

Oxfordshire County Council

Budget and Business Planning 2024/25

Overarching Climate Impact Review of the Labour & Co-operative Group's Proposed Budget Amendments

Context & Background

1. This document provides an overview of the potential climate action impact of the Labour & Co-operative group's proposed budget amendments.
2. Further climate assessment will be required should subsequent business cases move through the capital or revenue governance process.

Proposed Revenue Amendments Climate Impact Review

3. A number of proposals are included in the proposed budget amendments that are likely to support delivery of the council's climate action commitments. These include:
 - 24L&CO12: A feasibility study and implementation strategy for bus franchising. Bus franchising could lead to a more efficient bus system for passengers and the environment.
 - 24L&CO14: Funding for phase four of the school streets scheme and associated active travel activation schemes.
 - 24L&CO15: A feasibility study and pilot around the introduction of new Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) bus services in urban/suburban and rural settings.
 - 24L&CO16: Improvements to how verges are cut and maintained in urban deprived areas, focusing on keeping pathways and cycleways clear to facilitate active travel. This may support active travel but may also represent habitat loss for wildlife in some areas.
 - 2025L&CO28: Introduction of emissions and weight-based charging for on-street and off-street parking.

Proposed Capital Amendments Climate Impact Review

4. Green infrastructure and active travel projects that are proposed to be added to the capital programme are:
 - 24L&CO18: Pipeline scheme for delivery of active travel initiatives identified as part of the East Oxford Mini-Holland Project.
 - 2025L&CO15: Pipeline of capital projects to ease congestion in built up areas.

Looking ahead here is also a proposal to fund 3 new Childrens Homes between to net zero standards.