

CABINET

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 24 May 2016 commencing at 2.00 pm and finishing at 4.31 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Ian Hudspeth – in the Chair
Councillor Nick Carter
Councillor Melinda Tilley
Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
Councillor David Nimmo Smith
Councillor Lawrie Stratford
Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles

Other Members in Attendance: Councillor Brighthouse (Agenda Item 6)
Councillor Curran (Agenda Items 7 & 8)
Councillor Fooks (Agenda Items 6, 7 & 8)
Councillor Mathew (Agenda Items 7 & 8)
Councillor Glynis Phillips (Agenda Item 10)
Councillor Purse (Agenda Items 6 & 7)
Councillor Williams (Agenda Item 6)
Councillor Gill Sanders (Agenda Item 6)

Officers:

Whole of meeting	Peter Clark (County Director); Sue Whitehead (Corporate Services)
Part of meeting	
Item	Name
6	Jim Leivers, Director for Children's Services; Lucy Butler
7	Bev Hindle, Deputy Director, Strategy & Infrastructure Planning; Lisa Michelson; Odele Payne, Senior Transport Planner
8	Mark Kemp, Deputy Director – Commercial; Alexandra Bailey
9	Mark Kemp, Deputy Director – Commercial
10	Kate Terroni, Deputy Director Joint Commissioning

The Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting, and decided as set out below. Except insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda, reports and schedule, copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.

38/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(Agenda Item. 1)

Apologies were received from Councillors Heathcoat and Rose.

39/16 MINUTES

(Agenda Item. 3)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2016 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

40/16 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

(Agenda Item. 4)

Councillor Howson had given notice of the following question to Councillor Tilley:

“How many fixed penalties were issued by:

a] community

b] voluntary

c] academies in:

(i) the primary and (ii) the secondary and (iii) the special school sectors in Oxfordshire since September 2015 and for comparison purposes in the 2014-15 school year?

How many prosecutions with a view to court proceedings have the county started during the same two periods?”

The response from Councillor Tilley is set out in the Annex to the minutes.

Supplementary: Councillor Howson commented that Oxfordshire’s figures were above the national average and he asked what steps were being taken to ensure that the appropriate authorities helped to reduce the figures. Councillor Tilley replied that she would be raising it with the Regional Schools Commissioner.

Councillor Phillips had given notice of the following question to Councillor Nimmo Smith:

“Would the Cabinet Member for Environment give more detail about the commitment made by the Leader in Council on 16 February (as part of his budget statement) on the provision of a signalised crossing at the A40 junction at the bottom of Collinwood Road in Risinghurst? For example is the intention to include this crossing in the LTP4 Update given that this initiative aligns with the overarching LTP4 objectives and the A40 Long Term strategy?”

Councillor Nimmo Smith replied:

“At the February council meeting Cllr Hudspeth agreed to ask officers to investigate this crossing as part of the wider A40 strategy.

We are in the process of updating the Local Transport Plan (including the Oxford Transport Strategy - OTS) and have now included the following specific reference to this proposal in the latest draft update to the OTS:

“A crossing of the A40 east of Headington roundabout (linking Barton and Risinghurst) is also proposed, linked to future capacity improvements and bus priority measures at Headington roundabout and on the A40”.

The OTS does not identify specific timescales or costs for relatively small schemes such as this, and at this stage no funding has been identified to take this proposal forward. However, once the proposal is part of council policy this will help to secure funding for it in future”

Supplementary: In response to a further question Councillor Nimmo Smith explained that the Local Transport Plan 4 was reviewed annually and would be updated at that time.

Councillor Fooks had given notice of the following question to Councillor Nimmo Smith:

“The proposed scheme to make use of the County’s fleet vehicles at times they are not currently in use is very welcome indeed. Can you give the public, who are very worried indeed at the imminent loss of their bus services, a timetable for the introduction of the new scheme, assuming that the pilot scheme is successful?”

Councillor Nimmo Smith replied:

“We are still working up the detail of how the pilot will work, but subject to Cabinet approval on 24 May, we are looking to announce a launch date in June.

We will start a publicity campaign in early June to make people aware of the pilot and how they can use it. We will also be writing to all councillors, parishes and stakeholders at the end of May, to enable them to promote this service to their residents/members.”

Councillor Brighthouse had given notice of the following question to Councillor Heathcoat:

“What will be the impact of a vote to leave the EU on the Health and Social Care workforce in Oxfordshire?”

The Leader replied:

“We do not know what would be the implications. There is clear evidence that both social care and the NHS in Oxfordshire make extensive use of migrant labour. However, we do not at this stage know what would be the implications of a vote to leave the EU. It would depend on what restrictions

would be in place to control immigration. If both health and social care workers were not subject to controls then there might not be significant implications.

Whatever happens we would want to continue to implement our strategy for encouraging people to opt for careers in social care. The Adult Social Care workforce strategy has been developed in response to workforce challenges to meet the increasing complexity and demand for social care services in Oxfordshire. Adult Social Care has developed this strategy and implementation plan to address recruitment and retention in the social care sector, through a variety of activities which include working with Oxfordshire Association of Care Providers to deliver a rolling programme of recruitment fairs and delivering training for providers in the application of Values Based Recruitment.”

Supplementary: In response to a query as to whether there was awareness that providers had gone directly to Portugal to recruit care workers, Councillor Hibbert Biles suggested that this could continue. Councillor Hudspeth added that it was a matter of waiting until the end of June.

41/16 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item. 5)

Ms Jan Huish submitted a petition against the closure of children’s centres.

The Leader had agreed the following requests to address the meeting:

Item 6 - Charlie Payne, local resident
Councillor Fooks, local councillor for Wolvercote & Summertown
Councillor Purse, local councillor for Wheatley
Councillor Williams, local councillor for Iffley Fields & St Mary’s
Councillor Gill Sanders as Shadow Cabinet member for CEF
Councillor Brighouse as Chairman of Performance Scrutiny Committee

Item 7 - Hugh Jaeger, Chair of Bus Users Oxford
Councillor Fooks, local councillor for Wolvercote & Summertown
Councillor Mathew, local councillor for Eynsham
Councillor Curran as Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment

Item 8 - Hugh Jaeger, Chair of Bus Users Oxford
Councillor Fooks, local councillor for Wolvercote & Summertown
Councillor Purse, local councillor for Wheatley
Councillor Mathew, local councillor for Eynsham
Councillor Curran as Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment (5 mins)

Item 10 - Councillor Glynis Phillips as Shadow Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

42/16 SUPPORT FOR CONTINUING DELIVERY OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES (FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE)

(Agenda Item. 6)

The County Council budget for 2016/17 made a number of significant financial changes to the Children, Education and Families Directorate. Included in this was the decision to amend the original proposal to remove £2 million from the Early Intervention/Children's Centres budget lines (known as CEF 12). How the retained £2 million is to be targeted requires further clarity.

Cabinet had before them a report that set out proposals to spend the £2 million in direct response to issues raised by the public consultation, namely concerns around the loss of preventative support and the accessibility of the new service.

The retained money will increase the early help and preventative work within the new service, and increase the number of locations from which outreach is delivered. The report proposed to allocate it across three areas of the new service. Jim Leivers, Director for Children's Services and Deputy Director Lucy Butler attended for this item.

Charlie Payne spoke against the proposals as the final part in a smokescreen that would see funding for preventative services used for mainstream services. She referred to the protest outside County Hall prior to the meeting that represented 19,000 under 5's and she highlighted the impact the loss of children's centres would have on those children, on mothers and on families. Ms Payne referred to the risks outlined in the SCIA around stigma from the loss of universal services and safeguarding risks. She argued that there was too few open access sessions arranged in mitigation of the loss of the Centres. She also argued against the use of librarians to provide similar support as that provided by trained staff in the existing centres. The outcome of support for the proposals would be more children and families reaching crisis point before receiving the support they needed.

Councillor Fooks, speaking as a local councillor for Wolvercote & Summertown, spoke of the impact of losing both the centres at Cutteslowe and Marsden. She welcomed the open access sessions but queried how people were to get there. She was also concerned at the level of support for the very young children, under three. Councillor Fooks queried whether the NHS could provide some support. She agreed with the concern over provision in libraries. Councillor Fooks would have liked to have seen the Cabinet Advisory Group reconvened.

Councillor Purse, speaking as a local councillor for Wheatley, referred to The Maple Tree Centre, Wheatley and explained the history of the Centre which had been that Wheatley had been granted the use of the youth club building to continue to provide youth services. These were in abeyance at the

moment and it had been used by the Children's Centre. The community was working hard to keep a package of universal provision and could offer some youth provision. The community was looking for parish and business support but if a rent was charged it would not work. She asked that consideration be given to charging no rent given the historical context of the building's use for youth services. Councillor Carter suggested taking forward this issue with officers and indicated that he believed it was capable of resolution.

Councillor Williams, speaking as local councillor local councillor for Iffley Fields & St Mary's, spoke against the proposals feeling that the approach was fundamentally wrong and should be reconsidered.

Councillor Gill Sanders, speaking as Shadow Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families, commented that no-one wanted to be where they were in relation to bus subsidies but that hard decisions had been forced on the Council by the financial situation. She highlighted the issue of staff leaving as a result of uncertainty and misinformation and urged that all necessary steps be taken to reduce both.

Councillor Brighouse, Chairman of Performance Scrutiny Committee outlined the discussion and comments from the Performance Scrutiny Committee and referred to the note of the meeting included in the addenda. She highlighted issues around rural communities, referred to the integrated transport service and the successful models around the country making use of libraries. The Committee had recognised the importance of proper support and training for librarians in the new role. The Committee had questioned the role of the Local and Community Support staff and the way in which they would be able to support local places. The Committee had heard from Charlie Payne of the need for universal services and considered options for support. They had highlighted the importance of the Local Advisory Groups and officers had responded positively. They had considered the issue of stigmatisation and found that the provision of health services could help to minimise this risk. Some concern had been expressed about the added value provided by the two new shared centres. The Committee felt strongly that continued monitoring was needed to ensure support was provided and to make any necessary changes. Finally she referred to an unsuccessful proposal to use £0.5m to continue support for existing centres. This had not been agreed as the Committee accepted that the proposals had been carefully thought out to provide optimum support of communities across Oxfordshire.

Councillor Tilley, Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families responded to the comments made and in particular the need to address the high caseload being carried by social workers. Discussions were being held with the NHS who were keen to be involved. She was hopeful that many of the centres would remain open for some services and everyone was working extraordinarily hard to achieve the best possible outcome.

Lucy Butler, Deputy Director Children's Social Care YOS, explained the use of the retained £2m as set out in the report. She reassured Cabinet Councillor Tilley moved the recommendations.

Councillor Hibbert Biles explained that the bulk of health visitor clinics took place in GP's surgeries and that this would continue. Clinics did take place in children's centres and other buildings and this would continue. She also explained the role of the Family Nurse Partnership which was to work with young mothers under 19 years of age.

During discussion Cabinet commended the hard work of officers and felt that the report was a good account of the work going on behind the scenes. Forty two separate conversations were taking place. In response to comments Cabinet was satisfied that the end result would not be the closure of all children's centres and with regard to the comments from Councillor Williams saw no reason to revisit previous decisions. They recognised that the proposals were different due to the consultation that had taken place. They welcomed the creative thinking and in particular the proposed use of libraries. Councillor Lindsay-Gale, Cabinet Member for Property, Cultural & Community Services was pleased to hear the comments of Councillor Brighthouse that libraries were being used in this way successfully elsewhere. She pointed to the enormous success of Rhyme Times. Staff would be trained and she felt that the alarmist comments were unjustified. Councillor Carter commented that as a local councillor he would support efforts in his area to keep the centre running in as broad a way as possible given there was no funding available.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) to develop eight outreach centres and two shared locality bases, in addition to eight Children and Family Centres;
- (b) to agree that the Locality and Community Support Service is expanded to enhance its preventative elements and enable it to support universal provision within the eight outreach centres, and other centres that remain open through community support;
- (c) to agree that the Family Support Service is enhanced, enabling the delivery of casework and evidence based group programmes from the eight outreach centres; and
- (d) to ask officers to commence a staff consultation on the staffing structure for the new Service.

43/16 INVESTING IN THE A40 - A LONG TERM STRATEGY

(Agenda Item. 7)

Cabinet considered a progress update on the A40 long term strategy following the completion of public consultation in Autumn 2016. The report outlined the consultation responses received as well as other considerations in order to facilitate a wider discussion on future ambitions for tackling the congestion issues on the A40. The report recommended an approach for the direction for a long-term strategy for the A40. Bev Hindle, Deputy Director,

Strategy & Infrastructure Planning; Lisa Michelson; Odele Payne, Senior Transport Planner gave a presentation on the information contained in the report and addenda

Mr Jaeger, Chair of Bus Users Oxford, congratulated the County on the proposals to build the longest stretch of bus lane in Oxford but suggested that it could be further extended. Mr Jaeger did not support the proposed dual carriageway west of Eynsham.

Councillor Fooks, speaking as a local councillor for Wolvercote & Summertown, felt that the proposals were good but that there was still room for improvement. She queried whether the consultation was representative of local people and suggested that a high proportion of respondents were through traffic. There was a failure in the analysis to stratify by group which she felt was needed. In the short term the proposed links to Oxford Parkway were excellent; she would like to see a bus lane instead of dual carriageway; cycle storage at bus stops would be good.

Councillor Mathew, speaking as a local councillor for Eynsham, commented that in his view the proposals had some flaws and there was the likelihood of making no difference to the traffic congestion. He urged an electronic pass system for the toll bridge and an immediate start on the A40 link, before the Dukes Cut work.

Councillor Curran, speaking as Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment stated that although not solving all the problems the proposals would solve a lot of them. He welcomed the high quality cycle lanes. He doubted that the dual carriageway would result in fewer cars and could increase the number of cars using the road. Unless buses were faster people would remain in their cars. He felt that a workplace parking levy should be considered quickly.

During questions Bev Hindle explained that funding had not yet been secured for all the proposals and options would be picked up as funding was secured. He also explained how the phased implementation would work and that each phase could stand on its own if further funding was not secured. Lisa Michelson, commented that origins and destinations had been part of the consultation and that the conclusions were based on the data for the Strategic Transport Model.

- (e) Councillor Stratford responding to comments about the workplace parking levy indicated that a cabinet Advisory Group was looking at opportunities to improve the environment through congestion/workplace charging. Councillor Hard was the Labour Group representative on that Group and could keep Councillor Curran informed.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) note the A40 Long Term Strategy Consultation Results

- (b) consider the officer recommendation for the A40 Long Term Strategy comprising:
 - I. Road width expansion to a dual-carriageway on the section of the A40 between Witney and a park and ride at Eynsham,
 - II. A further bus lane (in addition to the eastbound bus lane currently under development) so as to provide bus priority in both directions along the A40 between a park and ride at Eynsham and the Duke's Cut canal bridge west of Wolvercote roundabout,
 - III. Provision of high quality cycleways along the length of the route.
- (c) agree the recommended strategy for further feasibility assessment; and
- (d) include this recommended strategy for the A40 within LTP4 Update, which is due to go to Cabinet for approval in June 2016.

44/16 SUPPORTED TRANSPORT UPDATE

(Agenda Item. 8)

On 10 November 2015, Cabinet considered the results of the public consultation on the future of Subsidised Bus Services and agreed to the full withdrawal of subsidised bus subsidies, subject to full council's approval, which was given in February 2016.

Cabinet had before them a report providing an update on the steps that have been taken to minimise the impact of the withdrawal and asks permission to launch an innovative pilot using the council's fleet during downtime to help those without access to alternative transport. Mark Kemp, Deputy Director – Commercial; Alexandra Bailey, Service Manager Business Development Fleet Management attended for this item.

Mr Jaeger, Chair of Bus Users Oxford, circulated a paper to Cabinet Members suggesting that a number of routes could have a future housing growth took place if they could be kept going for now and helped over the gap between the end of the subsidy and the increased use. Mr Jaeger also made a plea for routes such as B2 that cost very little to keep running but where the impact of the loss of the service was great.

Councillor Fooks, speaking as a local councillor for Wolvercote & Summertown, expressed the worry of her constituents at the loss of the No 17 bus to Cutteslowe from July and welcomed the proposals as a possible means to help residents. She queried how funding could be applied for.

Councillor Purse, speaking as a local councillor, noted that in her area Heyfordian had been able to pick up most of the lost routes. However she was concerned that although in large villages the service was not bad, in smaller villages it was less regular and resulted in extended journey times. Some villages had a morning but no afternoon service and the journey times

could be difficult for older residents. It was likely that some support from the bus fleet would be helpful.

Councillor Mathew congratulated Cabinet and officers on their efforts to ensure a service to Lower Windrush.

Councillor Curran, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment, whilst saddened at the loss of subsidies commended the resulting creative thinking. The use of the Council's own fleet would provide a lifeline. Councillor Curran queried whether supermarkets could provide some support in their own commercial interests.

Councillor Nimmo Smith in moving the recommendations praised the creative thinking that was taking place. He noted that only about 10% of buses were affected and that it was quickly moving picture. He confirmed that there was some unused S106 funding where investigation could take place in to its use for routes that had the potential to become commercial. However the key was sustainability over the longer term.

During discussion Cabinet welcomed the positive approaches being taken by bus operators to respond to the loss of subsidy. They stressed the importance of keeping parish councils involved and welcomed the use of the County Council's own fleet to fill some gaps.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) approve the launch of the pilot; and
- (b) note the results of the independent report on usage data, and recommend if any further action required.

45/16 PROPOSED FEES FOR THE SUPPLY OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA

(Agenda Item. 9)

Cabinet considered a report setting out proposals for a schedule of fees for the supply of traffic accident data. Mark Kemp, Deputy Director – Commercial attended for this item.

RESOLVED: to recommend to Council to approve the use of the proposed fees as set out in Annex 1 to the report.

46/16 SECTION 75 AGREEMENT - UPDATE

(Agenda Item. 10)

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval for a continuation of and variations to the legal agreement under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 that governs the existing formal joint working arrangements and pooled budgets between Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Oxfordshire County Council from April 2016 onwards.

This is an annual process that updates the agreement between Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Oxfordshire County Council in respect of the pooled budgets. This includes agreeing the respective contributions of both parties, and the governance arrangements by which the pooled budgets are managed. Kate Terroni, Deputy Director Joint Commissioning presented the contents of the report.

Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health welcomed the proposals but felt that they would be strengthened by the inclusion of an opposition councillor on the Joint Management Group. This would improve the challenge provided to the Clinical commissioning Group and officers. She suggested that the lay members be removed but that more work is undertaken to make the role of user groups explicit. Councillor Phillips added that she would wish to see the Joint Management Group meetings be held in public. The meetings are published and it made sense to retain that element of public scrutiny. Finally Councillor Phillips referred to the mental health pooled fund and asked for more information on how waiting times were being cut.

Councillor Hudspeth moved the recommendations.

In response to a question about the pressures around the national living wage Kate Terroni indicated that work was ongoing and Cabinet would receive a paper on options.

During discussion Cabinet considered whether the Joint Management Group should meet in public. Councillor Carter suggested that meetings be held in public and it was agreed that discussion be held at the next joint meeting with the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group with a further report to Cabinet.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) approve the proposed pooled budget arrangements with Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, including a revised Section 75 Agreement for All Client Groups (as set out in Annex 1) to reflect this, subject to the inclusion of any necessary changes in the text as agreed by the Director of Adult Social Services after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care;
- (b) approve the contributions and risk share arrangements as set out in paragraphs 24-31;
- (c) approve the proposal to move to a single joint management group in adults, replacing the existing four separate groups;
- (d) approve an extension of the Section 75 Agreement for three years until 31st March 2019; and

- (e) that with regard to meetings of the single joint management group being held in public it was agreed that discussion be held at the next joint meeting with the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group with a further report to Cabinet.

47/16 STAFFING REPORT - QUARTER 4 - 2015

(Agenda Item. 11)

Cabinet considered a report that provided an update on staffing numbers and related activity for the period 1 January 2016 to 31 March 2016.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

48/16 FORWARD PLAN AND FUTURE BUSINESS

(Agenda Item. 12)

The Cabinet considered a list of items for the immediately forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet together with changes and additions set out in the schedule of addenda.

RESOLVED: to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing 2016

Penalty Notice fines issued in Oxfordshire

Annex

01/09/14 to 16/05/15

	TOTAL	Secondary	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Primary	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
UN-AUTHORISED ABSENCE	35	31	3	4	7	7	10	4	2	2	0	0	0	0
HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	37	32	3	4	7	7	10	5	2	2	0	0	1	0

01/09/15 to 16/05/16

01/09/15 to 16/05/16	TOTAL	Secondary	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Primary	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
UN-AUTHORISED ABSENCE	39	33	2	9	11	2	9	6	3	0	0	1	0	2
HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME	8	6	0	0	0	2	4	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	47	39	2	9	11	4	13	8	3	2	0	1	0	2