



***Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for
Environment (including Transport)***

***Thursday, 1 September 2016 at 10.00 am
Committee Rooms 1 and 2, County Hall, New Road, Oxford***

Items for Decision

The items for decision under individual Cabinet Members' delegated powers are listed overleaf, with indicative timings, and the related reports are attached. Decisions taken will become effective at the end of the working day on Friday 9 September 2016 unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

Copies of the reports are circulated (by e-mail) to all members of the County Council.

These proceedings are open to the public

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter G. Clark".

Peter G. Clark
County Director

August 2016

Contact Officer: **Graham Warrington**
Tel: 07393 001211; E-Mail:
graham.warrington@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Note: Date of next meeting: 13 October 2016

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.

Items for Decision

1. **Declarations of Interest**
2. **Questions from County Councillors**

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet Member's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

3. **Petitions and Public Address**
4. **HS2 - Qualifying Authority Decision** (Pages 1 - 30)

Forward Plan Ref: 2016/066

Contact: Paul Fermer, Service Manager for Major Infrastructure Delivery Tel: (01865) 815764

Report by Interim Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial **(CMDE4)**).

The report introduces the High Speed 2 Hybrid Bill that will grant planning permission for the construction of Phase 1 of the high speed railway between London and West Midlands. However, this permission will be the subject of a number of conditions requiring the nominated undertaker (the party/parties who will construct the railway) to obtain local authority consent or approval. Local authorities along the route will be responsible for approving matters of detail with regards to the scheduled works in the Bill.

The Bill gives each Authority a choice between having a wide or narrow range of controls over the approval of construction details. Those Authorities opting for a wider range of controls are referred to as "Qualifying Authorities".

The County Council needs to decide whether or not to sign the HS2 Planning Memorandum, the effect of which would mean the County Council becomes a Qualifying Authority for the purposes of the HS2 Bill. To do that the Memorandum must be signed before the end of the House of Lords Select Committee which is not expected to finish before late Autumn 2016.

By signing the memorandum the County Council will commit to working to a planning regime specifically for the delivery of HS2. In effect existing legislation will be disapplied including the *Town Planning Act*, and sections of the *New Roads and Street Works Act 1999*, due to the powers of the HS2 Hybrid Bill being adopted for the delivery of the new railway.

It is RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet Member for Environment:

- (a) agrees to Oxfordshire County Council becoming a Qualifying Authority in relation to the High Speed Rail (London-West Midlands) Bill;***
 - (b) delegates authority to the Director of Environment & Economy in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment, to undertake all necessary steps required to become a Qualifying Authority, including the signing of the Planning Memorandum and Service Level Agreement.***
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