

## **Divisions-N/A**

### **COUNTY COUNCIL – 12 July 2022**

#### **REPORT OF THE CABINET**

##### ***Cabinet Member: Leader***

#### **1. Appointments 2022/23**

*(Cabinet, 24 May 2022)*

Cabinet considered and approved Member appointments to a variety of bodies which in different ways support the discharge of the Council's Executive functions.

##### ***Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader (including Children, Education & Young People's Services)***

#### **2. Local Area SEND Strategy**

*(Cabinet, 24 May 2022)*

Cabinet considered the Local Area SEND Strategy which was co-drafted by a governance group of representatives from Local Authority Education, Social Care (Children's and Adult), Health, Education Setting and Parent/Carers. A public consultation on proposed changes to improve outcomes children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Oxfordshire ran 10th January to 10th March 2022.

Cabinet approved publication of the Local Area SEND Strategy.

#### **3. SEND top-up funding for Schools**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet considered a report on providing Top-Up funding for Early Years settings, mainstream Primary, mainstream Secondary and Special Schools. Top-Up funding is the additional funding allocated to a setting or school to support them in making the necessary special educational provision for a child or young person with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.

Cabinet agreed to continue the current enhancement in Top-Up funding for Early Years settings for academic year 2022-23 and agreed an approach that timetables the 2023-24 Top-Up funding decision as part of the Council's annual budget setting process to allow schools more time for planning

##### ***Cabinet Members: Climate Change Delivery & Environment and Public Health & Equalities***

#### **4. Oxfordshire Food Strategy**

*(Cabinet, 24 May 2022)*

Cabinet had before it an Oxfordshire-wide food strategy, developed in partnership with the district and city councils and the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), supporting a broad range of Council priorities and strategies in particular healthy weight strategies, addressing food poverty, tackling inequalities and the Council's Climate Action Framework.

Cabinet endorsed the Oxfordshire Food Strategy – Part One, agreed the grant funding to District and City council partners to support the delivery of the strategy and delegated authority to the Corporate Director Customers and Organisational Development to agree the terms of reference for the grant funding in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Equalities.

### ***Cabinet Member: Finance and Corporate Services***

#### **5. Annual Performance Report 2021-2022 and Provisional Revenue Outturn 2021/22**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet considered a report presenting the council's annual performance report and provisional year-end finance position for 2021/22.

Cabinet noted the Annual Report, the summary of the year-end positions and virements. Cabinet agreed that the remaining surplus on the On-Street Parking Account can be carried forward to the 2022/23 financial year. The meeting also approved the transfer of £4.6m underspends to general balances, the updated risk share arrangements for the pooled budgets for Live Well and Age Well services and the use of directorate underspends to offset the £1.2m overspend on COVID-19 costs related to High Needs in Children's Services.

### ***Cabinet Members: Highway Management and Travel & Development Strategy***

#### **6. Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP)**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet considered a report updating on the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP), summarising the results of the LTCP consultation and outlining the key changes to the final LTCP.

The meeting also received a report from the Transport Policy Development Working Group of the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee with recommendations

Cabinet approved the content of the LTCP document, and the supporting strategies, subject to consideration of the recommendations from the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee, for adoption by the County Council on 12 July 2022.

### ***Cabinet Member: Climate Change Delivery & Environment***

#### **7. Climate Action Update**

*(Cabinet, 24 May 2022)*

In response to the council's declaration of a climate emergency, a Climate Action Framework was developed to mobilise a cross-organizational Climate Action Programme. Cabinet considered a report updating on the delivery of the 2021/22 Climate Action Programme delivery plan and setting out the 2022/23 delivery plan.

The meeting noted the annual update on the delivery of the Climate Action Programme, approved the Climate Action Programme delivery plan for 2022/23, the council's Carbon Management Plan 2022-25 and the interim emissions reduction target for 2024/25.

### ***Cabinet Member: Community Services & Safety***

#### **8. Library and Heritage Strategy**

*(Cabinet, 24 May 2022)*

A draft Libraries and Heritage Strategy: 2022 - 2027 had been approved by Cabinet on 21st December 2021 subject to public consultation. Cabinet considered a report detailing the consultation approach and setting out the key themes arising from the consultation.

Cabinet noted the outcome of the public consultation and delegated the responsibility for the adoption and implementation of the strategy to the Portfolio Holder for Community Services and Safety and the Corporate Director for Customer, Organisational Development and Resources.

#### **9. Section 101 Agreement with London Borough of Bromley**

*(Cabinet, 24 May 2022)*

Cabinet agreed to enter into an s101 Agreement with London Borough of Bromley, authorising Bromley to undertake a prosecution in relation to an Oxfordshire resident.

### ***Cabinet Member: Corporate Services***

#### **10. Workforce Report and Staffing Data - Quarter 4 – January to March 2022**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet noted a report providing an update for Quarter 4 on key HR activities along with a refreshed workforce profile. During Q4 the Government removed the workplace restrictions put in place to safeguard against further spread of the Omicron variant and the offices were returned to accommodate business as usual activities. Agile and hybrid working continues, and during Q4 staff and teams recommenced their utilisation of offices both for business as usual activities and for team collaboration events.

### ***Cabinet Member: Finance***

#### **11. Provisional Capital Outturn 2021/22**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet noted a report setting out the performance against the Capital Programme shown in the latest monitoring report for 2021/22 and also comparing back to the capital programme agreed by Council in February 2021.

Expected spend for the year totalled £191.4m. Actual capital programme expenditure was £173.4m in 2021/22. The variation between the latest programme and the actual expenditure was -£18.1m (-9%). This spend was now expected to take place in 2022/23.

## **12. Treasury Management Annual Performance Report**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet had before it the Treasury Management performance for the 2021/22 financial year measured against the original budget agreed by Council in February 2021. Despite interest rates in the period being slightly lower than anticipated, the Council held slightly higher balances and mildly exceed expectation in terms of income generation within treasury management.

Cabinet noted the report and agreed to recommend Council to note the council's treasury management activity in 2021/22.

### ***Cabinet Member: Highway Management***

## **13. Vision Zero**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet had before it a report providing an overview of the proposed approach and scope of Vision Zero for Oxfordshire to try and reach a target of zero for fatalities and life changing injuries from road traffic collisions by 2050.

Cabinet approved the County Council Vision Zero commitment, noted the proposed 'Vision Zero' programme and governance arrangements being assembled and noted the drawdown of initial funding of £0.25m.

## **14. National Bus Strategy - Enhanced Partnership**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet received a report setting out the proposals for the Oxfordshire Bus Enhanced Partnership (EP), reflecting the Council's indicative Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) funding allocation and the schemes / measures which this is proposed to fund. It also asked for agreement to the draft EP, including the Governance arrangements for the Partnership.

An amendment was agreed stating that bus lanes will only be removed if modelling can show that alternative bus priority measures would improve bus journey times and cycle and pedestrian safety.

Cabinet approved the draft Oxfordshire Enhanced Partnership Document for submission to the Department for Transport and agreed to consult on the draft document with all Oxfordshire Bus Operators for the statutory 28 objection period.

## ***Cabinet Member: Public Health & Equality***

### **15. Cabinet response to Transgender Motion from Council**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet considered a paper setting out the key areas of focus and recommendations for the Cabinet response to the motion agreed at Council in April 2022 requesting action to support our transgender and non-binary residents.

Cabinet agreed the following:

- the commissioning of research to provide an evidence base to underpin prioritisation and delivery
- to update our Including Everyone framework to set out our commitment to transgender and non-binary residents
- the approach to providing gender inclusive bathrooms through the council's Property Strategy
- the approach to providing consistent and inclusive language
- the development of an LGBTIQ+ guidance document
- an annual review of progress

## ***Cabinet Member: Travel & Development Strategy***

### **16. HIF1 Grant Determination Agreement**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

The Cabinet meeting of 15 March 2022 approved the renegotiation of the HIF Didcot Garden Town Grant Determination Agreement (GDA), between Oxfordshire County Council and Homes England. This Cabinet meeting had before it a report outlining the renegotiated position and options considered.

Cabinet approved the amendments to the Grant Determination Agreement (GDA), agreed to seek an additional letter of comfort from Homes England and Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and authorised the signing of the Grant Determination Agreement.

### **17. HIF 2 Smart Corridor – Amendment of Grant Determination Agreement/ Deed of Variation**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet considered the HIF Grant Determination Agreement (GDA) changes agreed in principle between Oxfordshire County Council and Homes England, including:

- Inclusion of the delivery of the Science Transit scope within the Infrastructure to be delivered under the GDA.
- Update to the Milestones schedule and Delivery Plan to reflect an integrated programme for HIF2 and Science Transit.
- Draw down of Homes England funds against costs incurred on the Science Transit programme.

Cabinet noted the draft terms of the proposed Deed of Variation and authorised the Director of Transport & Infrastructure, in consultation with the Director of Law & Governance and Director of Finance, to finalise the terms of, and enter the Deed of Variation to the Grant Determination Agreement.

## ***Scrutiny Reports***

### **18. Report of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Care Homes / National Covid Enquiry**

*(Cabinet, 21 June 2022)*

Cabinet was asked to consider a letter endorsed by the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 9 June 2022 in relation to care homes and the national Covid enquiry. The scrutiny committee renewed its request for a local review following a recent court judgment on the matter and the likelihood that the national review will take a very long time.

Cabinet agreed the following points:

- Consultation will take place with the Leader, Cabinet Member and Corporate Director for Adult Services to consider the terms of reference, timeline and resources required for a review and if costs could be shared with system partners.
- The review should align with the national review as far as possible in order for comparisons to be made.
- Cabinet will respond formally to the next OJHOSC meeting.

**LIZ LEFFMAN**

Leader of the Council

June 2021