

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Transformation

3 July 2026

Funding Agreement with Cambrian Learning Trust for Faringdon Community College

Report by: Deputy Chief Executive (S151 Officer)

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is **RECOMMENDED** to

- a) **Approve the completion of the Funding Agreement with Cambrian Learning Trust which will release funding greater than £2m to the Trust to enable them to enter into contract for the construction of new accommodation at Faringdon Community College.**

Executive Summary

1. Faringdon Community College (FCC) is a secondary school academy managed by Cambrian Learning Trust (CLT).
2. In 2024, a significant sum of unspent S106 funding was identified, which could only be spent at FCC. Childrens Services agreed with CLT to use the funding to replace 4 x 2-class temporary buildings that are not fit for purpose, with permanent accommodation.
3. CEF agreed with CLT that they would self-deliver this project using funding provided by the council through a Funding Agreement.
4. The project budget approved in the Outline Business Case in January 2025 is £6.100m. The Full Business Case will be submitted in August 2026.
5. Once the Full Business Case has been approved, the Funding Agreement with CLT can be completed, enabling them to enter into contract for construction.

Corporate Policies and Priorities

6. This proposed course of action supports the council's statutory duty to provide suitable and sufficient pupil places.

Financial Implications

7. This expansion project has obtained Capital Governance approval as below:
 - Initial Business Case, approved April 2024
 - Outline Business Case, approved January 2025 (£6.100m)
 - Full Business Case to be submitted for approval at Property Programme Board in August 2026
8. The project is being fully funded from S106 contributions. To date, £5.857m has been received and there is a further £1.301m secured, of which £0.686m is expected to be received by the end of 2026.
9. There are no revenue implications for the council as Faringdon Community College is an academy, under the management of CLT.

Comments checked by:

Drew Hodgson,
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Legal Implications

10. The Council has a statutory duty including under section 14(1) of the Education Act 1996 and all other relevant Acts of Parliament, regulations to secure additional school places for children within the County. This Funding Agreement with CLT will enable the Council to fulfil its statutory function.
11. As the funding under the Funding Agreement will be passed directly to works contractors to cover the building and other professional costs, there is no benefit to CLT, this being a mere pass-through arrangement. Therefore, there are no Subsidy law implications of transferring this funding to CLT.
12. Under the terms of the Funding Agreement, in selecting contractors and consultants for the building works, CLT are required to go through a procurement process which is compliant with the Procurement Act 2023 ("PA 2023"). This ensures that the works contracts represent value and comply with the Council's obligations under PA 2023, under the Subsidy Control Act 2022 and under the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. CLT will also be required to comply with all applicable legislation in carrying out the building project.

Comments checked by:

Jonathan Pool
Solicitor

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Staff Implications

13. The course of action will result in further staff costs for OCC Property and Legal which will be recharged against the project budget, as previous staff costs have been.

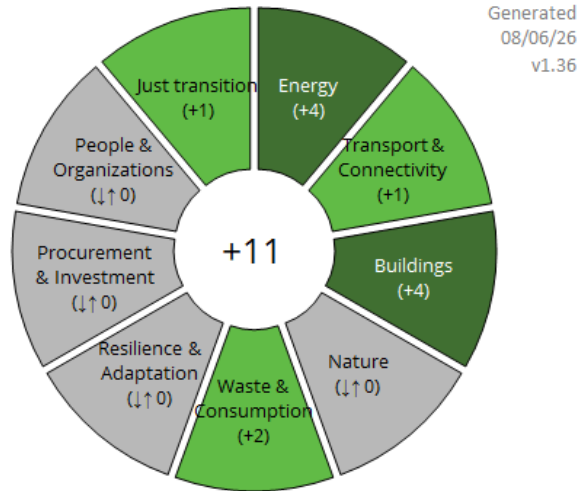
Equality & Inclusion Implications

14. The project does not have any equality and inclusion implications with no change to current operations.

Sustainability Implications

15. Following passive design enhancements to the building fabric and form, the mechanical and electrical building services have been designed to minimise energy consumption and generate heating and hot water in the most efficient way possible.
16. Air source heat pumps will be used as the primary heat source, coupled with low temperature heat distribution to maximise efficiency. PVs will provide energy and at times of low demand and high yield, it will be exported to the National Grid.
17. EV charging points will be included in the new car park layout.

A Climate Impact Assessment has been carried out, with the results below:



Oxfordshire Council has committed to being a carbon neutral organisation by 2030 (8 years and 0 months away).

Consultations

18. This expansion project has gone through the planning approval process with VOWHDC which included a full consultation period.

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Annex: Annex 1 Approved Outline Business Case
[APPROVED Faringdon Community College \(G1\) OBC.pdf](#)

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16 June 2026