

Agenda

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Scrutiny Committee

This meeting will be held on:

Date: **Tuesday 9 June 2026**

Time: **6.00 pm**

Place: **Long Room - Oxford Town Hall**

For further information please contact:

Jonathan Malton, Committee and Member Services Manager

☎ 07485 396185

✉ DemocraticServices@oxford.gov.uk

Members of the public can attend to observe this meeting and.

- may register in advance to speak to the committee in accordance with the [committee's rules](#)
- may record all or part of the meeting in accordance with the Council's [protocol](#)

Information about speaking and recording is set out in the agenda and on the [website](#)

Please contact the Committee Services Officer to register to speak; to discuss recording the meeting; or with any other queries.

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All public papers are available from the calendar link to this meeting once published

Committee Membership

Councillors: Membership 12: Quorum 4 substitutes are permitted.

Councillor Alex Powell

Councillor Mohammed Altaf-Khan

Councillor Mohammed Azad

Councillor Tiago Corais

Councillor Chris Jarvis

Councillor Simon Ottino

Councillor Asima Qayyum

Councillor Anne Stares

Councillor Trish Elphinstone

Councillor Siobhan Lancaster

Councillor Dr. Max Morris

Councillor Elizabeth Turkson Wood

Apologies and notification of substitutes received before the publication are shown under *Apologies for absence* in the agenda. Those sent after publication will be reported at the meeting. Substitutes for the Chair and Vice-chair do not take on these roles.

Agenda

Pages

1 Election of Chair for the Council Year 2026/27

The Committee is asked to elect a Chair from among its voting members for the 2026/27 council year. In accordance with Part 13.6a of the Council's Constitution, the Chair must be drawn from the opposition.

2 Election of Vice-Chair for Council Year 2026/27

The Committee is asked to elect a Vice-Chair from among its voting members for the 2026/27 council year. The Vice-Chair may be drawn from any political group.

3 Apologies for absence

4 Declarations of interest

5 Chair's Announcements

6 Minutes of the previous meeting

9 - 18

The Committee is asked to **approve** the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2026 as a true and accurate record.

7 Addresses by members of the public

Public addresses relating to matters of business for this agenda. Up to five minutes is available for each public address.

The request to speak accompanied by the full text of the address must be received by the [Director of Law, Governance and Strategy](#) by 5.00 pm on Wednesday 3 June 2026.

8 Councillor addresses on any item for discussion on the Scrutiny agenda

Councillor addresses relating to matters of business for this agenda. Up to five minutes is available for each address.

The request should be received by the [Director of Law, Governance and Strategy](#) by 5.00 pm on Wednesday 3 June 2026.

9 Establishment of the Scrutiny Standing Working Groups and Review Group

19 - 40

The Director of Law, Governance and Strategy has submitted a report to establish Working Groups and Review Groups for the 2026/27 municipal year and appoint standing Working Group and Review Group membership and chairs.

The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. **Agree** to establish the following working groups for the 2026/27 municipal year with the following remits:
 - a) Finance and Performance Working Group – finance and budgetary issues and decisions, annual review of the Council's budget, quarterly monitoring of finance and performance (including performance of the Council's companies), executive decisions made in relation to any companies wholly or partly owned by the Council.
 - b) Housing and Homelessness Working Group – strategic housing and landlord issues and decisions, homelessness, housing services performance and interaction with the Tenant's Forum.
 - c) Climate and Environment Working Group – climate and environmental issues and decisions, progress and performance monitoring, monitoring delivery of existing strategies, policies and projects.
2. **Agree** the Terms of Reference for:
 - a) Climate and Environment Working Group at Appendix 1
 - b) Finance and Performance Working Group at Appendix 2
 - c) Housing and Homelessness Working Group at Appendix 3
3. **Agree** to appoint members and chairs of the Finance and Performance, Housing and Homelessness, and Climate and Environment Working Groups or any other working groups as agreed by the Committee in accordance with nominations made by political groups.
 - a. **Finance and Performance:** Cllrs James Fry, James

Thorniley, Chris Smowton, Ian Yeatman

- b. **Housing and Homelessness:** Cllrs Lizzy Diggins, Rosie Rawle, Roz Smith, Anne Stares
 - c. **Climate and Environment:** Cllrs Louise Upton, Chris Jarvis, Katherine Miles, Judith Harley
4. **Agree** to establish a Budget Review Group, comprising the membership of the Finance and Performance Working Group and **note** that the proposed scope and Terms of Reference will be agreed at a future Scrutiny Committee meeting.
 5. **Agree** the schedule of meetings as presented within the report;

10 Scrutiny Work Plan

The Work Plan is driven to a very large extent by the [Cabinet Forward Plan](#). The Scrutiny Committee agrees its priorities for items coming onto the Forward Plan, which then form part of its Work Plan.

The Committee is recommended to confirm its agreement to the Work Plan, or agree any amendments as required.

This report will be published as a supplement to the agenda.

11 Cabinet responses to Scrutiny recommendations

41 - 68

At its meeting on 15 April 2026, Cabinet considered the following reports from Scrutiny and made responses to the recommendations:

- Watercourses and Ditches
- Review of Ward Member Budget and Community Infrastructure Levy Councillor Applications
- Urgent Key Decisions End of Year Update 2025-2026

Cabinet also considered the following reports from the Scrutiny Working Groups and made responses to the recommendations:

- Finance and Performance Working Group – 26 March 2026
 - Integrated Performance for Q3 2025/26
 - OX Place Financial Business Plan, Development Sites update and Period 9 Monitoring report [SJVG]
- Housing and Homelessness Working Group – 31 March 2026
 - Housing Performance 2025/26
 - Selective Licensing Year 3 update

- Climate and Environment Working Group – 1 April 2026
 - Social Housing EPCC update
 - Local Area Energy Planning update

The Committee is asked to:

1. **Note** Cabinet's responses to its recommendations.

Appendices 1,2 and 3 contain exempt information pursuant to Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. To discuss this item, it will be necessary for the Committee to pass a resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting 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.

(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)

12 Endorsement of Recommendations from Working Groups

Since the Scrutiny Committee's previous meeting on 7 April 2026 there have been no further recommendations made by the Working Groups which require endorsement.

13 Dates of future meetings

Future meetings of the Scrutiny Committee are scheduled on the following dates:

- 30 June 2026
- 11 August 2026
- 8 September 2026
- 13 October 2026
- 10 November 2026
- 1 December 2026

All meetings start at 6:00 pm.

Information for those attending

Recording and reporting on meetings held in public

Members of public and press can record, or report in other ways, the parts of the meeting open to the public. You are not required to indicate in advance but it helps if you notify the Committee Services Officer prior to the meeting so that they can inform the Chair and direct you to the best place to record.

The Council asks those recording the meeting:

- To follow the protocol which can be found on the Council's [website](#)
- Not to disturb or disrupt the meeting
- Not to edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation of the proceedings. This includes not editing an image or views expressed in a way that may ridicule or show a lack of respect towards those being recorded.
- To avoid recording members of the public present, even inadvertently, unless they are addressing the meeting.

Please be aware that you may be recorded during your speech and any follow-up. If you are attending please be aware that recording may take place and that you may be inadvertently included in these.

The Chair of the meeting has absolute discretion to suspend or terminate any activities that in his or her opinion are disruptive.

Councillors 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; licenses 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". 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.

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