



**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**

Forward Plan

March 2026

Supplement

Liz Leffman
Leader of the Council
County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND

Date Issued: 13 February 2026

The Cabinet's Forward Plan: Introduction

This Forward Plan outlines the decisions which are expected to be made over the coming four-month period by or on behalf of the County Council's Cabinet. **NB Also included, for ease of reference, are items for the current month.**

The Plan is arranged in Committee date order, Cabinet or Delegated Decision by Cabinet Member. (The members and their portfolios are listed in the table on the next page.) Each entry briefly describes the subject and scope of the decision; indicates the "target date" on which the decision is expected to be taken and by whom (eg whether the full Cabinet or an individual Cabinet Member); what documents (normally a report by an officer) are expected to be considered; and contact details for the officer(s) dealing with the matter. The Annex is in Cabinet Member portfolio order.

Where consultation is being carried out prior to the decision being taken, the principal consultees are specified. The method of consultation will normally be by letter or – where the views of the wider public are to be sought – by press coverage, supplemented by local notices if the decision affects a particular area. Other methods, such as exhibitions, opinion surveys, community forums etc, may be used to supplement these.

The lists include any "key decisions" - those which are "significant" under the terms of government regulations. In general, a key decision may not be taken unless notice of it has been included in the Forward Plan. More detailed information on what is a key decision can be found in the Council's Constitution on the Council's website.¹ This can also be inspected at County Hall.

However, the Council has decided that Oxfordshire's Forward Plan should include all those matters which are expected to come before the Cabinet in the period of the Plan, whether or not they may give rise to key decisions.

If any key decisions are expected to be taken by officers within the Plan period under powers delegated by the Cabinet, these are included in the Plan.

Unless of a confidential nature, reports and other documents for any meeting can be inspected, from approximately a week before the meeting, at County Hall and online². Copies can be supplied on request, at a charge to cover copying costs.

Making Representations about Forward Plan Items

Anyone who wishes to make representations about a particular matter listed in the Plan should send their comments so as to reach the County Council at least a week before it is due to be considered. Comments should be either:

Posted to "Forward Plan", Law & Governance (Democratic Services), Corporate Services, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND, delivered in person to the same address or e-mailed to forward.plan@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

There is also a facility for making a short address to the Cabinet or Cabinet Member in person. The deadline for any request to do this is 9.00 am on the working day before the matter is due to be considered. A form is available from Democratic Support Team, Law & Governance (Democratic Services), (contact as above, or telephone Oxford 810806) or online³.

¹ [Decision Making including Key Decisions](#) – Main Menu > About your Council > Meetings > The Constitution > Part 2, Article 12 – Decision Making

² [Agendas, Minutes & Reports](#) – Main Menu > About your Council > Meetings > Browse Committee Papers

³ [Get Involved in Meetings](#) – Main Menu > About your Council > Meetings > Get involved in meetings

Members of the Cabinet

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

The Forward Plan

17 March 2026

Item to be considered	Decision Maker	Key Decision (yes/no)	Exempt Information	Consultation	Reason for Amendment (if any)	Cabinet Member	Contact Officer	Report by
<p>DSG High Needs - Funding (Ref: 26/052)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Cabinet (17 March 2026)</p>	<p>Yes - Affects more than one division and Revenue Expenditure > £1m</p>	<p>None</p>			<p>Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Transformation</p>	<p>Lorna Baxter, Deputy Chief Executive (Sections 151 Officer) Tel: (01865) 323971, Jane Billington, Strategic Finance Business Partner, Kathy Wilcox, Head of Corporate Finance Tel: 07788 302163</p>	<p>Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer)</p>

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<p>Capital Programme Monitoring Report (March 2026) <i>(Ref: 26/028)</i></p> <p>Financial Report on capital spending against budget allocations, including any necessary capital programme approvals</p>	<p>Cabinet <i>(17 March 2026)</i></p>	<p>Yes - Capital Expenditure > £2m</p>	<p>None</p>			<p>Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Transformation</p>	<p>Natalie Crawford, Capital Programme Manager, Verity Royle, Planning and Reporting Manager</p>	<p>Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer)</p>