

## COUNTY COUNCIL – 14 JULY 2015

### REPORT OF THE CABINET

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

#### **1. Addressing the Council's Future Challenges**

*(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)*

Following the General Election, the Cabinet had before them a report taking stock of both the council's financial position and its policy priorities, reflecting both local drivers and what was known of the national context and considered any changes to the Council's financial and corporate strategy that are required at this time..

#### **2. England's Economic Heartland**

*(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)*

Cabinet considered a report on the emerging framework which had the flexibility to be extended to adjoining areas where there is common cause but which recognised that whilst partners chose to work together on strategic issues, they retain their own identity and their roles and responsibilities in local issues.

Cabinet endorsed the engagement and work that had taken place with Oxfordshire/Buckinghamshire/Northamptonshire County Councils and the Local Enterprise Partnerships and agreed to formation of a Strategic Leaders Board comprised of the three County Councils and three Local Enterprise Partnerships. Cabinet also agreed that a further report be submitted to Cabinet and Local Enterprise Partnership Boards once this further work had been undertaken.

#### **3. Appointments 2015/16**

*(Cabinet 23 June 2015)*

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. Cabinet Business Monitoring Report for Quarter 3**

*(Cabinet, 21 April 2015)*

Cabinet noted a report that provided details of performance for quarter three (2014-15) for the Cabinet to consider. The report is required so that the Cabinet can 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.

## **5. Provision of HR and Finance Services by Hampshire County Council**

*(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)*

In July 2014, Cabinet agreed to join the Hampshire partnership as an operational partner for the provision of back office support services through their Integrated Business Centre with an expected go-live date of 1 July 2015. Cabinet noted an update on the progress to date, that confirmed the services transferring and the savings that will be achieved both as a direct result of the partnership and those that are achieved as a consequence of the partnership. Cabinet also agreed that a review be held after 6 months with the information also being considered by Performance Scrutiny Committee.

## **6. Equalities – Annual Update**

*(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)*

In 2012 Oxfordshire County Council launched its Equality Policy setting out how we meet obligations under the Equality Act 2010. Cabinet had before them a third annual update and agreed to the new Equality Policy Actions for 2015/16.

## **7. Staffing Report, Quarter 4 2014/15**

*(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)*

Cabinet agreed a report that gave an update on staffing numbers and related activity during the period 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015. It gave details of the agreed staffing numbers and establishment at 31 March 2015. The report also provided information on vacancies and the cost of posts being covered by agency staff.

### ***Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care***

## **8. Help to Live at Home – Home Care Business Case**

*(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)*

The current model of home care in Oxfordshire will not be able to deliver the capacity and capability required to meet future needs, as providers do not have the security of future business to employ sufficient care staff.

The intention is to develop a new model of home care that will enable people to maximise their independence. Cabinet considered and approved a report setting out the proposed model for home care.

## **9. Section 75 Agreement**

*(Cabinet 26 May 2015)*

Cabinet considered and approved a report seeking approval for variations to the legal agreement under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 that governs the existing formal joint working arrangements and pooled budgets between Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Oxfordshire County Council from April 2015 onwards.

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

***Cabinet Member: Children, Education & Families***

**10. The Council's Response to the Findings of the Serious Case Review for Children A-F and Further Action Taken in Response to Child Sexual Exploitation in Oxfordshire**  
*(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)*

Cabinet had before them a report that set out the council's response to the findings in the serious case review, which have been accepted in full, and which also provided a summary of the action that the council has taken since 2010 when Operation Bullfinch was launched.

Cabinet noted the Council's response and the further actions in progress.

**11. Support for Children Looked After and Leaving Care into Employment, Education & Training**  
*(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)*

Cabinet considered and approved the Education, Training and Employment Strategy for children who are looked after and leaving care.

**12. Recommendations of the Early Intervention Cabinet Advisory Group (CAG)**  
*(Cabinet, 23 June 2015)*

Cabinet considered the report of the Early Intervention CAG which provided some background into the work of the CAG and made recommendations to Cabinet for changes to the children's early intervention service in order to realise the necessary savings. Cabinet agreed to consult with potential partners on the proposals

***Cabinet Member: Environment***

**13. Bus Service Subsidies Review**  
*(Cabinet Member for Environment Decision – 19 March 2015)*

The Cabinet Member for Environment considered and approved a review of subsidised bus services which included the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire areas and some others elsewhere in Oxfordshire, which for technical reasons included some additional services which operated in both those areas.

*Note: As set out under Scrutiny Procedure Rule 18(b) where delay would result in the discontinuity of service provision, this decision was exempt from Call-In.*

**14. Supported Transport Programme Public Consultation - Transport Hub & Subsidised Bus Services**  
(Cabinet, 26 May 2015)

Cabinet considered a report that outlined proposals to deliver £6.25m of savings from the Council's supported transport services by 2017/18. It's estimated that £3.69m of this can be delivered through greater efficiency, brought about by the introduction of a new Transport Hub with the remaining £2.56m being delivered by reducing subsidies to commercial bus operators, while prioritising services used by older people and people with disabilities.

Cabinet noted progress with making efficiencies through the introduction of the 'Transport Hub', and plans to make further such efficiencies, granted permission to consult on the proposals outlined in the report and agreed to consider a further consultation option to remove all bus subsidies within the County subject to meeting the Council's statutory duty.

***Cabinet Member: Finance***

**15. 2014/15 Financial Monitoring & Business Strategy Delivery Report – February 2015**  
(Cabinet, 21 April 2015)

Cabinet had before them a financial report on revenue and capital spending against budget allocations, including virements between budget heads.

Cabinet noted the report and annexes; approved the return of £0.640m Supplementary Estimate relating to the Severe Weather Recovery Grant; approved the creation of the Government Initiatives Reserve and the contribution of £0.840m as set out in paragraph 77; approved the write off of part of the developer contribution for infrastructure payments relating to a planning obligation agreed in September 2010; approved changes to fees and charges; approved changes to the Capital Programme.

**16. Provisional 2014/15 Revenue and Capital Outturn**  
(Cabinet, 23 June 2015)

Cabinet considered a report that set out the provisional revenue and capital outturn position for 2014/15 and showed how actual expenditure and income for the year compared to the budgeted position. Figures shown in the report reflect the Council's draft Statement of Accounts for 2014/15.

Cabinet in respect of the 2014/15 outturn noted the provisional revenue and capital outturn for 2014/15 along with the year-end position on balances and reserves as set out in the report. Cabinet approved the carry-forwards and virements and recommended Council to approve the virements greater than £1.0m for Children, Education & Families, Social & Community Services, Chief Executive's Office, and Environment & Economy Directorates. Cabinet agreed that where allowed by the regulations the surplus on the On-Street Parking Account at the end of the 2014/15 financial year, be carried forward in

the account to the 2015/16 financial year and agreed the use of £0.825m one off funding from Children, Education & Families reserves to offset the overspend within Children's Social Care.

Cabinet in respect of the 2015/16 revenue budget and Capital Programme approved the virements for 2015/16. Cabinet recommended Council to approve supplementary estimates of £2.0m to the Efficiency Reserve and £2.7m to the Budget Reserve. Cabinet approved the entry into the capital programme of the Riverside routes to Oxford city centre cycling scheme and release of project development budget to proceed with feasibility and preliminary design works. They approved the increase in budget of the Cutteslowe roundabout scheme and the Wolvercote roundabout scheme and contractually committed to construction of both schemes. Cabinet approved the increase in the Universal Infant Free School Meals Programme.

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

### ***Cabinet Member: Public Health & The Voluntary Sector***

#### **17. Novation of Health Contract**

*(Cabinet, 23 June 2015)*

A ministerial announcement on 29 January 2014 confirmed that the responsibility for the commissioning of some elements of the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme (HCP) (including health visiting), are transferring out of NHS England to Local Authorities on 01 October 2015.

Cabinet considered and approved a report to ratify the approach being taken to novate the Health Visiting contract in line with the transfer of commissioning responsibility for 0-5 public health services to local authorities from the 1st October 2015.

**IAN HUDSPETH**

Leader of the Council

July 2015