



Notice of a Meeting

Education Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 25 April 2016 at 10.00 am

Rooms 1&2 - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

Membership

Chairman Councillor Mark Gray
Deputy Chairman - Councillor Michael Waine

<i>Councillors:</i>	Kevin Bulmer	Pete Handley	Richard Langridge
	Steve Curran	Steve Harrod	Sandy Lovatt
	Tim Hallchurch MBE	John Howson	Gillian Sanders

Co-optees: Mrs Sue Matthew

By Invitation: Ian Jones Carole Thomson

Notes: *Date of next meeting: 4 July 2016*

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

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

How can I have my say?

We welcome the views of the community on any issues in relation to the responsibilities of this Committee. Members of the public may ask to speak on any item on the agenda or may suggest matters which they would like the Committee to look at. **Requests to speak must be submitted to the Committee Officer below no later than 9 am on the working day before the date of the meeting.**

For more information about this Committee please contact:

Chairman	-	Councillor Mark Gray E.Mail: mark.gray2@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Senior Policy Officer	-	Sarah Jelley, Tel: (01865) 896450 Email: sarah.jelley@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Policy & Performance Officer	-	Andreea Anastasiu, Tel: (01865) 323535 Email: andreea.anastasiu@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Committee Officer	-	Sue Whitehead, Tel: (01865) 810262 sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Peter G. Clark
Head of Paid Service

April 2016

About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 63 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 672,000 residents. These include:

schools	social & health care	libraries and museums
the fire service	roads	trading standards
land use	transport planning	waste management

Each year the Council manages £0.9 billion of public money in providing these services. Most decisions are taken by a Cabinet of 9 Councillors, which makes decisions about service priorities and spending. Some decisions will now be delegated to individual members of the Cabinet.

About Scrutiny

Scrutiny is about:

- Providing a challenge to the Cabinet
- Examining how well the Cabinet and the Authority are performing
- Influencing the Cabinet on decisions that affect local people
- Helping the Cabinet to develop Council policies
- Representing the community in Council decision making
- Promoting joined up working across the authority's work and with partners

Scrutiny is NOT about:

- Making day to day service decisions
- Investigating individual complaints.

What does this Committee do?

The Committee meets up to 6 times a year or more. It develops a work programme, which lists the issues it plans to investigate. These investigations can include whole committee investigations undertaken during the meeting, or reviews by a panel of members doing research and talking to lots of people outside of the meeting. Once an investigation is completed the Committee provides its advice to the Cabinet, the full Council or other scrutiny committees. Meetings are open to the public and all reports are available to the public unless exempt or confidential, when the items would be considered in closed session.

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting

A hearing loop is available at County Hall.

AGENDA

1. **Introduction and Welcome**
2. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
3. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note of the back page**
4. **Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2016 (**ESC4 – to be circulated separately**) and to receive information arising from them.

5. **Petitions and Public Address**
6. **Implications of the Future Arrangements in Education (Pages 1 - 8)**

1015

Roy Leach, Strategic Lead for Education Sufficiency and Access will attend to present a report (ESC6) on an overview of the practical implications of the future arrangements in education agreed by cabinet on 23 February 2016

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the practical implications of the future arrangements in education agreed by Cabinet on 23 February 2016.

7. **Recruitment & Retention of Teachers**

1100

Roy Leach, Strategic Lead for Education Sufficiency and Access, will attend for a discussion around the issue of recruitment and retention of teachers. This builds on previous consideration of the issue at the 11 February 2016 meeting of the Education Scrutiny Committee.

The following people have been invited to address the committee on this topic:

- Adam Arnell, Oxfordshire Teaching Schools Alliance
- Philip Baillieu, Chair of Governors, Wheatley Park School
- Ms Kate Curtis, Headteacher, Wheatley Park School
- Richard Peacock, Chief Executive, SOHA

8. Educational Attainment at Key Stage 5 (Pages 9 - 16)

1200

Sarah Varnom, Strategic Lead for Education Quality and Christine Malone, Strategic Lead for Education Quality will be in attendance to respond to questions on the report that provides trends in Key Stage 5 attainment in Oxfordshire. This includes trends in the number of young people taking level 3 qualifications; A level subject comparisons as well as A level and vocational trends in Oxfordshire's maintained schools and colleges.

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the trends in Key Stage 5 attainment in Oxfordshire.

9. Schools Causing Concern & Underperforming Schools (Pages 17 - 20)

1215

Sarah Varnom, Strategic Lead for Education Quality and Christine Malone, Strategic Lead for Education Quality will attend during consideration of a report on new guidance from the Department for Education for local authorities and Regional Schools Commissioners entitled: '**Schools causing concern. Intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools**'.

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) note the content of the report;***
- (b) raise with the Regional Schools' Commissioner the concerns around the academies that have been judged as inadequate and the actions taken in relation to the underperformance of academies in Oxfordshire.***

10. Exclusions in Oxfordshire Schools (Pages 21 - 32)

1230

Sarah Varnom, Strategic Lead for Education Quality and Christine Malone, Strategic Lead for Education Quality will attend to respond to questions on the information provided (ESC10) on exclusions in Oxfordshire Schools, Terms 1 - 4 2015/16.

11. Draft Scrutiny Annual Report (Pages 33 - 56)

1245

The Committee is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) Note the content of the report;***
- (b) Identify any omissions or inaccuracies in relation to the Education Scrutiny Committee section of the report.***

12. Forward Plan and Committee Business (Pages 57 - 58)

1255

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

Close of meeting 1.00 pm

Declarations of Interest

The duty to declare.....

Under the Localism Act 2011 it is a criminal offence to

- (a) fail to register a disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days of election or co-option (or re-election or re-appointment), or
- (b) provide false or misleading information on registration, or
- (c) participate in discussion or voting in a meeting on a matter in which the member or co-opted member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Whose Interests must be included?

The Act provides that the interests which must be notified are those of a member or co-opted member of the authority, **or**

- those of a spouse or civil partner of the member or co-opted member;
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as husband/wife
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as if they were civil partners.

(in each case where the member or co-opted member is aware that the other person has the interest).

What if I remember that I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the Meeting?

The Code requires that, at a meeting, where a member or co-opted member has a disclosable interest (of which they are aware) in any matter being considered, they disclose that interest to the meeting. The Council will continue to include an appropriate item on agendas for all meetings, to facilitate this.

Although not explicitly required by the legislation or by the code, it is recommended that in the interests of transparency and for the benefit of all in attendance at the meeting (including members of the public) the nature as well as the existence of the interest is disclosed.

A member or co-opted member who has disclosed a pecuniary interest at a meeting must not participate (or participate further) in any discussion of the matter; and must not participate in any vote or further vote taken; and must withdraw from the room.

Members are asked to continue to pay regard to the following provisions in the code that *“You must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself”* or *“You must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned.....”*.

Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting should you have any doubt about your approach.

List of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Employment (includes *“any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain”*.), **Sponsorship, Contracts, Land, Licences, Corporate Tenancies, Securities.**

For a full list of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and further Guidance on this matter please see the Guide to the New Code of Conduct and Register of Interests at Members’ conduct guidelines. <http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/occ/Insite/Elected+members/> or contact Glenn Watson on (01865) 815270 or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.

EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 APRIL 2016

IMPLICATIONS OF THE FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS IN EDUCATION

An overview of the practical implications of the future arrangements in education agreed by cabinet on 23 February 2016

Report by the Director for Children, Education and Families

1. Introduction

Predicting the future for local government is not straightforward and its role in education is no exception. However, there are a small number of certainties:

- a. The number of children & young people is increasing;
- b. Levels & complexity of need are increasing; and
- c. The resources available to the Council are decreasing.

In addition to these, it can be added that the scope of the role of the Council in education will continue to diminish. This can be discerned from the growth in the number of academies and national policy statements: "By the end of 2020, all schools will be academies or in the process of becoming academies; by the end of 2022, local authorities will no longer maintain schools." (See Annex 1: White paper: 'Educational Excellence Everywhere')

Also, we now have an explicit statement in a formal public document that "we expect local authorities to step back from running school improvement from the end of the 2016/17 academic year." (Schools national funding formula Government consultation – stage one; published 7th March 2016.)

Proposals set out in the funding consultation include:

- d. A national funding formula paid directly to all schools (ending local funding formulae and the role of Local Authorities in allocating funding to schools); and
- e. A new, fourth block, in the Dedicated Schools Grant known as the 'Central Schools Block' to pay for a number of residual Local Authority functions including school admissions, asset management, education welfare and statutory & regulatory duties. (The three existing blocks are 'Schools', 'Early Years' and 'High Needs'.)

2. Future role of the Council

If the proposals in the consultation are implemented, the role of the Council in relation to education will be reduced to:

- i. Ensuring every child has a school place (and/or early years education and child care place as appropriate);
- ii. Ensuring fair access through admissions and transport arrangements;
- iii. Ensuring the needs of vulnerable pupils are met; and
- iv. Acting as the champion for all parents and families.

In addition, while there are maintained schools in Oxfordshire, the Council has a responsibility for quality in them. As the number of maintained schools reduces the Council's school improvement responsibilities will taper to a minimum between 2016 and 2020). This could be as few as the six nursery schools which under current legislation cannot become academies.

3. New structure

As reported to Cabinet on the 23rd February 2016, the Education & Learning Service is being restructured into three areas which map well against the future role of Local Authorities:

- Education Sufficiency & Access [i. and ii.]
- Education quality [iv. and 'in addition']
- Vulnerable learners [iii.]

The role of Deputy Director (Education & Learning) is not being replaced, with their duties shared out amongst four lead officers as set out in the table below. The efficacy of the arrangements, and their appropriateness for dealing with known and further anticipated changes, will be evaluated in September 2016.

Sufficiency and Access Roy Leach (RL)	Quality Christine Malone (CM) & Sarah Varnom (SV)	Vulnerable Learners 0-25 Janet Johnson (JJ)
Direct Reports (including commissioned activity)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reintegration and Exclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elective Home Education • Attendance • Exclusions • Pupils Missing Out • Child Performance Licences • Academies • Admissions • Home to School Transport • Place Planning and School Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety • Early Years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years Quality • Education off site visits • Business Development • Governance and Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headteacher appointments • School Quality Assurance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SACRE • Schools Causing Concern • Moderation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Inclusion • Virtual School for Looked After Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual School • OXSIT • Gypsy Roma Traveller • Educational Psychology • Special Educational Needs Support Services • Casework • Early Years SEN

Sufficiency	Meetings/Links (lead person)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfE (RL) • RSC (RL) • Cabinet and Informal Cabinet (RL) • Members (RL) • Performance Scrutiny (RL) • Education Scrutiny (RL) • CCMT and Extended CCMT (RL) • DLT and Extended DLT (RL) • Political Party Groups (RL) • Supported Transport (RL) • School Organisation Stakeholder Group (RL) • PMO and Attendance of LAC (RL) • MISPERs (RL) • TJC (RL) • Business Strategy Meetings (RL) • Wider Management Team (RL) • Chairs of Headteacher Associations (RL) • Freedom of Information requests (RL) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Board (CM/JJ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSCB Executive (CM) • PAQA (SV) • Education Sub-Group (CM/SV) • CSE Sub-Group (SV) • Ofsted safeguarding queries (CM) • Ofsted (SV/CM) • OTSA (SV/CM) • OPHTA/OSSHTA (CM/SV) • SSP (CM/SV) • Schools Forum (CM/SV) • Headteacher and Chair of Governors Termly meetings (CM/SV) • Chairs of Partnerships (CM/SV) • LAASSI Inspection (CM/SV) • School Information Exchange (CM/ SV) • OGA (SV) • Early Years Strategic Board (CM) • Joint Commissioning Data (AW) • Freedom of Information requests (CM/SV) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% Participation Strategy (JJ) • OASSH (JJ) • Placement Strategy (JJ) • Children's Trust (JJ) • SEND Programme Board (JJ) • SEND Inspection (JJ) • Complex Cases and SCR's (Safeguarding) (JJ) • Links with Adult Social Care (JJ) • Child deaths (JJ) • Freedom of Information requests (JJ) • Corporate parenting Panel (JJ)

4. Glossary

- CCMT County Council Management Team
- CSE Child Sexual Exploitation
- DfE Department for Education
- DLT Directorate Leadership Team
- LAASSI Local Authority Arrangements for School Support Inspection
- LAC Looked After Child(ren)
- MISPERs Missing persons
- OASSH Oxfordshire Association of Special School Headteachers
- OGA Oxfordshire Governors Association
- OPHTA Oxfordshire Primary Head Teacher Association
- OSCB Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board
- OSSHTA Oxfordshire Secondary School Head Teacher Association
- OTSA Oxfordshire Teaching Schools Alliance
- OXSIT Oxfordshire School Inclusion Team
- PAQA Performance Audit & Quality Assurance
- PMO Pupils Missing Out (of education)
- RSC Regional Schools Commissioner

- SACRE Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education
- SCR Serious Case Review
- SEN(D) Special Educational Needs (& Disabilities)
- SSP Strategic School Partnership
- TJC Teachers Joint Committee

RECOMMENDATION

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the practical implications of the future arrangements in education agreed by Cabinet on 23 February 2016.

Report by: Jim Leivers, Director for Children, Education and Families

Contact officer:

Roy Leach, Strategic Lead for Education Sufficiency and Access

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EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 APRIL 2016**IMPLICATIONS OF THE FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS IN EDUCATION**

Annex 1: Summary of Implications for Oxfordshire County Council of the March 2016 Government White Paper [‘Educational Excellence Everywhere’](#)

Report by the Director for Children, Education and Families

The Government sets out a very detailed suite of commitments, promises and intentions for reforming education in England. The overarching message is that local authorities will no longer lead education locally. This is not unexpected. The academies programme is only part-finished and the Government intention for ‘systems leadership’ to be at the heart of school improvement, with no role for local authorities, has been heralded for some time.

This White Paper outlines: **‘a clearly defined role for local government’** with local authority education duties focusing on:

- ensuring every child has a school place
- ensuring the needs of vulnerable pupils are met (including SEN reforms)
- acting as champions for all parents and families (and championing pupils; 4.6 d)

Local authorities will also continue to have ‘oversight of testing arrangements’ (4.74), and ‘a number of growing functions relating to the education of 2, 3 and 4 year-olds’ (4.75).

Cutting through the rhetoric of the current ‘monopoly’ of local authorities, there is useful policy direction in the paper. Local authorities will ‘become one of the key **partners** working to deliver educational excellence everywhere’. This fits well with Oxfordshire’s Strategic Schools Partnership, and links appropriately with the work of the Dioceses and Oxfordshire Teaching School Alliance.

The paper focuses on improving standards across the whole country. In Oxfordshire the role of Joint Commissioning in analysing educational data is key to the local authority keeping all schools under review.

There is a focus on educational ‘outcomes’ rather than methods. In Oxfordshire, the dismantling of the school improvement function reflects advance cognisance of this.

The Government recognises the risk that strong schools may get stronger and weak schools may get weaker. Local authorities have a role to play in supporting Regional School Commissioners in mitigating this.

The paper summarises **seven main strands of educational excellence** with accompanying actions for Government (many of these aspects have been historically led by local authorities);

1. **Great teachers;** recruitment, training, development and retention are now the prerogative of the front-line, and will be completely school-led, for example Initial Teacher Training. There will be a national free of charge teacher recruitment website. 'Qualified Teacher Status' will be replaced by school-led accreditation of teachers by 'great' schools. There will be a new national College of Teaching and a new national Teaching Service. There will be new standards for professional development opportunities for teachers, and mechanisms for this to be school-led, as well as a new peer-reviewed national Education Journal.
2. **Great leaders;** these will be based in Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs) and Teaching Schools. New, voluntary, national professional qualifications for education leadership will be developed by school leaders. There will be a new Excellence in Leadership fund. There will be some changes to support governing bodies (now called governing 'boards').
3. **A school-led system with a defined role for local government;** this has been reported extensively in the press; all schools to become academies by 2022 with Government 'direction' (ie forced academisation). Small schools should join MATs, but stand-alone academies are still allowed. There is reference to Government stepping in 'where the local authority no longer has the capacity to maintain its schools'. 'Local authorities should act as advocates for their electorate, challenging school providers to deliver high educational standards and better outcomes for children.' In Oxfordshire, this is the role of the 'Education Quality' function in Education and Learning. The paper encourages high performing local authority staff to move to work in MATs. The best MATs will manage under-performing schools. The programme for the development of new schools will continue.

The paper is weak on impact on **children**, and virtually ignores safeguarding. One section attempts to rectify this, but proposes:

- a new parent portal
- a new complaints system (governing board – DfE – ombudsman; no longer via LAs)
- consultation on three changes to current admissions arrangements, coordinating in-year admissions, handling independent admissions and a single route for escalation of admissions maladministration.

4. **Preventing underperformance through school-led improvement;** there will be 300 more teaching schools and 800 more National Leaders of Education (NLEs). School improvement will be brokered locally without the need for local or national government. It will be interesting to see how successful this can be; will some schools be left behind? New Achieving Excellence areas will be set up by the Government in areas of underperformance. Might Oxford City / Blackbird Leys / Rose Hill qualify?

5. **High expectations and a world-leading curriculum;** schools will continue to embed the new national curriculum, with freedoms for academies. There will be extra funding for secondary schools to extend their school day for sports, arts and debating. An action plan to improve Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) provision will be written by headteachers. Alternative provision will be reformed so that mainstream schools are accountable for excluded pupils. A strategy will be published for improved careers provision. The government has stated its commitment to ensuring that an increasingly autonomous school system remains inclusive and meets the needs of all pupils wherever they are educated, stretching their lowest attaining and most academically able pupils.
6. **Accountability;** the Government will focus on progress, destinations, attainment 8 and progress 8, and there will be a new primary floor standard. Coasting schools will be academised by the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC). This has urgent implications for some Oxfordshire schools. Ofsted will consult on removing the separate judgement on the quality of teaching. The Government will publish performance tables for MATs. The RSC and headteacher boards will replace the role of the local authority in monitoring accountability. Local authority warning notices will need to be agreed with RSCs for maintained schools ie in the future, even maintained schools will be subject to RSC intervention.
7. **Resources;** the consultation on the national funding formula for schools (and the High Needs Block) is currently live. The Government will organise access to better procurement frameworks for schools.

Report by: Jim Leivers, Director for Children, Education and Families

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EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 APRIL 2016

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AT KEY STAGE 5

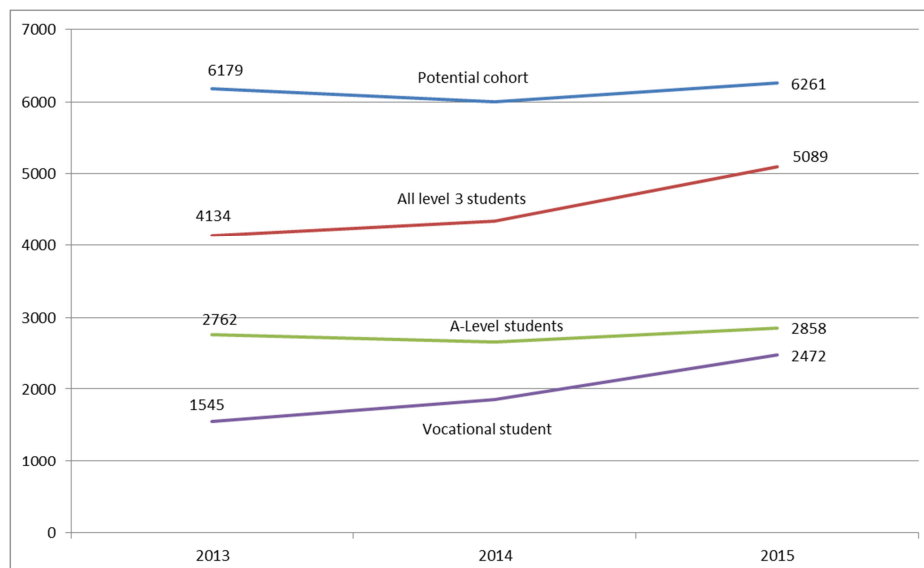
Report by the Director for Children, Education and Families

Introduction

This report provides trends in Key Stage 5 attainment in Oxfordshire. This includes trends in the number of young people taking level 3 qualifications; A level subject comparisons as well as A level and vocational trends in Oxfordshire's maintained schools and colleges.

1. All level 3 qualifications

Chart 1: Number of Level 3 students by cohort – Oxfordshire 2013-2015



Potential cohort covers the number of students who completed Key Stage 4 two years previously.

All level 3 students cover those students who have been entered for at least 1 substantial qualification (i.e. A level and vocational qualifications).

Vocational measures report achievements in all substantial advanced level vocational qualifications which generally focus on developing knowledge and skills in a work related context. A 'substantial' advanced level qualification is at least the size of an A level (180 guided learning hours per year), for example a BTEC Subsidiary Diploma (Level 3).

A student can be counted in both the A level and vocational cohorts and hence the total of these cohorts will slightly exceed the level 3 total.

- 1.1 The proportion of young people entering at least one substantial level 3 qualification (academic or vocational) and completing their studies has risen from 67% in 2013 to 81% in 2015.

1.2 The number entering at least one A-level has remained relatively steady but there has been a corresponding increase in the number (and proportion) of young people entered for at least one vocational qualification.

1.3 This is primarily due to the impact of the Raising the Age of Participation Legislation which was introduced in 2013. Students who left year 11 in summer 2013 had to continue in education or training for at least another year until June 2014. This is the cohort of students covered in this report. Students who left year 11 in summer 2014 or later will have to continue until at least their 18th birthday.

1.4 19% of the potential 2015 cohort did not take a level 3 qualification.

Of these:

- 7% were in apprenticeships,
- 7% were in employment without accredited training,
- 2% were in employment with accredited training
- 3% were not in education, employment or training (NEET)

2. A level attainment in Oxfordshire

		% of A level entries				
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number students entered for 1+ A-Level		2901	2799	2762	2666	2858
Number of A-Level entries		8757	8473	8300	7787	8255
A*-E	Oxfordshire	98.4	98.5	98.6	98.5	98.7
	England	98.3	98.4	98.6	98.4	98.7
A*-A	Oxfordshire	23.6	23.2	23.0	23.3	23.5
	England	23.1	22.8	22.8	22.8	22.9

2.1 The number of students entered for at least one A-Level in Oxfordshire rose slightly in 2015 after slight decreases in previous years.

2.2 The average number of A-level entries per student though has decreased from 3.1 in 2012 to 2.9 in 2015. This indicates that although more young people being entered for A levels, they are taking a smaller number. This may be as a result of young people being entered for a combination of A levels and Vocational qualifications.

2.3 The proportion of entries achieving grades A*- E (98.7%) has remained broadly constant over the last five years and is identical to the national figure. This means that out of 8255 A level entries in Oxfordshire last year, only 107 did not receive a grade.

2.4 Oxfordshire continually performs well with high attaining students at A level, with the proportion of A*-A grades consistently above that nationally. In 2015 23.5% of Oxfordshire entries were at A*-A grades compared with 22.9% nationally.

3. Subject level information

A full breakdown of A-levels by subject is provided in Annex 1 below.

3.1 The most popular subjects in Oxfordshire are mathematics (949 entries), English (928 entries), Psychology (653 entries) and Biological Sciences (613 entries).

3.2 The proportion of entries for subjects and grades in Oxfordshire follows a broadly similar pattern to that nationally, however:

- Oxfordshire has higher proportions of entries (compared to national) in the following subjects
 - Mathematics (11.5% of total entries compared with 10.2% nationally)
 - Physics (5.1% of total entries compared with 3.9% nationally)
 - Geography (5.3% of total entries compared with 4.3% nationally)
- Although this indicates a high interest in Science subjects in Oxfordshire, the proportion selecting to study Chemistry (5.5%) is lower than that nationally (5.9%).

3.3 All candidates achieved at least an E grade in French, German, Other Modern Languages, Computing and General Studies.

3.4 In Oxfordshire the subjects with the lowest pass rates were Psychology (96.8%) and Physics (96.9%). However these are popular subjects and hence are likely to have a wide spread of abilities taking them.

3.5 In Oxfordshire 59.1% of further maths grades were are A*-A compared to 53.6% nationally.

3.6 Oxfordshire also has a noticeably higher proportion of A*-A grades in History (27.4%) compared national figures (20.7%).

3.7 Oxfordshire has lower proportions of A*-A grades than national in the following subject areas:

- French (27.9% compared with 33.1% nationally)
- Geography (20.5% compared with 25.0% nationally)
- Economics (19.5% compared with 26.0% nationally)
- Government/ Politics (18.4% compared with 24.0% nationally)
- Music (7.0% compared with 14.2% nationally)

4. School level information

Three year trends in school and college performance can be found in Annex 2.

4.1 The majority of schools offer both A level and vocational level 3 qualifications.

- 4.2 The entry requirement for sixth form study differs between schools and hence there will be a degree of variation in the prior attainment of young people at different establishments.
- 4.3 The Cherwell School, Matthew Arnold and Wood Green School consistently have over 90% of students achieving at least 3 A level passes.
- 4.4 The Oxford Academy predominantly offers vocational qualifications, with the proportion of young people achieving 3 level 3 vocational qualifications increasing to 90% in 2015. This is noticeably higher than elsewhere in the county.
- 4.5 The City of Oxford College and The Henley College also offer a high proportion of vocational qualifications. The proportion of students achieving 3 vocational qualifications at The Henley College has fallen to 71% over the last 3 years and has fluctuated at The City of Oxford College.

RECOMMENDATION

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the trends in Key Stage 5 attainment in Oxfordshire.

Report by: Jim Leivers, Director for Children, Education and Families

Contact officer:

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Subject level information (2015)

ANNEX 1

	Entries			A*-A grades			A*-E grades		
	Oxon	% of total entries		Number	% of entries		Number	% of entries	
		Oxon	England		Oxon	Oxon		England	Oxon
All subjects	8,255	100	100	1,938	23.5	22.9	8,145	98.7	98.7
Mathematics	949	11.5	10.2	368	38.8	38.2	940	99.1	98.6
English	928	11.2	11.5	173	18.6	17.4	926	99.8	99.6
Psychology	653	7.9	7.7	109	16.7	17.0	632	96.8	98
Biological Sciences	613	7.4	7.2	157	25.6	24.9	600	97.9	98.5
History	486	5.9	6.6	133	27.4	20.7	485	99.8	99.5
Chemistry	458	5.5	5.9	133	29.0	28.8	451	98.5	98.7
Geography	434	5.3	4.3	89	20.5	25.0	430	99.1	99.4
Physics	424	5.1	3.9	115	27.1	27.3	411	96.9	97.6
Sociology	388	4.7	4.5	64	16.5	18.1	383	98.7	98.6
Art and Design	374	4.5	5.4	107	28.6	25.1	370	98.9	99.3
Business Studies	312	3.8	3.2	43	13.8	13.9	309	99	98.7
Economics	261	3.2	2.9	51	19.5	26.0	257	98.5	98.8
Religious Studies	254	3.1	2.7	44	17.3	20.3	252	99.2	98.8
Media/ Film/ Theatre Studies	196	2.4	2.9	13	6.6	10.0	194	99	99.5
Further Mathematics	176	2.1	1.5	104	59.1	53.6	172	97.7	99.1
Physical Education	158	1.9	1.7	21	13.3	15.2	156	98.7	98.4
Drama	150	1.8	1.6	13	8.7	12.2	149	99.3	99.3
Government and Politics	147	1.8	1.6	27	18.4	24.0	145	98.6	98.8
Design and Technology	126	1.5	1.5	13	10.3	13.8	124	98.4	98.4
French	111	1.3	1	31	27.9	33.1	111	100	99.5
Music	86	1.0	0.8	6	7.0	14.2	84	97.7	98.7
Spanish	76	0.9	0.8	22	28.9	30.1	75	98.7	99.5
Law	68	0.8	1.5	10	14.7	18.5	68	100	97.2
Other Comm Studies	65	0.8	1.5	14	21.5	12.7	64	98.5	99.6
German	55	0.7	0.4	24	43.6	33.0	55	100	99.5
Computing	54	0.7	0.7	10	18.5	15.3	54	100	96.6
Other modern languages	49	0.6	0.6	27	55.1	44.6	49	100	98.3
General Studies	20	0.2	2.6	0	0.0	13.8	20	100	94.4

Ordered by number of entries (most popular subject first).

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Annex 2- Level 3 performance in Oxfordshire schools and colleges

School/ College	Number of students (2015)			A-levels									Vocational Qualifications											
	at end of ks5 study	at end of A level study	at end of vocational study	% A level students achieving									Average point score per A level entry expressed as a grade	% vocational students achieving						Average point score per vocational entry expressed as a grade				
				2+ A levels at A*-E			3+ A levels at A*-E			3 A levels at grades AAB or higher				2+ substantial vocational qualifications			3+ substantial vocational qualifications							
				2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Oxfordshire				94	95	95	83	82	81	9	13	13	C	C	C	76	79	71	64	67	60	Dist-	Dist-	Dist-
England				92	92	92	79	78	77	8	12	12	C	C	C	70	66	66	50	47	48	Dist-	Dist-	Dist-
Banbury Academy	89	87	21	97	83	93	76	51	62	8	6	5	C	C-	C-	17	14	10	11	0	0	Merit+	Dist-	Dist-
Bartholomew School	82	82	0	95	98	100	86	88	90	21	22	17	C+	C+	C+	29	x		0	x		Merit	x	
Bicester Community College	33	28	5	100	98	100	88	90	82	0	2	14	D	D+	C-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Blessed George Napier Catholic	67	65	18	87	92	85	60	80	62	4	8	12	C-	C	C	53	82	61	13	27	22	Dist*-	Dist	Dist
Burford School	86	85	8	90	95	96	80	77	91	16	14	20	C-	C-	C	27	9	50	0	0	0	Dist+	Dist*-	Dist*
Carterton Community College	5	0	5															x			x			x
Cheney School	102	95	25	82	88	95	71	60	78	22	17	22	C+	C+	C+	47	57	36	13	11	24	Dist	Dist	Dist+
The Cherwell School	254	249	15	99	99	98	95	91	93	26	24	25	C+	C+	B-	56	30	47	31	10	27	Dist-	Dist-	Dist+
Chipping Norton School	82	82	2	100	97	100	86	85	91	20	24	17	C+	B-	C+	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
The Cooper School	81	81	0	93	98	100	73	83	95	7	10	15	C-	C	C+	x	x		x	x		x	x	
Didcot Girls' School	85	79	20	92	86	92	81	74	67	15	13	11	B-	C+	C+	38	62	60	0	15	30	Dist*-	Dist*-	Dist
Faringdon Community College	62	60	8	94	100	97	87	94	87	10	33	17	C-	C+	C-	15	x	25	0	x	13	Dist+	x	Dist-
Fitzharrys School	30	30	0	100	100	97	90	86	80	2	16	20	C-	C	C									
Gosford Hill School	58	56	13	81	86	89	64	71	64	6	13	11	D+	C	C	88	90	46	0	0	0	Dist+	Dist	Dist+
The Henry Box School	96	96	0	99	100	99	88	90	85	17	17	15	C+	C	C									
John Mason School	47	47	0	98	100	100	93	84	85	15	22	15	C+	C	C+									
King Alfred's	140	111	48	95	95	93	86	82	74	24	15	17	C+	C-	C+	71	75	60	55	56	48	Merit+	Dist-	Dist-
Larkmead School	55	55	0	98	100	100	86	90	84	5	22	16	C-	C+	C									
Lord Williams's School	220	220	0	97	97	98	85	88	88	12	9	8	C	C	C									
The Marlborough CofE School	91	91	6	97	99	100	84	82	86	16	15	13	C+	C	C	x	0	0	x	0	0	x	Dist-	Dist+
Matthew Arnold School	80	80	0	100	97	99	93	90	90	22	29	24	C+	C+	C+									
North Oxfordshire Academy	43	17	30			47			24			6			E-	80	69	60	34	44	7	Dist	Dist+	Merit+
The Oxford Academy	183	7	181	18	x	43	0	x	0	0	x	0	D-	x	E+	76	93	95	66	87	90	Merit+	Dist-	Dist-
Oxford Spire Academy	77	68	41	81	84	62	69	56	44	4	0	7	C-	D-	D+	72	87	80	24	53	27	Dist+	Dist+	Dist+
St Bonus School	74	72	12	94	98	96	76	75	78	16	13	15	C	C-	C+	11	na	25	0	na	17	Dist*-	x	Dist-
St Gregory the Great School	69	68	17	97	97	88	87	76	59	7	5	4	C	C	C-	x	11	18	x	0	0	x	Dist	Dist
Wallingford School	94	94	18	82	92	85	64	87	72	16	15	18	C-	C+	C	89	60	67	11	10	6	Dist*-	Dist-	Dist+
The Warriner School	47	47	0			98			94			11			C									
Wheatley Park School	62	62	0	98	96	98	81	88	87	19	19	11	C+	C+	C									
Wood Green School	75	75	0	99	99	100	91	93	93	10	13	15	C	C	C+	x			x			x		
16-19 Abingdon	132	132	0	98	100	99	88	86	83	7	20	17	C-	C	C	89	80		82	74		Merit+	Dist-	
Didcot Sixth Form College	159	151	32	93	91	94	78	74	72	16	13	13	C+	C	C+	27	50	47	0	13	25	Dist*-	Dist*-	Dist
Abingdon and Witney College	332	0	332	92	x		77	x		4	x		C	x		89	80	82	82	74	73	Merit+	Dist-	Dist-
City of Oxford College	1382	116	1273	89	91	94	73	73	72	7	3	3	C	C-	D+	73	82	69	63	68	59	Merit+	Merit+	Merit+
The Henley College	806	453	374	96	94	95	87	86	83	9	7	5	C	C-	C-	94	88	74	94	86	71	Dist-	Dist-	Dist

Students can be entered for both A levels and vocational study and hence these numbers may total more than the number at ks5

x

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EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 APRIL 2016

SCHOOLS CAUSING CONCERN

Report by the Director for Children, Education and Families

I. Introduction

The Department for Education has issued new guidance for local authorities and Regional Schools Commissioners entitled: '**Schools causing concern. Intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools**'.

- This statutory guidance is effective from 18 April 2016 when the majority of provisions in the Education and Adoption Act 2016 commence.
- Powers of the Secretary of State will generally be exercised by the Regional Schools Commissioner.

Please note that the Regional Schools Commissioner can now intervene in maintained schools thus transferring responsibilities from local authorities.

II. Schools Causing Concern – Department for Education Guidance

The guidance describes the three groups of schools which are causing concern and eligible for formal action:

1. Schools that have been judged inadequate by Ofsted

- Secretary of State duty to issue an Academy Order for all maintained schools that have been judged inadequate by Ofsted (retrospective for judgements prior to 18.4.16)
- Regional Schools Commissioner to identify the most suitable sponsor and for brokering the relationship
- For Foundation & Voluntary schools the Regional Schools Commissioner must consult re: identity of the sponsor
- Religious character to be safeguarded
- Duty of Local Authorities and governing bodies to facilitate the conversion; Regional Schools Commissioner power to direct
- When an academy is judged inadequate by Ofsted the Regional Schools Commissioner has the power to terminate Funding Agreement and replace sponsor (trust); presumption that stand alone converters will join Multi-Academy Trusts
- Reference to outright closure of academies where not viable in the long term

2. Schools that have met the coasting definition (after publication of 2016 data)

- Regional Schools Commissioner and Local Authority given power to take action but general presumption in favour of the Regional Schools Commissioner
- Coasting definition the same for maintained schools and academies
- Regional Schools Commissioner to notify all schools when they fall within the coasting definition
- Regional Schools Commissioner to determine & advise what action, if any, needs to be taken and the timescale. This will be done through consultation with their Headteacher Board. The options could be:
No further action; additional support; formal arrangements; additional governors or IEB; sponsored academy
- Regional Schools Commissioner will take into account Local Authority's views of coasting maintained schools and those of Diocese in respect of faith schools; religious character to be safeguarded
- Governing body must advise parents that school has fallen within the coasting definition

3. Schools that have failed to comply with a warning notice

- Section 60 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 sets out the provisions relating to a performance standards and safety warning notice i.e. poor standards; breakdown in management or governance; safety of pupils or staff at risk.
- It is expected that the Local Authority will issue warning notices where appropriate for its maintained schools in discussion with the Regional Schools Commissioner. For academies the intervention role will fall solely to the Regional Schools Commissioner.
- Regional Schools Commissioner can issue warning notices if the Local Authority is considered insufficiently swift or robust in doing so
- Copies of warning notices must be exchanged between the Local Authority and Regional Schools Commissioner
- Factors to be considered
 - Standards: 'in context' standards; floor standards; RI judgement; trends; performance of different groups;
 - Management & governance: governor turnover; excessive involvement in the day to day running of school;
 - Safety: failure to comply with safeguarding requirements
- Failure to comply with warning notice triggers intervention

Specific powers in respect of intervention in maintained schools

- Local Authority + Regional Schools Commissioner: Require governing bodies to "enter into arrangements" e.g. specified support; appoint additional governors; IEB; suspend delegated budget
- Regional Schools Commissioner: direct closure; take over responsibility for an IEB including who & how many; Academy Order

- Consultation required with the Local Authority (by Regional Schools Commissioner); governing body; Diocese; foundation unless in respect of an Academy Order for a maintained school judged inadequate
- Sponsors required to communicate its plans to parents

Other Local Authority duties

- Champion of educational excellence: understand school performance; work with Regional Schools Commissioner to ensure swift action, including intervention; encourage good & outstanding schools to support others
- Special Educational Needs: identify 0 - 25 year olds with Special Educational Needs
- Safeguarding: investigation and reporting concerns about academies to Regional Schools Commissioner, Education Funding Agency (EFA) and to the DfE for independent schools
- Promote high standards of governance including through ensuring governors have necessary skills in respect of oversight of finance, safety and standards
- Provision of training
- Maintain records of governors of maintained schools
- Raise concerns about academy governance with Regional Schools Commissioner or the Education Funding Agency

III. The current picture in Oxfordshire

- The proportion of primary schools that are good / outstanding has remained at 87% (197 schools). The Oxfordshire figure is slightly above the national figure (86%) as at 29th February 2016.
- The percentage has remained stable as two schools have moved from a 'good' to 'requires improvement' and two schools have moved from 'requires improvement' to 'good'.
- The proportion of secondary schools judged as good / outstanding has remained at 83% (29 schools). Oxfordshire remains above the national figure of 76% as at 29 February 2016.
- The number of inadequate schools remains at 6:
 - Orchard Meadow (Blackbird Leys Academy Trust)
 - Windale (Blackbird Leys Academy Trust)
 - Abbey Wood (CFBT – Schools Trust (CST))
 - Chipping Norton (standalone academy)
 - Rose Hill (LA)
 - West Kidlington (LA)

Meetings are held every six weeks with the member for Education and the strategic leads for Education Quality. At these meetings we consider the schools and Early Years settings in Oxfordshire that give us cause for concern and share the actions that are being taken. These schools will be on our radar for a variety of reasons e.g. they are judged 'inadequate' by Ofsted; data shows pupils are underperforming; intelligence has indicated personnel issues; there are financial management concerns.

A current summary of schools causing concern in Oxfordshire is below.

RAG rating	Type	Phase			Most recent Ofsted judgement			
		Primary	Secondary	Special	Inadequate	Requires Improvement	Good	No current judgement
RED	Academies	6	2		4	3		1
	LA maintained	4	0		2	1	1	
AMBER	Academies	7	7			9	5	
	LA maintained	15	3	1		16	3	

Meetings are held quarterly with the School's Regional Commissioner, Martin Post. At these meetings schools causing concern are tabled for discussion. There is an emphasis placed upon the need to convert schools to academies, but also challenge from the Local Authority regarding the underperformance of academies within Oxfordshire.

RECOMMENDATION

The Education Scrutiny Committee is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) note the content of the report;
- (b) raise with the Regional Schools' Commissioner the concerns around the academies that have been judged as inadequate and the actions taken in relation to the underperformance of academies in Oxfordshire.

Report by: Jim Leivers, Director for Children, Education and Families

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EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 APRIL 2016

EXCLUSIONS IN OXFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS Terms 1 - 4 2015/16

Report by the Director for Children, Education and Families

Overview

- The number of permanent exclusions from secondary schools continues to be higher than that reported during the same period last academic year (34 against 25).
- Permanent exclusions in primary schools are also higher with 11 recorded in terms 1-4 for this academic year, compared to 4 during the same period in the 2014/15 academic year.
- The number of fixed term exclusions from secondary schools is more in line with the same period last year, but as data is missing from a number of schools this figure is likely to increase.
- 22% of pupils with fixed term exclusions were in year 11.
- The highest level of permanent exclusions is from year 10 (15 out of 49).
- The main reasons for exclusions in primary schools were persistent disruptive behaviour (32%) and physical assault against an adult (31%). In secondary schools the main reasons were persistent disruptive behaviour (28%) and Verbal abuse/ threatening behaviour against adult (24%).
- 1 Primary school (Bayards Hill) and 2 secondary schools (St Gregory the Great and the Oxford Academy) continue to have noticeably higher exclusions than other schools.
- Fixed term exclusions in primary schools were for an average of 2.0 days and in secondary schools the average was also for 2.0 days during terms 1-4.
- 29% of fixed term exclusions are for FSM pupils across all schools. The breakdown by school phase shows the split between FSM and non-FSM pupils is much closer in primary schools compared to secondary schools.

Please note that currently the local authority is not able to report on fixed term exclusion data from 5 secondary schools (The Bicester School, Cheney, The Cooper, Wallingford and Oxford Spires). Oxford Spires continue to not provide data to the local authority, The Bicester School has changed MIS and work is underway to re-establish the data feed. Cheney, Cooper and Wallingford are due to on-going, long term issues.

	Number of Permanent Exclusions			
	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
2015/16 (T1-4)	11	34	2	49**
2014/15	8	45	1	54
2013/14*	10	19	1	30

*Local data – under reporting in SFR

** Total includes 2 permanent exclusions for children not in Oxfordshire schools

Since the time of writing, two of the above permanent exclusions have been overturned by governors making the current total (including out of county) 47

ESC10

	Number of Fixed Term Exclusions			
	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
2015/16 (T1-4)	242	1532	47	1857*
2014/15	464	2089	62	2739
2013/14	496	2172	72	2761

*includes 37 FIXD at PRU and 1 FIXD at UTC

1. Schools of concern:

- a) There continues to be one primary school where the number of exclusions is noticeably higher than at other primary schools and the number of different pupils being excluded is also higher.

Bayards Hill School – there were 36 fixed term exclusions for 14 individuals. This has resulted in 74.5 days lost due to fixed term exclusions between terms 1 to 4. The breakdown of exclusions remains similar to the last report with all excluded pupils bar two being boys and 10 of the 14 pupils having SEN (8 are at SEN support “K” and 2 at school action plus “P”). One pupil has been excluded 6 times in the first 4 terms of the year; one of these instances was for 15 days.

Over half of these exclusions (22) were for persistent disruptive behaviour, 5 for damage, 3 and 2 for racist abuse. 6 of the 14 pupils excluded were in year 5 and three were in year 6.

- b) **Leafield primary school** has the third highest number of days lost through fixed term exclusions, but this is due to one pupil being excluded once for 31 days due to verbal abuse against an adult.
- c) There also continues to be one secondary school that stands out as having significantly more exclusions than other schools.

St Gregory the Great - fixed term exclusions have increased to 208 for 119 individual pupils, resulting in 287 days lost due to exclusions.

On average there continues to be 1.4 days per exclusion – indicating that the majority of exclusions at this school are very short (in fact 72% (149 out of the 208 exclusions) are for 1 day or less). The greatest numbers of excluded pupils are in years 10 and 11 with just under half being from these 2 year groups (25% year 10 and 22% year 11) in this school.

Almost three quarters of excluded pupils were male.

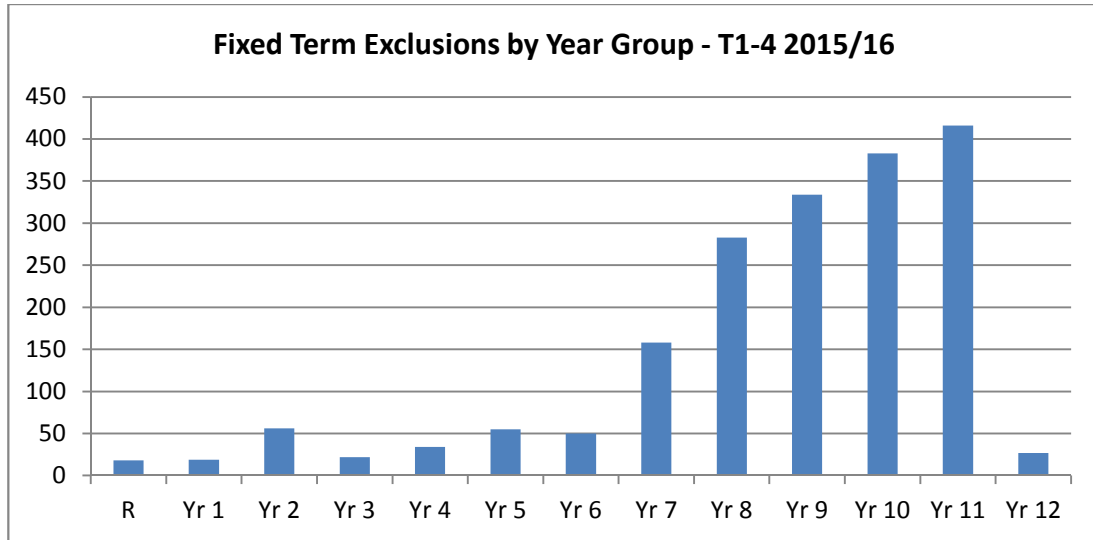
The most frequent reason for exclusion at this school is persistent disruptive behaviour which accounts for almost a third of fixed term exclusions in this school (68 out of the 208 exclusions) followed by physical assault against a pupil (28%, 47 exclusions) and verbal abuse against an adult (19%, 38 exclusions).

- d) **Oxford Academy** also remains of note as although they have reported fewer fixed term exclusions the number of days lost is far higher than all but one other secondary school, with 326.5 days lost through 80 fixed term exclusions. 46 of the 80 fixed term exclusions were for 5 days. The average number of days for fixed term exclusion at The Oxford Academy remains as 4.1, much higher than the County secondary average of 2.0 days.
- e) **Northfield Special School** has recorded notably more exclusions than other special schools in the County with 33 fixed term exclusions recorded between terms 1-4. These exclusions are relatively evenly spread throughout the year groups with the highest proportion of exclusions being for physical assault against a pupil.

2. Pupil Characteristics

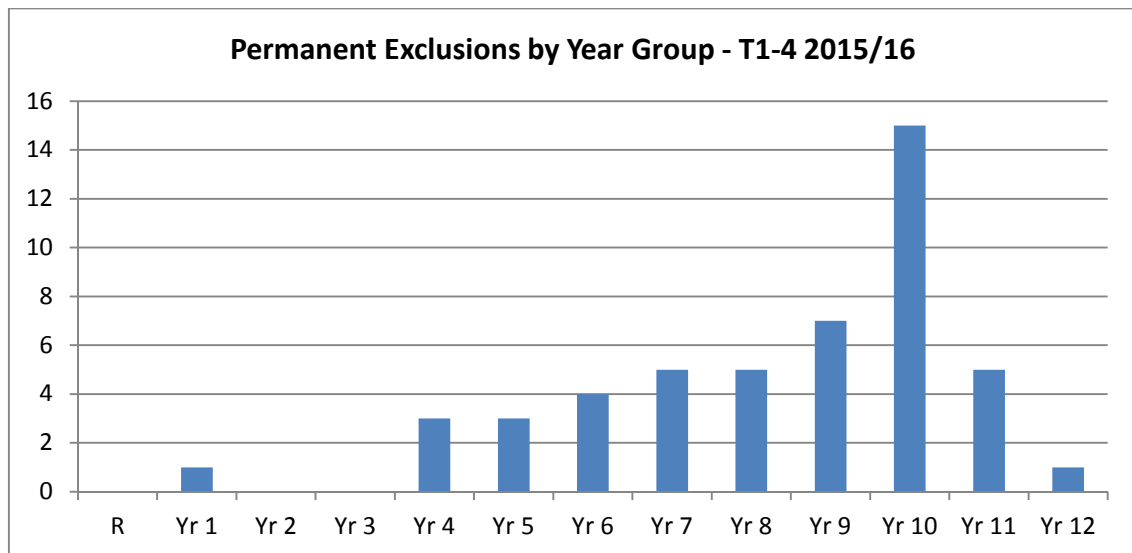
a) Year Group

During terms 1 - 4 the pattern of fixed term exclusions across the year groups has remained the same with numbers of fixed term exclusions steadily increasing over the year groups from year 7, peaking in year 11. There is also a small spike in year 2 pupils being excluded.



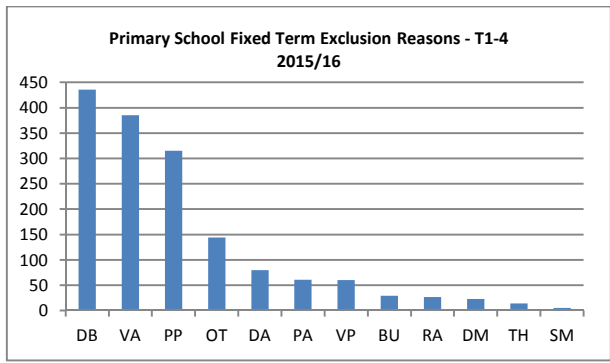
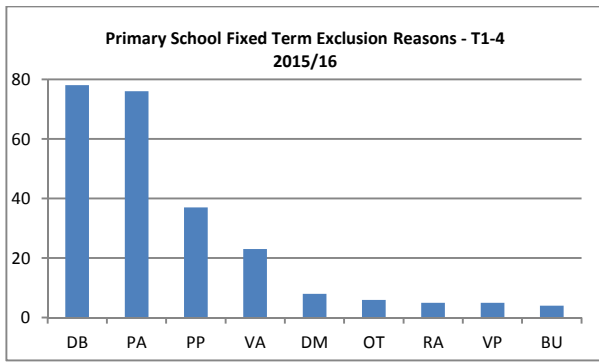
There have been a further 5 reception year pupils with fixed term exclusions taking the total for the academic year to 18. These are for 9 pupils (one pupil has been excluded 4 times and two pupils have been excluded 3 times).

During terms 1 - 4 there remains a definite spike in permanent exclusions in year 10, with slight increases 7 and 9. There has been one permanent exclusion of one pupil in year 1.



b) Reason

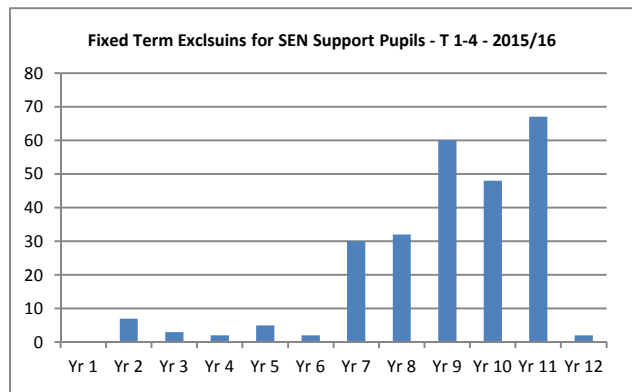
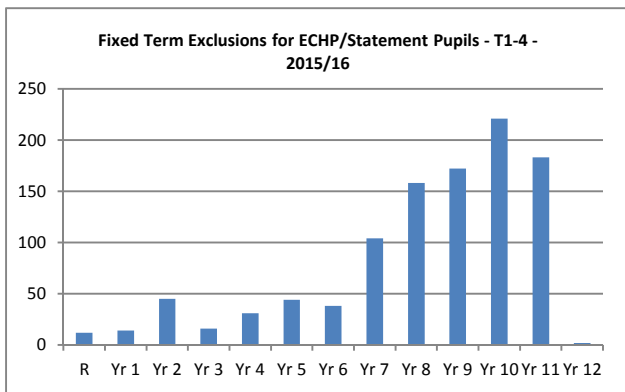
The main reason for fixed term exclusions in both primary and secondary schools remains the same and is persistent disruptive behaviour. Within primary schools physical assault on adults and pupils make up the top 3 reasons. Whereas in secondary schools it is verbal assault against an adult and physical assault against a pupil that make up the top three reasons.



c) Special Educational Needs

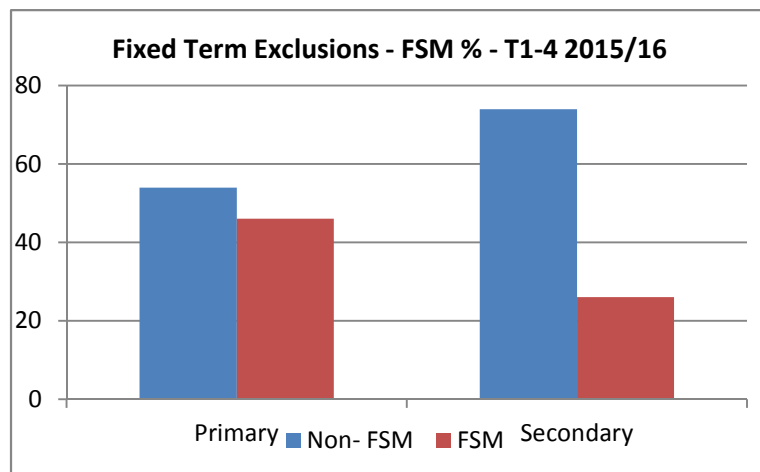
127 fixed term exclusions were for pupils with a statement or EHC plan (code S or E). 1172 fixed term exclusions were for pupils with SEN Support (code K, A or P). The 1172 fixed term exclusions were for 582 pupils. One SEN support pupil has been excluded 14 times between terms 1 and 4.

For pupils with a statement or ECHP the number of fixed term exclusions start to increase from year 7, peaking in year 10. The spikes in fixed term exclusions for SEN Support pupils are during year 9 and year 11. There is also a slight spike in the primary phase for year 2 and 5.



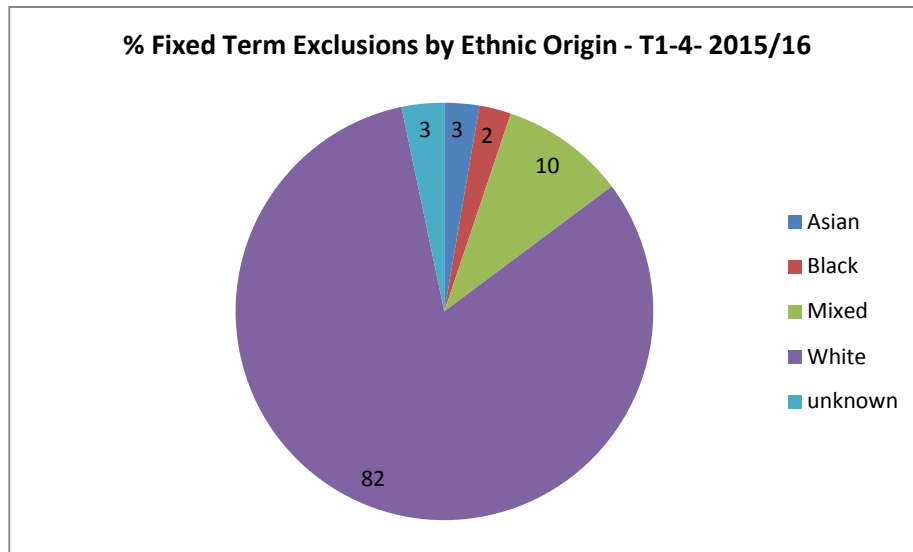
d) Free School Meals

Pupils eligible for free school meals make up 29% of fixed term exclusions and 36% of permanent exclusions. The chart below splits fixed term exclusions down by school phase and shows that the split between FSM and non-FSM pupils with fixed term exclusions is much closer in primary schools compared to secondary schools.



e) Ethnic Origin

As would be expected pupils from a white background recorded the highest proportion of fixed term exclusions. Those pupils from a mixed background recorded the second highest with 10%.



3. Recent developments that may affect exclusion rates

a) DfE White Paper: Education Excellence Everywhere

In section 6 of the white paper describes plans to change accountability for educational outcomes for permanently excluded pupils. Schools will be responsible for commissioning alternative provision for all pupils including those who they have permanently excluded.

b) Proposed changes to the admission arrangements into Meadowbrook College

We are in consultation with secondary headteachers, In Year Fair Access Panel (IYFAP) representatives and colleagues within the LA about changes to the process for admission into Meadowbrook. It is hoped that the changes will provide a more flexible offer to schools to support preventative approaches and reduce the need for permanent exclusion. The Education Inclusion team and the new Headteacher at Meadowbrook College are working closely with headteachers to implement these changes.

Report by: Jim Leivers, Director for Children, Education and Families

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Oxon Primary School Exclusions Summary 2015 -16 Ac Yr - Term 1 - 4

Area	School Name	Sch Type	Hub	Count of Exclusions	Count of Students	Sum of Excl Days	Exc Category
C	Bayards Hill Primary School	Primary	UNI	36	14	74.5	FIXD
N	William Morris School	Primary	BAN	19	4	36.0	FIXD
C	John Henry Newman Academy	Primary	LIT	13	8	14.0	FIXD
S	Manor School	Primary	DID	11	6	16.0	FIXD
C	Rose Hill Primary School	Primary	LIT	10	7	15.0	FIXD
S	Cholsey Primary School	Primary	DID	9	2	8.5	FIXD
C	Church Cowley St James CofE Primary School	Primary	LIT	8	5	19.5	FIXD
C	St Francis Church of England Primary School	Primary	LIT	7	2	9.0	FIXD
N	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Carterton	Primary	WIT	6	2	11.5	FIXD
N	The Blake CofE Primary School	Primary	WIT	6	4	6.8	FIXD
S	Abbey Woods Academy	Primary	ABI	6	2	23.0	FIXD
S	Millbrook Primary School	Primary	ABI	6	2	11.0	FIXD
C	Windale Primary School	Primary	LIT	5	4	7.5	FIXD
N	Harriers Banbury Academy	Primary	BAN	5	4	6.5	FIXD
N	St Mary's CofE (VC) Primary School, Banbury	Primary	BAN	5	3	15.5	FIXD
N	Five Acres Primary School	Primary	BIC	5	2	8.0	FIXD
N	Chesterton Church of England Primary School	Primary	BIC	5	1	13.0	FIXD
N	Queen Emma's Community Primary School	Primary	WIT	5	4	7.0	FIXD
S	Northbourne Church of England Primary School	Primary	DID	5	2	10.5	FIXD
N	Glory Farm Primary / Bicester Learning Academy	Primary	BIC	4	3	13.0	FIXD
S	Dorchester St Birinus CE Primary School	Primary	ABI	4	2	3.0	FIXD
S	Grove Church of England School	Primary	ABI	4	1	10.0	FIXD
S	John Blandy V.C Primary School	Primary	ABI	4	2	5.0	FIXD
C	Larkrise Primary School	Primary	LIT	3	2	7.0	FIXD
C	St Andrew's Church of England Primary School	Primary	UNI	3	1	11.5	FIXD
N	Dashwood Banbury Academy	Primary	BAN	3	3	3.0	FIXD
N	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Banbury	Primary	BAN	3	2	5.0	FIXD
N	Longfields Primary School	Primary	BIC	3	1	2.0	FIXD
C	Windmill Primary School	Primary	UNI	2	1	2.0	FIXD
N	Enstone Primary School	Primary	WIT	2	1	2.5	FIXD
N	Edith Moorhouse Primary School	Primary	WIT	2	1	2.5	FIXD
N	St John the Evangelist CofE Primary School	Primary	WIT	2	1	2.5	FIXD
N	St Peter's Church of England (VA) Infants' School	Primary	WIT	2	1	2.5	FIXD
N	St Mary's CofE (A) Primary School, Chipping Norton	Primary	WIT	2	1	3.0	FIXD
S	Faringdon Infant School	Primary	ABI	2	1	2.0	FIXD
S	St Nicolas Church of England Primary Sch, Abingdon	Primary	ABI	2	2	1.5	FIXD
S	Blewbury Endowed Church of England Primary School	Primary	DID	2	2	2.0	FIXD
C	Pegasus Primary School	Primary	LIT	1	1	3.5	FIXD
C	East Oxford Primary School	Primary	UNI	1	1	2.0	FIXD
C	Botley School	Primary	UNI	1	1	1.0	FIXD
C	Wood Farm Primary School	Primary	UNI	1	1	3.0	FIXD
C	St Michael's CofE Aided Primary School, Oxford	Primary	UNI	1	1	2.5	FIXD
N	Eynsham Community Primary School	Primary		1	1	4.0	FIXD
N	Hill View Primary School	Primary	BAN	1	1	2.0	FIXD
N	Wroxton Church of England Primary School	Primary	BAN	1	1	3.5	FIXD
N	Hanwell Fields Community School	Primary	BAN	1	1	0.0	FIXD
N	Leafield Church of England Controlled Primary School	Primary	WIT	1	1	31.0	FIXD
N	Bampton Church of England Primary School	Primary	WIT	1	1	1.0	FIXD
N	St Christopher's CofE Primary School, Langford	Primary	WIT	1	1	1.0	FIXD
S	Charlton Primary School	Primary	ABI	1	1	0.0	FIXD
S	Rush Common School	Primary	ABI	1	1	1.5	FIXD
S	Caldecott Primary School	Primary	ABI	1	1	4.0	FIXD
S	Longcot & Fernham Church of England School	Primary	ABI	1	1	3.0	FIXD
S	Wantage Church of England Primary School	Primary	ABI	1	1	3.0	FIXD
S	Dunmore Primary School	Primary	ABI	1	1	13.0	FIXD
S	Badgemore Community Primary School	Primary	DID	1	1	1.0	FIXD
S	Chilton Primary School	Primary	DID	1	1	1.5	FIXD
S	St Andrew's Church of England Primary Sch, Chipping Norton	Primary	DID	1	1	1.0	FIXD
	Stokenchurch Primary School	Primary		1	1		PERM
C	Rose Hill Primary School	Primary	LIT	1	1		PERM
C	Bayards Hill Primary School	Primary	UNI	1	1		PERM
N	Five Acres Primary School	Primary	BIC	1	1		PERM
N	Glory Farm Primary / Bicester Learning Academy	Primary	BIC	1	1		PERM
N	West Witney Primary School	Primary	WIT	1	1		PERM
N	Great Rollright CofE (Aided) Primary School	Primary	WIT	1	1		PERM
N	St Mary's CofE (A) Primary School, Chipping Norton	Primary	WIT	1	1		PERM
S	St Edmund's Catholic (VA) Primary School, Abingdon	Primary	ABI	1	1		PERM
S	Dunmore Primary School	Primary	ABI	1	1		PERM
S	All Saints CofE (Aided) Primary School	Primary	DID	1	1		PERM

Oxon Primary School Exclusions Summary 2015 -16 Ac Yr - Term 1 - 4

	Number of exclusions	Number students	Number of days
Oxfordshire Primary Fixed Term Exclusions	242	127	475
Oxfordshire Primary Permanent Exclusions	11	11	-

Oxon Secondary School Exclusions Summary 2015 -16 Ac Yr - Term 1 - 4

Area	School Name	Sch Type	Hub	Count of Exclusions	Count of Students	Sum of Excl Days	Exc Category
C	St Gregory The Great Catholic School	Secondary	LIT	208	119	287.0	FIXD
S	St Birinus School	Secondary	DID	172	66	322.0	FIXD
C	Wheatley Park School	Secondary	UNI	97	48	148.0	FIXD
S	John Mason School	Secondary	ABI	95	40	135.0	FIXD
N	Banbury Academy	Secondary	BAN	93	54	199.0	FIXD
C	The Oxford Academy	Secondary	LIT	80	39	326.5	FIXD
C	Gosford Hill School	Secondary	BIC	64	34	99.0	FIXD
S	Chiltern Edge School	Secondary	DID	60	14	96.0	FIXD
S	Lord Williams's School	Secondary	DID	59	38	157.0	FIXD
S	King Alfred's	Secondary	ABI	56	35	161.0	FIXD
N	Burford School	Secondary	WIT	46	39	137.0	FIXD
N	North Oxfordshire Academy	Secondary	BAN	45	35	107.5	FIXD
N	Chipping Norton School	Secondary	WIT	42	27	81.5	FIXD
S	Larkmead School	Secondary	ABI	39	18	46.5	FIXD
C	Matthew Arnold School	Secondary	UNI	36	16	53.5	FIXD
S	Didcot Girls' School	Secondary	DID	35	17	76.0	FIXD
N	Bartholomew School	Secondary	WIT	34	25	44.0	FIXD
C	The Cherwell School	Secondary	UNI	32	26	86.0	FIXD
N	The Warriner School	Secondary	BAN	31	21	56.0	FIXD
N	Blessed George Napier Catholic School	Secondary	BAN	29	21	49.0	FIXD
N	The Henry Box School	Secondary	WIT	26	16	54.5	FIXD
S	Faringdon Community College	Secondary	ABI	23	12	31.5	FIXD
N	Wood Green School	Secondary	WIT	22	13	35.5	FIXD
S	Icknield Community College	Secondary	DID	22	12	39.0	FIXD
S	Langtree School	Secondary	DID	19	15	39.5	FIXD
N	The Marlborough Church of England School	Secondary	WIT	18	7	23.5	FIXD
N	Carterton Community College	Secondary	WIT	17	11	33.0	FIXD
S	Fitzharrys School	Secondary	ABI	17	11	31.0	FIXD
S	Gillotts School	Secondary	DID	13	8	28.0	FIXD
C	Oxford Spires Academy	Secondary	LIT	1	1	6.0	FIXD
N	Bicester Community College	Secondary	BIC	1	1	4.0	FIXD
C	Gosford Hill School	Secondary	BIC	1	1		PERM
C	St Gregory The Great Catholic School	Secondary	LIT	3	3		PERM
C	The Oxford Academy	Secondary	LIT	5	5		PERM
C	Oxford Spires Academy	Secondary	LIT	3	3		PERM
C	Wheatley Park School	Secondary	UNI	2	2		PERM
C	The Cherwell School	Secondary	UNI	1	1		PERM
C	Cheney School	Secondary	UNI	2	2		PERM
N	Banbury Academy	Secondary	BAN	1	1		PERM
N	North Oxfordshire Academy	Secondary	BAN	1	1		PERM
N	Bicester Community College	Secondary	BIC	3	3		PERM
N	Wood Green School	Secondary	WIT	1	1		PERM
S	Larkmead School	Secondary	ABI	1	1		PERM
S	Fitzharrys School	Secondary	ABI	1	1		PERM
S	King Alfred's	Secondary	ABI	1	1		PERM
S	Icknield Community College	Secondary	DID	1	1		PERM
S	Chiltern Edge School	Secondary	DID	2	2		PERM
S	Langtree School	Secondary	DID	1	1		PERM
S	St Birinus School	Secondary	DID	3	3		PERM
S	Lord Williams's School	Secondary	DID	1	1		PERM

	Number of	Number	Number of days
Oxfordshire Secondary Fixed Term Exclusions	1,532	839	2,993
Oxfordshire Secondary Permanent Exclusions	34	34	-

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Oxon Special School Exclusions Summary 2015 -16 Ac Yr - Term 1 - 4

Area	DfENo	School Name	SchType	Hub	Count of Exclusions	Count of Students	Sum of Excl Days	Exc Category
C	7018	The Iffley Academy	Special	LIT	6	5	22.0	FIXD
C	7031	Northfield School	Special	LIT	33	19	96.0	FIXD
C	7016	Northern House School	Special	UNI	7	4	58.5	FIXD
S	7000	Kingfisher School	Special	ABI	1	1	2.0	FIXD
C	7031	Northfield School	Special	LIT	2	2		PERM

	Number of	Number students	Number of days
Oxfordshire Special Fixed Term Exclusions	47	29	179
Oxfordshire Special Permanent Exclusions	2	2	-

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Scrutiny Annual Report

2015 – 2016

Foreword

The council has continued to face a changing and difficult working environment this year. Budget pressures and the shifting local government landscape have meant that the role of the council is changing and this trend is likely to continue over the coming years.

In spite of these difficulties, Oxfordshire County Council's scrutiny committees have responded well, keeping a focus on priority issues where scrutiny can add real value and insight. They have strived to inform decision-making and challenged process and service delivery where they can make the most impact and effect on outcomes for Oxfordshire residents.

All scrutiny committee members are committed to ensuring that scrutiny is as effective as it can be. Part of this involves the different committees working closely together to ensure that there is agreement and coherence across the board. This year, we as Chairmen have been committed to meeting quarterly to discuss issues affecting all scrutiny committees and to ensure that scrutiny is smooth, efficient and effective.

We are proud of all that the scrutiny committees have achieved this year, and look forward to a challenging but effective 2016/17.



**Cllr Liz
Brighthouse OBE**

Chairman of the
Performance Scrutiny
Committee



**Cllr Yvonne
Constance OBE**

Chairman of the
Oxfordshire Joint Health
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee



**Cllr Mark
Gray**

Chairman of the
Education Scrutiny
Committee

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Scrutiny Annual Report provides a summary of the work of the council's overview and scrutiny function in 2015/16. This function includes the council's three Overview and Scrutiny Committees, and any Cabinet Advisory Groups which have been appointed by Cabinet in this time.
- 1.2. This report is structured by committee. It explores some of the areas of work each of the committees has undertaken over the last year and highlights where influence has been greatest. It emphasises areas where scrutiny has had a tangible impact on decision-making, and therefore on the lives of the people of Oxfordshire.
- 1.3. Membership details for the Scrutiny Committees and Cabinet Advisory Groups are provided in Annexes 1 and 2 respectively.

2. Performance Scrutiny Committee

2.1. The Performance Scrutiny Committee has a membership of 11 county councillors and is chaired by Cllr Liz Brighthouse OBE. The county councillor membership is politically proportional to the membership of the Council. The committee met nine times in 2015/2016. Some of its key functions, as outlined in the constitution, include:

- Scrutinising the performance of the council;
- Providing a focused review of corporate performance, directorate performance;
- Scrutinising financial reporting and budgets;
- Raising queries or issues of concern that may occur over decisions being taken in relation to adult social care, to provide a specific committee for addressing such queries;
- Discharging the Council's scrutiny responsibilities under the Crime and Justice Act 2006, to review and scrutinise decisions made or actions taken by community safety partners.

2.2. In total this year, 14 members of the public have addressed the committee.

Service and Resource Planning

2.3. The Performance Scrutiny Committee has overall responsibility for scrutinising budget proposals. The preparation of budget proposals for the period 2016/17 presented fundamental challenges for the council as the total savings required over a decade from 2010-20 rise towards £350m. Cuts to the grant the council receives from government continued, and the savings required increased beyond the planned "worst case" scenario at short notice with publication of the draft Local Government Settlement in December 2015.

2.4. The committee is committed to the principle of transparency in the budget setting process and worked to scrutinise the early proposals made for budget savings at its meeting in December 2015, prioritising those which were least acceptable - notably services to the most vulnerable and those caring for them - including through consideration of responses to the consultation, analysis of these, and representations made in person. However the increased savings target at late notice reduced the impact it was possible for this scrutiny process to have.

2.5. The committee has continued to ensure that there is effective challenge to proposals through improved briefing and engagement of all members, not just committee members, during the process of scrutinising major issues. In particular, all-member briefings have been organised on issues including finance and the restructure of the Early Intervention Service, with invitations extended to all Councillors not solely members of the committee.

2.6. A number of areas of investigation identified in last year's report by Performance Scrutiny during the service and resource planning process have

had high profile this year. These included the impact of the living wage on costs in social care, the reshaping of early intervention services, the frontline role and digital role of the libraries service, and the need to review performance targets. In working to shape policy on the future of the council the committee examined and commented on an emerging draft of the new corporate plan at its January meeting.

- 2.7. Next year the committee also expects to need to engage with proposals for significant savings and cuts. Given the greater certainty about the path for local government spending there may be an opportunity to scrutinise emerging proposals at an earlier stage.

Performance Management

- 2.8. The committee has continued with the practice of examining the overall performance report quarterly but undertaking a more detailed examination of one directorate area per quarter, supported by the Director and other relevant staff. This has enabled more in-depth consideration and challenge of particular service issues.

Meeting date	Directorate focus
25 June 2015	Children, Education & Families
24 September 2015	Social & Community Services
7 January 2016	Children, Education & Families
24 March 2016	Environment & Economy

- 2.9. The Performance Scrutiny Committee is committed to scrutinising both direct delivery by the council, and the performance of contracts, commissioned services and partnerships, as the council increasingly commissions services rather than directly providing them.
- 2.10. More broadly, committee members and officers have continued to engage in the improvement of performance reporting structures throughout the year in order to ensure that performance management remains robust and fit for purpose in future.
- 2.11. In addition to examining overall performance the Performance Scrutiny Committee has played a vital role in the council's planning and delivery of some of its highest priority services. Safeguarding children, adult social care and community safety have featured strongly in the committee's scrutiny this year.
- 2.12. As well as regular scrutiny of individual service areas the committee frequently undertook more detailed examinations of specific areas of performance when necessary. For example, consideration of financial savings in relation to Environment and Economy activities prompted a more broad and thorough consideration of those activities at a subsequent meeting. Similarly, routine scrutiny of performance within Children, Education and Families activities raised concerns over attainment by absent or excluded children and prompted a more detailed session on looked after children at a subsequent meeting.

- 2.13. The committee has been actively involved in discussing future developments in performance monitoring across the council. At its February 2016 meeting, the committee gave unanimous support for a more streamlined, outcome-based approach to performance, with measure linked closely to the priorities in the Corporate Plan. Members also had the opportunity to shape the role of the committee in the performance reporting process and agreed that 'deep dives' will also be done at meetings, offering supplementary performance narrative (i.e. benchmarking, value for money, qualitative feedback). The committee suggested that these may trigger task-finish groups of 2-3 committee members, who would report back to the main committee and so potentially increase the committee's capacity for detailed scrutiny.

Crime and Community Safety

- 2.14. In May 2015 the committee scrutinised an update of the Police & Crime Plan 2013-17, an account by Chief Constable Francis Habgood of the performance of Thames Valley Police against the Delivery Plan for 2014-15, and the equivalent Delivery Plan for 2015-16. The committee probed the balance between crime rates and the potential for budget cuts, and explored the complexity of forecasting and resourcing future policing activities in view of changing demographics and delivery technologies.
- 2.15. Related themes featured in the June 2015 meeting, in scrutiny of the countywide Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership's priorities for the coming year. The committee discussed the process for risk assessment and intervention, and the importance of working with all partners including at District and Parish levels. Discussion also touched on the council's approach to implementing the Government's PREVENT anti-extremism agenda.
- 2.16. In September 2015 the Chief Fire Officer presented the Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service (OFRS) Annual Report 2014-15 which informed the committee's scrutiny of the service's future work. Members considered the implications of the partnership between the Fire and Rescue Service and the South Central Ambulance Service and queried the potential for response targets to be stretched beyond current levels.
- 2.17. Reflecting the committee's increasingly strategic approach to scrutiny, the committee resolved in future to consider in parallel the annual Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership Business Plan, the annual Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner Police and Crime Plan and Annual Report, and the Thames Valley Police Delivery Plan.

Safeguarding Children

- 2.18. The committee's scrutiny activities help to ensure the council is effectively safeguarding the most vulnerable people within our communities. Having explored the council's Thriving Families programme during the May 2015 meeting, the meeting in June 2015 went on to consider a range of children's issues alongside the quarterly performance monitoring report. Members' concerns over certain aspects of performance, particularly in light of

increasing demand and likely reductions of resources, prompted agreement to carry out a focused session on vulnerable and looked after children at a future meeting.

- 2.19. The November 2015 meeting considered the council's action plan following Ofsted's recent "good" assessment of all aspects of children's services. The committee made recommendations intended to improve even further on successes such as fostering services and governance arrangements for the interaction between the council and voluntary groups. The committee then considered a briefing by officers on missing children in Oxfordshire and tested the council's provision of adequate safeguarding measures.
- 2.20. The background to the increase in child protection cases was scrutinised, and although the situation was worrying it was noted that the council compared well with other good-performing authorities. Members expressed concern at high caseloads and asked that the Chairman be alerted to any changes between meetings. Members also received a briefing on the Child Sexual Exploitation stocktake report.
- 2.21. The annual reports of the Safeguarding Boards were presented to the committee in January 2016. The committee has requested in future that these are brought earlier in the financial year, in order to enable scrutiny in advance of council, and officers are working to enable this.

Adult Social Care

- 2.22. Having touched on adult care issues in May 2015's discussion of Oxfordshire's Thriving Families report, in September 2015 the committee looked in more detail at adult social care issues. Time was devoted to understanding the nature and extent of performance information being collated by the council in response to national standards in this area, and it was recognised that overall Oxfordshire was in the top performance quartile of authorities nationally. Members explored three main areas of concern: delayed transfers of care, reablement and home care. Ultimately the committee recorded concerns over funding, sustainability of resources and recruitment and retention of a skilled workforce.
- 2.23. At its December 2015 meeting, focusing on the council's proposed budget reductions, the committee considered representations from Age UK, among others, concerning adult social care. Following detailed consideration the committee identified 12 savings proposals in this area as being among those that would be least acceptable. These predominantly related to support for the most vulnerable service users, and their carers. While this demonstrated the committee's determination to bring challenge where proposed changes might detrimentally affect council services, ultimately however the subsequent Local Government Settlement announcement required savings even beyond the magnitude under consideration.
- 2.24. Returning to adult social care at their January 2016 meeting, the committee heard from the Independent Chair of the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults

Board, and assessed progress towards implementing the Oxfordshire Adult Social Care Workforce Strategy, including the council's proposed delivery plan and governance arrangements. Members noted concerns over severe pressure points in relation to the increased complexity of cases and activity in the system, particularly in light of tightening budgets.

Other Issues

- 2.25. The committee undertook scrutiny on a range of other issues during the year, many of which had broader strategic relevance to the areas noted above. This included looking at the outcomes of consultation. In addition to the budget consultation, a major scrutiny exercise was undertaken at the November 2015 meeting to analyse public feedback to the council's Supported Transport consultation, and the potential impact of the proposals on areas such as adult care and rural deprivation. A list of concerns over the consultation exercise and its conclusions was subsequently put to Cabinet. Rural deprivation was also a feature of the committee's September meeting, where the council's Community Information Networks were considered.
- 2.26. The committee also scrutinised the proposed changes to early intervention services at their February 2016 meeting in advance of a Cabinet decision. Performance Scrutiny recognised the financial and demand imperatives facing children's social care, and made recommendations around the use of the additional funding protected by Council to maintain as many services as possible in appropriate locations, with as much open access provision as possible, requesting this be delivered through the undertaking of a "service and geography gap analysis".
- 2.27. The committee supported the ambition of any local areas, voluntary groups, district, town, and parish councils, and independent providers who wish to operate a children's centre which would otherwise close with no, or significantly reduced, council funding, and was keen to see an emphasis on the full age range of children and young people being supported by the service, in order that 'early help' is delivered across the 0-19 age range and youth engagement could be maintained.
- 2.28. In addition to a discussion focused around changes to the public-facing service Performance Scrutiny also discussed the council's role in education, and action on safeguarding. On these issues Performance Scrutiny expressed concern that Oxfordshire may "lose out" as a result of a weakened relationship with schools, and asked that education-related policy form part of devolution discussions.

Call In

- 2.29. The call-in procedure allows the Performance Scrutiny Committee to compel the Cabinet to reconsider a decision made by its members, but not yet implemented. There must be compelling grounds for review. The committee considered one call in request this year at a special meeting in February 2016.

- 2.30. This request was in response to a councillor petition meeting the requisite number of signatures, and related to a Cabinet Member decision titled "Proposed Bus Lane & Parking/Waiting Restrictions – Orchard Centre (Phase 2), Didcot", particularly pertaining to traffic regulation orders consequential to a planning decision by South Oxfordshire District Council. The committee agreed that this decision should be referred back to Cabinet.
- 2.31. Following representations from members of the community, the Chairman agreed that the committee should scrutinise the process for granting licenses relating to road closures for the delivery of the Hospital Energy Project around Headington, and extended an invitation to the OUHNFT to discuss the adequacy of public consultation. This took place in February and the committee recommended a review of the protocol on Member Engagement with regard to petitions and its general effectiveness, and asked audit and governance committee to consider a review of key decisions in the next constitutional review.

Forward Planning

- 2.32. The council continues to face severe challenges around both funding and demand. This will bring significant changes both in terms of how the council itself operates, and how services are delivered. Both of these will be themes for the Performance Scrutiny Committee in 2016-17, as well as continuing the ongoing scrutiny of performance, and the management of any call-ins.
- 2.33. Recognising the increasing importance of working in partnership and effective commissioning the committee is likely to wish to look at these in more detail in the coming year, including scrutiny of the council's commissioning framework, and examination of the annual 'partnerships report' in addition to the standing item at full council.

3. Education Scrutiny Committee

- 3.1. The Education Scrutiny Committee has a membership of 11 county councillors, 4 co-opted members and is chaired by Cllr Mark Gray. The county councillor membership is politically proportional to the membership of the Council. The committee met five times in 2015/2016.
- 3.2. The Education Scrutiny Committee provides a county wide view of the provision of all the schools in Oxfordshire. As stated in the Terms of Reference of the committee, the key functions of the committee include:
- To assist the Council in its role of championing good educational outcomes for Oxfordshire's children and young people;
 - To provide a challenge to schools and academies and to hold them to account for their academic performance;
 - To promote joined up working across organisations in the education sector within Oxfordshire;
 - To review the bigger picture affecting academic achievement in the county so as to facilitate the achievement of good outcomes;
 - To represent the community of Oxfordshire in the development of academic achievement across the county, including responding to formal consultations and participating in inter-agency discussions;
 - To contribute to the development of educational policy in the county.
- 3.3. In 2015/16 there was a standing working group chaired by Cllr Peter Handley, focusing on issues around Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs). The group concluded its work in December 2015 when it presented its key findings and recommendations to the committee.

System Diversity & Relationship with Academies

- 3.4. The academies programme has transformed England's educational landscape, and so in 2015-16 the committee was keen to consolidate its understanding of the changing educational landscape in Oxfordshire so that it could champion excellent educational outcomes for children in the county in an effective way.
- 3.5. By looking at national and local trends in education, members considered the complex education system in the county and the main responsibilities of the council in relation to academies. The committee was clear that the council must continue its role as a community leader and work together with all its education partners in the county, stressing that they all have a moral duty to cooperate to enable children and young people in Oxfordshire schools to achieve their potential.
- 3.6. One key question for the committee was around how to scrutinise and challenge academies in the absence of formal powers. Martin Post, the Regional Schools Commissioner, was invited to address the committee on this issue at the July 2015 meeting. The discussion helped send an important

message in terms of the need to ensure that no school – council maintained or academy – remains un-scrutinised so that the best outcomes are achieved for all the children in the county.

- 3.7. The committee warned against over reliance on local authorities for local intelligence when there is increasing pressure on the council's resources, and stressed that there is a need for more clarity in relation to the Regional Schools Commissioner's role in relation to the free school policy and pupil place planning. The committee used the discussion as an opportunity to raise local concerns and make sure the Regional Schools Commissioner was aware of local challenges and issues. It was agreed that the Regional Schools' Commissioner will return to speak to the committee in a year's time.

Ofsted Framework for the Inspection of Local Authority Arrangements for Supporting School Improvement (LAASSI)

- 3.8. In November 2014 the government introduced a new statutory framework for inspections of local authority arrangements for supporting improvement in schools. The aim of these inspections is to assist local authorities in their duty to promote high standards and fulfilment of potential so that all children and young people benefit from a good education.
- 3.9. Over a number of meetings, the committee looked into detail at the focus areas for inspection, the national context, the risk assessment for the local authority and the steps taken to date by the county council to prepare for an inspection under this framework. The committee's forward plan of items for future consideration was amended to reflect the priority areas identified. This has helped ensure that the work of the committee is targeted on the most important areas so that the council is fully prepared in the event of an inspection of its school improvement services.
- 3.10. To further consolidate the committee's work in this area, Sir Robin Boshier, Ofsted Regional Director, was invited to address the committee in October 2015 on the work of Ofsted and its current priorities. In discussion with Sir Robin, the committee sought to clarify its role in providing a constructive challenge to schools and academies and in assisting the council in its role of championing good educational outcomes for children and young people in Oxfordshire. Sir Robin provided examples of best practice in terms of the scrutiny function in different local authorities across the country and explained that despite education being an evolving landscape, there is a clear role for elected members to play in scrutiny. Members reiterated their commitment to learning from best practice in other local authorities and to working with Her Majesty's Inspectors.

Educational Attainment of Vulnerable Groups

- 3.11. Last year the committee identified educational attainment of vulnerable children as a priority area. In 2015-16 the committee continued to scrutinise the council's work to improve outcomes for disadvantaged children.

- 3.12. At the July 2015 meeting, the Deputy Director for Education & Learning presented a report on the steps being taken to narrow the gap in achievement between vulnerable learners and other pupils. During discussion members considered the particular problems of small rural schools, and highlighted the fact that yet more work is required around supporting children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The committee stressed that role models in schools were important and careers advice must start at primary school level to be effective.
- 3.13. The committee also scrutinised the arrangements for supporting children on the edge of care and looked after children, and the Chairman of the committee paid a visit to the Virtual School for Looked After Children to see first-hand the support provided.
- 3.14. The committee will continue to monitor this issue and hold officers to account.

Use of Schools Revenue Balances

- 3.15. Following up on last year's work, the committee continued to scrutinise the use of schools' revenue balance. Last year the committee was keen to understand current levels of reserves held by schools and academies in Oxfordshire, and raised concerns over schools keeping large reserves. The committee firmly championed the principle of spending today's funding for today's children.
- 3.16. Acting on the committee's recommendation, meetings were held with maintained schools in Spring 2015 to challenge plans for use of balances, where schools had consistently retained surplus revenue balances at the end of the last four financial years. The Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families and the Chairman of the Education Scrutiny Committee attended the meetings along with the Interim Deputy Director for Education & Learning and the Finance Business Partner for Children, Education & Families. The Headteacher and Chair of Governors or Finance Governor attended from each school. At these meetings, schools were:
- questioned about differences between projected year balances and actual outturn
 - asked to explain how the balances had arisen, what the plans were for use of balances, and the reasons for any delays in implementing plans
 - challenged about any areas where performance appeared low
 - asked whether they thought they had any gaps in expertise on their Governing Body, particularly in relation to finance
 - if governors received sufficient financial information and in a clear format, to allow them to effectively fulfil their responsibilities for overseeing the management of the resources available.
- 3.17. The meetings helped uncover the various reasons behind each school's surplus balances, and overall the panel concluded that the schools were

managing their budget effectively, especially in light of the challenges facing small schools and the uncertainty around rapid expansion.

- 3.18. The committee also received an update on the 2014-15 Year End Balances in its October 2015 meeting, which showed that overall the level of balances for the 41 schools previously identified as having consistently held surplus balances has reduced by £700,795, a reduction of nearly 15% on the 2013-14 balances, with 28 of the 41 schools showing a reduction.
- 3.19. The committee welcomed the overall reduction in balances, and urged officers to continue to scrutinise and challenge schools on their use of balances.

Breakfast Clubs

- 3.20. At the recommendation of the Council, the committee considered the local provision of breakfast clubs in schools in its April 2015 meeting. There are 187 breakfast clubs in Oxfordshire, but less than 7% of 5- to 11-year-olds have access to them. For the 53,971 primary school children in this age range, there are only 3,581 places at breakfast clubs. Research shows that these clubs can play an important role in raising attainment, improving absence rate and lateness.
- 3.21. The committee heard that the most significant challenge to breakfast provision in schools is finance, as schools and academies have to either use their own resources or seek charitable or private business grants to set up and run breakfast clubs.
- 3.22. The committee noted the clear benefits linked to the provision of breakfast in schools including improved attendance, attention, behaviour and learning. Members were adamant that all schools and education partners should be encouraged to set up breakfast clubs and link up with schools or academies which do have breakfast clubs. As recommended by the committee, a letter was sent to all Headteachers and governing boards in Oxfordshire to ask them to consider setting up breakfast clubs. The committee's call for more schools to consider providing a breakfast club was covered in the local media, adding further weight to the recommendation of the committee.

Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)

- 3.23. At the July 2015 meeting of the Education Scrutiny Committee, it was agreed to set up a working group to consider in further detail the issue of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) in Oxfordshire. The group was chaired by Cllr Peter Handley, and membership consisted of the following Education Scrutiny Committee members: Cllr Mark Gray, Cllr Michael Waive, and Cllr Steve Curran.
- 3.24. The group looked at the overall numbers of NEETs in Oxfordshire and scrutinised the way the county council is meeting its statutory duties in relation to NEETs. Members heard that figures have improved significantly over the last few years and that Oxfordshire is in a strong position compared to its

statistical neighbours. The working group also discussed the employment and apprenticeship opportunities available to young people in Oxfordshire, and heard from officers that the county council is working closely with local employers and schools to match job opportunities with young people and to make sure young people have the right skills and training when they leave education.

- 3.25. Overall the working group were satisfied that the county council has robust systems in place to deal with NEETs and acknowledged that while individual cases of concern may occur, the county council provides appropriate support to young people not in education, employment or training in Oxfordshire and that the system used for updating children leaving education is working well.

Recruitment & Retention of Teachers

- 3.26. As schools across the country are facing a teaching recruitment crisis, the committee was keen the local picture in Oxfordshire and understand what the Council and other educational partners have done so far to support the recruitment and retention of teachers in the county, and what more needs to be done both locally and nationally. A range of educational experts were invited to address the committee including the Director of the Oxfordshire Teaching Schools Alliance, Headteachers from schools in both rural and urban settings, and the Head of the School of Education at Oxford Brookes University.

Forward Planning

- 3.27. The committee will continue to look at the attainment of vulnerable learners to ensure that the county council is taking effective steps to narrow the gap in attainment. It is envisaged that the committee will continue to develop its relationship with the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Ofsted Regional Director, as they are both due to address the committee again in 2016-17. In addition the committee will consider issues such as elective home education, the provision of school places in areas of growth, permanent exclusions and behaviour in schools.
- 3.28. There are planned visits of the committee to the Endeavour Academy in Oxford which provides specialist support for children and young people with autism and learning difficulties, and to the UTC Oxfordshire in Didcot, reflecting the members' keen interest to engage more with individual schools.
- 3.29. The committee will continue to use its knowledge and expertise to provide challenge and scrutiny to ensure that the county council fulfils its obligations as champion of children in Oxfordshire in an environment in which many of the county council's statutory powers and resources have diminished considerably.

4. Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.1. The Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OJHOSC) is a joint committee that has a membership of 7 county councillors, five district councillors, and three co-opted members and is chaired by Cllr Yvonne Constance OBE. The committee met six times in 2015/16. The key functions of the committee include:
- To review any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in Oxfordshire
 - To review and scrutinise services commissioned and provided by relevant NHS bodies and relevant health service providers
- 4.2. In total this year, 7 members of the public have addressed the committee.
- 4.3. The committee looked at a variety of health related issues and services to ensure the best health care provision for the residents of Oxfordshire. This report provides a review of seven key areas of the committee activity over 2015/16:

Delayed Transfers of Care

- 4.4. Delayed transfers of care have been a significant area of poor performance in Oxfordshire's health and social care system and, as a well-publicised issue, have been on the committee's radar for some years. In 2015/16, it was reported that, at any time, there were around 150 patients whose clinical care had been completed but remained in hospital waiting to be discharged. Whilst over the past couple of years, health and social care providers have worked to solve this issue, delays have not been significantly reduced.
- 4.5. In December 2015, a new initiative was proposed by the incoming CEO and management of Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to reduce delays. The committee requested that health representatives attend an extraordinary committee meeting to outline their pilot scheme designed to transform patient discharge. The scheme, 'Rebalancing the System' proposed that OUH purchase 150 beds in care homes for three months and close 75 acute beds. This would deliver home and nursing-home based care by redeploying resources outside of hospital. The committee agreed to support the pilot requiring OUH to report on progress and to consult fully with the public if it was decided to make the scheme permanent.
- 4.6. The committee is well placed to take a whole system view. At the December 2015 meeting, members were able to scrutinise the design of the system and note the risks of availability of beds and staff to serve them and question how the pilot would be monitored. The December discussion ensured that HOSC provided an additional layer of public scrutiny throughout the pilot scheme. At the following OJHOSC meeting in February 2016, representatives from the key organisations provided a progress report update. In April 2016, the health partners are scheduled to attend a further meeting of OJHOSC, to provide a

detailed evaluation of the successes and challenges of 'Rebalancing the System' over the 2015/16 winter months.

Transformation of Healthcare in Oxfordshire

- 4.7. The committee has long taken an interest in the integration of health and social care and the broader transformation of healthcare in Oxfordshire. In November 2015, Stuart Bell, Chief Executive of Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and Chair of Oxfordshire's Transformation Board attended OJHOSC to discuss the challenges facing Oxfordshire's health and social care system, and the vision for whole system transformation. A key part of this vision relates to developing a more integrated health and social care system. Members were able to scrutinise all aspects of the transformation plans examining issues such as workforce planning, population growth and public engagement.
- 4.8. At the December 2015 meeting, representatives from key health partners attended the extraordinary meeting of OJHOSC to inform members of the health and wellbeing aspects of the devolution proposal being presented to central government. They described how the proposal is designed to reduce the complexity of the current system by creating one system that brings together budgets, commissioning and decision making. OJHOSC members were able to provide some of the first public scrutiny of Oxfordshire's devolution plans. It was agreed that HOSC would receive future updates to enable scrutiny of the scheme as it progressed.
- 4.9. OJHOSC's scrutiny of the transformation of healthcare in Oxfordshire in 2015/16 underlines that the committee is well placed to offer scrutiny of the whole system of health and social care in Oxfordshire and the strategic direction of travel as it progresses.

Future of Intermediate Care

- 4.10. The committee has taken a close interest in intermediate care this year, particularly the provision of intermediate care in Chipping Norton. This item came to the July 2015 meeting of OJHOSC, where members were able to scrutinise the plans to deliver the intermediate care service in the Henry Cornish Centre, Chipping Norton through Order of St John. Members were provided with an update and full report on the public consultation at the September meeting of OJHOSC. Following County Cabinet approval in January 2016, members also received an update at the February 2016 meeting. The scrutiny by OJHOSC on this item over the past year has ensured that there has been an additional layer of public scrutiny of the services provided.

Partner Liaison

- 4.11. Developing the awareness of the work of OJHOSC through regular liaison meetings with key partners across Oxfordshire is a key part of ensuring that the committee can conduct effective scrutiny. In 2015/16 the OJHOSC

Chairman met with and/or set up future meetings with representatives from the following organisations: Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Oxford Health Foundation Trust, Care Quality Commission, Healthwatch, NHS England, South Central Ambulance Service and the Chairs of both Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board and Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board. These meetings provided a means to highlight key areas for future scrutiny, to develop good relationships with key stakeholders and to raise awareness of scrutiny processes and the work of OJHOSC.

Training

- 4.12. In December 2015, OJHOSC members attended a specialist health scrutiny training session with John Cade from Birmingham University Institute of Local Government Studies. This session followed a general training session for all scrutiny members and a specialist scrutiny Chairman's training session attended by the OJHOSC Chairman in November 2015. These training sessions informed members of the national and legislative context of health scrutiny and the relationships between health overview and scrutiny committees, NHS organisations, Healthwatch and Health and Well-being boards. Members commented on how useful these sessions had been in informing their understanding of effective scrutiny and best practice.

Understanding 'Substantial Change' in Services

- 4.13. Following best practice, OJHOSC has a framework which is used to ensure that all health providers in Oxfordshire can be held to account regarding service changes. In February 2015, the toolkit framework was updated in line with Department of Health Local Authority Guidance (2014). Since then, the OJHOSC framework has been used a number of times. In 2015/16, the toolkit framework was further updated in line with feedback from councillors and key healthcare partners. It was amended to ensure greater clarity of the process of assessing substantial change and to make the framework more user-friendly. OJHOSC approved the new toolkit in February 2016 and since then it has been taken to all partner liaison meetings for any response and feedback and with a reminder that OJHOSC expects the framework to be considered and completed in relation to future developments.

Forward Plan

- 4.14. In 2016/17, the committee will continue to scrutinise planned changes in the provision of healthcare in Oxfordshire, service delivery, the performance and quality of services and the patient experience. The committee aims to focus their scrutiny on key areas of change, quality and performance to ensure impact. It will also scrutinise steps towards the broader transformation of healthcare in Oxfordshire including steps towards integration of health and social care and devolution proposals regarding health and wellbeing in the county. The committee will also focus on the work of the new health inequalities commission in Oxfordshire.

5. Cabinet Advisory Groups

- 5.1. Cabinet Advisory Groups (CAGs) are informal member working groups designed to help Cabinet consider how to deal with specific issues, and to help in the development of key policies. Topics can be proposed by any member or scrutiny committee and must be agreed by Cabinet. They are not formal meetings of the council, and nor do they have the status of an advisory committee under the Local Government Act 1972. They are chaired by the relevant Cabinet portfolio holder and report directly to Cabinet.
- 5.2. There is currently one Cabinet Advisory Group in operation - Income Generation. Additionally, the Early Intervention CAG closed in February 2016 and the Minerals & Waste CAG is currently dormant. Membership details are provided in Annex 2.

Income Generation CAG

- 5.3. The Income Generation CAG previously ran from July 2013-January 2014 under the chairmanship of Cllr Arash Fatemian, and reconvened in April 2015 under Cllr Lawrie Stratford in response to the need for the council to cope with increasing budget pressures. The group is focusing specifically on:
- Updating the current corporate charging policy.
 - Reviewing existing services that we currently charge for and opportunities for increasing these charges.
 - Identifying skills or services we offer that could be offered out.
 - Investigating discretionary services that we do not currently charge for where we may want to introduce charges.
 - Considering opportunities for generating income from property.
- 5.4. The CAG is exploring a number of different options for income generation, including the possibility of employing a dedicated income generation officer and developing opportunities for generating income from property and land holdings.
- 5.5. On 8 December 2015, Council passed a motion from Cllr Nick Hards calling for the Income Generation CAG, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Property, to set up a task & finish group to produce an interim report by June 2016 which:
- a) Reviews the buildings which the council currently owns or leases in Oxfordshire;
 - b) Considers the present and future requirements of our office based staff;
 - c) Explores the options for making the most cost effective way of using these buildings which we own or lease; and
 - d) Makes recommendations to Cabinet as to savings which could be made and income which could be generated from our property.

- 5.6. To this end, the Income Generation Cabinet Advisory Group has refreshed its membership and is currently working to produce a report for Cabinet by June 2016.
- 5.7. Other issues which the CAG is looking to consider over the upcoming months include:
- Workplace charging
 - One Public Estate Programme
 - Sponsorship of highways assets
 - Selling staff expertise
 - Various other suggestions/opportunities as raised by members

Early Intervention CAG

- 5.8. The role of the Children's Early Intervention Cabinet Advisory Group was to explore the issues related to the future provision of early intervention services for children in Oxfordshire and make recommendations with particular regard to cost-saving. The key tasks and responsibilities of the group were:
- To consider the emerging national evidence and policy relating to children's centres and early intervention services.
 - To undertake visits to children's centres and early intervention hubs as necessary to help inform thinking.
 - To conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy and possible options.
 - To liaise with other organisations operating within Oxfordshire, whether national, regional or local.
 - To consider relevant benchmarking with other authorities.
 - To consider any petitions, received by the Council which may be of relevance to the topic area under consideration.
 - To submit findings and recommendations to the Cabinet.
- 5.9. The Early Intervention CAG presented a report to Cabinet on 23 June 2015, which recommended consulting on the creation of one coherent 0-19 years' service rather than continuing with an early intervention service divided by age groups. This approach was accepted by Cabinet, and the consultation on future arrangements in children's social care ran from 14 October 2015 - 10 January 2016.
- 5.10. At its final meeting on 25 January 2016, the group reviewed the analysis of the consultation outcomes and how officers planned to respond to this. On the basis of this, a slightly revised model was agreed by Cabinet on 23 February 2016.

Minerals and Waste CAG

- 5.11. The Minerals and Waste CAG met through late 2013 and 2014 and discussed issues relating to the preparation of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local

Plan. Due to the range of members interested in the issue, the usual rules on maximum size and political balance were not applied to the CAG.

- 5.12. Part 1 of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local was approved got submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination by full County Council on 24 March 2015. Following this, the CAG has been dormant. It is likely that the CAG may be required to reconvene for the development of Part 2 of the plan later in 2016, and they have been briefed electronically regarding developments in the interim.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1. Challenges remain ahead for Oxfordshire County Council. Budget pressures will be an ongoing challenge, and it is likely that the landscape of local government will continue to change over the coming years. Devolution, changes to the way local government is funded and reorganisation at both a local and national level are likely to significantly alter the way that Oxfordshire County Council functions. Going forward, it will be even more important than ever that scrutiny is robust, challenging and effective.
- 6.2. Oxfordshire County Council's scrutiny committees will continue to place emphasis on those areas where they can have the biggest influence, and will continue to look for opportunities to improve outcomes for the people of Oxfordshire.
- 6.3. The emphasis on close joint working will include working closely with partners to ensure the best possible services are delivered, whether we are directly responsible for the service or not. This also means being able to carefully and sensitively scrutinise the work of our partners where necessary, and this is an area of work that the chairmen are keen to focus on going forward.

Annex 1: Scrutiny Committee Membership

Performance Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Liz Brighthouse OBE (Chairman)
Councillor Neil Fawcett (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Lynda Atkins
Councillor John Christie
Councillor Sam Coates
Councillor Yvonne Constance OBE
Councillor Janet Godden
Councillor Mark Gray
Councillor Steve Harrod
Councillor Stewart Lilly
Councillor Charles Mathew

Education Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Mark Gray (Chairman)
Councillor Michael Waine (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Kevin Bulmer
Councillor Steve Curran
Councillor Tim Hallchurch MBE
Councillor Pete Handley
Councillor Steve Harrod
Councillor John Howson
Councillor Richard Langridge
Councillor Sandy Lovatt
Councillor Gill Sanders

Co-Optee

Mrs Sue Matthew

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)

Councillor Yvonne Constance OBE (Chairman)
District Councillor Martin Barrett (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Kevin Bulmer
Councillor Surinder Dhesi
Councillor Tim Hallchurch MBE
Councillor Laura Price
Councillor Alison Rooke
Councillor Les Sibley
District Councillor Nigel Champken-Woods
District Councillor Monica Lovatt
District Councillor Susanna Pressel
District Councillor Nigel Randall

Co-Optees

Moria Logie
Dr Keith Ruddle
Anne Wilkinson

Annex 2: Cabinet Advisory Group Membership

Income Generation Cabinet Advisory Group – Before 8 December 2015

Councillor Lawrie Stratford (Chairman)
Councillor Roz Smith (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor David Bartholomew
Councillor Charles Mathew
Councillor John Sanders
Councillor Les Sibley

Income Generation Cabinet Advisory Group – After 8 December 2015

Councillor Lawrie Stratford (Chairman)
Councillor Nick Hards (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor David Bartholomew
Councillor Nick Carter (in his capacity as Cabinet Member for Property)
Councillor Charles Mathew
Councillor John Sanders
Councillor Les Sibley
Councillor Richard Webber

Early Intervention Cabinet Advisory Group

Councillor Melinda Tilley (Chairman)
Councillor Mark Gray (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles
Councillor Gill Sanders
Councillor Richard Webber

Minerals and Waste Cabinet Advisory Group

Councillor David Nimmo-Smith (Chairman)
Councillor Anne Purse (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Lynda Atkins
Councillor Mark Gray
Councillor Patrick Greene
Councillor Nick Hards
Councillor Bob Johnston
Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
Councillor Charles Mathew
Councillor George Reynolds
Councillor John Sanders
Councillor John Tanner

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EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - FORWARD PLAN

	Contact Officer	Notes
Education Scrutiny Committee – 04 July 2016		
Annual meeting with the Regional Schools Commissioner	Andreea Anastasiu, Corporate Services	Martin Post has confirmed attendance.
Ofsted profile of Oxfordshire schools & settings	Sarah Varnom & Christine Malone, Strategic Leads for Education Quality	
Education Scrutiny Committee – 26 September 2016		
Annual meeting with Ofsted Regional Director	Andreea Anastasiu, Corporate Services	
School performance (provisional results)	Christine Malone, Strategic Lead for Education Quality	
Education Scrutiny Committee – 12 December 2016		
Secondary school performance (including vulnerable groups)	Christine Malone, Strategic Lead for Education Quality	
Elective Home Education Annual Report	Suzy Dix, Lead Officer Elective Home Education	

Education Scrutiny Committee – 13 March 2017		
Academies in Oxfordshire Annual Report	Allyson Milward, Academies Manager	
Scrutiny Annual Report	Andreea Anastasiu, Corporate Services	

Further items for consideration:

- Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) Annual Report
- Virtual School Annual Report
- School Balances (follow up report)
- Provision of School Places in Areas of Growth
- Children on the Edge of Care
- Use of Pupil Premium