

## COUNTY COUNCIL – 11 SEPTEMBER 2012

### REPORT OF THE CABINET

#### ***Cabinet Member: Leader***

#### **1. Appointments 2012/13**

*(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)*

Cabinet agreed member appointments to a variety of bodies which in different ways support the discharge of the Council's executive functions.

#### ***Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader***

#### **2. Witney the Way Forward**

*(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)*

Cabinet approved a report that set out the proposed actions following the Secretary of State's decision not to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order and Side Roads Order for the Cogges Link Road following the Public Inquiry.

It set out how the County Council would work in partnership with West Oxfordshire District Council and other key stakeholders in a programme of work to identify an alternative approach to addressing the transport problems of Witney.

#### ***Cabinet Member: Children & the Voluntary Sector***

#### **3. Developing the Thriving Communities Agenda**

*(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)*

Cabinet approved the Council's response to the Government's Troubled Families initiative.

#### ***Cabinet Member: Education***

#### **4. Academies Strategy - Improving Educational Provision In Oxfordshire Through The Development Of Academies**

*(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)*

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to a policy statement regarding Academies, key principles and the project approach needed to implement the policy and principles.

Cabinet noted the progress made since its last report in February 2012 and approved the Policy in relation to Academies, and in particular the following headline position

- The County Council wishes to support all schools to become academies. The Council recognises that this is a process and some schools will be at different stages in taking this step.
- The Council wishes to encourage Governing Bodies and the leadership of the school (Headteachers and leadership teams) to consider how they might become an academy as part of a larger group of schools. This is to ensure that schools are not isolated and are mutually supportive of each other in raising attainment standards.
- The Council will ensure that support services for schools continue to be available, whether they are provided in-house or through the commercial market place. We will not seek to retain them in-house unless there is strategic value in doing so, but will work with schools to ensure they have access to services.

**5. Education Strategy**  
(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)

The Education Strategy is designed to support a transformation shift in standards across the county's schools. Cabinet considered a report that provided details on the progress that has been made on the Education Strategy since Children's Services Scrutiny Committee considered the draft strategy in February 2012, together with information on the key strategic strands and a note on the outcomes from a discussion of the document at the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee on 12 July 2012. Cabinet approved the document 'Strategy for Change - Improving Educational Outcomes in Oxfordshire.'

**6. Alteration of Age Range and Establishment of Sixth Form at The Warriner School, Bloxham**  
(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)

Cabinet approved the extension of the age range at The Warriner School, Bloxham to include post-16 provision, and agreed the Stage 1 (Outline Business Case) project delivery budget of £32K to enable the capital project to proceed to Full Business Case.

N.B. As set out under Rule 17(a) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision was exempt from Call-In as it was deemed urgent and any delay would have seriously prejudiced the Council's interests, in that the Cabinet's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator if the decision was not taken within two months of the end of the Statutory Notice, in this case being 30 May 2012.

**7. St Edburgs CE Aided Primary School**  
(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)

Cabinet approved the permanent expansion of St Edburg's CE (A) Primary School, Bicester and the alteration to its lower age range with effect from 1 September 2014.

N.B. As set out under Rule 17(a) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision was exempt from Call-In as it was deemed urgent and any delay would have seriously prejudiced the Council's interests, in that the Cabinet's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator if the decision was not taken within two months of the end of the Statutory Notice, in this case being 30 May 2012.

**8. St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School, Oxford Expansion to 2fe**  
(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)

Cabinet supported the governing body's wish to publish a statutory notice for the expansion of St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School, Oxford to increase the school admission number (at F1 entry) from 45 to 60.

***Cabinet Member: Finance (formerly the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Finance & Police)***

**9. Treasury Management 2011/12 Outturn**  
(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)

Cabinet considered a report that set out the Treasury Management activity undertaken in the financial year 2011/12 in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice. The report included Debt and Investment activity, Prudential Indicator Outturn, changes in Strategy and interest receivable and payable for the financial year. Cabinet noted the report, and **RECOMMENDED** Council to note the Council's Treasury Management Activity in 2011/12. The report appears elsewhere on this agenda.

**10. 2011/12 Financial Monitoring & Business Strategy Delivery Report May 2012**  
(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)

Cabinet considered a report that focussed on the delivery of the Directorate Business Strategies which were agreed as part of the Service and Resource Planning Process for 2012/13 – 2016/17. It included projections for revenue, reserves and balances as at the end of May 2012 and amendments to the 2011/12 Statement of Accounts that changed the Revenue and Capital Outturn Report considered by Cabinet on 19 June 2012. The report also included Capital monitoring and the Capital Programme Update.

Cabinet approved virement requests; noted the updated Treasury Management lending list; approved the updated Capital Programme and noted the updated position for the 2011/12 revenue and capital outturn and the updated position on balances and reserves.

***Cabinet Member: Safer & Stronger Communities***

**11. Future Arrangements For Call Receipt, Mobilising & Incident Management For Oxfordshire County Council Fire & Rescue Service**

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*(Cabinet, 17 July 2012)*

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to The Thames Valley Fire Control Service (TVFCS) programme which would deliver a single joint control room with a fully functional secondary control room and “remote buddy ” Fire and Rescue Service.

Subject to approvals from the Royal Berkshire Fire approval was given to proceed with the TVFCS programme including the creation of a joint control room at Calcot, Berkshire, a secondary control room at Kidlington, approval to the creation of a joint committee, delegation of various matters to the Chief Fire Officer and that steps be taken to ensure: that control staff are supported throughout the programme and that business continuity plans and arrangements for monitoring progress are in place.

**IAN HUDSPETH**  
Leader of the Council

August 2012