

COUNTY COUNCIL – 1 APRIL 2014

REPORT OF THE CABINET

Cabinet Member: Leader

1. Oxfordshire Strategic Economic Plan *(Cabinet, 18 March 2014)*

Cabinet considered a report that gave an update on the Oxfordshire Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) including the SEP executive summary which captured the key themes, geographical focus and governance of the SEP and approved it for submission to Government by 31 March subject to any further amendments agreed by the Director for Environment & Economy in consultation with the Leader..

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader

2. Staffing Report – Quarter 2, 2013 *(Cabinet 25 February 2014)*

Cabinet noted a report that gave an update on staffing numbers and related activity during the period 1 October 2013 to 31 December 2013. It gave details of the agreed staffing numbers and establishment at 31 December 2013 in terms of Full Time Equivalents. In addition, the report provided information on vacancies and the cost of posts being covered by agency staff.

3. Cabinet Business Monitoring Report for Quarter 2 *(Cabinet 28 January 2014)*

Cabinet noted a report that provided details of performance for quarter two that enabled Cabinet to monitor the performance of the Council in key service areas and be assured that progress is being made to improve areas where performance is below the expected level. They further noted the concerns of the Performance Scrutiny Committee that, across all three Directorates, resources are stretched due to an increase in demand, which is not mirrored by funding streams, and is threatening the future performance of the Council.

Cabinet Member: Adult Social Care

4. Better Care Fund *(Cabinet, 18 March 2014)*

Cabinet considered a report seeking agreement on the proposed use of the Better Care Fund in Oxfordshire, prior to submission to NHS England (as an integral part of the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's Strategic and Operational Plans) by 4 April 2014.

The Better Care Fund will total approximately £37 million in Oxfordshire from 2015/16 onwards, and is not new money as it will be reallocated from within the health and social care system. However, a significant proportion may be newly accessible to adult social care, and can be used to protect services where it can also be demonstrated that there are benefits to health.

Cabinet agreed the Better Care Fund Plan for Oxfordshire for submission to NHS England subject to the inclusion of any necessary changes as a result of consideration by the Health and Wellbeing Board and Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body. Cabinet further agreed the use of the Health Transfer to Social Care Funding in 2014/15, and for this to form the basis of a section 256 agreement between the County Council and NHS England as agreed by the Director for Social & Community Services following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Services. It was agreed that Cabinet receive an updated plan in March 2015 prior to implementation, reflecting performance in 2014/15 and any emerging pressures and priorities.

Cabinet Member: Children, Education & Families

5. New Schools for Great Western Park, Didcot: Shortlist of Academy Trusts

(Cabinet, 17 December 2013)

The Cabinet meeting of 18 September 2012 approved a process for the identification of sponsors for new academies to meet the needs of population growth such as this in Didcot which requires 2 new primary schools and one secondary between 2015 and 2017.

Following this process providers have been identified from a group of 4 short-listed bidders which were assessed against criteria. The Cabinet considered a report setting out options and agreed to recommend GLF Academy Trust to provide the Secondary School and Primary School 2 to be run as an all through 4-16 school and to recommend GEMS Trust provides Primary School 1. These have been submitted to the Secretary of State for Education who has given final agreement to these arrangements.

6. The Proposed Home to School Transport Policy

(Cabinet, 4 February 2014)

The Council had undertaken a consultation with the public, headteachers and other interested parties upon a number of proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy. Cabinet had before them a report that contained an analysis of the responses to the consultation for consideration and seeking their decision on the proposed changes.

Cabinet agreed: to provide free transport to the nearest available school in Oxfordshire and to a 'split village' entitlement where at least 20% of addresses, but not all, are nearest to the catchment school and the rest are nearest to another school; in such cases free transport to be provided to the catchment school for all addresses. Cabinet further agreed the timescale and resources for implementation of the proposals and agreed increases to the charges for concessionary travel and post 16 travel.

7. Carterton Community College Extension of Upper Age Limit to Establish Post-16 Education

(Cabinet, 18 March 2014)

Cabinet considered a report seeking their views following a public consultation on a proposal by the Governing Body of Carterton Community College to alter the upper age limit of the College in order to enable it to offer post-16 education. The proposal is to implement the change from September 2014 and gradually increase the range of courses offered over a three-year period.

Cabinet supported strongly the proposal by Carterton Community College to alter its upper age limit in order to establish post-16 education.

Cabinet Member: Environment

8. Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan - Core Strategy: Consultation Draft

(Cabinet 28 January 2014)

The County Council has a statutory duty to prepare a new Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Plan, to provide an effective planning strategy and policies for the supply of minerals and management of waste in the county, consistent with environmental, social and economic needs. The Plan must be prepared in accordance with current government policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) and having due regard to the emerging new National Planning Practice Guidance.

In line with the revised Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (Fifth Revision) 2013, setting out the programme for preparing the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Cabinet had before them a report recommending a draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Core Strategy for public consultation.

Cabinet agreed the draft Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Core Strategy, subject to final detailed amendment, updating and editing, as a draft for consultation.

9. Response to Westgate Planning Application

(Cabinet, 25 February 2014)

Cabinet considered and agreed a suggested response to the consultation by Oxford City Council, in their role as local planning authority on an application for re-development of the Westgate centre in Oxford together with two applications for temporary parking to manage the situation and maintain access to the city centre during the construction phase.

10. Local Transport Plan: Update

(Cabinet, 18 March 2014)

The Local Transport Plan 3 (2011-2030) was adopted by the County Council in 2011 as a 20-year strategy for Oxfordshire's transport system. Having an adopted Local Transport Plan and keeping it under review, is a statutory

requirement on the county council, as set out in the 2000 Transport Act as amended by the 2008 Local Transport Act. It provides the framework for the county council's transport input into the Local Development Plan process and supports our ability to secure key infrastructure projects. It underpins our capital delivery programme, and the way in which we deliver our services. Owing to the long-term nature of the Plan it was agreed as part of the approval process that it would be regularly reviewed in order to keep it up to date and relevant. Cabinet considered and approved five of the area strategies within the LTP3's implementation plan which had been updated for Banbury, Bicester, Carterton, Science Vale and Witney, covering the parts of the county likely to experience significant growth to 2030.

11. Travel Plans

(Cabinet, 18 March 2014)

Travel Plans are long-term management strategies for sites, which seek to ensure that travel associated with them is sustainable. In accordance with national planning policy and local plans, Oxfordshire County Council requests travel plans from developers for sites which are expected to generate significant amounts of movement. Developers frequently ask for advice on preparing and implementing travel plans, and Cabinet had before them a draft standard guidance document to ensure consistency and efficiency. As there is effort involved in implementing travel plans, they are likely to be ineffective in achieving their targets unless they are monitored. Councils are permitted to charge fees to cover the costs of monitoring, and the draft Guidance set out proposed monitoring fees for approval.

Cabinet approved the Transport Assessments & Travel Plans Guidance Document and monitoring fee charging schedule for publication; and approved the charging of fees to cover staff costs for other non-statutory Travel Plan related services on an hourly basis by agreement.

Cabinet Member: Finance

12. 2013/14 Financial Monitoring & Business Strategy Delivery Report - October 2013

(Cabinet, 17 December 2013 and 25 February 2014)

Cabinet considered two reports that focussed on the delivery of the Directorate Business Strategies which were agreed as part of the Service and Resource Planning Process for 2013/14 – 2016/17. Parts 1 and 2 included projections for revenue, reserves and balances as at the end of October 2013 and December 2013 respectively. Changes to unringfenced grant funding were set out in Part 3 and Capital Programme monitoring was included at Part 4 of each report.

In December Cabinet approved virement requests, noted the updated Treasury Management lending list, approved the removal of a residual debt of £19,650 from the Council's accounts, agreed that the shortfall in revenue grant funding arising from recent unringfenced grant confirmations is met from the Budget Reserve in 2013/14 and approved changes to the Capital Programme and the addition of the project development budget for the A34 Chilton Junction scheme in the Capital Programme.

In February Cabinet approved virement requests and the supplementary estimate requests, and noted the updated Treasury Management lending and the changes to the Capital Programme.

Cabinet Member: Policy Co-ordination

13. Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service - Community Risk Management Plan - Action Plan 2014/2015

(Cabinet, 25 February 2014)

The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 requires the Secretary of State to prepare a Fire and Rescue National Framework to which Fire Authorities must have regard when discharging their functions. The 2012 Framework requires each Fire and Rescue Authority to produce a publicly available Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP). Within Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (OFRS) we have called this our Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) to make it more meaningful to the public. Cabinet considered and agreed the following projects to be included within the Fire Authority's CRMP for the fiscal year 2014-15.

Project 1: Implement the Training Collaboration Review carried out in 2013

Project 2: Review our aerial appliance capability and implement changes to staffing supported by that review

Project 3: Review of Light Response Vehicle Capability and implement changes to staffing supported by that review

Project 4: Review of Prevention, Protection and Response Resources to meet the expansion and changing risk profile of Banbury, Bicester, Carterton, Wantage and the South of the County

14. Oxfordshire County Council Corporate Plan - 2014/15 - 2017/18

(Cabinet, 18 March 2014)

Cabinet considered and approved a draft of the Corporate Plan for 2014/5-2017/18 in advance of consideration by Council. Cabinet also noted the proposed Indicators of Corporate Performance.

N.B The report is included for consideration elsewhere on this agenda.

IAN HUDSPETH

Leader of the Council

March 2014