



Notice of a Meeting

Education Scrutiny Committee Wednesday, 3 February 2021 at 1.00 pm Virtual

Please note that due to guidelines imposed on social distancing by the Government the meeting will be held virtually. If you wish to view proceedings please click on this [Live Stream Link](#) However, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.

Membership

Chairman Councillor Michael Waine
Deputy Chairman - Councillor John Howson

<i>Councillors:</i>	Ted Fenton	Jeannette Matelot	Emma Turnbull
	Mrs Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor	Gill Sanders	

Co-optees:

By Invitation: Donald McEwan Carole Thomson

Notes: *Date of next meeting: 21 April 2021*

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

- a focus on the following key areas:
 - work in relation to the education strategy, and including review of an annual report on progress;
 - constructive challenge on performance issues highlighting issues where the Committee can support the improvement dialogue;
 - reviewing the Council's education functions including early years, Special Education Needs and school place planning;
 - reviewing the progress of, and any issues emanating from, the School Organisation Stakeholder Group with regard to admissions patterns and arrangements;
 - reviewing issues raised by the Schools Forum.
- assists the Council in its role of championing good educational outcomes for Oxfordshire's children and young people;
- provides a challenge to schools and academies and to hold them to account for their academic performance;
- promotes jointed up working across organisations in the education sector within Oxfordshire.

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	-	<i>Councillor Michael Waine</i> <i>Email: michael.waine@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>
Senior Policy Officer	-	<i>Robin Rogers, Tel: 07789 923206</i> <i>Email: robin.rogers@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>
Committee Officer	-	<i>Deborah Miller, Tel: 07920 084239</i> <i>deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i>

Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive

January 2021

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 678,000 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 9 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 - see guidance note of the back page**
3. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 12)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2020 (**ESC3**) and to receive information arising from them.

4. **Petitions and Public Address**

This Education Scrutiny meeting will be held virtually in order to conform with current guidelines regarding social distancing. Normally requests to speak at this public meeting are required by 9 am on the day preceding the published date of the meeting. However, during the current situation and to facilitate these new arrangements we are asking that requests to speak are submitted by no later than 9am four working days before the meeting i.e. 9 am on 28 January 2021. Requests to speak should be sent to deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk together with 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 9 am 2 working days before the meeting.

Where a meeting is held virtually and the addressee is unable to participate virtually their written submission will be accepted.

5. **Covid 19 Update**

1.10

The Committee have requested to receive an update on the impact of COVID-19 on Education and Oxfordshire Schools. Accordingly, Corporate Director of Children's Services, Kevin Gordon and the Deputy Director for Education, Hayley Good will attend the meeting to give a verbal update on the current situation.

As part of the update, the Head of Learner Engagement, Deborah Bell will provide the Committee with an update on the Reintegration Timetable.

6. **Update on Special Educational Needs in Oxfordshire (Pages 13 - 18)**

1.30

The report (**ESC6**) outlines the developments since November 2020 in transforming SEND services in Oxfordshire.

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note developments to date since November 2020, in order to transform the provision of education, health and care services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

7. Children, Education & Families Capital Programme (Pages 19 - 22)

1.50

The Committee have requested to receive an update on the delivery of the Children Education & Families Capital Programme including the additional school places successfully delivered in 2020 and the additional school places the council plans to deliver in 2021 and 2022 (**ESC7**).

8. Educational Attainment in Secondary Schools

2.10

The Committee have requested to receive an update on Educational Attainment in Secondary Schools. Accordingly, the Deputy Director for Education, Hayley Good and the Head of Learning and School Improvement, Kim James will attend the meeting to give a verbal update on the current data available.

9. Zero Carbon Agenda for Schools Buildings (Pages 23 - 24)

2.25

The Committee have requested to receive an update on what is happening in relation to school buildings in light of the Council's agreed commitment to Climate Change, including the capital programme for new schools/retro fitting of existing schools and to receive an update on whether school transport vehicles are being looked at in terms of pollution. Accordingly, the Head of Access to Learning, Allyson Milward will attend the meeting to give a verbal update on the current data available.

A briefing note from the Corporate Director Communities is attached (**ESC9**).

10. Elective Home Education

2.45

The Committee have requested to receive an update on Elective Home Education and the Oxfordshire situation. Accordingly, the Deputy Director for Education, Hayley Good and the Head of Learner Engagement, Deborah Bell will attend the meeting to give a verbal update on the current situation.

11. Forward Plan and Committee Business (Pages 25 - 26)

3.05

An opportunity to discuss and prioritise future topics for the Committee, potential approaches to its work and to discuss the schedule for future meetings.

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 **07776 997946** or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.