIDENTIAL' BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE THEM.

THIS ALSO MEANS THAT THE CONTENTS SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH OTHERS AND NO COPIES SHOULD BE MADE.

14. Report of the Remuneration Committee

Report TO FOLLOW

The information contained in the report is exempt in that it falls within the following prescribed categories:

1. Information relating to a particular individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

It is considered that in this case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, in that such disclosure would distort the proper process of free negotiations between the authority with another party for the purposes described and would prejudice the position of the authority in those negotiations and other negotiations of a similar nature in future.

The Council will be asked to consider detailed recommendations from the Remuneration Committee as set out in the Annexes to the Report.

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS WITH NOTICE MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE PROPER OFFICER IN WRITING BY 9.00 AM ON THE MONDAY BEFORE THE MEETING

15. Motion by Councillor Liam Walker

This council recognises the need to improve public transport in Oxfordshire to reduce emissions, tackle congestion and make sure our bus services are more sustainable.

Park and Ride sites are important transport hubs in Oxfordshire helping to reduce the need to drive into Oxford city.

To help meet the commitments as stated above this council calls on both the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Highways Management to:

- Establish a cross-party task force to explore the viability of making parking at our P&R sites free.

- Write to the Leader of Oxford City Council asking for the city council to join this new task force
- Work with public transport providers in Oxfordshire to establish a Park & Ride improvement plan

16. Motion by Councillor Sally Povolotsky

This Council notes that:

This government has consistently failed to address the imminent cost of living crisis.

April 2022, Ofgem increased the energy price cap by 54%. There is no cap on solid fuel, bottled gas or heating oil.

Oxfordshire households face spiralling costs, with a large percentage not on mains gas, homes reliant on oil and bottled gas face huge costs with no price cap or grants.

Forecourts at £2 per litre, affecting front line workers, logistics, farming and food production.

Energy & fuel rises impact on council's services from school catering to adult and social care. There's concern about budgeted schemes due to inflation, and availability of personnel and resources.

9 in 10 (88%) adults reported their cost of living had risen over the past month, citing affordability of food and medicines as a major concern.

This Council therefore declares a 'Cost of Living Emergency' and calls on the Government to:

Urgently subsidise bus and train travel, to ensure that people can travel for essential education and work.

Urgently review the energy cap regime in order to provide much greater protection to consumers, as other European countries have done.

Provide immediate financial support for consumers of heating oil / bottled gas and solid fuels / prepayment meters.

Immediately reduce VAT to 17.5%

Recognise that Oxfordshire will need urgent additional funds to support homelessness, school transport, social care services, waste disposal, and a plethora of other council functions affected by the increase in prices and inflation.

17. Motion by Councillor Yvonne Constance

This Council notes that the Leader has acknowledged the challenging market conditions faced by Oxfordshire's excellent meat and dairy farmers

This Council further notes that local authorities have an important duty to engage

positively and proportionately in public discourse.

Given the privileged position in which this Council finds itself and the potentially damaging effects of its motion dated 14 December, this Council resolves to offer locally produced menus at Council-catered events, including meat, dairy and vegan options, or to make alternative provisions for members, staff and attendees to facilitate personal choice.

18. Motion by Councillor Eddie Reeves

This Council welcomes the introduction of the new scrutiny model under the current administration. However, it notes that resourcing for full and effective scrutiny are yet to match the welcome scale of the administration's ambition.

This Council resolves to:

- i. Ensure that the inconsistencies that exist in committees' terms of reference are promptly attended to and that the Council's constitution is duly updated;
- ii. Reaffirm the long-established convention that members of a Group nominating to a committee position remain the choice of such nominating Group; and
- iii. Seek members' opinion, irrespective of their position on any such committee as to how well the new system is working informally, reporting into the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council.

19. Motion by Councillor Nigel Simpson

Oxfordshire County Council has acknowledged the Climate Change Emergency.

A major contributor to excessive CO2 output are unnecessary car journeys. The proposal by Network Rail to shut the vital link between Yarnton and Kidlington by closing the rail crossing at Sandy Lane will result in a significant increase in carbon emissions. Permanent closure would see drivers forced to use Frieze Way or Langford Lane - 8 - resulting in an average extra distance travelled of nearly two miles per journey.

Based on current trends this is estimated to result in an extra 4750 miles travelled on weekdays and an additional 3800 at weekends, resulting in 1.5 million unnecessary miles per year.

The cost of such surplus miles in money is hundreds of thousands of pounds to residents and businesses who rely on their cars; and extra pollution in the form of many tonnes of carbon emissions, contrary to the Council's environmental objectives.

This would go directly against the council's ambition to reduce CO2 output generated by transport and very significantly degrade the network of contacts that currently underpins the ancient and vital community nexus around the parishes of Yarnton,

Begbroke, Kidlington and Gosford and Water Eaton.

This Council calls upon the Leader to urgently write to Network Rail to oppose the proposed closure and further to instruct relevant Cabinet colleague(s) to lobby for this vital link to be maintained with improvements, where possible, especially for cyclists and pedestrians
