

COUNTY COUNCIL – 2 APRIL 2013

REPORT OF THE CABINET

Cabinet Member: Leader

1. 2011/12 Financial Monitoring & Business Strategy Delivery Report October 2012 *(Cabinet, 18 December 2012 and 26 February 2013)*

Cabinet considered two reports that focused 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. Parts 1 and 2 included projections for revenue, reserves and balances as at the end of October 2012 and December 2012 respectively. The Capital monitoring was included at Part 3.

At both meetings Cabinet approved virement requests and noted the Treasury Management lending list.

In December Cabinet approved the use of £0.100m revenue funding towards the capital project at the Littlemore Early Intervention Hub and agreed the creation of new reserves and the proposed changes to existing reserves.

In February Cabinet approved charges for Heritage Service and Oxfordshire Customer Services; and approved the use of £0.380m of the Efficiency Reserve in 2013/14 to fund the development of improved and joined up technical solutions for paying for journeys across Oxfordshire and beyond and to allow the Councillor Community Budget to be extended for another year.

2. The Council's Role as Accountable Body for Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership - Growing Places Fund Memorandum of Understanding *(Cabinet, 26 February 2013)*

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership was established in 2011 with the aim of creating private sector jobs and removing barriers to business growth. It is a partnership between the business community and local government that operates as an unincorporated association. The governance structure comprises an Executive Board, Programme Sub-groups and the Forum. The Executive Board is responsible for preparing an annual business plan on behalf of the Partnership and for ensuring that its agreed priorities are taken forward.

Cabinet approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership in relation to the Council's role as accountable body for the allocation and distribution of government funds allocated to/via Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and authorised the Chief Finance Officer to approve loan applications recommended by the Executive Board of

the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and to enter into appropriate legal agreements on behalf of Council.

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader

3. Staffing Reports Quarters 3

(Cabinet 26 February 2013)

Cabinet received a report that gave an update on staffing numbers and related activity during the period 1 October 2012 to 31 December 2012. It gave details of the agreed staffing numbers and establishment at 31 December 2012 in terms of Full Time Equivalents. In addition, the report provided information on vacancies and the cost of posts being covered by agency staff. The report also tracked progress on staffing numbers since 1 April 2010 as the Council implements its Business Strategy.

4. Future Devolved Governance: Local Transport Board

(Cabinet, 29 January 2013)

Cabinet considered two reports on proposals from the Department of Transport to devolve local major scheme funding to functional economic areas and the requirement to establish a Local Transport Board with a detailed Assurance Framework, which set out the governance and working arrangements, to manage the capital grant that will be received should the County Council opt to become the accountable body.

In January Cabinet supported the proposals and agreed to seek views on the Assurance Framework from District Councils, the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), the SEMLEP, Network Rail, Highways Agency and the public transport operators. In February Cabinet considered those views and the amended Assurance Framework including a request from Oxfordshire LEP for two representatives on the Board.

Cabinet agreed the amended Assurance Framework, the request from Oxfordshire LEP for two representatives on the Local Transport Board and that the Director of Environment & Economy, in consultation with the Deputy Leader, be authorised to develop the Scheme Prioritisation Process and progress the Assurance Framework.

5. Corporate Plan Performance And Risk Management Report For Quarters 2 and 3 2012/13

(Cabinet 18 December 2012 and 16 March 2013)

Cabinet noted the quarterly performance monitoring reports against the Corporate Plan priorities for Quarters 2 and 3, 2012/13.

6. Witney Transport Infrastructure

(Cabinet 19 March 2012)

Cabinet considered a report that sought endorsement for the programme of investment in transport infrastructure in Witney in support of the proposals in

the draft West Oxfordshire Local Plan and in particular approval to proceed with delivery of Phase 1 of the investment programme (delivery of the Ducklington Lane/Station Lane junction improvement).

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Endorsed the programme and approved in principle Phase 1 of the investment programme (delivery of the Ducklington Lane/Station Lane junction improvement) and agreed to the use of S106 funds held by the County Council to enable its delivery at the earliest opportunity.

Cabinet Member: Adult Services

7. Procurement of Healthwatch Oxfordshire

(Cabinet 18 December 2012)

Cabinet considered a report that set out the procurement and commissioning process for a Local Healthwatch by April 2013. Local Healthwatch will be the new independent consumer champion for people of all ages using social care, and patients using health services.

Cabinet agreed to delegate decision-making for the contract award and funding allocation to John Jackson, Director for Social and Community Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Services.

8. Day Opportunities and Transport Charging Model

(Cabinet 29 January 2013)

Cabinet considered a report that provided details of a consultation that took place on day opportunities and the transport charging model; it included who took part, stakeholder feedback, comments and suggestions. The report gave a financial summary of the implications of the proposals and Cabinet agreed the recommendations with regards to the proposed increases of charges.

9. Care Home Fees

(Cabinet 29 January 2013 2012)

The Council has a statutory duty to make arrangements for persons aged 18 or over who it assesses are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them. Consequently the Council pays for approximately 1,700 older people in care homes for older people at any one time, at a cost of circa £48m per annum. Each year the Council set a rate for care home fees.

Cabinet agreed a report that proposed that the Banding System for Care Home Fees in Oxfordshire be simplified. In particular for 2012/13 they confirmed the 3% uplift agreed as an interim payment for all existing and new placements in care homes from April 2012 and revised the target banding rates from April 2013 including the deletion of the Residential-Substantial

Target Banding Rate and the Nursing - Substantial Target Banding Rate. Cabinet further agreed to consult the care home providers in Oxfordshire on the target banding rates and to review the Equality Impact Assessment once the outcome of the consultation is known.

10. Developing the Project Agreement with the Oxfordshire Care Partnership

(Cabinet 29 January 2013 2012)

Cabinet agreed an exempt report that set out proposals for developments in the relationship that the Council has with the Oxfordshire Care Partnership for the provision of services for the care and support of older people in Oxfordshire.

Cabinet Member: Education

11. Expansion Proposal to Alter the Lower Age Range at Three Oxfordshire Primary Schools

(Cabinet, 26 February 2013)

Cabinet approved the publication of linked statutory notices for closure of Five Acres Nursery School and for the extension of age range at Five Acres Primary School to 3-11; and approved the publication of linked statutory notices for closure of John Hampden Nursery School and for the extension of age range at John Hampden Primary School to 3-11.

Cabinet noted that following the start of public consultation the Governing Body of West Kidlington Primary and Nursery Schools took the decision not to proceed with the proposal, in order to look in more detail at potential other options available to them.

12. Statutory Notice: Proposal to Expand Windmill Primary School, Oxford

(Cabinet, 19 March 2013)

Cabinet approved the expansion of Windmill Primary School by the permanent increase of the school admission number from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2013.

Note: As set out under Rule 18(a) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision is exempt from Call-In as it is deemed urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's interests, in that the Cabinet's role would be negated by referral to the Schools' Adjudicator if the decisions were not taken within two months of the end of the Statutory Notices, in this case being 6 April 2013.

13. Stage Two Statutory Notice Proposal to Alter the Lower Age Range at St Gregory the Great Catholic School, Oxford

(Cabinet, 19 March 2013)

Cabinet approved the alteration of the lower age range of St Gregory the Great Catholic School to reception year age 4 years, with effect from 1 September 2013.

Note: As set out under Rule 18(a) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision is exempt from Call-In as it is deemed urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's interests, in that that St Gregory the Great Catholic School is due to become an Academy on 1 April 2013 and the process to change the age range needs to be completed by that date.

14. Stage Two Statutory Notice Proposal for Change of Category for Bletchingdon Parochial CE Primary Schoolies
(Cabinet 19 March 2013)

Cabinet approved the change of category of Bletchingdon Parochial CE Primary School to Voluntary Aided with effect from 1 April 2013.

Cabinet Member: Growth & Infrastructure

15. West Oxfordshire District Council Core Strategy
(Cabinet, 18 December 2012)

Cabinet agreed the County Council's proposed response to the West Oxfordshire Local Plan which sets the framework for development across West Oxfordshire for the period to 2029.

16. Oxfordshire Residual Municipal Waste Bulking and Haulage Procurement
(Cabinet 18 December 2012)

Cabinet agreed the award of contracts for the provision of residual municipal waste bulking and haulage services as follows;

- (a) Lot 1 northern part of Cherwell to Grundon Waste Management on the basis of their variant 2 tender ;
- (b) Lot 2 South Oxfordshire and Lot 3 Vale of White Horse to FCC Waste Services (UK) Limited on the basis of their variant 2 tender; and
- (c) Lot 4 West Oxfordshire to FCC Waste Services (UK) Limited on the basis of their compliant tender.

17. South West Bicester New Primary School – Funding Agreement
(Cabinet 29 January 2013)

Cabinet authorised officers to enter into a funding agreement with the Diocese of Oxford for their direct delivery of a school construction project and enabled transfer in stages of a maximum capital grant of £6.664m from S106 resources forward funded from the Council's capital programme reserve,

having deducted any direct costs incurred by the County Council in supporting delivery of the project.

18. Oxford City Draft Charging Levy (Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)) Consultation Response

(Cabinet 26 February 2013)

Cabinet approved the County Council's response to the Oxford Draft Community Infrastructure Levy Schedule.

19. Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2012

(Cabinet 16 March 2013)

In 2007 Oxfordshire Waste Partnership agreed a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and action plan. The Strategy is a high level policy document and commits to a five-yearly review to ensure that it remains current. In 2012/13 a review of the Strategy was carried out and an updated document has been produced and consulted upon. At the January 2013 meeting of the Partnership, the refreshed document was agreed and signed off. It now needs to be adopted by each partner council.

Cabinet adopted the revised Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and delegated authority to the Director for Environment and Economy to authorise a necessary financial arrangement deed of variation in consultation with the Leader.

Cabinet Member: Police & Policies

20. Equality Policy 2012-17: Annual Update

(Cabinet 29 January 2013)

Cabinet agreed the first update on the 'Equality Policy 2012-2017' and agreed to the adjustment of the reporting timetable for future updates.

21. Equality Cherwell District Council - Property Asset Transactions

(Cabinet 26 February 2013)

Cabinet approved the sale of eight County Council owned properties to Cherwell District Council. The properties would be sold below market value because Cherwell District Council was providing the County Council nomination rights in perpetuity for 22 supported housing units: the revenue savings arising from this arrangement offsetting the shortfall in capital receipts.

22. Bayards Hill Primary School - Redevelopment Project

(Cabinet 16 March 2013)

Cabinet considered a report that sought Stage 2 Full Business Case approval to award a contract for construction/ refurbishment to Bayard's Hill Primary School within an approved budget figure of £6.6 million.

The need for Bayard's Hill Primary School to operate as a 2FE Primary School (Admission Number 60) is one part of the county council's strategy to meet the need for primary school places in Oxford.

Cabinet approved the Stage 2 Full Business Case up to the financial limit of £6.66m and authorised the Director of Environment and Economy, to approve letting of the construction contract within the agreed financial limit.

Cabinet Member: Safer & Stronger Communities

23. Community Risk Management Planning Strategy (CRMPS) 2013-2018 & Community Risk Management Action Plan (CRMP) 2013-2014

(Cabinet 26 February 2013)

Cabinet considered a report that summarised consultation on the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) and subsequent changes to the plans.

Cabinet also considered the 2013-14 CRMP action plan (detailing specific projects related to the strategic analysis work). Projects included:

- To implement the Service's Road Safety strategy as an integral part of its prevention and protection activities
- To deliver the Thames Valley Fire Control Service (TVFCS) programme

IAN HUDSPETH

Leader of the Council

March 2013