

To: **Members of the Cabinet**

Notice of a Meeting of the Cabinet

Tuesday, 25 February 2025 at 2.00 pm

Room 2&3 - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

If you wish to view proceedings online, please click on this [Live Stream Link](#).



Martin Reeves
Chief Executive

February 2025

Committee Officer: **Chris Reynolds**

Tel: 07542 029441; E-Mail: chris.reynolds@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Membership

Councillors

Liz Leffman	Leader of the Council
Dr Pete Sudbury	Deputy Leader of the Council with responsibility for Climate Change, Environment & Future Generations
Tim Bearder	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
Neil Fawcett	Cabinet Member for Community & Corporate Services
Andrew Gant	Cabinet Member for Transport Management
Kate Gregory	Cabinet Member for SEND Improvement
John Howson	Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Young People's Services
Dan Levy	Cabinet Member for Finance
Dr Nathan Ley	Cabinet Member for Public Health, Inequalities & Community Safety
Judy Roberts	Cabinet Member for Infrastructure & Development Strategy

*The Agenda is attached. Decisions taken at the meeting
will become effective at the end of the working day on
unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.*

*Copies of this Notice, Agenda and supporting papers are circulated
to all Members of the County Council.*

Date of next meeting: 20 March 2025

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

- guidance note below

3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 22)

To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 9, 21 and 28 January 2025 (**CA3**) and to receive information arising from them.

4. Questions from County Councillors

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

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

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

5. Petitions and Public Address

Members of the public who wish to speak at this meeting can attend the meeting in person or 'virtually' through an online connection.

To facilitate 'hybrid' meetings we are asking that requests to speak or present a petition are submitted by no later than 9am four working days before the meeting. Requests to speak should be sent to committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

If you are speaking 'virtually', you may submit a written statement of your presentation to ensure that your views are taken into account. A written copy of your statement can be provided no later than 9am 2 working days before the meeting. Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.

6. Appointments

7. Reports from Scrutiny Committees (Pages 23 - 40)

Cabinet will receive the following Scrutiny reports: -

Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports on S.106 and City Centre Accommodation Strategy

8. Badger Culling (Pages 41 - 46)

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader of the Council with Responsibility for Climate Change, Environment and Future Generations

Forward Plan Ref: 2024/374

Contact: Teresa Kirkham, Head of Countryside and Waste
(Teresa.Kirkham@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Report by Director of Environment and Highways (**CA8**)

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- a) Re-affirm the Councils opposition to badger culling**
- b) Note that a specific policy about badger culling not being permitted on Council-owned land will be presented for adoption in due course**
- c) Note that the Leader has written to DEFRA making clear the council's continued opposition to the cull and any extension in size and scope.**

9. Councils for Fair Tax Declaration (Pages 47 - 50)

Cabinet Member: Finance

Forward Plan Ref: 2024/353

Contact: Ian Dyson, Director of Financial and Commercial Services
(Ian.Dyson@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Report by Executive Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer (**CA9**).

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to approve the Councils for Fair tax Declaration

10. Enhanced Pathways Business Case - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategic Early Intervention Team (Pages 51 - 70)

Cabinet Member: Children, Education and Young People's Services & SEND Improvement

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/020

Contact: Jane Elvidge, Interim Manager – SEND Strategic Early Intervention Team
(Jane.Elvidge@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Report by Director of Children's Services (CA10).

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- a) Approve Oxfordshire County Council (“the Council”) continuing to fund 20 existing Enhanced Pathways to enable the Council to meet the increasing numbers and complexities of children and young people with Special Educational Needs in mainstream schools and to realise probable savings through this spend to save model.
- b) Approve the Council to fund a further 20 Enhanced Pathways to double to reach of the project to enable the Council to offer a more equitable offer across the county to meet the increasing numbers and complexities of children and young people with Special Educational Needs in mainstream schools and to realise probable savings through this spend to save model.
- c) Approve the Council's budgetary commitment for a period of 3 years for each Enhanced Pathway (barring significant changes to central government funding of SEND during that period).
- d) Commit to consider and review opportunities to upscale the Enhanced Pathways programme over the coming years in line with the impact evidence provided.

11. Oxfordshire Climate Adaptation Route Map & Oxfordshire County Council Climate Adaptation Delivery Plan (Pages 71 - 212)

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader of the Council with Responsibility for Climate Change, Environment and Future Generations

Forward Plan Ref: 2024/365

Contact: Tom Layzell, Climate Adaptation Policy and Project Lead
(Tom.Layzell@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Report by Director of Economy and Place (CA11).

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) Note the recent endorsement of the Oxfordshire Climate Adaptation Route Map by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership (FOP).
- b) Approve the adoption of the Oxfordshire Climate Adaptation Route Map and OCC Delivery Plan.

12. Civil Enforcement Procurement Model (Pages 213 - 244)

Cabinet Member: Transport Management

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/007

Contact: Keith Stenning, Head of Network Management (Keith.Stenning@oxfordshire.gov.uk) and Cathy Champion, Operations Manager – Civil Enforcement (Cathy.Champion@oxfordshire.gov.uk).

Report by Director of Environment and Highways (**CA12**).

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- a) Approve the preferred service model and procurement strategy (enhanced multi contractor) for the Civil Enforcement and Zero Emission Zone (ZEZ) operation.**
- b) Support progression to the next stage of the project, that being the development and drafting of the specification, contract, and other tender documents required for procurement.**

13. Household Waste Recycling Centre Service Delivery Model (Pages 245 - 254)

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader with Responsibility for Climate Change, Environment and Future Generations

Forward Plan Ref: 2024/331

Contact: Teresa Kirkham, Head of Countryside and Waste
Teresa.kirkham@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Environment and Highways (**CA13**).

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- a) Approve the commencement of work to explore and consider options for the household waste recycling centre management service delivery provision, noting that the current contract is coming to an end in September 2027.**
- b) Endorse the proposed approach for developing the options and key procurement stages as set out in this paper.**
- c) To approve the use of Extended Producer Responsibility funding for consultancy work to support the future household waste recycling centre model development.**

14. Workforce Report and Staffing Data - Quarter 3 2024-25 (Pages 255 - 270)

Cabinet Member: Corporate and Community Services

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/041

Contact: Cherie Cuthbertson, Director of HR and Cultural Change

Cherie.cuthbertson@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Executive Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer (**CA14**)

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

15. Capital Programme Approvals - February 2025 (Pages 271 - 274)

Cabinet Member: Finance

Forward Plan Ref: 2024/226

Contact: Natalie Crawford, Capital Programme Manager

Natalie.crawford@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Executive Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer (**CA15**)

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) **approve the inclusion of a new one-form-entry primary school - East Carterton - into the Capital Programme with an indicative budget of £10.227m, to be funded from S106 developer contributions and basic need funding.**
- b) **note that £7.500m of the remaining Housing and Growth Deal funding is to be allocated to Grove Airfield School in 2024/25.**

16. Forward Plan and Future Business (Pages 275 - 280)

Cabinet Member: All

Contact Officer: Chris Reynolds, Senior Democratic Services Officer,

chris.reynolds@oxfordshire.gov.uk

The Cabinet Procedure Rules provide that the business of each meeting at the Cabinet is to include “updating of the Forward Plan and proposals for business to be conducted at the following meeting”. Items from the Forward Plan for the immediately forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet appear in the Schedule at **CA16**. This includes any updated information relating to the business for those meetings that has already been identified for inclusion in the next Forward Plan update.

The Schedule is for noting, but Cabinet Members may also wish to take this opportunity to identify any further changes they would wish to be incorporated in the next Forward Plan update.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.

17. For Information only: Cabinet response to Scrutiny items (Pages 281 - 292)

Local Transport and Connectivity Plan Progress Report
Flood Event Response
Community Asset Transfer Policy
Commercial Strategy Update

EXEMPT ITEM

In the event that any Member or Officer wishes to discuss the information set out in annexes 2, 3 and 4 to Agenda Item 18, the Cabinet will be invited to resolve to exclude the public for the consideration of the Annexes by passing a resolution in relation in the following terms: "that the public be excluded during the consideration of the Annex since it is likely that if they were present during that discussion there would be a disclosure of "exempt" information as described in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 and specified below the item in the Agenda."

THE ANNEXES HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC AND SHOULD BE REGARDED AS 'CONFIDENTIAL' BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS.

18. City Centre Accommodation Strategy - Proposed Disposal of New and Old County Hall (Pages 293 - 350)

*Cabinet Member: Finance
Forward Plan Ref: 2024/294
Contact: Michael Smedley, Head of Estates Assets and Investments
Michael.smedley@oxfordshire.gov.uk*

Report by Director of Property and Assets **(CA18)**

The information in this case is exempt in that it falls within the following prescribed categories:

3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

and since it is considered that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Annexes 2, 3 and 4 containing exempt information under the above paragraph are attached.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- a) **Agree to the freehold disposal of New and Old County Hall, on the terms set out in exempt Annex 4.**

- b) Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, to negotiate and agree the final heads of terms which will be substantially in accordance with the details set out in exempt Annex 4.**

- c) Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer, to conclude negotiations and complete all necessary legal documentation to implement the disposal.**

Councillors declaring interests

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed 'Declarations of Interest' or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your employment; sponsorship (i.e. payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licenses for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member 'must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself' and that 'you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned'.

Members Code – Other registrable interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your other registerable interests then you must declare an interest. You must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and you must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Wellbeing can be described as a condition of contentedness, healthiness and happiness; anything that could be said to affect a person's quality of life, either positively or negatively, is likely to affect their wellbeing.

Other registrable interests include:

- a) Any unpaid directorships

- b) Any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority.
- c) Any body (i) exercising functions of a public nature (ii) directed to charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

Members Code – Non-registrable interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to your financial interest or wellbeing (and does not fall under disclosable pecuniary interests), or the financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate, you must declare the interest.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which affects your own financial interest or wellbeing, a financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate or a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under other registrable interests, then you must declare the interest.

In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied:

Where a matter affects the financial interest or well-being:

- a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest.

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.