



# **County Council**

**9 December 2014**

## **Schedule of Business**

County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND

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**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – 09 DECEMBER 2014**

**SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS**

*Members are asked to note that there will be a brief demonstration on the voting system at the beginning of the Meeting. A briefing note is attached at Annex 3.*

<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>
		5.mins	10.00	<b>Voting</b> Members approval sought for electronic voting	
<b>2.</b>	<b>2</b>	30 mins	10.05	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	Councillor Jamila Azad
<b>3.</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>Official Communications</b> The Chairman reports as follows:	

<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>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music Award</li> <li>• Youth Offending Award</li> <li>• 40 Years of Council</li> </ul>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>Appointments</b>  To appoint Councillor Steve Curran to the Education Scrutiny Committee	
<b>6.</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>Petitions and Public Address</b>	Mr Mike Keyrford Byrnes, Finmere Parish Council in support of Motion 18 (Kieron Mallon).
<b>7.</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>Questions with Notice from Members of the Public</b>	None.
<b>8.</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>Report of the Returning Officer</b>	

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9.	3	30 mins	10.30	<b>Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report</b>  <i>Council's agreement is sought for the Independent Chairman of the OSCB to introduce the report.</i>	(M) Tilly (SEC) Hudspeth S Harris S G Sanders S Dhesi S Godden S Smith

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10.	3	30 mins	11.00	<b>Questions with Notice from Members of the Council</b>  (1) Pressel to Nimmo Smith (2) Pressel to Hudspeth (3) Pressel to Heathcoat (4) Mathew to Nimmo Smith (5) Mathew to Nimmo Smith (6) Mathew to Stratford (7) Williams to Nimmo Smith (8) Coates to Nimmo Smith (9) Williams to Rose (10) Williams to Tilley (11) Waine to Nimmo Smith (12) Hards to Hudspeth (13) Godden to Hudspeth (14) Tanner to Rose (15) Tanner to Nimmo Smith (16) Tanner to Smith (17) Phillips to Hibbert-Biles	- See Annex 2

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11.	3	20 mins	11.30	<b>Treasury Management Mid Term Review</b>	(M) Stratford (SEC) Hudspeth S Hards S Tanner S Christie S Smith S Fooks
12.	3	30 mins	11.50	<b>Governance &amp; Constitution Review</b>	(M) Hudspeth (SEC) Rose (AM) Brighthouse (SEC) Patrick S Pressel S Harris S Smith S Howson S Pressel

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13.	4	50 mins	12.20	<p><b>Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel</b></p> <p><b>Members are asked to note the following corrections to the recommendations printed on the face of the Agenda:</b></p> <p><b>(b)</b>  <b>(20) Police and Crime Panel Chairman remain at £3,500;</b>  <b>(2) Police and Crime Panel Vice-Chairman remain at £3,030;</b></p>	<p>(M) Hudspeth  (SEC) Rose  (AM) Brighthouse  (SEC) Christie  (AM) Williams  (SEC) Coates  S Carter  S Handley  S Langridge  S Bartholomew  S Harris  S Price  S Hards  S Phillips</p>
1:10		LUNCH			



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14.	6	20 mins	2.00	<b>Report of the Cabinet Leader (Hudspeth) Deputy Leader (Rose) Business &amp; Customer Services (Carter) Children, Education &amp; Families (Tilley) Environment (Nimmo Smith) Finance (Stratford)</b>	Tanner (2)  Brighthouse (4), G Sanders, Tanner, Pressel, Howson (6)  J Sanders (8), Smith (9), Fawcett (10)

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15.	6	20 mins	2.20	<p><b>Motion From Councillor Richard Langridge</b></p> <p>Members are asked to note that a typo appears in the Motion from Councillor Richard Langridge.</p> <p>...Council asks that the Leader and Cabinet to identify funds totalling £1.3 million once <del>negations</del> <b>negotiations</b> for the developer funding has been successfully completed and the £3.6m is returned to the County Council.”....</p>	<p>(M) Langridge (SEC) Hoare S Hudspeth S Price S Tanner</p>
16.	6	15 mins	2.40	<p><b>Motion From Councillor Bob Johnston</b></p>	<p>(M) Johnston (SEC) Howson S Patrick S Fawcett</p>

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17.	7	20 mins	2.55	<b>Motion From Councillor John Tanner</b>	(M) Tanner (SEC) Dhesi S Hards S Brighthouse S Fawcett S Howson
18.	7	25 mins	3.15	<b>Motion From Councillor Kieron Mallon</b>	(M) Mallon (SEC) Mrs Fulljames S Harris S Beale S Christie S Dhesi S Howson
19.	8		15 mins	<b>Motion From Councillor David Williams</b>	(M) Williams (SEC) Coates S Harris

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20.			15 mins	<b>Motion From Councillor Sam Coates</b>	(M) Coates (SEC) Williams (AM) Hards (SEC) S Carter S Hards
21.			20 mins	<b>Motion From Councillor David Williams</b>	(M) Williams (SEC) Coates (AM) Brighthouse (SEC) Tanner S Handley S Nimmo Smith

## AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS ON NOTICE

### Agenda Item 12 – Governance & Constitution Review - Amendment to be moved by Councillor Liz Brighthouse

To amend recommendation (b)(4) as shown below in bold italics:

Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) agree that no structural changes be made to the Council's current decision-making arrangements as implemented following the May 2013 elections;
- (b) approve the changes to the Council's Constitution outlined in Part A of Annex 1, as follows:
  - (1) To amend the Articles of the Constitution
  - (2) To amend the Council Procedure Rules
  - (3) To amend the Cabinet Procedure Rules
  - (4) To amend the Scrutiny Procedure Rules ***to require Scrutiny Committees to be chaired by the Opposition.***
  - (5) To amend the Members' Planning Code of Practice
  - (6) To delete the Petition Scheme
- (c) confirm agreement with the Monitoring Officer's intention, under his delegated powers, to make the administrative (tidy-up) changes to the Constitution outlined in Part B of Annex 1;
- (d) ask the Monitoring Officer to make any other administrative changes to the Constitution, under delegated powers, consequent on the Council's decisions arising from this report;
- (e) ask the Monitoring Officer to provide an index to the Constitution once all changes arising from this report have been made.

### Agenda Item 13 – Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel – Amendment to be moved by Councillor Liz Brighthouse

- (1) ~~The Council is RECOMMENDED to consider the following recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and in so doing agree a Scheme of Allowances:~~ ***Council notes the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and asks the Audit and Governance Committee to consider the demographic imbalance of the Council and ways this might be changed.***

- (a) the Basic Allowance payable to all councillors increase from £8,376 to £10,000;
- (b) in addition to the Basic Allowance, a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) be paid as follows:-
  - (1) Leader of the Council – increase to £29,000
  - (2) Deputy Leader of the Council – increase to £20,000
  - (3) Cabinet Members – increase to £16,000
  - (4) Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees – increase to £6,000
  - (5) Deputy Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees – no allowance
  - (6) Chairmen of Planning & Regulation Committee – increase to £6000
  - (7) Deputy Chairman of Planning & Regulation Committee – no allowance
  - (8) Chairman of Audit & Governance Committee – increase to £6,000
  - (9) Deputy Chairman of Audit & Governance Committee – no allowance
  - (10) Chairman of Pension Fund Committee – increase to £6,000
  - (11) Deputy Chairman of Pension Fund Committee – no allowance
  - (12) Chairman of Remuneration Committee – no allowance
  - (13) Deputy Chairman of Remuneration Committee – no allowance
  - (14) Chairman of the Council – increase to £8,500
  - (15) Vice-Chairman of the Council – increase to £2125
  - (16) Leader of the Opposition – reduce to £8,000
  - (17) Other Shadow Cabinet Members – restore allowance - £2,500
  - (18) Locality Meeting Chairman – remain at £500
  - (19) Police and Crime Panel member - remain at £1,515
  - (20) Police and Crime Panel Chairman - remain at £3,030
  - (21) Police and Crime Panel Vice-Chairman - £3,500
- (c) the Council does not establish a general co-optees allowance;
- (d) a co-optees' allowance continues to be payable to an independent co-opted member of the Audit & Governance Committee when the co-opted member serves as Chairman of the Audit Working Group;
- (e) the Council's Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances and the Co-optees' Allowance to the Chairman of the Audit Working Group be amended annually by reference to the annual Local Government Pay Award for staff and that this should take effect from the date on which the award for staff similarly takes effect;
- (f) that Child and Dependant's Carer's Allowances be paid on the basis that:-

Members with care responsibilities in respect of dependent children under 16: or dependent adults certified by a doctor or social worker as needing attendance, will be reimbursed, on production of valid receipts, for actual payments to a carer while the member is on Council duties, up to a maximum of £6 per hour for each dependent child or £17 per hour for an adult. Money paid to a member of the claimant member's household will not be reimbursed;

- (g) the Council retains, for members, the travel and subsistence scheme that is applicable to officers. Overnight accommodation to be booked by officers where possible; when alternative accommodation arrangements are to be used, this should be approved by the relevant officer;
- (h) claims made under the Council's travel and subsistence scheme be accompanied by receipts and/or any other relevant evidence of the costs incurred and that claims under the scheme be made, in writing, within two months of the relevant duty in respect of which the entitlement to the allowance arises;
- (i) list of Approved Duties include the capacity for leaders of a political group to claim for attending formal meetings of the Council, Cabinet and Committees for the purpose of keeping themselves informed of business;
- (j) the list of Approved Duties for the purpose of travel, subsistence and dependent care allowances continue and be agreed as set out in the attached Annex;
- (k) the amounts for Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances and Co-optees' Allowances be rounded to the nearest pound following the application of any index;

~~(2) The Scheme of Allowances to apply from 1 April 2015.~~

### **Agenda Item 13 – Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel – Amendment to be moved by Councillor David Williams**

***The Council is RECOMMENDED to consider the following recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and in so doing agree a scheme of allowances:***

***All allowances should rise in line with the percentage increases envisaged for average Council employees . (ie a rise of below 2% ) for 2015 -2016 . A further report be brought back to Council that illustrates that scale of increases in the categories identified in the Councillors Remuneration Report as items (a) to (k)***

~~***(1) The Council is RECOMMENDED to consider the following recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and in so doing agree a Scheme of Allowances:***~~

- ~~(a) the Basic Allowance payable to all councillors increase from £8,376 to £10,000;~~
- ~~(b) in addition to the Basic Allowance, a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) be paid as follows:-~~
- ~~(1) Leader of the Council – increase to £29,000~~
  - ~~(2) Deputy Leader of the Council – increase to £20,000~~
  - ~~(3) Cabinet Members – increase to £16,000~~
  - ~~(4) Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees – increase to £6,000~~
  - ~~(5) Deputy Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees – no allowance~~
  - ~~(6) Chairmen of Planning & Regulation Committee – increase to £6000~~
  - ~~(7) Deputy Chairman of Planning & Regulation Committee – no allowance~~
  - ~~(8) Chairman of Audit & Governance Committee – increase to £6,000~~
  - ~~(9) Deputy Chairman of Audit & Governance Committee – no allowance~~
  - ~~(10) Chairman of Pension Fund Committee – increase to £6,000~~
  - ~~(11) Deputy Chairman of Pension Fund Committee – no allowance~~
  - ~~(12) Chairman of Remuneration Committee – no allowance~~
  - ~~(13) Deputy Chairman of Remuneration Committee – no allowance~~
  - ~~(14) Chairman of the Council – increase to £8,500~~
  - ~~(15) Vice-Chairman of the Council – increase to £2125~~
  - ~~(16) Leader of the Opposition – reduce to £8,000~~
  - ~~(17) Other Shadow Cabinet Members – restore allowance – £2,500~~
  - ~~(18) Locality Meeting Chairman – remain at £500~~
  - ~~(19) Police and Crime Panel member – remain at £1,515~~
  - ~~(20) Police and Crime Panel Chairman – remain at £3,030~~
  - ~~(21) Police and Crime Panel Vice-Chairman – £3,500~~
- ~~(c) the Council does not establish a general co-optees allowance;~~
- ~~(d) a co-optees' allowance continues to be payable to an independent co-opted member of the Audit & Governance Committee when the co-opted member serves as Chairman of the Audit Working Group;~~
- ~~(e) the Council's Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances and the Co-optees' Allowance to the Chairman of the Audit Working Group be amended annually by reference to the annual Local Government Pay Award for staff and that this should take effect from the date on which the award for staff similarly takes effect;~~
- ~~(f) that Child and Dependant's Carer's Allowances be paid on the basis that:-~~



~~Members with care responsibilities in respect of dependent children under 16: or dependent adults certified by a doctor or social worker as needing attendance, will be reimbursed, on production of valid receipts, for actual payments to a carer while the member is on Council duties, up to a maximum of £6 per hour for each dependent child or £17 per hour for an adult. Money paid to a member of the claimant member's household will not be reimbursed;~~

- ~~(g) the Council retains, for members, the travel and subsistence scheme that is applicable to officers. Overnight accommodation to be booked by officers where possible; when alternative accommodation arrangements are to be used, this should be approved by the relevant officer;~~
- ~~(h) claims made under the Council's travel and subsistence scheme be accompanied by receipts and/or any other relevant evidence of the costs incurred and that claims under the scheme be made, in writing, within two months of the relevant duty in respect of which the entitlement to the allowance arises;~~
- ~~(i) list of Approved Duties include the capacity for leaders of a political group to claim for attending formal meetings of the Council, Cabinet and Committees for the purpose of keeping themselves informed of business;~~
- ~~(j) the list of Approved Duties for the purpose of travel, subsistence and dependent care allowances continue and be agreed as set out in the attached Annex;~~
- ~~(k) the amounts for Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances and Co-optees' Allowances be rounded to the nearest pound following the application of any index;~~

~~(2) The Scheme of Allowances to apply from 1 April 2015.~~

## Agenda Item 20 – Motion From Councillor Sam Coates – Amendment to be moved by Councillor Nick Hards

“This Council is concerned that the income from taxation and as a result the **Government's** Rates Support Grant to Oxfordshire County Council is being undermined by calculated tax avoidance by large corporations. As a result **One potential effect** of this calculated tax avoidance **is that** County Council services **would be** starved of much needed revenue.

~~With a known write off by the National Audit office of £6billion~~ It is now estimated by a Parliamentary Select Committee that the total loss to the Treasury ~~will~~ **would** be no less than £20billion.

~~These considerable~~ **Vast** amounts of money are ~~grow~~ **escaping the tax net** each year as corporations ~~become more adept at~~ **dodge** ing through tax loop holes and ~~the use of~~ **exploit** offshore **bank** accounts **in tax havens**.

Even on a conservative formula of RSG being 8% of Government revenue and Oxfordshire County Council taking 1 /250th of the total distributed to English Local Authorities tax dodging still constitutes a potential loss of income of many millions to this authority.

The Council resolves to call on the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Trade and Industry (Vince Cable MP) seeking the closure of tax loopholes, an end to the Treasury write off system and to work with EU partners to close down offshore tax havens.”

### **Agenda Item 21 – Motion From Councillor Sam Coates – Amendment to be moved by Councillor Liz Brighthouse**

“We are concerned at the recent report by the World Wildlife Fund Living Planet Index that 50% of wildlife has gone from the planet over the last 40 years. Clearly this includes substantial numbers of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish disappearing from the Oxfordshire eco system since 1970 .

The Council has already shown its concern with bee colony collapse and is pledged to support the species with a programme designed to assist bee communities prosper. However the Living Index Research suggests a deeper and even more serious concern across a wide spectrum of creatures that constitute our local Oxfordshire Wildlife.

~~The Council resolves to calls on its Wildlife Officers to prepare a report for consideration by the Cabinet at a future date, that investigates each species in decline identified in the Living Index Report here in Oxfordshire and to identify what are the local implications and what the County Council may undertaken in remedial action to reverse this dramatic decline.~~ **The Council asks officers to look at this issue and to consider it in the same way as it did the motion on bees.**

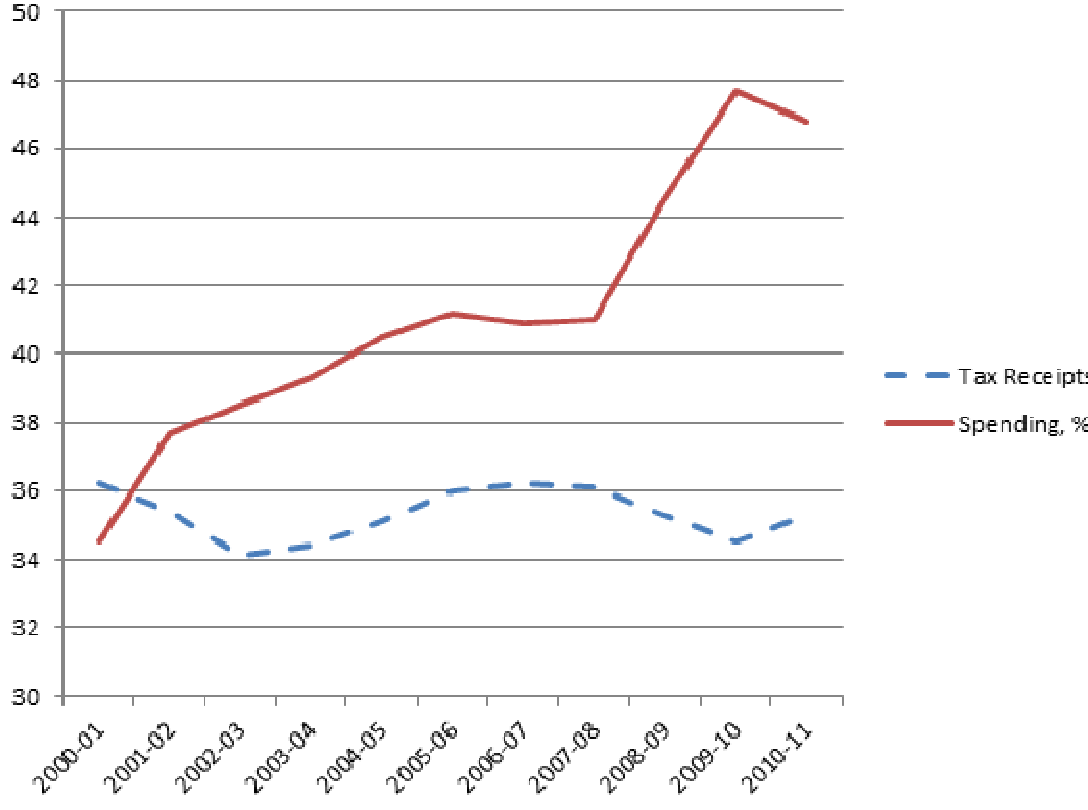
## QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

## 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.

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p><b>1. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</b></p> <p>The County Council claims to wish to encourage cycling, as one of the best ways of reducing pollution and congestion and improving health. Why is it then that we have discontinued the popular scheme in which staff could once a year get their bikes repaired and serviced at their work-places?"</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR DAVID NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>The decision to remove this service was taken as part of last year's budget round and following a decision by the provider that they no longer wanted to provide it. Having looked into the matter, the re-provision of the service would cost in the order of £12,000 and I do not believe this would be best use of our limited resources.</p>
<p><b>2. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</b></p> <p>On 19 November the Head of the National Audit Office said that the DCLG 'really needs to be better informed about the situation on the ground among local authorities across England..... in order to head off serious problems before they happen'. Please can the Leader tell Council what steps he has taken better to inform ministers about our dire financial situation and has he made it clear to them that some of the cuts we are now being forced to make are false economies, because they will cause expensive problems further down the line and put people's lives at risk?"</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>Thank you for the question. I can confirm that I have written to the Prime Minister twice on behalf of the council explaining our funding position. Also I meet him regularly and take every opportunity to explain the situation. I've had several meetings with Ministers from DCLG and again I explain our financial situation. You may have noticed that I signed an open letter along with other Leaders of Councils that was published in the Observer highlighting our financial position.</p> <p>It has been an impressive task to make savings of £170 million since 2010 and this year we are looking to save another £31 million with more savings of £84 million to be made prior to 2018. I would like to thank the staff for their hard work and cooperation during this difficult period, so far this has been achieved overwhelmingly through efficiency, although as the savings target</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>increases a greater proportion has involved, and will involve, some really tough decisions.</p> <p>We have to ask the question as to why we have to have the programme of austerity and having to make these very difficult decisions? I fully support the Conservative led coalition's ambition to reduce the deficit as we all should know that we cannot borrow more and more.</p> <p>The reason for the structural deficit started back in 2001, this was a period of economic growth for the country. During such a period a prudent chancellor and his assistants would use any surplus to reduce the national debt and save money for economically bad times. Unfortunately the chancellor at that time was not prudent and went on a spending spree actually increasing the structural deficit rather than reducing it as can be seen from the graph below. You will notice that despite the economic boom tax receipts remained relatively static but with a massive increase in spending we had to borrow more to pay for the spending spree.</p>

Questions	Answers
	 <p data-bbox="891 1098 1975 1396">This reckless period of spending meant that when the crash happened in 2008 there was no money in the bank to help the country through the economic downturn so we had to start borrowing yet more money. This embedded structural deficit has added to our current situation. It has taken a strong chancellor to reduce the deficit by 1/3 with more work to be done to bring expenditure in line with income. Whoever is Chancellor after the General Election, he or she will have to continue to reduce the expenditure to come in line with income; surely a target for any prudent chancellor?</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>3. <b>COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</b></p> <p>Would the Cabinet member agree that the various targets set for reducing delayed transfers of care in Oxfordshire are disappointingly unambitious, and in view of this would she agree that it's particularly shocking that ALL these targets have been missed, some by a very long way? If she doesn't agree, please could she tell us why?"</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE</b></p> <p>The targets set to reduce the number of days people are delayed in hospital by 37.5% from a baseline measured from April 2012 to June 2013. This is an ambitious target.</p> <p>So far this year (April - September) delays have dropped by 15%, which whilst not at target shows some improvement. Within this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. NHS delays have dropped by 8%</li> <li>b. Social care delays have dropped by 33%</li> <li>c. Both delays (principally due to patients waiting for reablement provided by Oxford Health) have risen by 8%</li> </ul> <p>At the same time nationally delays have increased by 12%. Within this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. NHS delays have risen by 15%</li> <li>e. Social care delays have risen by 4%</li> <li>f. Both delays have risen by 16%</li> </ul> <p>I hope that Councillor Pressel will congratulate the staff in Adult Social Care who have worked so hard to reduce delays that are within our control. We are committed to bringing down those delays still further. It is important to recognise that adult social care delays make up a relatively small proportion of delays (28 % so far this year). However, progress with the overall number of delays is down to health service colleagues at Oxford University Hospitals Trust and at Oxford Health. Most delays are within their control. I presume that Councillor Pressel is making even more strident representations to those organisations.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p><b>4. COUNCILLOR CHARLES MATHEW</b></p> <p>Can you outline the current plans and timetable to ensure the chronic traffic jams between Wolvercote and Witney on the A40 are overcome?</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR DAVID NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>The recently published A40 Baseline Statement shows that the congestion and queuing on A40 between Oxford and Witney is a combination of insufficient capacity at the junctions on the route, principally in North Oxford but also at Cassington and Eynsham, and also of insufficient road capacity to meet peak demand on the A40 route itself. To resolve the problems it will be necessary to reduce or remove both of these problems; this can be done either through measures to increase the capacity of the route or measures to reduce the demands placed on the road, or a combination of the two.</p> <p>The capacity at Wolvercote and Cutteslowe roundabouts is being dealt with by improvements funded through a combination of Local Transport Board and City Deal funding. These are now at an advanced stage of design and work on implementing them is due to start in June 2015, subject to consultation, with completion by February 2016. A strategic link road between A40 and A44 west of the A34 viaduct is also in the planning stages; this would further reduce demand on Wolvercote Roundabout and thereby improve flows. Funding has yet to be fully secured for this but a target date of 2018 has been set for start of construction.</p> <p>Increasing the numbers who use public transport, particularly to destinations away from central Oxford such as Headington and Cowley, would significantly reduce demand on the A40. A sum of £35 million has been provisionally secured through the Local Growth Fund to “expand the integrated public transport along the knowledge spine (by) delivering major enhancements to the A40 strategic route”. A project to identify the most appropriate scheme to do this is currently underway and will be subject to public consultation in Summer 2015. The target for start of delivery for this scheme is 2017/18.</p> <p>Alongside this a study has been started to identify a long-term strategy for the A40. This will consider a wide range of possible schemes including additional</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
	traffic lanes, full dualling, reopening the Oxford-Witney railway, light rail (tram) and/or extensive bus priority. Our aim is to have identified a long term strategy by Autumn 2015 which will then allow a funding and implementation strategy to be developed. It is probable that the overall strategy, whichever option is chosen, would be implemented in stages over the next 15-20 years.
<p><b>5. COUNCILLOR CHARLES MATHEW</b></p> <p>You will be aware of OCC's responsibilities for the Grade I ancient bridge at Newbridge over the Thames, built by eleven monks on the order of King John. Can you confirm that OCC will be replacing the camera, which supervised the restriction of HGVs crossing the bridge to those capable of carrying less than 18.5 tonnes and has been ineffective for some two years? If you will not be replacing the camera, how are OCC going to ensure that all those illegal HGVs presently crossing the bridge to its structural detriment are prevented from breaking the Law?</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR DAVID NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>First of all I would like to thank the quality of the construction by the 11 monks, who built a bridge which has survived 800 years and has been subjected to a usage they could not have imagined in their wildest dreams.</p> <p>We have reviewed the situation and now have a preferred option to replace the current enforcement system however we do not currently have funding to implement it.</p> <p>While we are investigating the funding opportunities we will continue with the normal method of relying on Trading Standards and the police to manually enforce the weight limit here, as we do for all other similar structural weight limit locations.</p>
<p><b>6. COUNCILLOR CHARLES MATHEW</b></p> <p>In view of the annual decline of government funding for this Council and the restriction on expanding income from the public purse, can the Cabinet Member outline how he is encouraging Income Generation and ensuring the future viability of the County Council and its commitments?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR LAWRIE STRATFORD, CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE</b></p> <p>The Council seeks to maximise income generation where it is cost effective to do so. The corporate charging policy is reviewed annually and was agreed by Cabinet in September 2014</p> <p>All services must consider, as part of the annual service and resource planning process, all the activities which make up the delivery of that service, and assess which of them may be made the subject of a charge.</p>



Questions	Answers
	<p>In setting the 2014/15 budget and medium term financial plan, a number of new income generation measures were agreed. These included;</p> <p>Making the Music Service self-financing by increasing income opportunities  Income from a new specialist training service in Trading Standards  Development of a commercial training unit in the Fire &amp; Rescue Service  In Environment &amp; Economy, income generated through sponsorship and providing other services  Additional activity in Registration service generating further income</p>
<p><b>7. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</b></p> <p>Has the Portfolio holder noted the moves by the Tyne and Wear local authority known as the Quality Contract Scheme where they have set out moves to bring the bus services back under local authority control. Does he accept that whilst under local government buses services invariably made a profit and that the present funding arrangements with the legal obligations of concessionary fares and subsidised routes falling on local authorities whilst bus companies make large profits is no longer viable?</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR DAVID NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>I note that there are moves to introduce a Quality Contract Scheme for bus services in the Tyne and Wear metropolitan area although the process has not yet been concluded. I understand that Quality Contracts were designed for implementation in areas where bus services are perceived to be failing with high fares, no evening or Sunday services and old buses. This cannot be said to describe the scene in Oxfordshire where we have a large number of new low emission buses and where the last bus to Wantage on a Saturday night is 3am.</p> <p>Oxfordshire has been noted for its large number of commercial bus services, which do not need any Council subsidy, and for the high level of bus usage by its residents. In recent years some subsidised bus services have been taken over by operators on a commercial basis with a consequent saving for the public purse and we are grateful for this. The requirement to reimburse bus companies for the carriage of concessionary pass holders is a statutory one for which we receive money directly from the Government.</p> <p>The County Council will continue to work in partnership with the bus operators to create the right conditions for commercial bus services to thrive.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p><b>8. COUNCILLOR SAM COATES</b></p> <p>Would the portfolio holder admit that the present road works around the City of Oxford are causing severe delays and massive congestion on a scale we have not encountered before. Could he accept that launching roundabout remodelling scheme and other major road works all at the same time is not a good idea and that some form of scheduling may have been more appropriate?</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR DAVID NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>The County Council is delivering transport improvements in an around the city of Oxford on a scale we have not encountered before. Tackling the problems of an antiquated and failing transport system, as we are doing at the moment to meet both current and future demand, is only possible due to the persistence and commitment of the county council in seeking funding from the Government.</p> <p>Delivering such massive improvements in the timescales required not just by the funding, but also the impending start of major non-council schemes such as the Westgate, Oxford Rail Station and associated rail network improvements, Northern Gateway, the Barton housing development and West Way, means that we have to schedule our work very carefully. We are also working closely with utility companies to ensure that our works are coordinated as far as practicable with the similar need for the utilities to improve their infrastructure to meet projected demand. If we do not do the work now then the road network will not be able to cope with traffic during the undertaking of those other works or the additional traffic they will attract once completed. As a result Oxford will lose the money and face a future of congestion and delays.</p> <p>We know that bringing this level of investment to Oxford to overhaul and improve the city's infrastructure will bring significant disruption. However to reduce the impact on the road network as a result of this much needed investment, the council has sought to ensure the maximum amount of work can be undertaken during traffic management arrangements, meaning that much of the work is being done with roads kept open and passable and using off peak closures to ensure that the city remains accessible throughout.</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>Much of the most severe congestion has occurred at the start of work and we have seen significant improvements to journey times after a few weeks as people look at different ways of travelling by either choosing a different mode of transport or the times at which they are travelling. The council has therefore sought to be very proactive in their messaging of when these key impacts are likely to occur to encourage people to be similarly proactive in their travel choices.</p> <p>The work we are doing now is a priority not just for the county council, but also for the Local Enterprise Partnership who see investment in transport as being key to the future success of Oxford and Oxfordshire. Without the work we are doing now to improve traffic flows the city would potentially face permanent delays of the kind you are temporarily seeing at the moment during the work as traffic levels rise to further exceed the road capacity.</p>
<p><b>9. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</b></p> <p>The recent train down the new (some say old) Cowley rail line is extremely welcome but how long will it take for the service to become truly operational. What moves are being made to recreate the stations and infrastructure that will be essential to its full operation and what time line is envisaged?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>It is difficult to say at the moment when this proposal would become operational – this depends on a number of factors, including being able to demonstrate a business case for investment and the availability of funding for new rail projects, which is a national consideration. As the rail industry works in 5 year funding ‘control’ periods, the earliest this is likely to come on stream is during the next (2019-2024) period, as the funding for the current period (which began this year) is already committed.</p> <p>On the business case side, our colleagues at Chiltern Railways have been undertaking further work in looking at the viability of operating passenger services on Oxford’s Cowley Line, and are due to be sharing their findings later this month. The outcome of this work will help us decide what happens next, and we will continue to work closely with Chiltern to move this important scheme forward.</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p><b>10. COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS</b></p> <p>It is good news that the First Foot Forward Hostel will be de-commissioned at the end of march 2015. However could the Cabinet member confirm that a new progressive policy of separating perpetrators and victims will be implemented as this change takes place with these vulnerable young adults housed in smaller more supportive units?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR MELINDA TILLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION &amp; FAMILIES</b></p> <p>The new services are founded on an approach to managing the needs, risks and vulnerabilities of young people which is robust, timely and undertaken within a multi-agency framework. This approach will prioritise safeguarding to ensure relationships are managed safely and constructively within a complex dynamic where young people might be both perpetrator in one situation and victim in another or indeed where they might be both simultaneously. The new arrangement of smaller units will provide greater flexibility to respond to incidents and manage household dynamics positively and safely for all concerned.</p>
<p><b>11. COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WAINE</b></p> <p>Given the significant concerns of the five local County Councillors regarding the proposed re-alignment of Howes Lane, Bicester would the Cabinet Member actively support their view that all options need to be kept open in respect of decisions on the status of this vital link/perimeter road?</p> <p>I am sure the Member is more than aware that multiple developers are bringing forward their own schemes which will need a joined-up solution that will meet the needs of all Bicester and not just the interests of an individual developer’.</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR DAVID NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>Yes, officers have recently spoken to and will continue to talk to the Bicester members about keeping current options open and exploring the future options about taking strategic traffic around the northwest of Bicester. However, in light of the 4 recent planning applications that have been submitted, the council will need to decide its formal position in response to those applications.</p> <p>OCC agrees with the member’s concerns regarding the multiple developer and multiple planning application approach. It is unclear the way this site is currently being brought forward how those applications can ensure that the necessary infrastructure (for example the secondary school and strategic transport infrastructure) will be provided. OCC is discussing our concerns with this approach with the district council (as local planning authority).</p>

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<p><b>12. COUNCILLOR NICK HARDS</b></p> <p>Following the recent resignation of the Chief Executive of the Local Enterprise Partnership Network and the disclosure by the chairman Alex Pratt that the Network is seriously under resourced, please would the Leader confirm that Oxfordshire's Local Enterprise Partnership is still on course to deliver the enormous economic growth which is planned for Oxfordshire including all of the infrastructure which is needed to enable that growth to happen?"</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>I can assure Cllr Hards that the Oxfordshire LEP is functioning well as this council provides the main resource for it to be able to plan and bid for funds to deliver economic growth to Oxfordshire. The resourcing of the LEP Network is a completely separate issue from individual LEPs themselves. The LEP does not actually deliver the infrastructure as the majority is for Highways and we deliver the works as the Highway authority.</p>
<p><b>13. COUNCILLOR JANET GODDEN</b></p> <p>Residents of my division have been disturbed to read press reports of a feasibility scheme for the widening of the A34 along the stretch from Hinksey Hill to Pear Tree. This would entail the demolition of houses along both sides of the A34 where it runs through North Hinksey / Botley. Residents of the roads directly affected fear planning blight. How far has this thinking progressed and what is this Council's involvement? What sort of timescale is envisaged?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>Thank you for your question. I'm sure you are aware that the traffic congestion on the A34 is not just a national problem or even an Oxfordshire problem as it's a local problem for your division. The road is currently at or near capacity and any incident on it causes delays and disruption to local roads as motorists try to seek alternative routes, this directly affects your residents. It's not just residents that are affected but local businesses too. I sure that you would agree with me that a solution to the A34 needs to be found.</p> <p>The Highways Agency has produced Route-Based Strategy (RBS) for the A34. As a result of this baseline report, OCC commissioned Atkins to take forward a number of transport measures, which were identified within the Baseline Statement as potential mitigation for the growth in traffic over the next 15years. The measures were a combination of traffic control, capacity enhancements and demand management. The report undertook a high-level review of the twelve measures using the application of engineering judgement to assess the potential impact of the measures. This report was presented to</p>

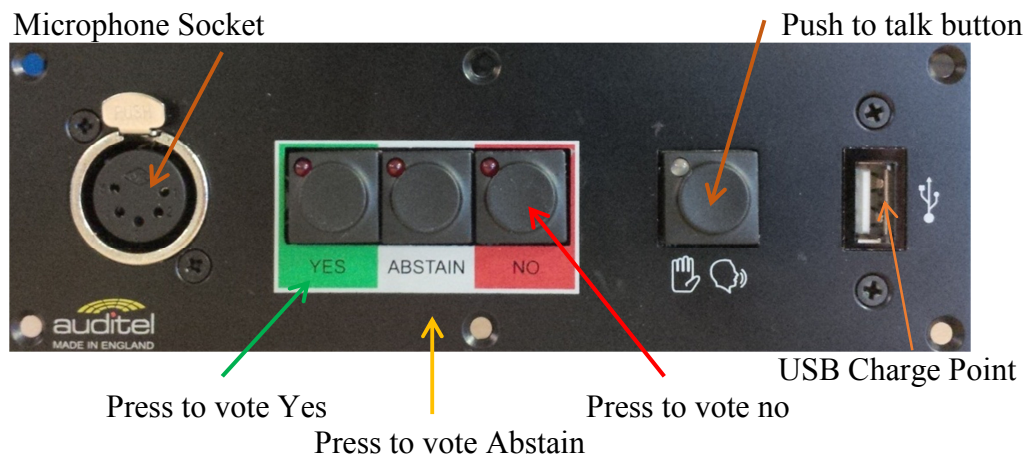
Questions	Answers
	<p>the Shadow Growth Board on 20<sup>th</sup> November for consideration. This has meant we have received additional funds of £1.5 million to progress the scheme to the next stage.</p> <p>One option that members of the public frequently put forward is making the A34 a 3 lane motorway with a hard shoulder throughout Oxfordshire, whilst this may be possible in some areas in the Botley area it would involve considerable disruption however if this option is not investigated it could cause a problem at a later date as there could be a challenge that may delay or prevent a solution being delivered. All options have to be considered to identify the best possible option. The A34 RBS work identifies this as a possible long term solution (5-15 years).</p> <p>I can understand the concern this may cause to local residents however I am sure that they would agree that a solution to the A34 needs to be found and to do nothing as has been the case in the past is not an option.</p>
<p><b>14. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</b></p> <p>At the last Council on 4<sup>th</sup> November, under the Report of Cabinet, I asked why, when the County Council is reducing staff numbers, it is spending £1 million a quarter on agency staff. The Deputy Leader was unable to answer. Could the Deputy Leader now answer the question?</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>It is normal practice for organisations in both the private and public sector to use agency staff in the normal management of service delivery. Councils across the country do this. There is nothing unique about Oxfordshire in this regard. Entirely logically - and like all major employers - we use temporary staff to cover key vacancies where a post holder has left for a new job and the permanent replacement is not due to arrive until sometime later. We also use temporary staff to manage increased workload in specific areas or to cover sickness and maternity leave. Criticism of the use of agency staff by any organisation contains a built in assumption that somehow agency staff are of a lesser standard. Agency staff can quite often bring real expertise at important times – something that all public and private sector organisations know. Total spend on agency staff for 2013/14 represented approximately 3.3 per cent of the council's overall salary budget – so a very small proportion. 2014/15 will not be dissimilar and we anticipate seeing a further reduction in</p>

Questions	Answers
	agency costs as the recruitment freeze announced last week takes effect.
<p><b>15. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</b></p> <p>On 4<sup>th</sup> November Cllr Nimmo Smith promised Council that the road works, that are causing so much disruption on Oxford's southern by-pass, would be completed by the end of November. At Cabinet on 25<sup>th</sup> November he said the works would not be complete until the end of December. When will the works now be completed?</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR DAVID NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>The contraflow is being removed on 7 December. Works are planned to be completed by 19 December.</p>
<p><b>16. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</b></p> <p>The County Council, I'm pleased to say, has installed LED street lights in part of my Isis division recently. Could the Cabinet member say whether this LED street light renewal covers the whole of Oxfordshire, how much it is costing and how much money and carbon footprint it is expected to save?</p>	<p><b>COUCILLOR DAVID NIMMO SMITH, CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>I can confirm that Oxfordshire County Council is currently trialling LED street lighting as a direct replacement when the existing equipment comes to the end of their serviceable life.</p> <p>The locations that have currently been converted are in Banbury, Didcot, Eynsham and Oxford in a small sample area. The number of units that have been replaced over the last 3 years is 1250 units at a cost of £369K, with a saving of 125 metric tons of carbon per year. The energy consumed by those units has also been reduced by 78%.</p> <p>The County Council has over 59,000 street lights and is reviewing the durability and success of our trial sites to inform future replacement programmes and specifications. I can also confirm that all new housing developments that are to be adopted by Oxfordshire County Council are specified with an LED/dimming solution.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p><b>17. COUNCILLOR GLYNIS PHILLIPS</b></p> <p>As of 1st December 2014 what percentage of secondary schools and primary schools have a full-time school nurse and what account was taken of the size of school and deprivation indices when allocating school nurses.</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLOR HILARY HIBBERT-BILES, CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH &amp; THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR</b></p> <p>We have a complement of 34 school health nurses, and all are in post or have been appointed barring the normal staff turnover found in any workforce. Current turnover has left 1 vacancy, which is being appointed to in the normal way and we are confident this will soon be filled. The number of school nursing positions in secondary schools in Oxfordshire has increased from 19, prior to April 2014, to 34 from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 an increase of 73% since the County Council took over the service in April 2013. Primary schools also have a school nurse team, consisting of 8 whole time equivalent positions.</p> <p>Our priority was to have a School Health Nurse (SHN) who would become a well-known individual to the secondary school and the local community and this was strongly supported by head teachers. As we wanted a term time presence in each secondary school across the county, that meant 1 nurse per school. We believe that this will significantly strengthen the School Health Nurse role in all schools as nurses put together plans for health improvement with school heads and the Council.</p> <p>The service continues to provide an additional service in areas of high social deprivation around the County 6 nurses are employed all year round in these areas as we believe this constant support is of particular benefit. The service also now has a full time nurse covering the Pupil Referral Unit which deals with some of Oxfordshire's most vulnerable children.</p> <p>The service commissioned by the County Council is supplemented by a School Health Nurse immunisation service commissioned by the NHS.</p>



## Council Chamber: Using the microphones



- Press the Push to talk button when you are asked to address Council, press the push to talk button when you have finished talking
- Please note your light on the push to talk button will be illuminated when active, in addition the ring around the tip of your microphone will also be illuminated to show the microphone is live (see image below)



- Whilst addressing Council you will notice that your name appears on the display screens located in the Chamber
- In addition should you be restricted to a 3/5 minute statement then a countdown will appear under your name as a visual aid to time remaining
- A warning will appear under your name when 30 seconds is remaining (Warning reads: 30 Seconds Remaining)

### **Voting in the Chamber:**

- You may be called upon to vote during the meeting, the Democratic Services Officer/Chairman will announce when voting is to start.
- When notified to do so please cast your vote using your individual voting unit as shown in the picture above.
- You can choose YES/ABSTAIN/NO – upon selection your choice will be illuminated on the button itself
- If you make a mistake simply press the button originally intended – you can correct your choice until voting is closed
- The voting results will be displayed on the screens

### **USB Charge Point:**

- Allows you to connect a tablet/smartphone/device to a USB Charging point allowing you to maintain battery levels throughout the Council meeting

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