

Agenda

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Council

Date: **Wednesday 17 February 2016**

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: **Council Chamber, Town Hall**

For any further information please contact:

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Officer**

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This meeting will also be available via a webcast. This means that people may choose to watch all or part of the meeting over the internet rather than attend in person. The webcast will be available to view on the City Council's website after the meeting.

Council

Membership

Lord Mayor	Councillor Rae Humberstone	
Deputy Lord Mayor	Councillor Colin Cook	
Sheriff	Councillor Sajjad Malik	
Members	Councillor Mohammed Abbasi	Councillor Chewe Munkonge
	Councillor Mohammed Altaf-Khan	Councillor Michele Paule
	Councillor Farida Anwar	Councillor Susanna Pressel
	Councillor Elise Benjamin	Councillor Jennifer Pegg
	Councillor Ruthi Brandt	Councillor Bob Price
	Councillor Susan Brown	Councillor Mike Rowley
	Councillor Bev Clack	Councillor Gwynneth Royce
	Councillor Mary Clarkson	Councillor Gill Sanders
	Councillor Van Coulter	Councillor Christine Simm
	Councillor Roy Darke	Councillor Craig Simmons
	Councillor Jean Fooks	Councillor Dee Sinclair
	Councillor James Fry	Councillor Linda Smith
	Councillor Andrew Gant	Councillor John Tanner
	Councillor Stephen Goddard	Councillor Richard Tarver
	Councillor Michael Gotch	Councillor Sian Taylor
	Councillor Mick Haines	Councillor David Thomas
	Councillor Tom Hayes	Councillor Ed Turner
	Councillor David Henwood	Councillor Louise Upton
	Councillor Sam Hollick	Councillor Oscar Van Nooijen
	Councillor Alex Hollingsworth	Councillor Elizabeth Wade
	Councillor Pat Kennedy	Councillor Ruth Wilkinson
	Councillor Ben Lloyd-Shogbesan	Councillor Dick Wolff
	Councillor Mark Lygo	

The quorum for this meeting is 12 members.

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- Viewed on our website – mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk
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SUMMONS

A meeting of the City Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, on Wednesday 17 February 2016 at 5.00 pm to transact the business set out below.



Proper Officer

AGENDA

Pages

PART 1 - PUBLIC BUSINESS

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements by:

- (1) The Lord Mayor
- (2) The Sheriff
- (3) The Leader of the Council
- (4) The Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer, Monitoring Officer

4 AGREEMENT OF PROCEDURE FOR DEBATE ON THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND BUDGET

The procedure for the debate on the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Budget is set out in the Council's Constitution.

Any amendments to the procedure above must be agreed by majority vote and will only apply to this meeting.

Recommendations: Council is recommended to agree the times permitted for each stage in the procedure as detailed in the constitution and set out below:

The total time for this item is limited to 2 hours 25 minutes not including voting or adjournment.

All speakers have 3 minutes unless otherwise stated.

(a) Proposal of the Executive Board budget by the Leader of the Council (15 minutes)

(b) Proposal of opposition group budgets (proposal and debate 30 minutes for each group including voting). The proposer may speak for 10 minutes.

Opposition groups will present their budgets for debate as amendments to the recommendations. These amendments must be received by Committee and Member Services by 1.00pm one working day before the meeting.

The proposals will be voted on as one amendment for each group.

Break

(c) Individual amendments will be presented (maximum 40 minutes in total including voting)

Individual amendments submitted in writing to the clerk in advance of the meeting or at least 15 mins before the start of this item at the meeting on the form provided. Amendments will be taken in the order submitted to the clerk in the form provided and will be "taken as read". A proposer and seconder are required. Should the proposer and seconder agree amendments can be taken in groups. Any amendments not taken within the time fall.

(d) Debate the budget (as amended) (30 minutes or the remaining time overall whichever is the longer)

(e) Recorded vote

(f) Adjournment for 10 minutes if necessary

5 PUBLIC ADDRESSES AND QUESTIONS THAT RELATE TO MATTERS FOR DECISION AT THIS MEETING

Public addresses and questions to the Leader or other Board member received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.11 and 11.12 relating to matters for decision on this agenda.

The request to speak accompanied by the full text of the address or question must be received by the Head of Law and Governance by 5.00 pm on Thursday 11 February 2015.

The briefing note will contain the text of addresses and questions submitted by the deadline, and written responses where available.

A total of **30 minutes** is available for both public speaking items. Responses are included in this time. Up to five minutes is available for each public address or question.

BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX

6 REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES ON THE BUDGET

Report of the Head of Financial Services on the soundness of the financial proposals before Council **(to follow in the briefing note)**

The Head of Financial Services will present the report and recommendations.

Recommendations: Council is recommended to note the report and its implications.

7 SCRUTINY BUDGET REVIEW 2016/17

13 - 28

The Chair of Finance Panel will submit a report to the City Executive Board on 11 February 2016 which sets out the Finance Panel's comments and recommendation on the budget **(updated version attached here)**.

The draft minutes of the Board will be circulated with the briefing note.

The Chair of the Finance Panel will present the report and recommendations.

Recommendations: Council is asked to note the report and the City Executive Board's response set out in the minutes of the meeting of 11 February.

8 LICENSING AND GAMBLING ACTS COMMITTEE AND GENERAL PURPOSES LICENSING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ON FEES AND CHARGES

29 - 38

The Committees considered reports on fees and charges for the licensing functions dealt with at their meetings on 19 January.

The extracts of draft minutes of the Committees and the appendices setting out the three sets of fees and charges are attached.

These fees and charges are also included in the papers for Item 9 at Appendix 7.

The Committee Chairs may wish to present the recommendations.

Recommendations: Council is recommended to:

1. note the draft minutes and agree the recommendations of the Licensing and Gambling Acts Committee; and
2. note the draft minutes and agree the recommendations of the General Purposes Licensing Committee.

The Head of Financial Services will submit a report to the City Executive Board on 11 February which presents the outcome of the budget consultation and seeks agreement to the Council's medium term financial strategy 2016-17 to 2019-20 and 2016-17 budget.

The draft minutes of the Board will be circulated with the briefing note.

The Leader will move the recommendations and the Head of Financial Services will be available to answer questions.

The published agenda for the City Executive Board contains the original recommendations to Council. The CEB supplement contains amended recommendations updated in light of changes to the settlement and to rent changes for sheltered housing to be considered on 11 February.

The amended recommendations before the City Executive Board are: to recommend Council to

1. *approve the General Fund Budget Requirement of **£19.853 million** for 2016/17 and an increase in the Band D Council Tax of 1.99% or £5.55 per annum as set out in Table 8 and Appendices 1-4, representing Band D Council Tax of £284.52 per annum. **The additional amount of £146k over the four year period to go towards the funding of the Council's General Fund Capital Programme;***
2. *approve the continuance of the Council's Council Tax Support scheme (formerly council tax benefit) ;*
3. *approve the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2016/17 of **£43.487 million** and a reduction of 1% (£1.06/wk) in social dwelling rents from April 2016 giving a revised weekly average social rent of **£104.79** as set out in Appendix 4 for all Council dwellings other than sheltered accommodation. In respect of sheltered accommodation that a rent increase of 0.9% is applied (average £0.88 per week increase) generating an additional income originally proposed of **£27,000** for one year to be used in full or in part for improvements in the provision of sheltered accommodation. Such changes will be subject to the Welfare Reform and Work Bill becoming law and no exemption being granted) but that in the event that an exemption or partial exemption is granted that the rent be increased in accordance with the terms of the exemption or partial exemption subject to notice being given to tenants of the proposed rent increase. In that event a further report will be made to CEB and Council detailing the consequential effect on the Housing Revenue Account budget;*
4. *approve the Capital Programme for 2016-20 as set out in Appendix 6 subject to funding availability from 2017-18 onwards;*
5. *approve the fees and charges schedule as set out in Appendix 8; and*
6. *delegate to the S151 officer on consultation with the Board Member for Finance, Asset Management and Public Health the decision to determine whether this is financially advantageous for the Council to enter into a Business Rates Distribution agreement as referred to in paragraphs 17-18 in the report.*

The City Executive Board will consider these and may make these or alternative recommendations to Council.

Opposition Group alternative budgets and amendments will be circulated with the briefing note.

The procedure for this item is at Agenda Item 4.

Recommendations: Council is recommended to:

1. Consider the recommendations of the City Executive Board on 11 February, published in the draft minutes of that meeting;
2. Consider the substantive amendments proposed by the opposition groups ('opposition budgets');
3. Consider individual amendments; and
4. Agree the recommendations from the City Executive Board for the Medium Term Financial Strategy, Budget, and additional matters (as originally proposed or as amended).

A recorded vote will be taken.

10 COUNCIL TAX 2016/17

175 - 188

The Head of Financial Services has submitted a report which sets out the necessary calculations to enable Council to set the 2016/17 Council Tax for Oxford City.

The Leader will move the recommendations and the Head of Financial Services will be available to answer questions.

Recommendations: Council is asked to approve for 2016/17

1. the City Council's precept and Council Tax requirement of £12,621,173 including Parish precepts and £12,423,802 excluding Parish precepts.
2. the average Band D Council Tax figure (excluding Parish Precepts) of £284.52 a 1.99% increase on the 2015/16 figure of £278.97. Including Parish Precepts the figure is £289.04, a 2.14% increase (see paragraph 3).
3. a contribution of £10,000 to Old Marston Parish Council in recognition of the additional expenditure that the Parish incurs as a consequence of maintaining the cemetery (see paragraphs 11 and 12).
4. the amount of £538,520 to be treated as Special Expenses (see paragraph 15).
5. the Band D Council Taxes for the various areas of the City (excluding the Police and County Council's precepts) as follows:-

Littlemore	£315.17
Old Marston	£313.50
Risinghurst and Sandhills	£303.79
Blackbird Leys	£282.54
Unparished Area	£286.87

These figures include the Parish Precepts and special expensing amounts as appropriate; in addition to the City-wide Council Tax of £272.19.

The Council is also asked to note:

6. Oxfordshire County Council's precept and Band D Council Tax as set out in paragraph 18 below.
7. the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley's precept and Band D Council Tax as set out in paragraph 19 below, and
8. the overall average Band D equivalent Council Tax of £1,737.64 including Parish Precepts (subject to confirmation of the Band D figures for the County Council – see paragraph 18 of the report).

A recorded vote will be taken.

CITY EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

11 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

189 - 212

The Head of Financial Services will submit a report to the City Executive Board on 11 February which presents the Council's Treasury Management strategy for 2016-17 together with the prudential indicators for 2016-17 to 2018-219

The draft minutes of the Board will be circulated with the briefing note.

The Leader will move the recommendations and the Head of Financial Services will be available to answer questions.

The published agenda for the City Executive Board contains recommendations that Council:

1. approve the Treasury Management Strategy 2016-17 and adopt the prudential indicators for 2016-17 – 2018-19 as set out in paragraphs 7 to 41 and Appendix 2 of the report;
2. approve the investment strategy for 2016-17 and investment criteria as set out in paragraphs 21 to 38 and Appendix 1 of the report; and
3. approve the minimum revenue provision (MRP) statement at paragraphs 11 to 20 of the report which sets out the Council's policy on debt and repayment.

The City Executive Board will consider these and may make these or alternative recommendations to Council.

Recommendations: Council is asked to agree the recommendations of the City Executive Board on 11 February, published in the draft minutes of that meeting.

The Assistant Chief Executive has submitted a report will submit a report to the City Executive Board on 11 February which sets out the consultation on the draft Corporate Plan 2016-2020 and proposes its adoption.

The draft minutes of the Board will be circulated with the briefing note.

The Leader will move the recommendations.

The published agenda for the City Executive Board contains recommendations that Council approves the draft Corporate Plan 2016-20 attached to that agenda and as amended in the CEB supplement and delegates authority to the Assistant Chief Executive to make minor textual/formatting changes to this in advance of formal publication.

Updates to the Corporate Plan recommended for adoption will be circulated in the briefing note.

Recommendations: Council is asked to agree the recommendations of the City Executive Board on 11 February, published in the draft minutes of that meeting.

13 **MATTERS EXEMPT FROM PUBLICATION AND EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

If Council wishes to exclude the press and the public from the meeting during consideration of any aspects of the preceding agenda items it will be necessary for Council to pass a resolution in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 specifying the grounds on which their presence could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in specific paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

(The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Section 15 of the Council's Constitution – sets out the conditions under which the public can be excluded from meetings of the Council)

UPDATES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO SUPPLEMENT THIS AGENDA ARE PUBLISHED IN THE COUNCIL BRIEFING NOTE.

Additional information, councillors' questions, public addresses and amendments to motions are published in a supplementary briefing note. The agenda and briefing note should be read together.

The Briefing Note is published as a supplement to the agenda. It is available on the Friday before the meeting and can be accessed along with the agenda on the council's website.

DECLARING INTERESTS

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed “Declarations of Interest” or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council’s area; licences for land in the Council’s area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor’s Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council’s website.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members’ Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members’ Code of Conduct says that a member “must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself” and that “you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned”. What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the Code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

¹Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those of the member’s spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.