

DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 16 December 2025 commencing at 3.00 pm and finishing at 3:15pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Sean Gaul – in the Chair

Officers: Caroline Kelly (Head of Joint Commissioning), Jack Ahier (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

The Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda as set out below. Copies of the agenda and reports are attached to the signed Minutes.

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Agenda No. 1)

There were none

11 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(Agenda No. 2)

The Chair approved the minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2025, as an accurate record of the proceedings.

12 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

(Agenda No. 3)

None received

13 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda No. 4)

No requests

14 CROSS REGIONAL BLOCK CONTRACT

(Agenda No. 5)

The report was presented by Head of Joint Commissioning

The Chair considered a report which he indicated was very positive.

The partnership was formed by Oxfordshire County Council (the council), Buckinghamshire Council, Milton Keynes Council, Hertfordshire County Council, Bedford Borough Council, and Reading Council. Oxfordshire County Council would take the lead in commissioning and procurement activities. The re-tendering process was to be aligned with the conclusion of the current service, which was scheduled to end on 31 July 2027.

The council planned to re-tender the Cross Regional Project (CRP), which would deliver therapeutic residential care and educational services for children aged 11–17 with complex needs and offering 36 placements.

The Chair resolved to:

- a) approve the re-tendering of the Cross Regional Project partnership.**
- b) approve the council's plan to expand growth in Oxfordshire by raising the number of block placements from 17 by an additional 8, reaching a maximum total of 25 placements throughout the ten-year contract period (structured as 5+2+1+1+1 years).**

..... in the Chair

Date of signing