

### Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker 2015-16 (November – December)

Asset Management Plan – 9 December Scrutiny Committee				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. The City Council should take a structured approach to evaluating social value throughout the Plan using the Social Value Act 2012, which provides a framework for quantifying social value.	Y	<p>We are not sure how valid or appropriate this is in practice. The act is primarily one about procuring for best value and particularly those matters falling within European Procurement rules ie large scale high value projects.</p> <p>Probably it is the templates and other guidance that sit behind the act that are useful but for the majority of our activity they would be extremely cumbersome potentially bureaucratic, resource hungry and probably inappropriate although some elements may have some potential.</p> <p>Would suggest we perhaps add the following</p> <p><i>Page 3 of AMP after 'education' in paragraph 6 of Asset Management the Oxford Way the words 'social, environmental' and to the end of the paragraph the words ' and will use the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 and supporting guidance as a framework for quantifying Social Value where appropriate.</i></p>	Cllr Turner / Diane Phillips	Y
2. The City Council should, as a matter of course, consider the case for negotiating 'green lease' arrangements when existing leases are due for renewal;	Y	The recommendation is effectively already captured within the existing AMP objective 4 which reflected our aspiration to investigate how we could move in this direction but	Cllr Turner / Diane Phillips	Y

		<p>reflected a reality around our existing portfolio of relatively long term legacy tenants and restrictions and limitations on changing terms through 1954 Landlord and Tenant Act.</p> <p>We are happy to strengthen the wording to further acknowledge Scrutiny's point and would suggest:</p> <p>Change Supplementary Indicators on page 13 of the AMP to 'Consider green lease arrangements on renewals and new lettings where appropriate and possible' and also change Actions on page 28 of AMP to Consider utilising green lease arrangements on renewals and new lettings where appropriate and possible'</p>			
54	3. When agricultural leases are due for renewal, the Council should explore all options including revenue opportunities, for example managing the land to generate forestry revenue;	Y	<p>Whilst we understand the Scrutiny view and their drive to potentially expand employment opportunities and drive further social benefit, open up access to opportunities in this sector the blanket approach to all agricultural land is likely to be overly onerous. Say where we are letting a small 'pony paddock' and other minor elements for instance.</p> <p>Also most of our larger pieces of agricultural estate are locked into Agricultural Holding Act Tenancies and in most cases will not revert to us for perhaps a generation, so opportunities here will be very limited.</p> <p>Suggest in order to acknowledge Scrutiny's view we could add some further words as</p>	<p>Clr Turner / Diane Phillips</p>	Y

		follows:  <i>Action Point to 5.1.2 Agriculture ‘On lease renewal or lettings of agricultural land consider appropriateness of exploring wider options for use including revenue generating opportunities or added social value.’</i>		
4. Add action under the Commercial Property heading (section 5.1.1 on p. 16 of the Plan) to aim to engage with the wider market and ask the landlords of vacant commercial properties to make temporary use of these premises, for example as pop-up shops.	Y	We understand Scrutiny’s point here but our concern is one of resourcing and there is a question as to whether we can achieve any results when all action is in the hands of third parties.  We could though perhaps add after paragraph 6 in 5.1.1 Commercial Property the following:  <i>‘The Council will also where possible attempt to influence landlords and property owners of vacant commercial property in the city centre to bring these back into use and to consider temporary uses such as ‘pop up shops’ etc so as to assist in maintaining the vitality of the centre notwithstanding the relatively low level of vacancies in Oxford City Council.’</i>	Cllr Turner / Diane Phillips	Y
<b>Resettling Syrian Refugees in Oxford – 9 December Scrutiny Committee</b>				
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Agreed Y/N</b>	<b>Executive response</b>	<b>Lead Member &amp; Officer</b>	<b>Implemented Y/N / due date</b>
1. That the City Council should continue to work with partners to co-ordinate and strengthen local arrangements for accommodating and supporting Syrian refugees, including educational support	Y		Cllr Price / Caroline Wood	June 2016

and language services.				
2. That the City Council should assist the County Council in promoting campaigns aimed at recruiting new foster carers and adopters.	Y	We will ask the County how we can help.	Cllr Price / Caroline Wood	June 2016
3. That the City Council should also maintain a focus on the types and impacts of support available to the refugees and asylum seekers in Oxford that are not part of the Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme (VPRS).	Y	A paper will come to CEB.	Cllr Price / Caroline Wood	June 2016
4. That the City Council should update local MPs on what the Council is doing to support refugees in Oxford, and engage with them about the challenges and needs that are more specific to Oxford.	Y		Cllr Price / Caroline Wood	June 2016
5. That the City Council should look for opportunities to engage constructively with government about the city's needs and how these can be met.	Y		Cllr Price / Caroline Wood	June 2016
6. That progress and developments should be monitored and periodic updates should be provided to City Councillors at public meetings.	Y		Cllr Price / Caroline Wood	June 2016
<b>Community Centre Strategy 2015-20 – 9 December Scrutiny Committee</b>				
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Agreed Y/N</b>	<b>Executive response</b>	<b>Lead Member &amp; Officer</b>	<b>Implemented Y/N / due date</b>
1. That officers are asked to incorporate the clarifying amendments tabled by Councillor Wolff (see appendix 1) before the Strategy goes for wider consultation.	In part	We can add a sentence that says The Council will continue to undertake its maintenance responsibilities	Cllr Simm / Ian Brooke	Y
2. That greater clarity should be provided that the 15 minute walk time used to	Y	Section six of the strategy states - The catchment is based on a judgement of how	Cllr Simm / Ian Brooke	Y

model community centre catchment areas is not binding.		<p>far Oxford residents can reasonably be expected to travel to access community centre provision. This has been overlain with ward boundaries, and the 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) ratings of each lower super output area (LSOA).</p> <p>I don't think this implies that this is in anyway binding. We could add in that "for various reasons such as the type of session many people will travel further to attend activities."</p>		
3. That clarity should be provided as to how three specific gaps in community facilities have been identified from Figure 4 in the Strategy, given that this map also shows gaps in other areas of the city.	Y	<p>Section six of the Strategy states –“ It also shows gaps in community facilities in parts of Blackbird Leys, Marston and Churchill. This does not mean that the Council should try to build new facilities as the City is very well provided for as a whole.”</p> <p>We can add in “these gaps are determined by a combination of walk time, facility distribution and population density.”</p>	Cllr Simm / Ian Brooke	Y
4. That a new priority theme should be added to the Strategy, in the Sustainable Management action area (p. 2), around making the best use and most effective use of facilities at community centres.	Y	This fits under priority five Sustainable, effective management. We will add an action to the action plan ensure a diverse programme of activities with quarterly reviews.	Cllr Simm / Ian Brooke	Y
5. That the Strategy should articulate what the Council's approach will be to ensuring there is an inclusive, a high quality community hub serving the Leys area in the event that the proposed replacement of Blackbird Leys Community Centre is compromised, for example by a lack of developer funding.	In part	<p>This is captured within priorities four and five:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a prioritised maintenance plan for all centres with a five year time horizon.</li> <li>• Review ways in which those centres that are currently managed by the City Council can be effectively managed in</li> </ul>	Cllr Simm / Ian Brooke	N/A

		future on a long term and stable basis with strong community involvement.		
6. That the Strategy should better recognise and articulate the importance of volunteers to the city's community centres.	N	<p>The Strategy states "...these Associations are essential...and their work is greatly valued by the Council."</p> <p>Following the work in the steering group two of the eight priorities are focused on trustees and volunteers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Associations in developing management skills and expertise and in recruiting volunteers to run the centres' activities.</li> <li>• Support Associations to recruit and retain trustees and manage their buildings</li> </ul>	Cllr Simm / Ian Brooke	N/A
7. That the scope of the consultation set out in the report should be widened to include: a) Residents associations and tenants groups as key stakeholders, b) That other stakeholder focus groups are considered including, as a priority, a disability focus group, c) Engagement with representatives of all the remaining strands recognised under the Equalities Act, d) Continued outreach to potential users and individuals.	In part	<p>The list of consultees in the report includes "Any interested parties"</p> <p>In relation to targeting groups we always think through how their needs differ which is why we are proposing the following focus groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older people ( over 60s)</li> <li>• Health bodies</li> <li>• Schools and parents</li> <li>• Young people</li> <li>• Minority community representatives</li> </ul> <p>We will also add in a disability focus group.</p>	Cllr Simm / Ian Brooke	Y
<b>Planning Annual Monitoring Report – 2 November Scrutiny Committee</b>				
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Agreed Y/N</b>	<b>Executive response</b>	<b>Lead Member &amp; Officer</b>	<b>Implemented Y/N / due date</b>
1. That the Council includes the following	Y	Both recommendations are accepted on the	Cllr	Nov 2016

<p>two new indicators when considering the effectiveness of planning policies contained within the Oxford Local Development Plan</p> <p>a) Number of units of affordable housing to rent built on Council owned land</p> <p>b) The amount of land freed up for affordable housing development through change of use</p>		<p>understanding that point 'a' refers to affordable homes, which could include social rent and intermediate housing in line with the adopted policy. While it is important to have consistency in the indicators measured over time, it is clear that some current indicators are less useful than others not currently used. Before producing the next AMR the range of indicators will be reviewed, and amended where appropriate including the addition of the two suggested indicators. When adding new indicators the ease of producing retrospective data for trend analysis will be taken into account, as will a principle of not increasing the size and complexity of the existing AMR and the resources required to compile it.</p>	<p>Hollingsworth &amp; Mark Jaggard</p>	
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