

COUNTY COUNCIL – 01 JULY 2014

REPORT OF THE CABINET

Cabinet Member: Leader

1. Oxfordshire Growth Board

(Cabinet, 17 June 2014)

Cabinet considered a report that summarised the governance arrangements for the Oxfordshire Growth Board following publication of the Strategic Economic Plan. It included the draft Terms of Reference for the Growth Board, building on the commitments of the City Deal submission, and acting as the basis on which the formal legal agreement between the constituent local authorities will be based.

Cabinet agreed the governance arrangements, delegated authority to the Director of Environment & Economy in consultation with the Leader of Council, the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer to agree the details of the final agreement and noted the current position with regard to support for the Spatial Planning & Infrastructure Partnership, City Deal and LTB.

2. City Deal – Overview & Delivery of Transport Schemes

(Cabinet, 15 April 2014)

Cabinet considered a report which summarised Oxfordshire County Council's City Deal submission as the first phase of achieving the long term ambition which will be fully set out in the forthcoming Strategic Economic Plan and further developed through the Local Growth Deal. The report set out the City Deal Transport Business cases, progress to date and sought agreement to schemes' inclusion into the Capital Programme. In addition, the report provided information on vacancies and the cost of posts being covered by agency staff.

3. Appointments 2014/15

(Cabinet, 17 June 2014)

Cabinet made member appointments to a variety of bodies which in different ways support the discharge of the Council's Executive function.

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader

4. Externalisation of Back/Office School Facing Services

(Cabinet, 15 April 2014)

Cabinet considered a report which provided an update and sought approval to the next steps in the externalisation of corporate facing HR and Finance back office services and the joint venture proposal to cover school back office and schools learning and foundation years. Proposals included the suspension of

the current procurement process for the Outsource of Finance and HR back-office services and the Joint Venture for School Improvement and related support services for schools (with the exception of Outdoor Education Centres) and the Commissioning of a full business case for Oxfordshire with a view to joining the Hampshire IBC partnership and creation of a new partnership with Hampshire for Education services.

5. Cabinet Business Monitoring Report for Quarter 3
(Cabinet, 15 April 2014)

Cabinet noted a report that provided details of performance for quarter three 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. Whilst noting the concerns of the Performance Scrutiny Committee regarding delayed transfer of care, the Cabinet noted that a lot of work was being carried out in that area and improvements were being made. There was a need to ensure that these improvements were sustained. They also noted that re-ablement was improving.

6. Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
(Cabinet, 13 May 2014)

Following the nationwide flooding events of 2007, the Pitt Review recommended that a single authority should be responsible for managing flood risk in local areas. This was endorsed by subsequent legislation, the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, under which Oxfordshire County Council became the Lead Local Flood Authority for the County. As part of its role as the Lead Flood Authority the council is required to produce, publish and maintain a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The purpose of the strategy is to state how the county council, in conjunction with other flood and water management authorities intend to work together effectively in order to manage areas identified as being at risk of flooding within the county.

Cabinet considered and approved the Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for public consultation.

7. Staffing Report – Quarter 4, 2013/14
(Cabinet, 13 May 2014)

Cabinet considered and approved the quarterly staffing report that provided details of key people numbers and analysis of main changes since the previous report.

Cabinet Member: Adult Social Care

8. Care Home Fees 2014
(Cabinet, 15 April 2014)

Cabinet have approved proposals to ensure the sustainability of care home services in Oxfordshire to meet the assessed needs of vulnerable adults, and to work alongside providers to ensure that services are of the highest quality.

The services that care homes provide within Oxfordshire play an important role in helping to meet the needs of vulnerable adults. The Council has to ensure that there is sufficient capacity within the social care market to meet its current and future commissioning requirements. Accordingly, Cabinet have agreed proposals to increase Target Banding Rates to be applied for 2014-15.

9. Section 75 Agreement

(Cabinet, 17 June 2014)

Cabinet gave approval for changes to the formal Section 75 agreement that governs the pooled budget arrangements between Oxfordshire County Council and the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group subject to the inclusion of any necessary changes following consideration by Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and finalisation of the financial contributions of both parties as agreed by the Director for Social & Community Services after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Services.

Cabinet Member: Children, Education & Families

10. Recommendations of the Cabinet Advisory Group on the Strategic Assurance Framework for safeguarding children and young people

(Cabinet, 13 May 2014)

Cabinet considered a report that provided some background into the work of the Safeguarding Assurance Cabinet Advisory Group and made some recommendations to Cabinet to strengthen the current assurance arrangements.

Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the Safeguarding Assurance Cabinet Advisory Group to allow officers to develop a delivery plan with clear timescales and ownership for implementation.

Cabinet Member: Environment

11. Reconsideration of a Decision Referred back from the Performance Scrutiny Committee following Call in - Middleton Stoney Road, Bicester: Proposed Road Humps and Puffin Crossing

(Cabinet, 17 June 2014)

Cabinet reconsidered a decision following call in that had been referred back by the Performance Scrutiny Committee in the light of the material concerns about the lack of proper consultation with local Bicester County Councillors.

Cabinet agreed not to go back out to consultation with local Bicester County Councillors and to confirm the Decision of the Cabinet Member for Environment made on 15 May 2014 to approve the implementation of proposals as advertised.

Cabinet Member: Finance

12. 2013/14 Financial Monitoring & Business Strategy Delivery Report – February 2014

(Cabinet, 15 April 2014)

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 2013/14 – 2016/17. Parts 1 and 2 included projections for revenue, reserves and balances as at the end of February 2014 and also an update on grant funding for the costs of the recent flooding. Capital Programme monitoring was included at Part 3 and Part 4 set out requests for changes to 2014/15 Fees and Charges and the

Cabinet approved virement requests, noted the updated Treasury Management lending list, approved the removal of a residual debt of £12,000 from the Council's accounts, approved changes to the Capital Programme and approved changes to the fees and charges and the contributions in Adult Social Care Policy.

Cabinet Further **RECOMMENDED** Council to approve the requests to move additional non – Pool Mental Health expenditure into the Pool and to approve the use of £2.000m of the Public Health Grant Funding to support the Capital Programme in 2014/15 as set out in paragraph 49 and Annex 8 of the report.

13. Provisional 2013/14 Revenue and Capital Outturn

(Cabinet, 13 May 2014)

Cabinet had before them a report that set out the provisional revenue and capital outturn for 2013/14 and showed how actual expenditure and income for the year compared to the budgeted position. Figures shown in the report reflected the Council's draft Statement of Accounts for 2013/14.

Cabinet, in respect of the 2013/14 outturn, noted the provisional revenue and capital outturn along with the year-end position on balances and reserves. Cabinet approved carry-forwards and virements and **RECOMMENDED** Council to approve the virements greater than £0.5m for Children, Education & Families, Social & Community Services and Environment & Economy Directorates. Cabinet agreed that the surplus on the On-Street Parking Account at the end of the 2013/14 financial year, so far as not applied to particular eligible purposes in accordance with Section 55(4) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, be carried forward in the account to the 2014/15 financial year.

Cabinet, in respect of the 2014/15 revenue budget and Capital Programme, approve the virements for 2014/15, approved the allocation of £1.740m funding to the Didcot Parkway Station Forecourt project from corporate capital programme contingencies in order to increase the total budget by £1.365m to £8.055m and noted the approval of the £1.800m increase in the budget and full business case for the Kennington/Hinksey Hill Interchange scheme by the Leader of the Council and Chief Finance Officer.

N.B The virements referred to above for approval by Council are included for consideration elsewhere on this agenda.

Cabinet Member: Fire Service & Corporate Plan

14. Equality Policy 2012-17: Annual Update for 2013/14 and Action Plan for 2014/15

(Cabinet, 13 May 2014)

Cabinet considered the second annual update following the launch in 2012 of the Council's Equality Policy. Cabinet also considered a refresh of the actions against which the County was measuring progress, to ensure that they reflected the work of all service areas and the priorities of the council, as set out in the latest Corporate Plan and directorate Business Strategies.

Cabinet agreed the new Equality Policy Action Plan for 2014/15.

IAN HUDSPETH

Leader of the Council

June 2014