**Scrutiny recommendation tracker 2019/20: June – August 2019**

**10 July CABINET**

**Integrated Performance Report 2018/19 Quarter 4**

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| ***Recommendation*** | ***Agree?*** | ***Comment*** |
| Recommendation 1: That paragraph 7 of the report on the need to progress the work on establishing a Citizens’ Assembly is expanded to reflect the breadth of work that will be enabled by the additional budget provision and to include additional resources specifically to support a scrutiny review, before the report is presented to Council on 22 July 2019. The Panel would suggest the inclusion of three additional bullet points:   * Resource, within the overall £200k budget, for a scrutiny review group focused on considering the Council’s response to the Climate Emergency motion and the outcomes of the Citizens’ Assembly. * Work together with existing Environmental Sustainability Team officers to identify possible work streams and additional funded officer time to focus on recommendations from the Citizens’ Assembly that focus on emissions reduction. * Other minor interventions and quick wins emerging from the Assembly. | Partly | * The budget recommended for 2019-20 of £200k will be sufficient to get the project started with resource to establish the Citizens Assembly and to develop the detailed options for carbon reduction that it will consider – leading to recommendations for Council adoption. Future budgetary provision will be established through the Budget setting process in the light of other priorities of the Council. Further work will be undertaken to establish what budgetary provision should be made going forward. Finance Panel and Scrutiny Panel are at liberty to scrutinise any area of the Councils business through normal channels by requesting officers to undertake such work but given the severe financial constraint that the Council is working under there may not be financial capacity to dedicate a resource to scrutinise work on climate change over and above that which can be undertaken using the normal reasonable officer time. * Agreed * Agreed |
| Recommendation 2: That future integrated performance reports provide:   1. Reasons for capital slippage on specific projects where this occurs; 2. An explanation of accounting terms such as favourable variance; 3. A summary of financing, including external funding streams. | Agreed | Future reports to Cabinet will include additional information in these areas |
| Recommendation 3: That monthly reporting on the progress of major capital schemes is made available to elected members, if they request it. | Partly | Information produced internally by officers is always available to elected members if requested. However, the additional rigour, control and input which goes into the presentation of a formal report to Cabinet is a much better reporting route to Members. |
| Recommendation 4: That the Council revisits the case for pursuing the compulsory purchase of domestic properties that have been vacant for several years where this option has not recently been explored. | Agreed | The Council will continue to explore whether or not CPOs should be used as part of the strategy to bring long term empty homes back into use |

**Fusion Lifestyle Annual Service Plan**

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| ***Recommendation*** | ***Agree?*** | ***Comment*** |
| Recommendation 1: That the Council undertakes outreach work in the most deprived areas within the City to further encourage the use of local leisure facilities, and confirms that there will be a robust action plan for increasing participation in these communities. This, along with increasing BAME participation, should be considered a priority within the Fusion Lifestyle contract. | Yes | Fusion Lifestyle have a contractual responsibility to undertake this outreach work and as a council we will continue to support them and challenge them to achieve more in this area. |

**12 June CABINET**

**Seacourt Park and Ride Extension**

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| ***Recommendation*** | ***Agree?*** | ***Comment*** |
| Recommendation: That the Cabinet does not grant final project approval for the Seacourt Park and Ride Extension. | No | The discussion at the Scrutiny Committee reflected previously stated opinions on this project. As the Chair of the Committee noted, some members simply don’t accept the evidence submitted in relation to the need for the extension and its impact, and that continues to be the case.  The report details the financial impact of the project over 30 years, but it is important to note that over the next ten years it is highly likely that the availability of public car parking in the city centre will be significantly reduced; it is also important to note that the lease on another of Oxford’s park and ride car parks expires within the same period and will need to be renegotiated. Furthermore, while a substantial proportion of journeys to the city centre are made using the park and ride service, there are still many journeys in the city that are being made in the private car, all of which contribute to congestion and air pollution which seriously impacts on the health and well-being of the city’s residents and workers. Finally, Cabinet is reminded that Seacourt is frequently operationally full, demonstrating a clear current need for additional capacity on the western approaches to the city.  It therefore reasonably follows that there is a need for additional capacity in the park and ride system where it can be achieved.  The proposed expansion at Seacourt Park & Ride will make a significant contribution in addressing this need. This is why the project has been repeatedly approved by a substantial majority of Full Council, including the allocation of the budget for the project. I therefore recommend that the Cabinet approves the project as outlined in the report. |

**Safeguarding Report and Action Plan**

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| ***Recommendation*** | ***Agree?*** | ***Comment*** |
| Recommendation 1: That the Council revisits the safeguarding recommendation made by the Scrutiny Committee on 5 June 2018 concerning the number of school aged children that receive face to face safeguarding awareness training, and provides the Committee with further information on progress against the agreed action. | Partial | In considering Safeguarding issues, it is important to note the County Council Local Authority Designated Officer team (LADO) has responsibility for delivering safeguarding support into the Education system.  Oxford City Council has a seat on the Oxford Safeguarding Children’s Board (OSCB) board and also a seat on the sub group of the Board, overseeing Performance and quality assurance. This group has a rolling audit programme to oversee and scrutinise the safeguarding work being delivered across the sector and report back into OSCB. This includes all Oxfordshire schools both primary and secondary schools.  Oxford City Council has limited funds for direct school engagement from the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner. We have a programme where we are working with young people at risk of exclusion and/or reduced timetables as they have been identified as the most vulnerable to exploitation.  We are currently working in The Oxford Academy, St Greg’s and Oxford Spires.  City Council Youth Ambition team also provide additional support to children within the school setting as part of ‘our commitment to schools’ offer. The topic areas that are covered with pupils include safeguarding awareness. |
| Recommendation 2: That the Council revisits the recommendations, and agreed actions resulting from the 2015/16 Guest House Scrutiny Review Group to clarify that actions are being pursued, and ensures that matters relating to guest houses are a feature of future safeguarding reports to Cabinet. | Partial | Hotel Watch, involving the Police, Council officers and sector representatives works with hotels and guest houses in the city to improve safeguarding practices. The Cabinet Lead Member will receive an update report on progress since 2015. |