

To: **Members of the Cabinet**

Notice of a Meeting of the Cabinet

Tuesday, 17 March 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

March 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 23 March 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.

Date of next meeting: 21 April 2026

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

- guidance note below

3. Minutes (Pages 13 - 18)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2026 (**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 19 - 64)

Cabinet will receive the following Scrutiny reports: -

Education and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports on:

Local Area Partnership Monitoring and Priority Action Plan

Education Otherwise Than At School (EOTAS) Guidance

Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports on:

Road Safety initiatives in Oxfordshire

Repairing of defects and Superusers

8. Local Government Reorganisation in Oxfordshire: Statutory consultation response (TO FOLLOW)

Cabinet Member: Leader

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/063

Non-key decision

Contact: Lauren Rushen, Senior Policy Officer

Lauren.rushen@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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

To consider the Council's draft response to the Ministry for Housing, Communities, and Local Government (MHCLG) consultation on local government reorganisation in Oxfordshire.

9. Local Transport Consolidated Funding Settlement - Local Transport Delivery Plan (Pages 65 - 120)

Cabinet Member: Transport Management

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/006

Key decision

Contact: Hannah Battye, Head of Place Shaping

Hannah.battye@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Environment and Highways **(CA9)**

The DfT Local Transport Delivery Plan. This item outlines the proposed programme over the next 4 years.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) approve the Local Transport Delivery Plan and its submission to the Department for Transport; and
- b) delegate authority to the Director of Environment & Highways, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport Management, to make changes to specific schemes and projects within the agreed programmes outlined in the Local Transport Delivery Plan.

10. Movement and Place Plans (Pages 121 - 358)

Cabinet Member: Place, Environment and Climate Action

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/262

Key decision

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

Ashley.hayden@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Environment and Highways **(CA10)**

The Movement and Place (MAP) plans form part 2s of the Local Transport Connectivity Plan. This MAP Plan reflects the Bicester area in the North of the County (Cherwell) with further plans to come forward over the following months.

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to: -

Approve the adoption and publication of the Bicester and Surrounding Villages Movement and Place Plan (Annex A), and its subsequent supporting documents at A1-A4 (Delivery Plan, proposals map, people postcards, summary of plan).

11. Treasury Management Q3 Performance Report 2025-26 (Pages 359 - 372)

Cabinet Member: Finance, Property and Transformation

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/060

Non-key decision

Contact: Tim Chapple, Treasury Manager

Tim.chapple@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) **(CA12)**

Quarterly report on the Council's treasury management activity.

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to note the council's treasury management activity for the first three quarters of 2025/26.

12. Business Management & Monitoring Report - Performance and Risk - Quarter 3 2025-26 (Pages 373 - 428)

Cabinet Member: Finance, Property and Transformation

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/102

Non-key decision

Contact: Kathy Wilcox, Head of Corporate Finance
Kathy.wilcox@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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

To note the report and approve the recommendations

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) **Note the report and annexes.**
- b) **Approve a supplementary estimate request of £0.9m relating to additional election costs and supplementary estimates of £0.5m for Bicester Motion and £2.2m relating to Woodeaton Manor Special School (Annex D paragraph 23).**
- c) **Approve the write off of 2 corporate debts totalling £50k (Annex D paragraph 26)**
- d) **Approve the write off of 12 Adult Social Care contribution debts totalling £270k (Annex D paragraph 29).**
- e) **Note the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) High Needs Block 2025/26 forecast and accumulated deficit position ((Annex D paragraphs 36 - 40).**
- f) **Approve the updates to Fees & Charges for Environment & Highways (Annex D – Appendix 5)**

13. Update on High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Funding and Deficits (Pages 429 - 436)

Cabinet Member: Finance, Property and Transformation

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/052

Key decision

Contact: Jane Billington, Strategic Finance Business Partner

Jane.billington@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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

Explains the arrangements for funding High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant deficits up to the end of 2025/26 as set out by the Government as part of the Final Local Government Finance Settlement for 2026/27.

Provides an update on the estimated share of the 2025/26 deficit that will need to be funded by the relevant council(s) when the statutory over-ride ends on 1 April 2028.

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) **Note the update on the treatment of High Needs DSG Deficits up to 31 March 2026 set out in the Final Local Government Finance Settlement for 2026/27.**
- b) **Note the changes to High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding and approve the mid and worst case forecast deficits for 2026/27 (paragraph 21 and Table 1).**
- c) **Note the funding that is planned to be available to meet the residual element that the council will need to fund following the end of the statutory override.**

14. Capital Programme Update and Monitoring Report (Pages 437 - 458)

Cabinet Member: Finance, Property and Transformation

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/028

Key decision

Contact: Natalie Crawford, Capital Programme Manager

Natalie.crawford@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) **(CA15)**

Financial Report on capital spending against budget allocations, including any necessary capital programme approvals

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:

- a. Note the capital monitoring position for 2025/26 set out in this report and summarised in Annex 1.
- b. Approve the updated Capital Programme at Annex 2 incorporating the changes set out in this report.

Additions to the Capital Programme

- c. Approve the inclusion of Milton Heights Bridge into the capital programme, with a budget of £8.608m, to be funded from a variety of funding sources. (see paragraph 65-66)

EXEMPT ITEMS

It is RECOMMENDED that the public be excluded for the duration of items 15 and 16 since it is likely that if they were present during these items there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and specified below in relation to those items 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.

THE ANNEXES TO THE ITEMS HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC AND SHOULD BE REGARDED AS 'CONFIDENTIAL' BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE IT.

THIS ALSO MEANS THAT THE CONTENTS SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH OTHERS AND NO COPIES SHOULD BE MADE

15. Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) - Management Reprovision (Pages 459 - 558)

Cabinet Member: Place, Environment and Climate Action

Forward Plan Ref: 2025/057

Non-key decision

Contact: Caroline Coyne, Project Manager (BPSI Team)

Caroline.coyne@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Economy and Place **(CA11)**

The information in the annexes to this report in that it falls within the following prescribed category:

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.

Oxfordshire County Council's current household waste recycling centres management contract is in its final extension period and comes to an end on 30th September 2027. A future model for the service delivery is required to be in place and mobilised prior to the expiry of the existing contract. The paper is to approve the preferred model.

Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to

- a) **Approve the preferred approach to the re-provision of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) management as set out in paragraphs 5 and 31.**
- b) **Authorise Officers to prepare and commence the procurement of a new 8-year HWRC management contract to start on 1 October 2027 (following a mobilisation period) with options to support flexibility in Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).**
- c) **Endorse exploration and feasibility of the capital purchase of HWRC plant and equipment during the tender bidding, with a view to having an agreed final revenue and capital cost of the contract at the final tender stage.**
- d) **Delegate the decision to award the contract, and any extension to the Director of Environment and Highways in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place, Environment and Climate Action.**

16. Urgent decision relating to the acquisition of a property/lease in Oxfordshire. (TO FOLLOW)

Cabinet Member: Finance, Property and Transformation

Forward Plan Ref: 2026/054

Key decision

Contact: Henry White, Operational Manager, Estates and Investment

Henry.white@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Report by Director of Property and Assets **(CA16)**

The information in the annexes to this report in that it falls within the following prescribed category:

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.

17. Forward Plan and Future Business (Pages 559 - 564)

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 **CA17**. 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.

18. For information only: Cabinet response to Scrutiny item (Pages 565 - 566)

The Virtual School

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.