



# **County Council**

**9 July 2013**

## **Schedule of Business**

County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND

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**-OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – 9 JULY 2013**

**SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS**

*A Briefing on Operation Bullfinch and the Council's response to child sexual exploitation has been arranged for all Members of the County Council on the rising of the County Council meeting, in Rooms 1 and 2, County Hall, Oxford. The briefing should be approximately 1 hour. Tea and coffee will be available.*

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>PAGE NO.</b>	<b>MAXIMUM DURATION</b>	<b>APPROX START TIME TIME LIMIT PER DEBATE</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>PROPOSALS (M = Motion; SEC = Seconder; Am = Amendment S = Statement; Q = Question; REC = Recommendation to be determined)</b>
1.	1	30 mins	10:00	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p>Minutes of the Meetings held on 14 May 2013 (CC1).</p> <p><b>Addendum</b></p> <p>Members are asked to note the minute 31/13 detailed at Annex 3 which was omitted from the minutes circulated with the Agenda.</p>	<p>- See Annex 3</p>
2.	1			<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	<p>Cllr Langridge Cllr Wilmshurst Cllr Val Smith - late</p>

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3.	2			Declarations of Interest	
4.	2			<b>Official Communications</b>  The Chairman reports as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former County Councillor Miss M E (Peg) McWilliam;</li> <li>• Queen's Honours List.</li> </ul>	S Brighthouse S Chapman
5.	2			<b>Appointments</b>  The numbers in the table in Annex 1 reflect <b>the initial calculation</b> of the political proportionality. The appearance of a minus number against a Committee indicates that an adjustment was necessary under	- See Agenda  M Hudspeth (SEC) Rose S Fawcett S Brighthouse

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				<p>the proportionality and this occurred in May and did not affect the overall numbers on Committees. The final column highlights the <b>further additional places</b> to be allocated and the final size of the affected Committees as a result. Members are asked to agree the Committee numbers and members as shown at Annex 2 to the report (<b>CC5</b>).</p>	

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6.	2			<b>Petitions and Public Address</b>	<u>Petitions</u>  Ms Julie Mabberley on behalf of Wantage & Grove Campaign Group regarding local infrastructure;  Ms Sue Moon on behalf of the School Bus Action Group regarding Home to School Transport.  <u>Public Address</u>  Mr Sharone Parness in support of Motion 18 (Councillor Patrick).
7.	2			<b>Questions with Notice from Members of the Public</b>	None.

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8.	2	45 mins	10.30	<b>Minerals &amp; Waste Core Strategy</b>	(M) Nimmo-Smith (SEC) Mathew S Greene S Atkins S Gray S Johnston S Purse S J Sanders S Tanner S Pressel S Christie
9.	3	45 mins	11.10	<b>Director of Public Health Annual Report</b>	(M) Hibbert-Biles (SEC) Reynolds S Heathcoat S Hannaby S Fooks S Godden S Patrick S Rooke S Phillips S J Sanders S Pressel S Brighthouse

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10.	4	30 mins	12.00	<b>Report of the Cabinet</b>  <b>Deputy Leader</b>  <b>Cabinet Member: Adult Social Care</b>  <b>Cabinet Member: Business &amp; Customer Services</b>  <b>Cabinet Member: Children, Education &amp; Families</b>  <b>Cabinet Member: Environment</b>  <b>Cabinet Member: Finance</b>  <b>Cabinet Member: Public Health &amp; the Voluntary Sector</b>	<b>Christie</b>  <b>Hannaby(2), Hannaby, R Smith, Godden (3), Price, Pressel</b>  <b>Godden, Fooks(4)</b>  <b>Fooks(5),(7), Howson(8),(9), Webber (10), Hards</b>  <b>Fawcett, Hannaby(11), Hards, G Sanders, J Sanders, Pressel</b>  <b>Waine, R.Smith(12),(13)</b>



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11.	4	45 mins	12.30	<b>Scrutiny Committees – Annual Report</b>	(M) Lindsay-Gale (SEC) Waine S Greene S Patrick S Godden S Johnston S Howson S Pressel S Price S Christie S Brighthouse S V Smith S Hards S Phillips S Azad
<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>1.15</b>				
12.	4	10 mins	2.00	<b>2013/14 Requests for Virements</b>	(M) Fatemian (SEC) Hudspeth S R Smith S Godden

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<b>13.</b>	<b>5</b>	15 mins	2.10	<b>Older People's Pooled Budget Arrangements (Section 75 Agreement)</b>	(M) Heathcoat (SEC) Hibbert-Biles S Fawcett S Price
<b>14.</b>	<b>5</b>	10 mins	2.25	<b>Amendments to the Financial Procedure Rules</b>	(M) Fatemian (SEC) Hudspeth S R Smith

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15.	5	30 mins	2.35	<p><b>Questions with Notice from Members of the Council</b></p> <p>(1) Hoare to Carter  (2) Bartholomew to Tilley  (3) J Sanders to Nimmo-Smith  (4) Pressel to Hudspeth  (5) Pressel to Heathcoat  (6) Lilly to Carter  (7) Williams to Hudspeth  (8) Williams to Heathcoat  (9) Williams to Nimmo-Smith  (10) Williams to Heathcoat  (11) Howson to Tilley  (12) Hannaby to Hudspeth  (13) Tanner to Chapman  (14) Tanner to Nimmo-Smith  (15) Tanner to Nimmo-Smith  (16) Godden to Heathcoat</p>	- See Annex 2

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16.	6	25 mins	3.05	<b>Motion From Councillor Liz Brighthouse</b>	(M) Brighthouse (SEC) Azad S R Smith S Patrick S Fawcett S Beal S Tanner S J Sanders
17.	6	15 mins	3.30	<b>Motion From Councillor Stewart Lilly</b>	(M) Lilly (SEC) Greene S Webber S Hards
18.	7	30 mins	3.45	<b>Motion From Councillor Zoe Patrick</b>	(M) Patrick (SEC) Webber S Hibbert-Biles S Lilly S Purse S Hannaby S Howson S Hards S Phillips S V Smith

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19.	7		15 mins	<b>Motion From Councillor Jenny Hannaby</b>	(M) Hannaby (SEC) Godden (AM) Heathcoat (see Annex 1) (SEC) S Rooke S Patrick S G Sanders S Price S Brighthouse
20.	7		10 mins	<b>Motion From Councillor David Williams</b>	(M) Williams (SEC) S Constance
21.	8		15 mins	<b>Motion From Councillor David Williams</b>	(M) Williams (SEC) S Mallon S Waine S Mathew S Cherry S Tanner

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22.	8		15 mins	Motion From Councillor John Christie	(M) Christie (SEC) Price S Mallon S Atkins S Rose S Pressel

**AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Agenda Item 19 – Motion From Councillor Jenny Hannaby - Amendment to be moved by Councillor Judith Heathcoat**

“This Council reaffirms its commitment to the safeguarding and wellbeing of the elderly and vulnerable in Oxfordshire.

Council notes the Annual Report of the Safeguard Adults Board as presented to Adult Services Scrutiny committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board, and welcomes the ~~initial~~ steps taken to ensure that responsible agencies work together to minimise risk of personal abuse in residential care or nursing homes. Oxfordshire residents need to be assured that the highest level of care will be delivered with dignity and respect, and that the safety of those suffering from dementia, mental and learning of physical disabilities will always be of the highest priority.

Council does not believe that the Care Quality Commission has the capacity to meet its growing responsibilities, and notes the increase in reported failures in care inside residential care and nursing homes nationally and within Oxfordshire. Council calls on the cabinet to learn from mistakes and inadequacies revealed by whistle-blowers and CQC, but also see the need for pro-active monitoring through joint working and information sharing between the safeguarding adults team and the care home support service to ensure the safety of all residents in our care”.

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## QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

## ANNEX 2

Questions are listed in the order in which they were received. The time allowed for this agenda item will not exceed 30 minutes. Should any questioner not have received an answer in that time, a written answer will be provided.

Questions	Answers
<p><b>1. COUNCILLOR SIMON HOARE</b></p> <p>To ask the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Business &amp; Customer Services if he will outline what, if any, plans he has to rationalise the County Council's property holdings as a means of helping to deliver financial savings and the Medium Term Financial Plan.</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR NICK CARTER, CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS &amp; CUSTOMER SERVICES</b></p> <p>The County Councils Medium Term Financial Plan includes savings generated as a result of its asset rationalisation programme. The Asset Rationalisation Programme takes advantage of the termination of a number of existing leases to reduce the size of our property portfolio, predominantly offices. Approximately £180,000 was saved in 2011/12 and a further £599,000 in 12/13. The MTFP expects to deliver £2.2m of savings through the Asset Rationalisation Programme.</p>
<p><b>2. COUNCILLOR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW</b></p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member please give an update on the Reading Scheme?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION &amp; FAMILIES</b></p> <p>The Oxfordshire Reading Scheme is now approaching the end of its first year. The programme has been divided into a number of 'waves' with 45 schools participating in Wave 1 and 11 schools signed up so far in Wave 2 and who are now being trained. Schools who are interested can still apply.</p> <p>Children taking part in the programme were assessed at the start of the programme and data is now coming in from schools as the outcomes are measured for those who have finished. <b>Early indications show an average reading age gain of 13.3 months after only four months on the programme: higher than the original trials suggested.</b> The programme not only improves children's reading but is also having a very positive impact, in terms of improving their writing, comprehension, engagement with others in the classroom and ability to make confident choices for themselves. Children</p>

now consider themselves readers and are developing their love of reading.

Complementing the Reading Programme is the volunteering strand which started in schools after Easter. We now have 90 trained volunteers (30 obtained through the Oxford Mail Recruitment Campaign from 100 applicants).

The National Literacy Trust (NLT) has trained volunteer co-ordinators in schools to train and support the volunteers. Each volunteer is trained to work with and support a child through one to one reading sessions, twice a week, to help foster a love of books and of reading. Volunteers read with and discuss books with the child over a 10 week programme, designed by the NLT and our own Library Service, where fiction, non-fiction and poetry are included. The volunteer reading programme has been actively supported by the Library Service, helping with resources, planning and ideas and thanks need to go to them for their continued support. Children are counting the days until their next reading session and one child is determined to use the words 'hazardous' and 'juddering' in his next written story.

The public facing campaign, fully supported by the Oxford Mail continues to run exciting events and competitions. One volunteer remarked on how her child has really come out of her shell in just four weeks, partly due to discovering Mo Willems' picture book Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!, now requested at every session. The US author recently ran a session at the Oxford Story Museum, which 100 children from three schools taking part in the reading campaign attended. The event was jointly run by the Story Museum and the National Literacy Trust.

More events are planned over the summer. For example, parent training sessions are taking place at the Oxford Central Library in June, there is a Phillip Pullman competition and a series of celebratory events at fire stations around the county are planned where parents, children and volunteers can come together.

<p><b>COUNCILLOR JOHN SANDERS</b></p> <p>How much in total on average, including management fees, does it cost to fill a pot hole.</p> <p>Does the cost of filling a pothole vary depending on whether the pothole is in the City or outside, and if so by how much and how long on average does it take to fill a pothole in each of the 5 Districts?</p>	<p>The cost of a standard defect/pothole remains the same across all the road network maintained by Oxfordshire County Council. There is a standard payment value for each defect. The set rate for a standard pothole up to 1m2 £61.39.</p> <p>This is very difficult to answer as there are many factors that will affect the time taken to fill a pot hole including weather conditions, method used, traffic management requirements and distances travelled to the defect.</p>
<p><b>4. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</b></p> <p>How will Oxfordshire benefit from the Olympic legacy?</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games were incredibly successful for the UK as a whole. Partnerships and engagement, extending across the whole of the county, are ensuring that the benefit of the Games and its legacy across Oxfordshire will be seen in a wide range of areas.</p> <p>Oxfordshire's sportsmen and women played their part in historic Games, with a medal tally of two golds, two silvers and three bronzes.</p> <p><b>Economic Benefit</b></p> <p>Estimates<sup>1</sup> are that the total economic impact to the UK's GDP will be £16.2bn (2012 prices) spread over 12 years, 12% of that coming from tourism. The vast proportion of that economic benefit will be in London. The gain in South East over that period will be at least 9% of that. Overall, projections say that the Games will generate a net increase in tourist visits of</p>

<sup>1</sup> Research by Oxford Economics for Lloyds Banking Group, [http://www.lloydsbankinggroup.com/media/pdfs/lbg/2012/Eco\\_impact\\_report.pdf](http://www.lloydsbankinggroup.com/media/pdfs/lbg/2012/Eco_impact_report.pdf)

	<p>10.8 million between 2005 and 2017, although tourist figures in 2012 were slightly down on the preceding year (as expected).</p> <p>More locally around 57 Oxfordshire firms won and benefited from contracts as part of the Summer Olympics. Firms like STC, which provided telecommunications services for the opening and closing ceremonies, and Heyfordian Travel which provided transport between venues.</p> <p><b>Social Benefit</b></p> <p>The Games have increased interest in volunteering and community across the county.</p> <p>Oxfordshire Sports Partnership and Oxford Inspires have achieved a number of projects that have projects recognised as London 2012 Inspire projects. These projects are developing sporting and community-based development opportunities for people in the county.</p> <p><b>Culturally</b></p> <p>Oxford University has created a Legacy Fellowship, an artist fellowship intended to bring together art and sport.</p>
<p><b>5. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</b></p> <p>I assume you agree that your Cabinet should be deeply ashamed of the fact that we are <i>still</i> the <i>worst local authority in the country</i> for delayed transfers of care from hospital (151 out of 151!). Why is it still so bad and what are you doing about it?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</b></p> <p>Thank you Cllr Pressel for your question:</p> <p>I share your concern about our reported performance regarding the number of hospital delays in Oxfordshire. We are working very hard and jointly with the NHS to try to improve the situation.</p> <p>There are approximately 50,000 emergency admissions to the Oxford</p>

	<p>University Trust each year which means nearly 1,000 people are discharged from hospital each week. The average length of stay in a hospital in Oxfordshire is about 4.5 days, a bit less than the national average of 5 days. At least half of the people who are delayed in Oxfordshire are waiting for a bed to become available in another hospital setting, which does not apply in all authorities.</p> <p>As you will be aware we have experienced increased numbers of referrals of older people across the health and social care system recently. In the last year the number of people coming in to hospital in an emergency has gone up by 10%. This is a national trend that is putting further pressure on our systems in Oxfordshire. Together with the NHS we have put in more resources to tackle this problem – developing a new crisis response service, more social worker time, additional care home places and home care packages, round the clock support at home and specialist re-ablement services - but despite our best efforts the number of delays remains stubbornly high. I will be closely monitoring progress in this area, but please be reassured that the staff across the system are working flat out to get people home as quickly and safely as possible.</p>								
<p><b>6. COUNCILLOR STEWART LILLY</b></p> <p>Can the Cabinet member please update me as to how matters are progressing to ensure that 90% of the County’s population should be enjoying the benefits of faster broadband cover over the next 2 years?</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR NICK CARTER, CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS &amp; CUSTOMER SERVICES</b></p> <p>The County Council’s Better Broadband Programme has been making progress in the competitive dialogue process for the countywide infrastructure investment. It is expected that contract finalisation and public announcements will take place towards the end of July or early August 2013. The headline milestone dates and future target dates for the next steps in the programme are listed in the table below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="884 1289 2002 1444"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date completed (or expected*)</th> <th>Programme Milestone</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>August 2012</td> <td>Approval received from BDUK to</td> </tr> <tr> <td>August 2012</td> <td>Procurement Exercise begins</td> </tr> <tr> <td>November 2012 – May 2013</td> <td>Active Dialogue with Suppliers</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date completed (or expected*)	Programme Milestone	August 2012	Approval received from BDUK to	August 2012	Procurement Exercise begins	November 2012 – May 2013	Active Dialogue with Suppliers
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<p><b>7. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</b></p> <p>The Care Staff who provide home care to Oxfordshire people with severe learning disabilities are being required by Southern Health, their employer, to take substantial pay cuts of up to 15%. Southern Health say that the Commissioners, which include Oxfordshire County Council, are pressing them to reduce their charges or they will use other providers who will make the cuts.</p> <p>Would the Leader be clear:</p> <p>1) Is the Oxfordshire County Council applying such pressure?</p> <p>2) What are the reductions in pay and other</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>1) The County Council is not applying pressure on Southern Health. The reality is that providers need to be competitive in order to win business, and they need to work out how to run their businesses in order to do this. Oxfordshire has 15 providers who have been through a rigorous quality and cost assessment and who hold framework contracts for the provision of learning disability services. The Council can only contract with providers who win business on a fair and transparent basis.</p> <p>2) As far as we are aware, the proposed changes mean that the basic salary of staff will remain the same (and in many cases increase) but that staff will no longer be paid enhancements when they work unsociable hours. Staff will also see a reduction in annual leave but will retain their entitlement to NHS Pensions, to sickness and pay benefits and access to training. There may have been some further negotiation on the offer during consultation but this is a matter for Southern Health and the Council does not have these details.</p> <p>3) Our understanding is that the majority of staff are likely to accept the</p>																	

*\*future dates are indicative*

The programme is confident that it will achieve its objectives of 90% coverage to 'Superfast Broadband' speeds in excess of 24Mbps and a minimum of 'Basic Broadband' of 2 Mbps for 100% of the county. The completion of the roll-out of this infrastructure work will take place in a number of phases and will be completed in early 2016.

<p>changes in conditions which are being demanded?</p> <p>3) If the demands are successfully imposed it is clear that staff will not only be very angry but also demoralised. What is the research evidence about the effect of having a humiliated and demoralised staffing sector on the service to patients?</p>	<p>proposals and we do not believe the workforce is likely to be angry and demoralised. Staff will still be well remunerated within the social care sector (the changes do not apply to the health professionals who work for Southern Health). The County Council carries out regular and in-depth quality monitoring reviews of all learning disability services, and this includes monitoring of staff turnover, use of agency staff and complaints, as well as the experience of service users and carers. Any indication of a reduction in quality of service will be identified and addressed through this process.</p>
<p><b>8. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</b></p> <p>Would the Portfolio Holder agree with the recent report from ADASS that the cuts presently in the pipeline directed at Adult Social Care for this and all other local authority providers cannot be made without damaging the service. Would she agree with the findings of the report that the scale of the cuts is such that they cannot be absorbed by efficiency saving and that the scale of cuts will impact directly on the service.</p> <p>Given that Oxford County Council does not stand high in the league of service providers would she agree with the ADASS analysis that the largest impact will come in authorities that have traditionally been low spenders such as this authority?</p> <p>Could the Portfolio holder indicate how the scale of the cuts in Oxfordshire will impact on Adult Social Care?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</b></p> <p>Thank you for your question. You were not a member of the previous Council so you may be unfamiliar with the strategy that we have followed to achieve genuine efficiency savings and limit the impact on those using our services and those caring for them. We have sought to reduce demand by intervening early and providing a range of community services that support people at home rather than in care homes. We have also sought to achieve reductions in the cost of care by challenging high prices whilst insisting on high quality. We have worked with many providers to identify ways in which their costs could be reduced such as by using assistive technology which reduces the cost of providing care but does not affect the quality of care provided. Our efforts were acknowledged in a review of 152 local authorities by think-tank Demos on behalf of disability charity SCOPE, which ranked Oxfordshire County Council as third-best for how budgetary decisions least impacted on direct services for the disabled.</p>

<p><b>9. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</b></p> <p>Would the Portfolio holder give an indication of the present levels of air pollution and the list of specific sites earmarked for monitoring within the County of Oxfordshire?</p> <p>Could the list indicate clearly where EU levels of air pollution are being met and where this is not the case.</p> <p>Would the Portfolio holder confirm that there may be penalties set against the County Council by the UK Government if EU air pollution standards are not met?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR DAVID NIMMO-SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>Air quality data and monitoring are the responsibility of the City and District Councils, not the County Council. The County Council works closely with the City and District Councils in respect of the development and implementation of Air Quality Action Plans in so far as they relate to the duties and responsibilities of the County Council.</p> <p>It is my understanding that the UK Government has, to date, never been in the position of having been the subject of action by the Commission in respect of air pollution standards. The Government has published guidance as to how any fine that might be imposed would be dealt with.</p>
<p><b>10. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</b></p> <p>How does Oxfordshire County Council stand in expenditure on Adult Social Care as compared to other local authorities?</p> <p>Since austerity cuts began in Oxfordshire how much has been 'saved' from the budget of Adult Social Services?</p> <p>How much more has been identified from savings in the years 2013-2015?</p> <p>How do these 'savings' compare, in percentage terms, with the national statistics?</p> <p>Does the Cabinet Member agree with the</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</b></p> <p>Oxfordshire is a relatively low spender on adult social care. This is not surprising given that we are a reasonably prosperous county. Compared with similar authorities our spending is just below the average. However, it is important for me to stress that spending on older people is about average for all councils and well above the average for similar authorities. I can provide Cllr Williams with more details if he is interested but we will be updating the information for 2012/13 when national figures are available in September. He may want to wait for the most up to date information.</p> <p>You have asked several questions about adult social care savings. My overall response is that adult social care savings are similar in Oxfordshire to the level of savings nationally reported by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) which is about 20%.</p> <p>The President of ADASS was looking for further investment in adult social</p>



<p>President of ADASS that “without additional investment from that already planned the already bleak outlook (for elderly and disabled people ) will become even bleaker “ and that “some of the people we have responsibility for may be affected by serious reductions in service- with more in the pipeline over the next two years”?</p> <p>How will the Council acquire the additional investment required?</p> <p>If the Council does not acquire this investment, what will be the effects on the elderly and disabled people of Oxfordshire, for who we have responsibility?</p>	<p>care. Since she made that statement, the Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Health have announced that there will be extra resources from health for health and social care to use in a way which reduces demands across the system. The President of ADASS has welcomed this announcement. We believe that we have strong foundations in place within Oxfordshire to enable us to reap maximum benefit from this close working. We have excellent working relationships with the Clinical Commissioning Group through the Directors of Public Health and Social &amp; Community Services both of whom spend part of their working week based at the Clinical Commissioning Group headquarters. The Cabinet and the Board of the Clinical Commissioning Group have both agreed a joint commissioning strategy for older people that shows our joint working. This is supported by the historic decision to create a genuinely pooled budget for older people which we believe is the first such budget in the country.</p>
<p><b>11. COUNCILLOR JOHN HOWSON</b></p> <p>In view of the importance of the Vale Science Zone to economic development in the County, what discussions did County Council officers have with the Department for Education about the locating of the Space Studio School in Banbury?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION &amp; FAMILIES</b></p> <p>In line with its usual practice for new school proposals, the DfE asked the Council for its views about the proposed Banbury Studio School.</p> <p>A response was given in February this year and focused, as is our normal practice, to the anticipated consequences of such new provision in the immediate locality of the proposed institution.</p> <p>In addition, the DfE official with whom our officers were corresponding, requested further information on the relevance of Space related curriculum to the local economy. Officers drew attention to the Vale Science Zone by sending her literature about it. DfE confirmed this was sufficient information for their purposes and an offer to discuss further if desired was not pursued prior to issuing their decision to approve the opening of the new school in September 2014.</p>

**12. COUNCILLOR JENNY HANNABY**

Two years ago the Chief Executive officer of the GP led Commissioning Group, stated that he was putting his head on the block, vowing to reduce the numbers of delayed transfer if care. We now know that despite extra work and enormous resources put in since that vow the numbers are still increasing. The chief executive has recently acknowledged this situation is unacceptable and is now refusing to take responsibility for the growing crisis, saying it is a shared responsibility with all parties in the County. Could the Leader of the Conservative and Independent Alliance, tell us who he thinks should be responsible for this seemingly unsolvable situation, and has he any words of comfort for the many people who find themselves through no fault of their own locked into this shocking situation.

**COUCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

I share your concern about our reported performance regarding the number of hospital delays in Oxfordshire. We all understand that this problem is not about any single agency working in isolation, hence we are working very hard and jointly with the NHS to try to improve the situation.

There are 52,000 emergency admissions to the Oxford University Trust each year. About 1,000 people are discharged from hospital each week. The average length of stay in a hospital in Oxfordshire is about 4.5 days, a bit less than the national average of 5 days. At least half of the people who are delayed in Oxfordshire are waiting for a bed to become available in another hospital setting, which does not apply in all authorities.

As you will be aware we have experienced increased numbers of referrals of older people across the health and social care system recently. In the last year the number of people coming in to hospital in an emergency has gone up by 10%. This is a national trend that is putting pressure on our systems in Oxfordshire. Together with the NHS we have put in more resources to tackle this problem – developing a new crisis response service, more social worker time, additional care home places, round the clock support at home and specialist re-ablement services - but despite our best efforts the number of delays remains stubbornly high. I will be closely monitoring progress in this area, but please be reassured that the staff across the system are working flat out to get people home as quickly and safely as possible.

<p><b>13. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</b></p> <p>What impact will the Coalition Government's further 10% cut in funding for local councils have on the Fire &amp; Rescue Service and Trading Standards in Oxfordshire?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LOUISE CHAPMAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR POLICY CO-ORDINATION</b></p> <p>I as Cabinet Member and the Cabinet acknowledge that Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service (OCCFRS) has a long-standing reputation of being low cost and high performing. This has recently been further supported by Sir Ken Knights review of fire services in England whereby on several occasions, OCCFRS has been cited as best practice and an example for others to follow. At less than 11 pence per day per person in the county, OCCFRS already delivers excellent value for money and is one of the most cost effective services in the country.</p> <p>Trading Standards will continue to prioritise activities to ensure business are supported plus those who are most vulnerable in society are proactively protected on such matters as doorstep crime and consumer goods and services they receive.</p> <p>However, through income generation, partnership and collaborative working our fire service and Trading Standards will continue to challenge how they operate and work in order to release efficiencies whilst still ensuring that Oxfordshire remains one of the safest places to live.</p>
<p><b>14. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</b></p> <p>Will the new Cabinet member say when it is likely that residents in my Isis division will again be able to bring their recycling to the Redbridge recycling centre by bicycle or on foot?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR DAVID NIMMO-SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>The County Council strive to ensure the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) are managed to protect the wellbeing of all visitors. We operate reasonable and proportionate measures to prevent accidents from occurring when a hazard is identified. None of Oxfordshire's HWRCs are able to allow pedestrian access because they do not have pavements that provide access nor dedicated walkways around the site. As such, we are unable to guarantee the wellbeing of visitors arriving on foot. Currently Oxfordshire's residents can bring their recycling to the Redbridge HWRC by bicycle as they are considered to be road users and form part of the flow of traffic and are able to enter and exit the site without undue risk. Pedestrian access will be considered as part of any future works or redevelopment of the site. A</p>

	Household Waste Recycling Centre strategy review will be underway shortly and the Council is planning to undertake a consultation exercise in the Autumn.
<p><b>15. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</b></p> <p>Does the Cabinet member share my delight that the lower end of St Aldates road in Oxford is at long last to be reconstructed?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR DAVID NIMMO-SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>I am pleased to confirm that these works are due to commence on 14 October for a duration of 5 weeks and the maintenance work will involve excavating existing material to a depth of 550mm and reinstating to existing levels.</p> <p>(Exact location on attached drawing and copy of consultation letter that has been sent out, including Cllr Tanner)</p>
<p><b>16. COUNCILLOR JANET GODDEN</b></p> <p>How confident are you that you will be able to meet the income target of £18m for contribution to the Older People's pooled budget without raising existing charges or introducing new ones for older people or other client groups, and without 'reducing activity in other areas' as suggested in Para 48 of the report to Cabinet on 18 June?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</b></p> <p>I share your concern about our reported performance regarding the number of hospital delays in Oxfordshire. We all understand that this problem is not about any single agency working in isolation, hence we are working very hard and jointly with the NHS to try to improve the situation.</p> <p>There are approximately 50,000 emergency admissions to the Oxford University Trust each year which means nearly 1,000 people are discharged from hospital each week. The average length of stay in a hospital in Oxfordshire is about 4.5 days, a bit less than the national average of 5 days. At least half of the people who are delayed in Oxfordshire are waiting for a bed to become available in another hospital setting, which does not apply in all authorities.</p>

	<p>As you will be aware we have experienced increased numbers of referrals of older people across the health and social care system recently. In the last year the number of people coming in to hospital in an emergency has gone up by 10%. This is a national trend that is putting pressure on our systems in Oxfordshire. Together with the NHS we have put in more resources to tackle this problem – developing a new crisis response service, more social worker time, additional care home places, round the clock support at home and specialist re-ablement services - but despite our best efforts the number of delays remains stubbornly high. I will be closely monitoring progress in this area, but please be reassured that the staff across the system are working flat out to get people home as quickly and safely as possible.</p>
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**Minute 31/13**

**APPOINTMENTS**

- (b) Council had before them the political balance on Scrutiny and other committees for review and to appoint members to them (CC11).

Councillor Hudspeth moved and Councillor Rose seconded that Councillor Langridge be replaced by Councillor Gray on the Performance Scrutiny Committee and that Councillor Mallon be the Council's representative on the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel.

Councillor Brighthouse moved and Councillor Val Smith seconded that Councillor Tanner be replaced by Councillor Christie on the Performance Scrutiny Committee.

**RESOLVED:** (nem con) to confirm the political balance on Scrutiny and other Committees shown in Annex 2 and 3 to the Schedule of business subject to the corrections listed above.

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