

Item 15: Motion by Councillor Lee Evans

Amendment from the proposer

This Council notes that many people in our county suffer from progressive and life-limiting conditions, such as Motor Neurone Disease (MND) ~~is a rapidly progressing condition. Tragically, a third of people die within a year of diagnosis and half within two years.~~ As ~~the disease progresses~~ these diseases progress, symptoms worsen and people's needs increase, often unpredictably.

This Council believes that people living with progressive ~~or terminal~~ conditions ~~like MND~~ deserve to live in safe and accessible homes, with as much independence and quality of life as possible. ~~To the extent that the County Council is involved in ensuring this is the case, we~~ We commit to doing ~~so~~ all we can to ensure this.

This Council notes that early interventions, as well as being good for individuals and their families, can save taxpayer's money by enabling people to manage their condition more effectively and reducing the need for critical interventions at a later stage.

This Council therefore resolves to ask the Cabinet Member for Adults to review the County Council's role in the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) and report to the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee with:

- How the Council currently delivers its role in the DFG;
- Timeliness over the past three years for the County Council fulfilling its role in the DFG, including assessments and referrals;
- How the Council's processes could be improved, including the timeliness of assessments and the working relationship with District Councils and other partners;

Whether the County Council is acting quickly enough to ensure that target timeframes of 55 days for simple adaptations and 130 days for complex adaptations can be met for people living with MND and other progressive or terminal conditions.

Item 16: Motion from Councillor James Barlow

Amendment proposed by Councillor David Henwood

Council notes:

1. Climate impact is the Council's highest strategic risk.
2. The Oxfordshire Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (2024) identifies flooding and extreme heat as significant, growing climate risks; driven by warmer, wetter winters, more intense rainfall, prolonged summer heatwaves and increased built-up areas.
3. Impacts of climate and Nature collapse are acknowledged to be even greater than thought in 2024. They pose an existential threat to humanity and all ecosystems. Serious adaptation must become standard operating practice similar to the fiduciary duty to council tax-payers.

The assessment illustrates ~~the need for~~ large-scale space for water storage upstream and retention is vital, slowing water flow and ~~to decrease~~ flooding impacts downstream. Urban design is also key - to ~~both~~ prevent localised surface-water flooding, and build temperature resilience, preventing human-made "heat islands" which drive excess residents' deaths, especially ~~amongst~~ the most vulnerable.

Adaptation measures' success depends on multi-year, multi-stakeholder, community-based collaborations at impactful scale. Partners' (e.g. Environment Agency) 6-year funding cycles allow capacity to develop – starkly contrasting to the council's annual budget-setting process.

~~Council notes the success of adaptation measures depends on multi-year, multi-stakeholder and community-based collaborations at appropriate, impactful scale. Partners (e.g. Environment Agency) have 6-year funding cycles, allowing capacity and capability to develop appropriately – starkly contrasting to the Council's annual budget-setting process.~~

Council requests that cabinet considers:

- Significantly increased investment through the Council's remaining years' budget process to accelerate Oxfordshire's capacity and capability to convene and work at impactful scale, in multi-stakeholder action groups, embedding climate adaptation as standard operational procedure.
- ~~Multiple new councillor-supported, Supporting multiple~~ location-specific initiatives, convening, alongside working with councillors, officers, and partners organisations and local communities, to build resilience ~~capability~~ through collaborative action ~~into~~:
 - Reduce the risks associated with river, groundwater, surface water and flash flooding ~~Locations to mitigate or adapt to river, groundwater, urban and flash flooding~~
 - Improve resilience to extreme heat and mitigate urban heat island effects ~~Urban neighbourhoods to mitigate heat islands.~~

Item 17: Motion by Councillor Bethia Thomas

Amendment proposed by Councillor Ian Middleton

This Council:

- Recognises that dangerous parking, on pavements, paths and verges, in cycle lanes, around schools and in many other instances, causes significant danger and inconvenience to many people particularly those with limited mobility.
- Understands that this is a county wide issue, and many representative groups have worked tirelessly to highlight these issues.
- Recognises the findings from the Government's consultation, allowing the highway authority to enforce a ban on pavement, path and verge parking.
- Recognises that a ban on pavement parking needs to be accompanied by the consideration of parking as whole, and by extra budget from Government or else effective enforcement may not be possible.

Council therefore:

1. Fully endorses the objective to end pavement, path and verge parking and doing so in a way which suits local needs best.
2. Commits to supporting the use of civil enforcement powers in a way which enforces this policy effectively in a cost neutral way to the council.
3. Asks the Cabinet Member for Transport to:
 - a. Oversee the introduction of an enforcement mechanism, recognising that different areas will require different solutions.
 - b. Ensure that key stakeholders and representative groups of people with restricted mobility be consulted throughout.
 - c. Ensure that the Council follows the progress of Government's latest research exercise into this issue, responding as appropriate.
4. Asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Minister for Local Transport to request further resources to be able to implement the enforcement mechanism effectively.