

To: **Members of the Cabinet**

Notice of a Meeting of the Cabinet

Tuesday, 27 January 2026 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

January 2026

Committee Officer: **Chris Reynolds**

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

Membership

Councillors

Liz Leffman	Leader of the Council
Neil Fawcett	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Resources
Tim Bearder	Cabinet Member for Adults
Andrew Gant	Cabinet Member for Transport Management
Sean Gaul	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Kate Gregory	Cabinet Member for Public Health and Inequalities
Jenny Hannaby	Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing and Safety
Ben Higgins	Cabinet Member for Future Economy and Innovation
Dan Levy	Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Transformation
Judy Roberts	Cabinet Member for Place, Environment and Climate Action

The Agenda is attached. Decisions taken at the meeting will become effective at the end of the working day on 2 February 2026 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.

County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk Media Enquiries 01865 323870

Date of next meeting: 24 February 2026

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

- guidance note below

3. Minutes (Pages 13 - 22)

To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 9 and 16 December 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 three working days before the meeting, ask a question on an item on the agenda.

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.

5. Petitions and Public Address

Members of the public who wish to speak on an item on the agenda at this meeting, or present a petition, can attend the meeting in person or 'virtually' through an online connection.

Requests to present a petition must be submitted no later than 9am ten working days before the meeting.

Requests to speak must be submitted no later than 9am three working days before the meeting.

Requests should be submitted to committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

If you are speaking 'virtually', you may submit a written statement of your presentation to ensure that if the technology fails, then your views can still be taken into account. A written copy of your statement can be provided no later than 9am on the day of the meeting. Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.

6. Appointments

7. Reports from Scrutiny Committees (Pages 23 - 42)

Cabinet will receive the following reports:-

Performance and Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports on:-

- a) Budget and Business Planning (TO FOLLOW)
- b) Fix my street (TO FOLLOW)
- c) Business Management and Monitoring Report (Public Health Focus) (TO FOLLOW)

Education and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports on:-

- a) The Virtual School
- b) Attainment
- c) Fostering

8. Budget and Business Planning 2027/28 – 2030-31 (Pages 43 - 340)

Cabinet Member: Finance, Property and Transformation

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/017

Contact: Kathy Wilcox, Head of Corporate Finance

Kathy.wilcox@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) **(CA8)**

1. In relation to the Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (Section 4);

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) approve the Review of Charges for 2026/27 (Annex A, page 1 -58, 67) and in relation to the Registration Service, the charges for 2027/28 (Annex A, page 59 – 62) and 2028/29 (annex A page 63 – 66);
- b) receive any recommendations and observations from Performance and Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- c) approve the Financial Strategy for 2026/27 (Section 4.5);
- d) approve the Earmarked Reserves and General Balances Policy Statement for 2026/27(Section 4.6), including the creation of a new Lane Rental reserve and the renaming of the Demographic Risk Reserve to the High Needs DSG Deficit Risk Reserve;
- e) approve the use of retained business rates from EZ1 Science Vale Growth Accelerator and EZ2 Didcot Growth Accelerator as set out in paragraph 169-172 and Annex B;
- f) note that following any funding changes as a result of the final Local Government Finance Settlement and information from the district and city councils in relation to business rates or council tax will be managed as set out in Paragraph 10; and
- g) delegate to the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer), in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for

Finance, Property and Transformation, the authority to make any appropriate changes to the proposed budget not covered by Paragraph 10.

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to RECOMMEND Council:

- h) approve a Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2026/27 to 2030/31 as set out in Section 4.1 (which incorporates changes to the existing Medium Term Financial Strategy as set out in Section 4.2);
- i) agree the council tax and precept calculations for 2026/27 set out in Section 4.3 and in particular:
 - (i) a precept of £567,372,274;
 - (ii) a council tax for band D equivalent properties of £2,006.78.

2. In relation to the Capital and Investment Strategy and Capital Programme (Section 5);

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to recommend Council to:

- j) approve the Capital and Investment Strategy for 2026/27 – 2036/37 (Section 4.1) including;
 - (i) the Minimum Revenue Provision Methodology Statement (Section 5.1 Annex 1);
 - (ii) the Prudential Indicators (Section 5.1 Annex 2) and
- k) approve the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2026/27 (Section 5.2); and
 - (i) continue to delegate the authority to withdraw or advance additional funds to/from external fund managers to the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer);
 - (ii) approve that any further changes required to the 2026/27 Treasury Management Strategy be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Transformation;
 - (iii) approve the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators; and
 - (iv) approve the Specified Investment and Non - Specified Investment instruments as set out in Section 5.2.
- l) approve the new capital proposals for inclusion in the Capital Programme and proposed pipeline schemes (Section 5.3)
- m) approve the capital programme (Section 5.4)
- n) approve a budget reduction of £7.1m originally allocated to fund a new mortuary (para 183)
- o) approve the return of the full budget allocation of £4.5m previously assigned to support the Council's exit from the Joint Use Agreements (para 184)
- p) approve a £2.0m reduction in budget for the East Oxford Active Neighbourhoods programme (para 185)

9. Oxfordshire Learning Disability Plan 2025 - 2035 (Pages 341 - 434)

Cabinet Member: Adults

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/238

Contact: Sharon Paterson, Commissioning Manager - Live Well

Sharon.paterson@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Alex Wheeler, Senior Joint Commissioning Officer

Alex.Wheeler@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Adult Social Services **(CA9)**

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- **Acknowledge the development of the new co-designed Oxfordshire Learning Disability Plan 2025 – 2035 for adults, the co-produced Dynamic Work Plans and progress on work so far.**

10. My Life My Choice Councillor Deal (Pages 435 - 538)

Cabinet Member: Adults

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/208

Contact: Bhavna Taank, Lead Commissioner – Live Well

Bhavna.taank@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Adult Social Services **(CA10)**

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) Acknowledge and endorse this report developed with My Life My Choice (MLMC) Campaign Champions.**
- b) Confirm the county council's commitment to work with the MLMC Community Champions on the three pledges that they have set out as part of the Councillor Deal where these fall within the county council's remit and where they are within the scope of the Oxfordshire Learning Disability Plan 2025-2035 (see annex 1a and 1b). Cabinet is asked to note that this commitment may need to be refreshed and reviewed dependent on the outcomes of Local Government Reorganisation.**

11. Movement and Place Plans - Science Vale (Pages 539 - 808)

Cabinet Member: Place, Environment and Climate Action

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/115

Contact: Ashley Hayden, Team Leader (Area Travel Plans),

Ashley.hayden@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Environment and Highways **(CA11)**

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to: -

a) Approve the adoption and publication of the Introduction Chapter (Annex A) providing overarching and context information for all Movement & Place Plans, which supports all specific Movement & Place Plans.

b) Approve the adoption and publication of the Science Vale Movement and Place Plan (Annex B), and its subsequent supporting documents at B1 - B4) (e.g. summary, delivery plan etc).

12. LTCP Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (Pages 809 - 954)

Cabinet Member: Place, Environment and Climate Action

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/197

Contact: David Calonge, Transport Planner (Active Travel)

David.calonge@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) Approve the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan Monitoring Report 2024-2025, as detailed in Annex B, for formal publication.
- b) To note the progress made on delivering the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (“LTCP”) to date.

13. Revenue Update and Monitoring Report (November 2025) (Pages 955 - 972)

Cabinet Member: Finance, Property and Transformation

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/270

Contact: Kathy Wilcox, Head of Corporate Finance

Kathy.wilcox@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) **(CA13)**

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- a) Note the report and annexes.
- b) Note that £1.2m funding for investments relating to Rail and Flood planning agreed as part of the budget in February 2025 will be transferred to the Budget Priorities reserve for use in 2026/27 (paragraph 22).
- c) Note anticipated supplementary estimate requests to be funded from General Balances relating to:
 - 1. c£0.5m Bicester Motion (paragraph 14)
 - 2. c£2.2m Woodeaton School deficit balance write off due to transfer to academy status (paragraph 34)
- d) Approve the write off of 16 Adult Social Care contribution debts totalling £0.477m as detailed in paragraph 31.

- e) **Note the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) High Needs Block 2025/26 forecast and accumulated deficit position (paragraphs 35 - 39).**
- f) **Approve the creation of a new Budget Reserve and the addition of £5.5m forecast additional interest on balances in 2025/26 (paragraph 40).**
- g) **Note Local Government Re-organisation and Devolution update (paragraph 41 -42)**

14. Capital Programme Approvals - January 2026 (Pages 973 - 974)

Cabinet Member: Finance

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/082

Contact: Natalie Crawford, Capital Programme Manager

Natalie.crawford@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) **(CA14)**

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) **Approve the inclusion of £5.0m funding into the capital programme for Duke's Cut Wolvercote Bridge Works.**

15. Delegated Powers Report for October to December 2025

Cabinet Member: Leader

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/164

Contact: Colm Ó Caomhánaigh, Democratic Services Manager

Colm.O Caomhánaigh @oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer **(CA15)**

There has been no use of delegated powers during this period.

16. Forward Plan and Future Business (Pages 975 - 982)

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 **CA**. 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 item (Pages 983 - 984)

Business Management and Monitoring Report (Children, Education and Families Focus)

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.