

COUNTY COUNCIL –2 NOVEMBER 2010

REPORT OF THE CABINET

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader

1. Performance Management: 1st Quarter Progress Report Against Priorities and Targets

(Cabinet, 14 September 2010)

Cabinet noted a report that showed progress against the Corporate Balanced Scorecard and Corporate Risk Register where performance and/or risks have been given a proposed RAG-rating of red, and in some cases amber (where performance was below expectation, where there were high risks involved, or where CCMT attention is otherwise required).

2. Establishment Review

(Cabinet, 14 September 2010)

Cabinet noted a report that gave an update on activity since the implementation of the Establishment Review and associated Recruitment Approval process on 1 August 2005. Details of the agreed establishment figure at 31 March 2010 in terms of Full Time Equivalents was provided, together with the detailed staffing position at 31 March 2010. The report also contained information on grant funded posts and those vacancies which are being covered by agency staff and at what cost.

3. Corporate ICT Strategy

(Cabinet, 19 October 2010)

Cabinet agreed the draft Corporate ICT Strategy, and to receive quarterly updates on its implementation in line with the action plan.

4. Customer Service Strategy

(Cabinet, 19 October 2010)

Cabinet approved the Customer Service Strategy and its 18-month action plan.

5. The Future of the Council Magazine “Oxon News”

(Cabinet, 19 October 2010)

Cabinet considered options for the future of the Council magazine ‘Oxon News’ and agreed to discontinue ‘Oxon News’ at the end of 2010.

Cabinet Member: Adult Services

6. White Paper: Equity and Excellence – Liberating the NHS

(Cabinet, 14 September 2010

Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Services, 1 October 2010)

Cabinet considered a report on the recent White Paper and other related consultation papers that had set out a whole series of radical proposals for change to the NHS. Cabinet commented on the proposals and suggested response and a formal response was agreed by the Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Services.

Cabinet Member: Children, Young People & Families

7. Progress Report on Children Looked After and Leaving Care

(Cabinet, 19 October 2010)

Cabinet considered one of a regular series of reports that came to Cabinet on its role as legal "Corporate Parent" to the Children and Young People Looked After by the Council, and those Leaving Care to live independently. The report addressed Council-wide improvements in Corporate Parenting, including enhanced accountability for this highly vulnerable group. It also reported on the progress and challenges posed in caring for the County's most vulnerable young people.

Cabinet agreed their continued support for the Corporate Parenting Strategy and noted the information on outcomes for looked After Children and the associated performance measures.

Cabinet Member: Finance & Property

8. Financial Monitoring

(Cabinet, 14 September & 19 October 2010)

Cabinet considered two reports that set out the monthly financial monitoring position.

The September report provided a further update on changes to funding in 2010/11 in addition to the position set out in the previous report and addenda to Cabinet on 20 July 2010, and the report to Council on 27 July 2010.

Cabinet approved virements and supplementary estimates; agreed the creation of the Customer Services Reserve and transfer of £1.000m to that reserve and the transfer of £1.000m to Efficiency Reserve; agreed that the Unringfenced AIDS/HIV Grant can be used to fund Supporting People service; agreed the transfer of impairment losses in relation to Landsbanki to the County fund; noted that £0.6m of Council funding for the day centre element of the Banbury Day Centre project has been released from the moratorium agreed as part of the Capital Programme Review and agreed to take up prudential borrowing to meet commitments in respect of deferred interest loans.

The October report showed that the in – year Directorate forecast was an overspend of +£0.241m, or +0.06% compared to a budget of £384.404m. The in-year forecast excluded an overspend of +£0.213m on services funded from Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and +£0.178m relating to the City Schools Reorganisation which was carried forward from 2009/10 as planned.

Cabinet approved virements and Supplementary Estimate requests and the return of £0.071m by CYP&F; approved transfer to reserves; approved the Capital Programme set out in the report; noted the Capital Programme Review Update and the reduction of £2.774m in Sure Start, Early Years and Children’s Centres (SSEYCC) grant funding and agreed the effect on Early Years and Children’s Centre projects and approved the proposed fees and charges for the Alert Service as set out in Part 4.

Service & Resource Planning Report for 2011/12 - 2015/16 (September 2010)

Cabinet, 14 September 2010)

Cabinet considered a report on the Service & Resource Planning process for 2011/12 - 2015/16 that will culminate in the Council setting a budget requirement for the authority and an amount of Council Tax for 2011/12 in February 2011.

The report provided an update on information available pertaining to the Business Strategy; the budget for 2011/12 and the medium term; and proposed a process for Service & Resource Planning for 2011/12 including a timetable of events.

Cabinet approved the Service and Resource Planning process for 2011/12, endorsed the distribution and phasing of the total savings targets between Directorates and support services and noted the decision on the date for the budget setting meeting of Council.

Cabinet Member: Growth and Infrastructure

9. Local Transport Plan 3 – Draft Plan for Consultation

(Cabinet, 14 September 2010)

The Cabinet approved the draft Local Transport Plan for consultation, noting the information contained in the draft SEA Environmental Report.

10. Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Core Strategy - Preferred Minerals Strategy – Draft Plan for Consultation

(Cabinet, 19 October 2010)

The Minerals and Waste Development Framework will set out how minerals will be supplied and waste managed in the county. The Core Strategy will include a vision and strategic objectives, spatial strategy, core policies and a monitoring and implementation framework. Cabinet considered a report that

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included a set of principles to underpin the minerals part of the Core Strategy. It described the current pattern of mineral working in Oxfordshire and explained the development of, consultation on, and assessment and testing of options for the location of sand and gravel, soft sand and crushed rock workings over the next 15 to 20 years.

Cabinet agreed the guiding principles for the minerals strategy; agreed the County Council's preferred approach for mineral working in the short to medium and agreed the next steps including public consultation on the preferred minerals strategy in spring 2011.

KEITH R MITCHELL CBE
Leader of the Council

October 2010