

Council

www.oxford.gov.uk



Briefing note and supplementary papers

Date: **Monday 30 November 2020**

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: **Zoom - Remote meeting**

The Council agenda, reports, this briefing note, and any other supplementary papers should be considered together.

This briefing note forms part of the papers to be considered at the Council meeting. It contains additional information; councillors' questions, public addresses; and amendments to motions.

All papers for this meeting can be accessed through the council's website.

For further information please contact:

Jennifer Thompson, Committee and Members Services Officer, Committee Services Officer

 01865 252275

 democraticservices@oxford.gov.uk

Briefing note

Information for councillors and additional papers to be considered.

	Pages	
PART 1 - PUBLIC BUSINESS		
1 Apologies for absence		
2 Declarations of interest		
3 Minutes Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Council held on 5 October 2020. Council is asked to approve the minutes as a correct record.	Main agenda pack	
4 Appointment to Committees Council is asked to note that on 13 November 2020 the Head of Law and Governance appointed Cllr Kennedy to the vacant seat on the Audit and Governance Committee, following notification from the Leader of the Labour Group. Any further proposed changes may be notified at the meeting.		
5 Announcements Announcements by: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Lord Mayor2. The Sheriff3. The Leader of the Council (who may with the permission of the Lord Mayor invite other councillors to make announcements)4. The Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer, Monitoring Officer		
6 Public addresses and questions that relate to matters for decision at this meeting There are no public addresses or questions under this item.		

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

7 **Project Approval and Allocation of Housing and Growth Deal Funding for Affordable Housing Delivery**

Cabinet Member Cllr Rowley will introduce the report and move the recommendations.

Recommendations: Cabinet recommends that Council resolves to:

1. **approve** a revision to the general fund capital budget in 2020/21 of £3,123,000, for the initial grant payment in relation to the William Morris Close site, and a further capital budget for 2021/22 of £347,000 to fund the remaining grant balance payable for that scheme all of which will be funded by capital grant income from Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal (OGD).

**Main
agenda
pack**

8 **Project Approval and Allocation of Next Steps Accommodation Programme Funding for Affordable Housing Delivery & Homelessness Prevention**

Cabinet Member Cllr Rowley will introduce the report and move the recommendations.

Recommendations: Cabinet recommends that Council resolves to:

1. **approve** a revision to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital budget in 2020/21 of £1,195,750 for the initial purchase of 5 properties, to be funded by capital grant from MHCLG/ Homes England of £150,000; by Oxfordshire Housing and Growth (OGD) Deal funding of £275,000; and HRA Council borrowing of up to £770,750.

**Main
agenda
pack**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

9 **Appointment of Head of Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)**

The Chair of the Appointments Committee, Cllr Brown, will introduce the report and move the recommendations.

Recommendations: That Council resolves to:

1. Designate the newly appointed Head of Law and Governance, Susan Sale, as the Council's Monitoring Officer with effect from 4 January 2021.
2. Appoint the newly appointed Head of Law and Governance, Susan Sale, as the Council's Returning Officer and as the Council's Electoral Registration Officer with effect from 4 January 2021.

**Main
agenda
pack**

OFFICER REPORTS

10 Council and Committee meetings programme March 2021 - May 2022

The Leader of the Council, Cllr Brown, will introduce the report and move the recommendations.

Recommendations: That Council resolves to:

1. **Approve the programme** of Council, committee and other meetings from 1 March 2021 to 31 May 2022 attached at Appendix 1;
2. **Delegate authority** to the Head of Law and Governance, in consultation with Group Leaders, to make changes to this programme in the event that there is any decision by Council to change the committee structure or committee remits which impacts on the programme of meetings; and
3. **Delegate authority** to the Head of Law and Governance to set dates for additional training and briefing sessions for Members.

Main agenda pack

QUESTIONS

11 Questions on Cabinet minutes

This item has a time limit of 15 minutes.

Councillors may ask the Cabinet Members questions about matters in these minutes:

11a Minutes of meeting Wednesday 14 October 2020 of Cabinet

11b Minutes of meeting Wednesday 11 November 2020 of Cabinet

Main agenda pack

12 Questions on Notice from Members of Council

35 questions on notice from councillors received in accordance with Council Procedure Rules, and written responses

For each question, the questioner may ask one supplementary question at the meeting.

Briefing note

7-34

PART 2 - PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND SCRUTINY

13 Public addresses and questions that do not relate to matters for decision at this Council meeting

One public address, to take no longer than five minutes to make, received in accordance with Council Procedure Rules related to the first motion for debate in Part 3.

Briefing note

35-38

14	Partnership report: Oxfordshire Growth Board	Briefing note
	The Leader will present the report submitted on the Oxfordshire Growth Board (attached)	39-66
	Council is invited to note the report.	
15	Scrutiny Committee update report	Main agenda pack
	The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee, Cllr Gant, will present the report.	
	Council is invited to note the report.	
PART 3 - MOTIONS REPRESENTING THE CITY		
16	Motions on notice 30 November 2020	Briefing note
	This item has a time limit of 60 minutes.	67-79
	Motions and amendments received by the deadlines	
	Minor technical or limited wording amendments may be submitted during the meeting but must be written down and circulated.	
	Council is asked to consider the following motions:	
	a) Cross-party motion - Improving coronavirus testing and tracing (proposed by Cllr Upton, seconded by Cllr Simmons, supported by Cllr Gant) [proposers have amended their own motion, agreed by all parties]	
	b) Domestic Abuse and Covid-19 Workplace and Community Safety (proposed by Cllr Aziz)	
	c) Universal Basic Income (proposed by Cllr Garden, seconded by Cllr Gant) [proposer has amended her own motion]	
	d) Supporting the climate and ecological emergency (proposed by Cllr Simmons) [amendment proposed by Cllr Hayes]	
	e) Charitable donations from members' allowances (proposed by Cllr Henwood)	
	f) Homelessness and Social Housing (proposed by Cllr Tidball)	
	g) Pavement parking (proposed by Cllr Roz Smith, seconded by Cllr Landell Mills)	
	h) Defining 'Net Zero' buildings (proposed by Cllr Wolff)	
	i) Chinese New Year (proposed by Cllr Henwood)	
	j) The Permitted Deportation of EU Nationals Found Rough Sleeping (proposed by Cllr Wade, seconded by Cllr Gotch)	
	k) Student fees (proposed by Cllr Garden)	
	l) Fireworks (proposed by Cllr Goddard)	

This briefing note is published as a supplement to the agenda and should be considered along with the agenda; reports; and other supplementary papers.

To: Council
Date: 30 November 2020
Title of Report: Questions on Notice from members of Council and responses from the Cabinet Members and Leader

Introduction

1. Questions submitted by members of Council to the Cabinet members and Leader of the Council, by the deadline in the Constitution are listed below in the order they will be taken at the meeting.
2. Responses are included where available.
3. Questioners can ask one supplementary question of the councillor answering the original question.
4. This report will be republished after the Council meeting to include supplementary questions and responses as part of the minutes pack.
5. Unfamiliar terms may be briefly explained in footnotes.

Questions and responses

1. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Rowley – ONS data on homelessness

Question	Written Response
<p>Data published by the ONS in October 2019 showed Oxford to consistently have the highest number of homeless deaths per head of population outside of three London Boroughs and Blackburn (data was averaged over six years). On 11 November 2020, the Portfolio Holder reported another three deaths – a tragedy that I am sure touched many people and I join Cllr Rowley in expressing my condolences to the victim’s friends and family.</p> <p>Can the Portfolio Holder provide any explanation as to why homeless deaths in Oxford are so high as a proportion of the population?</p>	<p>Every death of a homeless person is a tragedy and even a single death is one too many.</p> <p>There can be no single definitive answer to the question, but the sad truth is that people with experience of rough sleeping die young – the Office for National Statistics (ONS) reports the average age of death for a homeless person is 45 for men and 43 for women, compared with 76 and 81 in the general population.</p> <p>The ONS also reports that 95% of homeless people who died in England and Wales in 2018 were in urban areas, and we know that Oxford has historically attracted a number of homeless people from our rural neighbouring districts and further afield. For example, one of the people identified in the recent Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board review had only been in Oxford for a day or two before he sadly died.</p> <p>The council is working towards not just ending deaths of people who are homeless, but ending the need for anyone to sleep rough in the city. Following the “everyone in” initiative in spring we are accommodating up to 118 people at any one time who may otherwise need to sleep rough. So far we have housed 261 people in total under "everyone in" arrangements, with 112 of these now having been supported into more permanent housing. This includes a number of people who had previously been sleeping rough on a long-term basis.</p> <p>Interim housing also means we can continue to offer help to everyone sleeping on our streets this winter. We have recently been successful in winning £2m in short-term and long-term funding from the Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP). The short-term funding will help with the cost of interim housing, provide deposits and rent in advance for people to move into private rented housing, and help Aspire to refurbish empty properties and bring them back into use as move-on accommodation. The long-term funding will help us to buy five one-bedroom properties as part of a programme to deliver 20 Housing First homes as permanent social housing by March 2021, along with three years of support costs.</p>

1. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Rowley – ONS data on homelessness

The ONS data involves very small numbers overall, and as such one or two fewer or additional deaths would significantly change the proportion of deaths overall. We believe homelessness cannot be dealt with in Oxford alone, and a countywide steering group is in the process of developing a strategy for tackling homelessness, with a focus on single people and rough sleepers. We have taken the lead in bringing together the County Council, District Councils and health services together with Oxford City Council to address the systemic issues which lead to homelessness. We will also continue to press national Government for the funding and co-ordinated policies needed to end the need for people to sleep rough.

2. From Councillor Gant to Councillor Rowley – Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund

Question

Government has recently invited bids for its £50m Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund from local authorities or consortia led by Local Authorities. Applications closed on Nov 12, for schemes to be completed by December 2021.

Can the Cabinet member update council on any action taken by this council in respect of this initiative?

Written Response

Officers considered this when it came out in early October, the expression of interest was 16/10, so a very short period to think about and a submission deadline of 12/11. Schemes would need to be completed and reported on by December 2021. It is essentially an initial pot of money for 9-16 projects nationally (so sizeable projects) that will be used to inform approaches to the use of the larger Social Housing decarbonisation fund announced previously at headline level only. The launch of the latter is subject to the spending review but it is expected to be sometime during 2021/22. The objective of this initial funding pot is to test a range of issues related to whole property retrofit and is meant to look at how to upscale the Whole House Retrofit Innovation Competition that has been running at Sutton, Nottingham and Cornwall. So things to be explored are both technical, supply chain development (skills/capacity) and how to drive down unit cost. As we haven't got 'oven ready' whole retrofit schemes ready, the size of the project, the tight timescale given we would be starting from scratch; we were not in a position to put in a credible bid. We will however be tracking this and are actively preparing for a range of Government funding opportunities to try and lever in more money to support our carbon reduction agenda.

3. From Councillor Garden to Councillor Clarkson – Restarting tourism in the city

Question

Tourism is a main source of income for Oxford. What proposals are in place to re-start the tourist trade and protect the local jobs that rely on that trade?

Written Response

The impact of the pandemic on this sector is something that we are taking very seriously. In 2019 around 17,000 jobs in Oxford were in the visitor economy.

The City Council has been facilitating Government grants throughout the coronavirus pandemic, and has established quick turnarounds while still carrying out robust counter-fraud checks. We have already provided £26.6m of Government funding to almost 1,800 businesses in the city to support them through the coronavirus pandemic. While we don't have specific data, a significant amount of these grants and reliefs were to retail and visitor economy businesses. Most recently are taking applications for the most recent "Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed)" and "Additional Restrictions Grant".

In addition, we have to date allocated £100,000 from our capital programme and secured around £135,000 of other grant funding to support the reopening of the city. Examples of some of the work so far includes:

- Additional staff resource to work closely with businesses and other stakeholders to support them through the pandemic
- Public Realm interventions throughout the city centre including George Street, Cornmarket, Broad Street, St Michaels Street to support businesses and allow visitors to enjoy the city as it reopened.
- Signage and marketing to support the city to reopen and support visitors safely e.g. promoting the "We are Good to Go" campaign and funding the England Originals campaign. This also included launching the City Council led "Rediscover Oxford" Campaign. This was very successful in promoting the city and supporting increased footfall working with local partners such as Experience Oxfordshire and Oxford Bus Company.

Moving forward the work in this area continues to evolve. Some commitments already made for next

3. From Councillor Garden to Councillor Clarkson – Restarting tourism in the city

stages of work include:

- Allocated funding for a visitor coach parking strategy.
- Promotion of overnight stays, most directly through the work on Boswells.
- Working closely with Experience Oxfordshire on how we can support them in future years
- Further marketing campaigns e.g. we are about to launch the Experience Oxford at Christmas campaign in partnership with Experience Oxfordshire.

Officers are also working with neighbouring authorities and OxLEP on options to support tourism in Oxfordshire as a whole as part of the countywide economic recovery plan.

More specifically in the city officers are working with local business closely to understand the issues they face to inform an Oxford specific economic recovery plan. This will cover a range of sectors within the economy but will include measures relating to the visitor economy. This will be embedded into our economic strategy to be launched in the New Year. A key part of this work is to not only encourage visitors to return but to also improve visitor expenditure whilst in the city which can be low for those visiting as part of wider coach tours.

In summary some of the workstreams being explored include:

- Business support/survival – promotion of what is available so our businesses understand what support is out there to support through the crisis, but also to help businesses pivot their models to a new normal
- Competitiveness – broadly promotion and marketing to ensure we are well placed to attract visitors back, both tourists, but also conferences etc.
- Destination management – when visitors to come back, how are we co-ordinating and managing this. This ranges from the practical (e.g. coaches and crowds) to more place-based responses such as culture, events and public realm improvements.

4. From Councillor Garden to Councillor Chapman – Enforcement activity

Question	Written Response
<p>Oxford has experienced a tremendous increase in car journeys resulting in significant congestion, illegal parking and speeding. Enforcement seems inadequate.</p> <p>How many enforcement officers are employed by Oxford City Council per area of responsibility (e.g. housing, traffic, PSPO's etc.)?</p> <p>How are they deployed across the city? What more can be done?</p>	<p>Traffic enforcement such as parking and speeding is carried out by the police and the County Council. The Council cannot use those enforcement powers because the legislation reserves them to the police and the County Council.</p> <p>The Council's vehicle enforcement role is limited to the legislation that we can enforce that is relevant such as taxi licensing, abandoned vehicles, parking enforcement in council operated car parks and idling engines.</p> <p>The resource per area of enforcement responsibility is listed below:</p> <p>Building Control 0.5FTE</p> <p>Food safety 4.3FTE</p> <p>Health & safety 0.5FTE</p> <p>Environmental Protection (commercial noise, environmental permitting etc) 3.3FTE</p> <p>Licensing: Alcohol, taxi licensing, animal welfare, street trading, skin piercing etc 9.8FTE</p> <p>Planning enforcement 2FTE</p> <p>Tree Officers 2FTE</p> <p>Private rented sector enforcement 15.4FTE</p> <p>Anti Social Behaviour and community safety: 7.7FTE</p> <p>Community response, e.g. domestic noise, enviro crime, flytipping, litter, idling engines, PSPOs, domestic and commercial waste 12FTE</p> <p>Abandoned vehicles 1FTE</p> <p>Car parks 6FTE</p> <p>Resources are deployed so that the Council meets national requirements, deals with local priorities including any reactive work and ensures that ongoing work programmes are fulfilled.</p> <p>Enforcement is a specialised and complicated function that often demands evidence of officer competency, with some legislation being reserved to specific officers. Lower level enforcement activity across a wide range of areas has been concentrated in the Community Response Team which has enabled an efficient and effective service to be provided in a flexible manner, with more complicated cases being passed to other</p>

4. From Councillor Garden to Councillor Chapman – Enforcement activity

smaller specialist teams after the first response has been made.

5. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Chapman - social distancing road signs

Question

The initial joint City/County response to encourage social distancing in certain areas of the City through the use of painted arrows on the pavement and limited lamppost signs has had very limited impact. In addition, the signs are now disappearing and the paint fading.

Are there any other plans in the pipeline to refresh/improve upon the current arrangement?

Written Response

The City Council's response to encourage social distancing in the city centre and Cowley involved a broad suite of measures, including symbols on pavements, signage within the city centre as well as at bus stops and Park & Rides, city centre ambassadors, significant media coverage, and repeated social media messaging. Other than a few instances of larger gatherings of young people, overall public behaviour within the city centre appears to have been very responsible. Therefore I would question what evidence sits behind the Member's assertion that the measures have had 'very limited impact'.

The introduction of the Government's New National Restrictions came just one week after the introduction of Tier 2 restrictions and so overtook our plans for new signage that were being prepared for that purpose. We are now awaiting more detailed confirmation of the arrangements post 2 December such that new signage and other appropriate measures to help encourage safe social distancing can be commissioned.

Cabinet Member for Finance and Asset Management; statutory Deputy Leader

6. From Councillor Landell Mills to Councillor Turner – closure of Boswells

Question

Does the Cabinet Member think that the closure of Boswells is attributable to unfair competition with the Westgate centre and its cheap car parking?

Written Response

No. The closure of Boswells reflects the much reported difficulties faced by retailers and particularly department stores across the country. This was recognised by the Board of Boswells and reported in the Oxford Mail in November 2019, when it stated '*The Board has been intensively pursuing all options for preserving the business but due to prevailing adverse retail conditions has concluded that the store is likely to close in 2020.*' Pressed further by the BBC, one of the Directors said that Westgate was not to blame .

Cabinet Member for Green Transport and Zero Carbon Oxford; non-statutory Deputy Leader

7. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hayes – Active travel priorities and proposed schemes

Question

The award of £2.98m to the County Council as part of Tranche 2 of the Active Travel Grant (125% of allocated funding) is, I am sure the Portfolio Holder will agree, a good result. Even better is the news that all of this will now be spent in Oxford as the LEP has agreed to fund the schemes in Bicester and Witney. However, this sum still falls slightly short of the estimate for the full

Written Response

Financial investment in Oxford to meet our transportation, environmental, and economic goals is welcome. When our local government sector is so unfairly underfunded, we rely increasingly on external funding to meet our aims. The 125% Tranche 2 allocation is positive for Oxford, especially bearing in mind the 50% allocation for Tranche 1.

We will continue to be a trusted and engaged stakeholder in the delivery phase of Tranche 2 through regular officer and member meetings.

As we were not involved in the planning work to date and there is a lot of detail to be discussed and finalised, we are not yet in a position to say whether there are specific elements we do or do not wish to see

7. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hayes – Active travel priorities and proposed schemes

list of proposed schemes for Oxford (total cost: £3.18m).

- Can the Portfolio Holder provide us with an indication of his Active Travel priorities and how the City Council is planning to work with the County during the forthcoming delivery phase?
- Do the Portfolio Holder support all elements of the £3.18m bid?
- If not, can they say which schemes he does not wish to see progressed?

progressed. As we have also seen the County Council's current Conservative administration demonstrate a lack of leadership, consistency, and courage on recent emergency transport plans, we are also establishing the strength of their commitment.

Our Active Travel priorities are below, and as such we support the broad principles of the Tranche 2 bid:

- reducing the car congestion that clogs up Oxford's narrow roads, harms our local economy, and pollutes our air and climate
- delivering infrastructure which enables safe cycling and walking
- developing low traffic neighbourhoods as a way to create the people's streets, so that children from different homes can play in the streets they share, and neighbours can meet in the street to build friendships
- We believe that traffic filters, school streets and new segregated cycleways can be effective tools for achieving these goals
- We are also clear that consultation must precede the introduction of radical changes, so that the people who know their streets better than anyone else are able to shape their own communities.

8. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hayes – Use of Active Travel (Tranche 2) funds

Question

Does the Portfolio Holder know whether any of the money recently granted to the County Council for Active Travel (Tranche 2) works with Oxford will be used for repairs & renovation of existing cycle track marking, or transport initiatives which do not directly support Active Travel?

Will it press the County Council to ensure these resources are not used for routine maintenance?

Written Response

It is our understanding that the Tranche 2 bid explicitly excluded any routine maintenance of existing infrastructure. The Government's guidance was clear that they were funding, "meaningful plans to reallocate roadspace to active travel. Anything that did not meaningfully alter the status quo on the road would not be funded." (Grant Shapps MP letter to Cllr Ian Hudspeth 13 November 2020)

Yes, the City Council will use its role as stakeholder in order to strongly endorse the most impactful use of the Tranche 2 funds in Oxford.

9. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hayes – Zero Emission Zone timetable

Question	Written Response
<p>Can the Portfolio Holder update us on the timetable for the introduction of the ZEZ (Zero Emission Zone) including the consultation and later expansion of the initial air quality zone.</p>	<p>The timetable for the ZEZ Pilot and wider ZEZ is set out in consultations documents available via: www.oxford.gov.uk/zez</p> <p>The consultation was delayed by just a few days this month because of the Government's introduction of a second lockdown. We felt that it was appropriate for consultation to take place when businesses were not immediately and urgently adapting to a suddenly announced lockdown by the Government. For consultation to be effective, it needs to truly enable people to take part and listen to what they say.</p> <p>I regret that the member opted to rush out a press notice expressing 'dismay' at the slight delay. Effective scrutiny could have been performed by directly requesting an explanation. With time running out to achieve effective climate action, environmentalists urgently need to build widespread public confidence in the possibility of change. It is unhelpful to that cause, which I think we agree is important, to have members express concern, seemingly for party political gains. Opposition and scrutiny are helpful for ensuring Council policies get into a better place, but I know that Oxford climate campaigners (who raised these exaggerated concerns with me only to see them overtaken by the launch of the consultation) do not feel this rush for press attention to be examples of effective opposition and scrutiny. I agree and would encourage the member to listen to climate campaigners who want parties to put down their narrow partisan differences to work closely together wherever possible.</p>

10. From Councillor Landell Mills to Councillor Hayes – ZEZ and CONNECT traffic modelling

Question	Written Response
<p>Can the Portfolio Holder advise what traffic modelling work they are privy to in formulating ZEZ proposals and the CONNECT proposals, either undertaken by themselves or provided by the County Council and how they can come to any serious recommendations without this information?</p>	<p>Traffic data for the ZEZ Pilot is available on our website here</p> <p>For the wider ZEZ and Connecting Oxford, traffic modelling is being developed by Oxfordshire County Council which will inform consultation on the wider ZEZ due to be launched next year.</p>

11. From Councillor Landell Mills to Councillor Hayes – enforcing the ZEZ

Question	Written Response
<p>How will the City Council enforce the ZEZ and what cost estimates have they received for new ANPR cameras, and are these cost estimates good value?</p>	<p>The ZEZ will be enforced with the use of ANPR cameras. Further details of enforcement is available in the formal consultation document on www.oxford.gov.uk/zez</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council will be responsible for procurement and operation of ANPR cameras which will be funded in part by grant funding secured by Oxford City Council.</p>

12. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Hayes – Electronic Road Pricing trial

Question	Written Response
<p>Since the Treasury is now investigating Electronic Road Pricing as an alternative to fuel duties, due to the roll out of electric vehicles for which no fuel duties are paid, would the PH be supportive of EPR trial in Oxford?</p> <p>[Note that one local group, the Cowley Area Transport Group, has already suggested this].</p>	<p>We would need to understand the details of any proposal in more detail, which of course depends upon the conclusion of the investigation referenced. We would need to understand how it would interplay with other initiatives in the city that we are actively pursuing e.g. the Zero Emission Zone before considering it further. For example, we would want to understand more about the emerging national proposals. What we would not want to inadvertently do through a trial would be to deter people in the coming years from moving from petrol and diesel engines to electric by introducing a pricing scheme that could be perceived as a deterrent. We have communicated with the Department for Transport for a detailed outline of their investigation and their planned timetable for conclusion.</p> <p>I will contact the one local group you mention, Cowley Area Transport Group. A glance at their website shows a large photograph of the group's organisers Hazel and Steve Dawe, who, happily, I know from their time as Green Party council candidates, so I can simply discuss this with them.</p>

13. From Councillor Gant to Councillor Hayes – Shops offering car park discounts

Question	Written Response
<p>Debenhams department store in Oxford has recently been advertising a promotion to attract shoppers, in the form of a sign in-store saying "2 hours free parking when you spend £50". Shoppers are asked to photograph their parking</p>	<p>Unfortunately, we do not have any specific powers to stop this from happening. However, I have asked that the City Centre Management team to contact the manager of Debenhams to see if their approach can be rebalanced</p>

13. From Councillor Gant to Councillor Hayes – Shops offering car park discounts

ticket and present it at the checkout for a refund up to the value of £10.00. Like the decision to allow the Westgate centre to set its own parking charges, this clearly undermines council’s ability to use policy to encourage the kind of travel choices we all wish to see in our city.

Does the Cabinet member have a view on this initiative by Debenhams, and are there any mechanisms by which the council can engage with them on the matter?

to also include reimbursing bus tickets and park and ride parking so as not to encourage car travel over public transport to the city.

14. From Councillor Landell Mills to Councillor Hayes – free parking at Park and Ride

Question

Can the Portfolio Holder provide a report on the success or otherwise of free parking at the park and rides over the summer period and what it cost in terms of lost revenue?

Written Response

As set out in the published decisions notice for 07/08/2020, the Council worked in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council to provide free parking at all of Oxford’s five park and ride sites 7-days per week for the month of August, to make it easier for people to visit the city centre, rediscover Oxford, spend money in the local economy, and so support business and protect jobs. It was a supportive initiative at a challenging time for all retail, hospitality, and leisure businesses, when city centre footfall was still heavily down on last year (circa 60%) and the number of vacant units was rising. It was also a measure of support for Park & Ride services which have suffered from the guidance being to avoid public transport unless necessary (they were at the time of this decision running at 15% of usual capacity), and so support a return to use of a vital travel mode into the city centre.

Officers received information from Oxford Bus Company, which operates the park & ride services, that the free parking offer for August had a significant and much needed impact in assisting the city centre with its recovery at this difficult time. They have advised they would have anticipated only a modest increase in the absence of the scheme based on the trajectory they were seeing from June through to July. However, with the scheme, they saw 30% more passengers on Mondays to Fridays than they would have expected to see, with 34% more on Saturdays and 27% on Sundays.

14. From Councillor Landell Mills to Councillor Hayes – free parking at Park and Ride

The impact on parking revenue is not a straightforward calculation because COVID impacts meant no previous year data could be used, and the only basis was usage figures in the months from March to early-July which were also severely impacted. Within these limitations, officers estimated the potential revenue loss for the 3 City Council sites at circa £30-35k.

15. From Councillor Wade to Councillor Hayes – Aristotle bridge repairs

Question

Would the Cabinet Member confirm whether an inspection of Aristotle bridge has now been carried out by County, and whether liaison with Network Rail has taken place with a view to repairing the collapsing ramp?

Written Response

We understand from County Council colleagues that repairs have been carried out to the ramp but following an assessment some further work is required to mitigate local concerns raised.

Cabinet Member for Leisure and Parks

16. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Linda Smith – community groups' tree planting

Question

At the last Council, the Portfolio Holder helpfully clarified the situation regarding the Council's willingness and interest in planting more trees and supporting community groups to do likewise. Given the Council's limited resources, will she agree to provide to responsible community groups the information (location, tree species, planting instructions etc) they need to galvanise volunteers to scale up tree planting in the City?

Written Response

More community group interest in tree planting is always welcomed. Groups need to register their interest with ODS's Park Service. In doing this the service can engage with the groups to guide them, and see if a site is viable along with other formalities such as on-going maintenance after planting has taken place.

17. From Councillor Wade to Councillor Linda Smith – signs for Cutteslowe Horticultural Therapy Nursery and Garden Centre

Question

Can the Cabinet Member advise whether the installation of signs has now been agreed for the Cutteslowe Horticultural Therapy Nursery and Garden Centre and, if so, the timescale for their installation?

Written Response

Yes the signs have been agreed with the Nursery and they are part of a programme of works which will be completed before the end of the financial year (March 2021).

Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Delivery

18. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Hollingsworth – Reconsidering land use planning

Question

In view of the Government's intention to revise its housing algorithms and place a renewed emphasis on housing within urban areas, coupled with the changes in work and travel patterns as a result of COVID (which look set to persist), will the City Council begin a review of its housing plans?

In particular, will it re-consider the use of land currently used for low density car parking and consider whether some of the land, or space above, could be released for affordable housing.

Written Response

It is far from clear what the Government is currently doing in relation to planning, whether it is the highly damaging proposals contained in the planning White Paper, or the proposed revisions to the formula for the Standard Methodology for calculating minimum levels of housing need. In any case if and when revised figures for the Standard Methodology are produced, they would be used as the starting point for a new Local Plan, and would not be relevant to an existing Local Plan.

All Councils are required to review their Local Plans at least every five years and as the current Local Plan process has shown to do so properly, with meaningful public consultation and engagement, takes around four years. I have already made clear in responses to previous questions that the City Council will in this municipal year begin the preliminary steps towards a new Local Plan, probably to 2040, and that will be confirmed in the new Statement of Community Involvement, due to be reported to Cabinet in the New Year.

As with the current Local Plan, it seems highly likely that the quantum of housing need for Oxford will be driven by the need for affordable housing rather than the baseline set by the Governments Standard Methodology.

18. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Hollingsworth – Reconsidering land use planning

In the meantime the councillor may wish to take the opportunity to refresh himself about the policies in the current Local Plan for Union Street, the West End – including the Oxpens and Beckett Street car parks - and the SPD for Diamond Place, all of which already propose exactly the redevelopment principles which he wants to see.

19. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hollingsworth – Oxford Living Rent

Question

Can the Portfolio Holder update Council on the work being done to introduce an Oxford Living Rent?

Written Response

The officer team responsible for the City Council’s work in the private rented sector have been focussing this year on the renewal of the HMO licensing scheme and the promotion of the selective licensing scheme currently out for consultation, and of course have been further prioritising work with tenants and landlords relating to the current health crisis. Work on the longer-term project of formulating and developing an Oxford Living Wage project will begin during the next municipal year.

20. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hollingsworth – development of Iffley Meadows

Question

Aside from their role as a Planning Authority, is the Council or any of its companies involved in any way in the controversial development of Iffley Meadows (the area of land in Iffley Village bounded by Meadow Lane and Church Way).

Written Response

The site in question, some of which has been allocated for development in the recently approved Oxford Local Plan 2036, has been acquired by Oxford City Homes Limited with the intention of developing the allocated site at Meadow Lane (the adjacent Memorial Field site has also been acquired because the vendor sold the sites together, but this is not allocated for development in the Local Plan).

The development of 29 homes, will include at least 12 homes for social rent, and another three will be expected to be shared ownership or another affordable tenure, in line with the Council’s planning policies.

The site has been allocated for housing in the Local Plan, a Plan which made clear the desperate need for more homes for Oxford’s current and future citizens, in

20. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hollingsworth – development of Iffley Meadows

particular affordable housing. What would be controversial would be to pay lip service to that need but then do nothing to bring forward sites and homes that address it. This site makes a small but important contribution to meeting the need for new homes, and was subject to full and robust examination during the Local Plan making process

21. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hollingsworth – ‘Right to co-op’ campaign (private sector renting)

Question

I would like to draw Cllr Hollingsworth's attention to the ['Right to Co-op' campaign](#)

If successful, this would enable renters who have occupied a shared property for 3 years or more to take control of their homes by transferring ownership from the private landlord to a cooperative. They could either run the home as a co-op themselves, optionally contracting a secondary co-op to provide them with governance, management and maintenance services. Or they could opt for an existing co-op to take over their home. The proposals include measures to prevent property speculation, and financial protections for existing landlords. Although an actual "right to coop" would require primary legislation, there are things that a local council could do to encourage this, e.g.

- Promote the Community-Led Housing Hub to renters for support in setting up a co-operative and buying a suitable home.
- Provide 5-year loans to help co-ops buy properties. After those 5 years the co-op would have gained sufficient equity in the property, and have a financial track record, to be able to secure better deals from ethical and other lenders.
- Work with existing housing co-operatives in London to leverage their considerable asset base (worth hundreds of millions of pounds) and their cash holdings to support new co-operatives.

Written Response

A 'Right to Co-op' is an interesting proposal, but as the Councillor says, one that would require primary legislation and a complex system of valuation systems that would need to be set at a national level, and of course a willingness by national government to proceed in such a direction. As such it is probably best until such time as the Council might realistically be able to shape such a policy, rather than divert limited officer resources away from issues where we can make an immediate difference, such as the selective and HMO licensing schemes.

The Council is already working closely with local community-led housing groups, and reported on that work in some detail to Scrutiny, the Cabinet and to Council in 2019.

21. From Councillor Wolff to Councillor Hollingsworth – ‘Right to co-op’ campaign (private sector renting)

• Provide loan and grant funding through his Innovation Fund and the Community Housing Fund for property improvements and extensions.

Is this something he would be willing to investigate, given the unaffordability and insecurity of much accommodation in the private rented sector?

22. From Councillor Wade to Councillor Hollingsworth – Seacourt P&R

Question

The Seacourt Park & Ride extension was to be completed in mid-October. It is still unfinished. Would the Cabinet Member advise the new completion date and whether the payback period, estimated at 17 years in January 2020, will now be extended?

Written Response

First, I must apologise that the answer I gave at the last Council meeting has turned out to be wrong. The answer was both given to me and in turn given by me in good faith, but relied on over optimistic assumptions that there would be no further disruptions to the supply chain for building materials caused by Covid. That I gave a wrong answer to Council is a matter of considerable personal regret, and I am sorry to have done so.

Latterly the effects of Covid-19 have impacted on the labour force in the supply chain for a number of products that are incorporated in the works both from the United Kingdom and continental Europe, with both permeable paving blocks and specialist lighting components having suffered increased lead in time due to manufacturing levels being reduced and in some cases stopped – most recently by concerns over mink farms in Denmark.

Nonetheless the team managing the contract for the Council have identified a solution that will enable the phased opening of car parking space from the end of this month utilising temporary lighting and access options. The final completion of the building and all landscaping are ongoing but are expected to be completed and into use early in the New Year, subject to there being no further unpredicted supply chain disruptions.

However there is no change to the estimated payback period.

23. From Councillor Henwood to Councillor Hollingsworth – Educational provision in Littlemore

Question	Written Response
<p>The 2011 census states Littlemore’s population was 5,646 (2011 Census) living in 2759 dwellings, this has grown to a population of 6,580 in 2019 (source OCC Localinsight) and the number of dwellings has increased by a similar ratio. New developments approved after 2019 in Littlemore will evidence further a population increase.</p> <p>During this time Littlemore has also seen a reduction in the number of schools to housing developments and a shrinkage in size or existing schools also due to new housing developments.</p> <p>The tipping point for a new primary school is 450 new dwellings.</p> <p>Can the portfolio holder reassure Littlemore residents that Littlemore’s educational needs will be addressed in this area of high deprivation?</p> <p>And how the educational needs of this rapidly expanding population will be met?</p>	<p>Oxfordshire County Council is the Local Education Authority and has the statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places for all children of statutory school age living in Oxfordshire.</p> <p>The most up-to-date assessment is the 2019-2023 Pupil Place Plan which was published in November 2019 and can be found on County Council’s website. The Pupil Place Plan shows how the County Council expects school provision to change throughout its duration. It brings together information from a wide range of sources and sets out the issues the County Council will face in meeting its statutory duties for providing nursery and school places up to 2023 and beyond.</p> <p>The County Council provided the following evidence to support the Oxford Local Plan 2036, a statement which is reported in the Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP):</p> <p><i>“Current pupil forecasts indicate that sufficient primary and secondary school places to meet Oxford’s growth can be provided through existing school, including some further intensification of use, and the new schools already planned, i.e. the new primary school at Barton West and the new Swan secondary school. However it may be that particular concentrations of growth will require additional school provision. Therefore the County Council requests that land be available adjacent to or very close to, an existing school site. In particular the County welcomes the identification of land in the Osney Mead/ Oxpens area to facilitate the expansion of school capacity.”</i></p> <p>These requirements were then embedded by the City Council in the Local Plan 2036.</p> <p>The City Council’s IDP is currently being updated and will take full account of forecast population growth and the distribution of sites (within and on the edges of Oxford), and will be informed by the latest Pupil Place Plan, as will the update to the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS) being developed by all the county’s local authorities working together under the co-ordination of the County Council.</p>

24. From Councillor Henwood to Councillor Hollingsworth – Liaison with County Council over infrastructure in Littlemore

24. From Councillor Henwood to Councillor Hollingsworth – Liaison with County Council over infrastructure in Littlemore

Question	Written Response
Will the portfolio holder responsible for planning reassure Littlemore residents he will liaise with county council counterparts to ensure that infrastructure including transport and education will be addressed in Littlemore’s rapid expansion, and will kindly address the need for a new primary school?	I refer the Councillor to the answer to question 23, which explains the process by which this process is already ongoing.

Cabinet Member for a Safer, Healthy Oxford

25. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Upton – University COVID case numbers

Question	Written Response
There is lots of confusion around the inclusion, or not, of University COVID case numbers in the Oxford-wide figure. Can the Portfolio Holder clarify the situation and what is going to happen going forward?	Up until the week ending 13th November, the University of Oxford’s case numbers were not being included in the nationally reported figures. This was due to the University having a separate testing facility for their students which was being reported in to the national system but not registering as Oxford cases. This issue was recognised in September when the weekly reporting commenced and was raised with government a number of times. The Health Protection Board and the Oxfordshire System’s Leaders Group have been considering this data alongside the national data when making decisions. The university’s data is publicly available on its website. The situation was finally rectified and the University data included in the nationally reported figures for the week ending 13th November and this will continue to be the case moving forward.

26. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Upton – Oxford Safer Streets Bids

Question	Written Response
I am sure the Portfolio Holder will join me in welcoming funding being directed into East Oxford as a result of the successful Oxford Safer Streets Bids (Project	City Council officers are working with the police and other partners on implementation of the bids deliverables. In particular, CCTV

26. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Upton – Oxford Safer Streets Bids

Breakaway and East Oxford Safer Home Zones) and thank Thames Valley Police for making the applications. As with a lot of Government funding at the moment, the money has to be spent quickly.

How/what can the City Council do to help expedite the work?

improvements involves possible extensions to the Council's existing public space CCTV cameras. Community engagement is another important element, with the local Hub offering to assist in this area - we have assigned an officer to liaise with police. In addition ODS have done the technical drawings for siting secure cycle parking on streets to be used for the Traffic Regulation Order applications by Oxfordshire County Council.

27. From Councillor Landell Mills to Councillor Upton cycling infrastructure improvements

Question

What improvements for cyclists, in the form of cycleways or other bike infrastructure, has the City Council achieved this year?

Written Response

The city council's remit is limited as we are not the highways authority. Nonetheless, this financial year we have:

- installed 54 bike racks (108 spaces) in the city centre, on Speedwell Street, Ship Street, New Road and North Parade as part of an ongoing commitment to increase the amount of city centre and district centre bike parking spaces
- installed 130 additional bike parking spaces at Park & Ride sites (Redbridge, Peartree and Seacourt), in order to help commuters to cycle the last miles of their journey into the city
- created a temporary bicycle lane through the pedestrianised section of George Street, which meant that a successful scheme for hospitality businesses did not affect a key cycle route in the city
- committed to the Oxford Greenways Project, alongside Oxfordshire County Council and the University of Oxford, which will fund the creation of a concept masterplan for new cycle and walking routes from nearby towns and villages to key employment, transport and retail sites in the city.

We also intend to install additional city centre and localities bike parking, some of which has been delayed by the need for increased pavement space to allow social distancing, and to progress a feasibility study for cycling infrastructure in Shotover

28. From Councillor Wade to Councillor Tidball – Syrian refugee families resettlement

Question

Can the Cabinet Member advise how many Syrian refugee families were rehoused in Oxford in 19/20 and in the current financial year, and how many refugees the City hopes to rehouse in the year 21/22 under the new Global Resettlement Scheme?

Written Response

Oxford is a City of Sanctuary and shares the vision that the UK must be a welcoming place of safety and is proud to offer sanctuary to people fleeing violence and persecution.

The City Council has accommodated 30 families, a total of 129 people through the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme. Oxford is in the top 3 of districts in the South East in terms of number of people accommodated under the scheme. These families arrived between December 2015 and October 2018. The experience of the programme demonstrated that families required considerable support to settle into their communities, access healthcare, learn English and access jobs to enable them to support themselves. A number of families have needed continued support since 2015.

Families need to move into full time employment or have access to long term disability benefits in order to be able to build a sustainable future in Oxford and in particular to be able to afford their private rented housing beyond the period of subsidy provided under the programme. The refugee resettlement programme works with refugees who are particularly vulnerable, and the large number of complex barriers they face, including trauma, physical health difficulties and lack of qualifications, mean accessing employment can be exceptionally challenging. *The employment rate for adults in our programme is low, which has resulted in a number of families needing continued support beyond that funded by the government scheme.*

This challenge has been reflected nationwide in the delivery of the SVPRS. In addition, in Oxford's housing market, finding homes for families in the Private Rented sector is increasingly a challenge.

Accordingly, in 2019/20 the council's focus was on supporting those families who had arrived under the scheme towards independence. We have successfully bid for additional funding to increase support for English Language Training and continue to work closely with partners to identify gaps and develop support initiatives. This includes convening a Refugee Employer Group

28. From Councillor Wade to Councillor Tidball – Syrian refugee families resettlement

	<p>Meeting to explore and share volunteering, training and work opportunities; development and delivery of a series of Work Based ESOL courses to include, Customer Service, Self-Employment and Construction Skills; a Social Recruitment Charter to encourage employers to offer opportunities to the vulnerable including the migrant community, and mapping of ESOL provision across the city to help the migrant community to have better access to what is on offer.</p> <p>The SVPRS scheme was due to be replaced by the UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS) in April 2020, but the schemes were paused in March due to the COVID 10 pandemic.</p> <p>Government have recently announced that to fulfil its' original commitment of 20,000 232 families will be resettled to complete SVPRS commitment, early in the New Year. A decision is still awaited as to when the new UKRS scheme will restart.</p> <p>Officers are currently undertaking work to inform consideration of the council's future participation in the scheme. This includes looking at options for how families can be adequately supported and routes to employment / access to affordable housing might be improved given that the funding provided by government under the scheme is insufficient to cover the medium to long term costs of resettling families in Oxford.</p>
--	---

29. From Councillor Gant to Councillor Tidball – capital spend on the fabric and structure of community centres

Question	Written Response
<p>Could the Cabinet member clarify the council's approach to capital spend on the fabric and structure of community centres?</p> <p>At the moment, the position appears to be that the council will directly fund build costs (though under this administration</p>	<p>The Council's Community Centre Lease approach was agreed in the 2016 Community Centres Strategy. It is based on two approaches in respect of the different legal status of the Associations at that time.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For those Associations who held a lease with security of tenure under the 1954 Landlord and Tenant Act the Council agreed to grant new 25 year leases with a right for either party to break on the 10th and 20th anniversary and with the tenant again benefiting from security of tenure. The leases were to be otherwise substantially on the same terms as

29. From Councillor Gant to Councillor Tidball – capital spend on the fabric and structure of community centres

this has been spread extremely unevenly across the city). For any further structural maintenance or upgrade, there appears to be a wholly artificial division between works to the exterior of the buildings, which are paid for by the council, and works inside, which fall on the tenant. However, in both cases the benefit in terms of enhancing and maintaining the value of the asset accrues to the council as building owner. In addition, facilities within centres such as toilets are often used by a far wider constituency of external groups and the general public than just those engaging in formal organised activities run by the centre.

Would it not be fairer for all capital costs for building works on its own buildings to be funded by the council?

previously. Under the 1954 Act on renewal a tenant is entitled to a market rent lease. Notwithstanding this the Council agreed not to charge rent and to continue to fund external and structural repairs and buildings insurance.

2. The remainder of the Associations held a licence to occupy. Most of these were terminable at any time on 12 months' notice. The Council agreed to grant these Associations 25 year leases with a right for either party to break at regular fixed points (on 12 months' notice) and excluded from the security of tenure provisions of the 1954 Landlord and Tenant Act. This arrangement put these Associations onto a leasehold footing with a length of term which would enable them to apply for external funding. The repairing obligations under the lease were offered on the same basis as under the licence and again the Council agreed not to charge rent and to continue to fund external and structural repairs and buildings insurance.

The majority of the Associations have now completed their new leases with the Council. Most of the Associations have, in negotiating these leases, instructed independent solicitors who would have fully explained to their clients the implications of the leases they were proposing to enter.

All the new leases included a schedule of responsibilities for both the landlord (OCC) and the tenant (Community Association). This was to ensure that all parties fully understood their repairing and health and safety responsibilities.

It is common landlord and tenant practice for repairs to be shared between parties and often the landlord wishes to keep control of repairs to the structure and exterior. Usually if the landlord repairs elements, the tenant reimburses all those repair costs via a service charge. For the community centres, the Council has agreed to take on responsibility for repairs to the external and structural elements and buildings insurance without any recharge to the tenant in recognition of the value to each community that the Associations deliver which is in line the Council's corporate objectives. So far as internal non-structural elements and fixtures are concerned, the Council continues to require the Associations to take on responsibility where these items are in disrepair.

All associations have now been offered 25 year leases

29. From Councillor Gant to Councillor Tidball – capital spend on the fabric and structure of community centres

which importantly means they are able to apply for and obtain grant funding from external sources for the enhancement of facilities for each community. Once a lease has been granted to an Association, it has exclusive occupation of its premises and therefore will be able to control who uses its facilities.

30. From Councillor Wade to Councillor Tidball – Supporting families during holiday season

Question

Food poverty and free school meals have been a big part of the pandemic response.

What measures are in place to support families during the upcoming holiday season?

Written Response

The Council has already put in place the food supply infrastructure to ensure that anyone subject to food poverty or that is eligible for free school meals during the upcoming holiday season can have their needs met.

Following the pandemic response during the Spring and Summer, we began to transition people from the Council providing services relating to food poverty, to a more self-sustainable model. To aide this we supported people to access food vouchers via the Council support helpline – in total over a 1000 vouchers were distributed to individuals, households and to those young people eligible for free school meals. In between September and October approximately 465 families transitioned.

Recently, during the half term, the Council issued 316 food vouchers for children that would be eligible for free school meals – this is to protect children from food poverty.

The work we have undertaken thus far and the intelligence we have collated from the support we have provided has put the Council in a strong position to gauge the level of demand that we will need to cater for during the holiday season.

It is essential to note the Council was pro-active in securing food pipelines and put in place a contract with SOFEA to ensure this is sustainable till the end of this financial year.

We also have a comprehensive community food infrastructure in place, ranging from food larders, distribution infrastructure and a whole food network in place. We have been working with Good Food Oxford and the Community Food system to start to map out what community food services are being provided and potentially where any gaps may be within the system

30. From Councillor Wade to Councillor Tidball – Supporting families during holiday season

so that we are able to tackle these. As a precaution we also have a stock over around a 1000 non-perishable emergency food parcels should we need to either use these or supply these into the system.

Recently, the Government has announced a £170m budget allocation for food and fuel poverty. We are now scoping out a detailed needs analysis in preparedness for the winter based on the work we have already taken, and the infrastructure we have in place. We will be submitting our proposal to the County Council on behalf of the residents of this city so that we can draw down the sufficient funding/resource needed to protect people and children from food, and fuel poverty.

We already have the infrastructure/voucher system in place; it is merely a matter of ensuring the funding matches the needs we are trying to meet. Officers are working on making this happen.

Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Partnerships

31. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Brown – Oxford Living Wage (OWL) adoption

Question

Will the Leader join me in taking this further opportunity, following Living Wage Week, to recognise and congratulate the organisations in Oxford that have adopted the Oxford Living Wage.

Written Response

I was delighted we were able to recognise so many new OLW Employers at our Living Wage Week event last week. We have been working towards that day for some time and my only regret was that I wasn't able to shake their hands in person! It was a great opportunity to bring good local employers together to discuss a shared agenda. I found the event inspiring.

We agreed with those present that we will be producing new case studies and promotional material with our Network of OLW Employers to promote them as businesses and the benefits of OLW. We are aiming to grow a network of OLW Employers that work together not just on the OLW but other aspects of being an ethical and inclusive employer.

28 new employers were recognised and I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate and thank them once more.

32. From Councillor Simmons to Councillor Brown – Oxford Living Wage and University of Oxford

Question	Written Response
<p>Is there any pressure that the Leader can apply, following the very welcome adoption of the Oxford Living Wage by the University of Oxford to apply pressure to the individual Colleges to do the same?</p>	<p>I never stop raising this issue with individual colleges, the Conference of Colleges, and also with the University of Oxford. I have also written to each individual college that does not yet pay the Oxford Living Wage more than once. We do plan to hold further discussions with the colleges. We had conversations, pre-pandemic, with the Conference of Colleges, alongside the University, and we know that a group of colleges have been considering adopting OLW. There are some complexities around the wider benefits that colleges offer to their employees. This has been part of those discussions, but we think the scheme should be kept simple and needs to focus on hourly pay in line with the Living Wage Foundation's criteria. In light of the University being officially recognised as an OLW employer, we will take the opportunity to pursue further discussions with the colleges as part of our Strategy to grow OLW through this difficult financial period.</p>

33. From Councillor Henwood to Councillor Brown – Oriel College Rhodes working party

Question	Written Response
<p>Can we have an update on the Rhodes statue at Oriel college?</p> <p>How many times has the working party met, and can we see the minutes of the meetings?</p>	<p>The Council has not received any formal submissions or updates from the college.</p> <p>As you know, Oriel College has set up an independent commission to consider submissions and seek evidence and Cllr Shaista Aziz is sitting on that commission. One of the Council's heritage planners has recently attended a meeting of the commission by invitation.</p> <p>The decisions, remit and management of the meetings of the working group is, entirely properly, a matter for Oriel College and not for this council, so I have no further information to offer.</p>

34. From Councillor Henwood to Councillor Brown – Oriol College Rhodes working party 2

Question

I have written to Oriol College asking the Dean to acknowledge, on the university's website, that a working group is working towards the removal of the Rhodes statue and to publish the meetings on their website.

Can the Leader of the Council also encourage the university to publish the working groups' minutes, along with publishing the minutes on the city council's website?

Written Response

While I would of course support maximum transparency in Oriol College's decision making on the future of the Rhodes statue, I repeat that the decisions, remit and management of the meetings of the working group is, entirely properly, a matter for Oriol College and not for this council. I suggest that if Councillor Henwood seeks information about the workings of Oriol College he should ask them directly.

35. From Councillor Gant to Councillor Brown –

Question

Will the Leader join me in welcoming in the warmest possible terms the election of President-Elect Joe Biden and Vice-President-Elect Kamala Harris in the US, in expressing the hope that this marks a turn away from the kind of divisive, demonising, mendacious, bigoted, centralising political discourse represented by the outgoing president and, sadly, in some aspects of the policy of his friend our own Prime Minister, and in pledging to keep Oxford the open, tolerant, free, inclusive, cosmopolitan city we are all proud to call home?

Written Response

Yes

This page is intentionally left blank

To: Council

Date: 30 November 2020

Title of Report: Public addresses and questions taken in Part 2 of the agenda – as submitted by the speakers and with written responses from Cabinet Members

Introduction

1. In this section of the meeting, Council hears addresses and questions from members of the public about motions on Part 3 of the agenda or that do not relate directly to matters for decision.
2. Addresses made by members of the public to the Council, and questions put to the Cabinet members or Leader, registered by the deadline in the Constitution, are below. Any written responses available are also below.
3. The text reproduces that sent in the speakers and represents the views of the speakers. This is not to be taken as statements by or on behalf of the Council
4. This report will be republished after the Council meeting as part of the minutes pack. This will list the full text of speeches delivered as submitted, summaries of speeches delivered which differ significantly from those submitted, and any further responses.

Addresses and questions to be taken in Part 2 of the agenda.

1. Address by Janet Phillips – in support of motion 16a on Improving coronavirus testing and tracing

1. Address by Janet Phillips – in support of motion 16a on Improving coronavirus testing and tracing

Liz Peretz, Isabel Tucker and I have been campaigning throughout the pandemic with We Own It and Keep Our NHS Public for local testing and tracing that is run and carried out by our public health authorities. These are the bodies with the necessary expertise and experience, and the vital community knowledge. At the same time, we've been calling for the misleadingly named 'NHS' Test and Trace to be shut down. In our view, it has been not only a scandalous misuse of public money, involving corruption and cronyism, but a disastrous failure as far as bringing the virus under control is concerned.

Though expert after expert has repeated the message that testing, to be effective, needs to be located within our communities, it soon became clear that the Government would rather go on tinkering with 'NHS' Test and Trace, in an attempt to 'fix' it, than close it down, and transfer funding to local authorities. But, in our view, 'NHS' Test and Trace cannot be fixed because its model is fundamentally flawed. The only way to fix testing and tracing in the UK is finally to hand the money and the work over to our local public health bodies.

In recent months, the Government has talked about more local involvement, but so far that has meant passing the names of people who test positive and whom 'NHS' Test and Trace fail to contact to local councils – in many cases, several days after their tests. Paid staff – as in the local contact-tracing operation set up by our own DPH and City Council – as well as teams of volunteers in other parts of the country, have been doing wonderful work reaching most of the people handed over to them. And they are then in a position to provide information on how to self-isolate, as well as support. In effect, though, these local operations are just mopping up for 'NHS' Test and Trace. The information on contacts traced needs to be fed back into the central system. So far, our local bodies have had no influence over the shape and scope of the programme of testing and tracing.

Many councils have recognised the foolishness of the current set-up, and have been frustrated by not being able to do more. We decided that the way forward was for local authorities to show that they are serious about wanting proper local operations in order to really make a difference – that a loud clamour for funding and resources to be diverted to local authorities might finally get the Government to see sense and take the necessary action.

We are delighted that, as a result of our discussions, Craig Simmons, Louise Upton and Andrew Gant have proposed a cross-party motion to the Council, which, if passed, would enable the first steps to be taken towards gaining higher-level support to push the Government (perhaps in partnership with other local authorities) for the means to set up a fully-fledged local programme of testing and tracing. We urge you all to vote in favour of this motion.

But time is of the essence. Some might think that with several vaccines now looking effective, including the one developed in our own city, and the rolling out of vaccination imminent, it is too late to be bothering now to fix the testing and tracing mess. It could, however, be many more months before everyone who needs to be vaccinated is vaccinated. In that time, especially if adherence to basic social distancing and hygiene break down, there will be more illness, more strain on the NHS, more economic loss and more deaths. Having good testing and tracing could prevent much of this.

And another reason for getting testing and tracing right now is so, hopefully, we have it right for the future: so the message is clear that this work belongs always with our public health bodies – not with private companies that come forward with no expertise but, we believe, rake in handsome profits while failing to even do properly what they've been contracted to do. Fixing local and public testing and tracing now would be a significant victory against those who want to outsource more of our health services. With Brexit proper only weeks away, and the danger of all manner of new trade deals, the matter of keeping our NHS public is also one of urgency.

What could a good locally-run testing and tracing operation do?

- Decide who should be tested, where and how
- Choose which groups should have access to repeated testing, whether they have symptoms or not, for example, health workers, care workers, teachers or students
- Use local public labs for a cheaper and faster turnaround of results
- Provide financial and moral support to people who need to self-isolate
- Address issues of inequality, and how they contribute to transmission and self-isolation problems; provide special accommodation for those who are not able to self-isolate effectively in their own homes
- Deploy fast tests in specified situations
- Involve GPs
- Encourage collaboration between different institutions, to create economies of scale and greater efficiency
- Develop a strategy for reducing infection throughout Oxfordshire to zero.

So, please vote for motion 16a. Once passed, the real work will begin. We would urge you then, without delay, to begin discussions with our DPH and the County Council, and together to start mapping out what a local operation would look like, to set in motion the preparations for the local testing and tracing programme we hope we will all soon have.

Thank you.

The Cabinet Member for a Safer, Healthy Oxford, Cllr Louise Upton, will give a verbal response

This page is intentionally left blank

To: Council
Date: 30 November 2020
Report of: Assistant Chief Executive
Title of Report: Update on Partnerships - Oxfordshire Growth Board

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To provide members with a partnership update report on the Oxfordshire Growth Board
Key decision:	No
Cabinet Member with responsibility:	Councillor Susan Brown, Leader of the Council
Corporate Priority:	N/a
Policy Framework:	N/a
Recommendation: That Council	
1. notes the Oxfordshire Growth Board update report	

Appendices	
Appendix A	Growth Deal Housing from Infrastructure Programme- Oxford
Appendix 1	Oxfordshire Draft Strategic Vision

Introduction and background

1. This report provides a summary of the key milestones that have been reached in the delivery of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, as well as wider advances that have been made over the past year through the Oxfordshire Growth Board collaboration. The Council continues to have an active role in the partnership which oversees the delivery of key projects that the councils of Oxfordshire are seeking to deliver collaboratively in the fields of economic development and strategic planning.

Growth Board role and remit

2. The Growth Board is a joint committee of the six councils of Oxfordshire together with key strategic partners. Whilst voting rights are retained for local authority members only, the Board's membership also includes co-opted associate members listed below:

- Chair of OxLEP
 - Chair of the Oxfordshire Skills Board
 - Universities Representative
 - OXLEP Business Representative-Bicester
 - OXLEP Business Representative-Oxford City
 - OXLEP Business Representative-Science Vale
 - Homes England Representative
 - DEFRA Agencies Representative
 - Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group Representative
3. The Growth Board is supported by a scrutiny panel of members drawn from across the 6 councils which is currently chaired by Cllr Andrew Gant and three advisory sub groups focused on infrastructure, housing and the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.
4. Earlier this year the Growth Board undertook a review of its role and function to ensure that the most pragmatic and effective arrangements for partnership working are in place. The public review, which received nearly 300 responses from a wide range of respondents, found that there have been a series of successes and opportunities realised through the Growth Board collaboration and the duty to cooperate, including securing over £500m of investment in Oxfordshire in recent years. It also identified communication and greater integration of environmental issues as areas for improvement within the Board's work.
5. Having considered the feedback from the review, each of the Oxfordshire Local Authorities agreed a revised [Terms of Reference](#) for the Board in Summer 2020. The Board now has a clear purpose from the outset, with an emphasis on inclusive and sustainable development, the pursuit of a zero-carbon future, and the oversight of delegated programmes of work within this remit. The new purpose states that Growth Board will:
- Coordinate local efforts to manage economic, housing and infrastructure development in a way that is inclusive and maximises local social and environmental benefits;
 - Support the development of local planning policy that meets the UK Government's stated aim of net zero carbon by 2050, and contributes towards biodiversity gain whilst embracing the changes needed for a low carbon world; and,
 - Seek to secure funding in the pursuit of these aims and oversee the delivery of related work programmes delegated to it by the Board's local authority members.

Part 1: The Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal

6. The Growth Board oversees and monitors delivery of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal ('the Deal') which was agreed in 2018 and secured £215m of Central Government investment to advance housing delivery and boost economic productivity in the area. Within the Deal are four distinct workstreams.

- The Homes from Infrastructure Programme (Hfi) - £150m investment in infrastructure to support the acceleration of already planned housing in Oxfordshire over a five-year period from 2018/19 to 2022/23.
 - The Oxfordshire Affordable Housing Programme - a £60m investment over three years to support the delivery of at least 1322 additional affordable homes, using a range of tenures including social rent, affordable rent and shared ownership.
 - A county wide Strategic Development Plan, known as the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, to support a more coordinated approach to long term spatial planning across the County. This was supported by additional time limited planning freedoms and flexibilities for local authorities to protect against unplanned development.
7. Productivity which is being led by the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP). At the centre of this work is an ambitious Local Industrial Strategy and associated Investment Plan for Oxfordshire.
 8. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, a picture was emerging in Oxfordshire of a housing market delivery trajectory that was slipping due to issues such as local plan delays and weakening developer confidence in certain areas of the Oxfordshire housing market. Within that overall picture however, those sites that were supported by the Housing and Growth Deal through infrastructure investment generally maintained their delivery trajectory. During the Summer peak of COVID-19 cases, all major development sites halted production. Most have now resumed work, but we are already seeing in Q2 of 2020/21 that completed local authority trajectories are slowing in all districts except Oxford, where delivery remains robust.

Looking forward, officers have been involved in discussions with HM Government over potential changes to the timescales of the £215m Deal, recognising some historic delivery issues and the impact of the COVID pandemic. HM Government have agreed to extend some elements of the Homes from Infrastructure and Affordable Housing programmes in light of these challenges.
 9. Under the revised Affordable Housing Programme, including an additional fourth year presents a healthy picture. Partners now anticipate being able to deliver both the budget and numeric targets agreed in the Housing Growth Deal by drawing upon a proposed programme of 1410 units, bolstered by a contingency programme, from which we can draw should schemes fail to materialise as anticipated that totals 521 units.
 10. Financial challenges to this programme remain, but these have been offset by the ability to flex grant and the addition of local top up grant. The current programme agreed with partners envisages just over £5 Million of local Top up Grant.
 11. Oxford's contribution to this programme is material with a total of 550-600 homes anticipated across the four years and a drawdown of just over 30 million or 50% of the OAHP budget. In addition, we will seek to contribute an additional £2.5 million of s106 grant to match fund OAHP grant (to be agreed on a site by site basis) - in addition to the near £139 million of HRA borrowing investment supporting these schemes. This additional grant supports exceptional; site costs and the council's ambitions to deliver low and zero carbon housing totalling 233 units.

Housing from Infrastructure

12. The table at appendix A shows Oxford's contribution to the Housing from Infrastructure programme, totalling 652 accelerated homes derived from infrastructure investment of £41,720,129.
13. The extension to the Hfl programme referred to in paragraph 10 allows an additional sixth year- with a possible further extension into a seventh year on a scheme by scheme basis to enable the relevant infrastructure to be completed.

The Oxfordshire Plan 2050

14. A new timetable for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 has been developed following recent conversations with HM Government about the overall Deal Programme. Government have agreed that full use can now be made of the 5-year Deal period for the production of the Plan. This is a significant shift in position, instead of being limited to simply the first 3 years of the Deal, there is now an opportunity to utilise the full 5-year period to produce the best Plan possible. The Growth Board will be asked to endorse this revised programme at its meeting on [24 November](#).
15. In the last quarter [Oxfordshire Open Thought](#) was launched. This was designed to be an additional informal public engagement exercise to broaden the reach of the project, gain new policy ideas, and to energise stakeholders and that wider community ahead of next formal consultation. This website was launched in June and it asked people to consider the future challenges and opportunities for Oxfordshire and submit their ideas around three key topics: living and working; connectivity; and climate change. The webpage was visited by over 2,300 people and analysis has shown that across nearly 300 submission, we achieved a broader demographic reach of engagement with the Plan. In the next quarter officers plan to launch phase 2 of Open Thought.
16. Much of the work in quarter two has focussed on the delivery of the technical evidence base. A range of technical studies have been commissioned to provide baseline information, data, mapping and projections of various types. Each commission has involved the input of all the authority partners from scoping, through interviewing, selection and co-ordination, via a steering group set up to oversee the work and provide the link with the consultancies. The emerging outputs of these studies are being used to inform the selection of options that will be presented for consultation in the next published Plan (Regulation 18 part 2) document. Each of the evidence base studies will be published alongside the Plan consultation document so that those engaging with the process can understand the work that has informed its drafting.

Oxfordshire Strategic Vision

17. This new programme has also included drafting of an Oxfordshire Strategic Vision document ahead of the next Plan consultation. The concept of this overarching Vision is that it should help to inform the development of the Oxfordshire Plan, but also assist more broadly in developing other strategies and projects that the local authorities are seeking to deliver in a collaborative way.
18. The Strategic Vision is not intended to replace or set the specific vision for any of the individual councils or partner organisations. The Vision has a specific role and a

clearly defined non-statutory status. While it is similarly looking to 2050 and intended to support the development of the Oxfordshire Plan indirectly, it is not part of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 itself. It explicitly does not deal with the quantum of housing or economic growth for Oxfordshire, nor direct where it should go. It recognises that those are matters more appropriately dealt with through other plans and strategies (eg. Oxfordshire Plan 2050, Local Industrial Strategy, Local Plans). However, it is envisaged that the Vision could play an important role in seeking to drive improvements to environmental, social and economic well-being which may be reflected in emerging plans, strategies and programmes. Delivering the Vision will require long-term collective commitment and investment by the partners that make up the Growth Board but also, crucially, by a wider set of strategic stakeholders and partnerships.

19. A separate report on the Draft Oxfordshire Strategic Vision was considered by the Growth Board Scrutiny Panel and by the Growth Board on 30th October which endorsed it as a draft to go out to engagement. A further report will go to each local authorities' Cabinet as part of a wider engagement exercise taking place before the end of 2020 and will be considered by the City Council Cabinet on 9th December. The intention is to have produced a revised Vision for the Growth Board to consider endorsing in March 2021. A copy of the Draft Strategy is attached at Appendix 1.

Part 2: Wider Growth Board Programmes and Partnership Work

The Oxford to Cambridge Arc

20. The Oxford to Cambridge Arc (the Arc) has been described by HM Government as a key economic priority owing to the area's existing economic strengths in terms of the science, technology and advanced manufacturing sectors and the long-term potential to transform the Arc into a world-leading economic area, acting as a testbed for innovation and encouraging international investment and exports to benefit both local businesses and the national economy.
21. Since the last update to Council, the Arc has progressed to establish a set of working Groups made up of representatives of Local Authorities, Local Enterprise Partnerships, Universities and Local Nature Partnerships, working collaboratively across geographical, political and thematic boundaries. The Groups aim to steer and guide the Arc collaboration to ensure that local and strategic interests are understood at a national level.
22. An Arc Leadership Group consisting of these organisations meets twice each year to set a forward plan and guide this work. A smaller Arc Leadership Executive Group made up of three Council Leaders appointed from each Growth Board within the Arc (including key economic, university and health leads) meets more regularly to ensure that the Arc Leadership Group's work is being delivered effectively, and to engage with HM Government to ensure that local and strategic interests are understood and delivered.
23. The Growth Board's nominated representatives on the Arc Leadership Executive are: Councillor Emily Smith (Leader of the Vale of White Horse District Council and Growth Board Chair), Councillor Barry Wood (Leader of Cherwell District Council

and Chair of the Arc Leaders group) and Councillor Ian Hudspeth (Leader of Oxfordshire County Council – with local transport authority responsibility). Councillor Susan Brown was also appointed as the Growth Board’s standing deputy in respect of the above appointments which will be reviewed on an annual basis.

24. The Arc Leadership Group is aiming to inform and influence Government’s work and investment decisions, including through the recently submitted [Economic Prospectus](#), which articulates the group’s vision for the Arc a “*world leading place for high-value growth, innovation and productivity. A global hub where ideas and companies are generated and thrive, home to exemplary models of 21st century development, with a high quality environment and outstanding quality of life, and with a strong economic focus that drives inclusive clean growth*”.
25. HM Government announced in March 2020 their intention to develop, with local partners, a long-term Spatial Framework to support strategic planning across the Oxford to Cambridge Arc. It is anticipated that there will be a formal launch and a more detailed statement regarding their ambitions in December 2020 or early in 2021. HM Government officials are currently developing an engagement strategy and testing new digital engagement tools to support Arc engagement in the new year.
26. The Arc is not a formal statutory body and works to ensure that decision-making and action occurs at the most appropriate level. The Arc has no formal central administration and most of its resources and support come from the collaborating partner organisations. There has however been a recent appointment of an Arc Director, Bev Hindle, to support the Arc Leadership Group and Executive. Regular written updates on the work of the Arc are provided at [Growth Board meetings](#).

The Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy and Investment Plan

27. Launched in September 2019, the ambition for the Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy (LIS), which was published jointly with HM Government, is to position the county as one of the top-three global innovation ecosystems, highlighting our world-leading science and technology cluster and to be a pioneer for the UK. The LIS directly responds to the UK Industrial Strategy – launched by the Government in November 2017 – which aims to increase economic growth and productivity across the country and create more prosperous communities.
28. In August 2020 OxLEP published the next stage of the Strategy, the Oxfordshire Investment Plan. The Investment Plan translates the ideas and aspiration of the Local Industrial Strategy into a programme of delivery and action over up to 2030. It highlights priority projects for investment including several in and around Oxford such as the Global Health and Life Sciences Cluster in Headington, expansion of Oxford Science Park, the West End Global Innovation District and redevelopment of Oxford Station. The Investment Plan sits alongside other critical strategies which are in development, including: the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy, Oxfordshire Plan 2050, the Oxfordshire Energy Strategy Delivery Plan, a new Local Skills Plan, and the emerging Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan. Like the Economic Recovery Plan, the LIS Investment Plan responds to the economic challenges which COVID-19 is creating for businesses, supply chains and the workforce, drawing out the importance of building an inclusive economy that focuses on

developing zero carbon products, solutions and services. The full LIS Investment Plan can be found on the OxLEP [website](#).

Zero Carbon Housing

29. Earlier in 2020, the Growth Board commissioned a [report](#) which set out the current systemic challenges to accelerating the development of low and zero carbon homes, alongside collective actions that could be taken between local authorities to press for and implement change. On 24 November, the Growth Board received an update on progress against agreed actions. There are a range of opportunities in this area including housing delivery through new settlements and Garden Towns, promoting sustainable living under the Living Oxfordshire Programme of the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS), the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal and the potential for investment and policy flexibility in delivering low carbon housing across the Oxford to Cambridge Arc.¹
30. On 9th December, the Growth Board is hosting an online webinar on low carbon homes with input from housing and energy officers across all authorities. The event aims to raise the profile of Oxfordshire's low-carbon agenda within the context of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal. The event is expected to be held before the end of the year, dependent upon the timing of the Comprehensive Spending Review. It will also provide an opportunity to brief attendees on the Deal programme extension, new grant flexibilities and a desire to prioritise low/zero carbon schemes within the Affordable Housing programme. A more detailed report on the actions being undertaken through the Board with respect to zero carbon homes can be found in the Board's [agenda](#) for 24 November.

Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan

31. The Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan (ERP), which aims to respond to the economic challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, is being led by OxLEP with input from all Oxfordshire authorities and will be overseen by its Board, which includes the Leaders of each of the Councils. To ensure that a collaborative approach is taken in the Plan's development, a dedicated ERP Task and Finish Group has been set up with senior representation drawn from Local Authorities and Universities, which has met several times already and will continue to do so. This will be a standalone overarching economic plan for Oxfordshire, recognising that the response on the ground (locality/District/City) will need to be tailored to support specific circumstances.
32. While the precise detail of the ERP is in development, the Growth Board will receive updates on this work at key intervals. The ERP is expected to set out a programme of measures to support the Oxfordshire economy, based on a sound and robust analysis of the economic landscape and an assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the County's labour market, business base and key economic sectors and clusters. The ERP will focus on actions which will support the near-term recovery and renewal of the Oxfordshire economy over the next three years. It will need to complement the longer-term proposals developed under the Oxfordshire Local

¹ For a comprehensive summary of the challenges and opportunities for zero-carbon building compliance, see Zero Carbon Housing report of 11 March 2020. Available at: <http://democratic.southoxon.gov.uk/documents/s19019/9.%20OGB%20report%20Zero%20Carbon%20Housing%20March%202020.pdf>

Industrial Strategy Investment Plan. Preliminary economic impact findings were reported to the Growth Board on 22 September 2020, and a presentation on this work can be found in the Growth Board's [agenda](#).

England's Economic Heartland Draft Transport Strategy

33. England's Economic Heartland (EEH) is the 'emerging' Sub-national Transport Body for the area stretching from Swindon to Cambridgeshire. It includes the Oxford to Cambridge Arc area but extends to also include Swindon and Hertfordshire. EEH recently consulted on its Draft Transport Strategy. Whilst some local authorities, including the City Council prepared their own response to that consultation, a joint high-level response was also agreed through the Growth Board. This response sought to compliment local submissions by commenting specifically on the nature and extent to which the Strategy impacts on Growth Board programmes (Oxfordshire Plan 2050, Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy, etc.).
34. As a strategic partnership response, there were two main areas of the consultation that were focussed on: the proposal to establish a statutory sub-national transport body and, the Strategy itself. On the former, there were concerns about the transition to a statutory body and the nature and language of the Strategy itself. HM Government also similarly expressed concerns with this, confirming that there were no current plans for EEH to take on a statutory role. On the latter, there were several areas of the Strategy which were commented on. This included the need to ensure alignment with the Emerging Arc Spatial Framework and the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, and the need for the Strategy to be bolder and more ambitious with respect to climate change. There were also noticeable absences of major economic and transport hubs in Oxfordshire, such as Oxford Station within the Strategy, and a lack of visible priority given to major infrastructure challenges such as the A34. The full response can be found in the [agenda](#) for the Growth Board meeting on 22 September 2020.

Oxfordshire Rail Corridor Study (OCRS)

35. The Oxfordshire Rail Corridor Study assesses the impacts of economic growth on Oxfordshire's rail system and identifies the role the system can play to manage this. It looks at the movement of people and goods across the rail network in Oxfordshire, with emphasis on how rail can support development across Oxfordshire and the wider region and will inform strategic investment decisions. The Study is being jointly funded by the Department for Transport (DfT), Oxfordshire Growth Board and other partners, and is being undertaken by Network Rail. The Growth Board approved the project remit and financial contribution in June 2018, enabling DfT funding to be released.
36. Findings from the first stage of this work were [reported](#) to the Growth Board in January 2020, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. This work concluded that there is a clear requirement for an uplift in services across the network and significant additional capacity is required to relieve congestion on Cross Country services north and south of Oxford (and therefore through the station), plus additional capacity for Oxford-Didcot corridor. East West Rail Phase 2 (Oxford to Bedford and Milton Keynes) will also significantly increase demand at stations including Bicester Village, Oxford Parkway and Oxford. Network Rail have identified the Oxford Station Phase 2 works as the critical next step in boosting rail capacity, frequency and

connectivity in the county and across the region and has submitted the Outline Business Case for Phase 2 to Government for funding approval, with a decision expected shortly. The Growth Board will consider a letter of support to the Chancellor and DFT Secretary of State at its meeting on 24th November.

Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OXIS)

37. The original Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS) was approved by the Oxfordshire Growth Board in Autumn 2017. The Strategy built on an extensive evidence base to set out the core projects and investment seen as required to support the sustainable development in Oxfordshire. It identified and prioritised infrastructure across a range of sectors to support known local plan housing and employment development and outlined where funding was required to help deliver this. OxIS has been an important piece of work in supporting the development of subsequent funding bids and agreements, helping to secure funding for schemes through the Housing and Infrastructure Fund and the Deal.
38. As part of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal agreed in 2018, there is a commitment to update the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS). In particular, updating OxIS aligns to the requirements of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 by providing an up to date infrastructure picture that complements the agreed trajectory and direction of the Plan, taking into account the latest policy and funding picture.
39. The OxIS update will be carried out in two stages with Stage 1 delivered in 2021 to support the Regulation 18 (Part 2) Oxfordshire Plan consultation, and Stage 2 delivered later to support the Regulation 19 consultation. This will allow for OxIS and the Oxfordshire Plan to develop iteratively with increased transparency and integration. The Growth Board's Infrastructure Advisory Sub-group currently operates as a member steering group for this work, involving the Cabinet leads from each authority. The most recent [update](#) on this work can be found in the Growth Board's agenda for 2 June 2020.

A Local Nature Partnership for Oxfordshire

40. The Growth Board has taken an active approach to improving its connections with the environmental sector, following a refreshed and prioritised focus in this area. The Board's Executive Officer Group has welcomed the Chair of the Oxfordshire Environmental Board into its membership. The Board has also offered its support for the establishment of a Local Nature Partnership (LNP) for Oxfordshire, which would provide a strategic forum to help manage the natural environment in an integrated way, to the benefit of local people, the economy and the environment. Whilst an LNP would be a separate entity to the Growth Board, it could feasibly link in with the Board's wider discussions concerning the natural environment in the future.
41. Since the Board offered support for the establishment of an LNP earlier this year, an independent facilitator has started a stakeholder consultation which involves a mixture of virtual interviews, surveys and focus group meetings. This exercise will focus on gathering feedback on a range of issues associated with establishing an LNP (i.e objectives, membership and governance). It is expected that this process will be completed by the end of 2020, with the ambition of having a basic structure

in place for the LNPs operation later in 2021. It is hoped that the establishment of an LNP will enable closer and more structured collaboration across the Arc, such as with the emerging [Arc Local Natural Capital Plan](#). More detail on the establishment of an LNP and the Arc Local Natural Capital Plan can be found in the [agenda](#) for the Growth Board meeting on 22 September 2020.

Part 3: Focus for the year ahead

42. With its newly reviewed focus on sustainability, inclusivity and planning for a zero-carbon future, we should increasingly expect to see the Board’s work reflect these principles through its work programme and the strategies and programmes it oversees.
43. Oversight of the delivery of the Housing and Growth Deal will continue to be an area of focus for the Growth Board in the next year as we progress towards key milestones in the development of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. The Plan’s development alongside OxIS will require significant engagement and involvement with the Council. Ahead of that, the Council will submit views on the Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire in advance of consideration at the Board in March 2021. Engaging and influencing the work on the Oxford to Cambridge Arc, including the Government’s forthcoming Arc Spatial Framework will be a key area of work for the Growth Board and individual partners in the next year.
44. In the new year, the Growth Board will also be presented with a Joint Statement of Intent on climate change for endorsement, which will operate as a call to action on tackling the climate emergency. This is a developing piece of work between the lead local authority councillors with environmental/climate change responsibilities. A public version of the Board’s [Forward Plan](#) of work is updated each month on the Oxfordshire Growth Board website which provides a useful reference point for the timetabling of key work.

Financial implications

45. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Legal implications

46. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers

47. None

Report author	Caroline Green / Stefan Robinson
Job title	Assistant Chief Executive
Service area or department	Assistant Chief Executive
Telephone	07483 007 109
e-mail	cgreen@oxford.gov.uk

Appendix A- Growth Deal Housing from Infrastructure Programme- Oxford

Zone	Infrastructure linked to Zone	Total accelerated homes
North	Banbury Road Woodstock Road Cowley Branch Line Connecting Oxford Oxford Station Ped/Cycle City Wide Schemes	175
Central	Banbury Road Woodstock Road Cowley Branch Line Connecting Oxford Oxford Station Ped/Cycle City Wide Schemes Oxpens Road Enhancements Botley Road Oxpens Bridge	215
South	Cowley Branch Line Connecting Oxford Oxford Station Ped/Cycle City Wide Schemes Knights Road Riverside Routes Boundary Brook Littlemore Park – Rosehill Kennington Slips Newman Road	29
West	Cowley Branch Line Connecting Oxford Oxford Station Ped/Cycle City Wide Schemes Oxpens Road Enhancements Botley Road Oxpens Bridge	134
East	Access to Headington Cowley Branch Line Connecting Oxford Oxford Station Ped/Cycle City Wide Schemes Colinwood Rd Crossing Cuckoo Ine to Headington Hill Barton West School Marston Rd Crossing Warenford Meadow A40 to JR via Northway Parks Cycle Route	100
Total		652
	Total GD Infrastructure Contribution	£41,720,129

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 1: Oxfordshire's Strategic Vision for Long-Term Sustainable Development - Engagement Draft

Our Vision Statement for Oxfordshire

Enhanced well-being sits at the heart of our ambition.

We want Oxfordshire to thrive so that the lives of current and future generations are improved. To achieve this will require bold, innovative, collaborative and inclusive thinking with decisions and actions that deliver real and lasting change in ways that build resilience and enhance well-being.

To be well, we need the right environmental, social and economic conditions, underpinned by improved resilience, and built on a clear understanding that the different dimensions of well-being are intrinsically linked. By resilience we mean de-carbonisation, tackling climate change and mitigating its impacts, securing a biodiverse natural environment, building community connectedness, better health, and improved educational attainment and skills that will support the jobs of the future. Our ambition is to utilise the unique opportunities and assets in Oxfordshire to accommodate growth sustainably, and shape healthy, resilient communities in which it is possible for all residents to thrive.

If we are successful, these are the outcomes that will have been achieved in Oxfordshire by 2050:

- We will be the first generation to leave Oxfordshire's natural environment in a better state than that in which we found it. The natural environment will be more biodiverse, supporting social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change.*
- Oxfordshire will already be carbon neutral, and will be moving towards a carbon negative future, in which the County is removing more carbon than it emits each year.*
- The population will be healthier and happier, inequalities will have been reduced, young people will feel excited about their future and the overall well-being of the population will have improved.*
- The economy of Oxfordshire will be successful and sustainable, making the most of all our people and with quality places where people want to live and work.*
- We will have energy efficient, well-designed homes, sufficient in numbers, location, type, size, tenure and affordability to meet the needs of our residents.*
- Movement around Oxfordshire will be transformed, with greater connectivity and mobility in and between places in ways that enhance environmental, social and economic well-being.*
- Our communities will be rooted and flourishing, with enhanced and lasting connectedness driven by individual and community action.*

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Oxfordshire has considerable and diverse strengths. Its beautiful countryside, from the Chilterns to the Cotswolds, with high quality landscapes and areas important for nature conservation, its rich and diverse built and historic environment formed from the fabric of its market towns and villages and the vibrant, diverse cultural offer and urban environment in the City of Oxford, and its proximity and connections with other places, are key reasons why people choose to live, work, visit and invest here. These strengths have formed the foundation of Oxfordshire's economic success. But there are also challenges. Oxfordshire is one of the fastest growing economies in the country, but it is also among the least equal, with significant and stubborn economic and social inequalities. And there are problems linked to congestion, housing affordability and the well-being of the natural and built environments. All these impact on Oxfordshire's residents and businesses.
- 1.2 Oxfordshire is facing significant changes. Some of these – such as climate change and the unprecedented impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic – are the result of trends that are being experienced by the global community. Other changes reflect Oxfordshire's status as an international centre of pioneering research and innovation based on a hive of knowledge-intensive economic activity at the universities and science, technology and business parks. Changes are being influenced by Oxfordshire's links with neighbouring areas such as the Thames Valley and Swindon, and more widely with the Oxford-Cambridge Arc which is now a key national economic priority for the Government.
- 1.3 Change is inevitable, but change is not inevitably detrimental. With change comes the opportunity for progress based on new ways of thinking. We have seen an important increase in emphasis on climate change internationally, nationally and locally, with legislation in 2019 to eradicate the UK contribution to climate change by 2050, and with climate change emergencies declared by all the Oxfordshire Councils. We now have a better understanding that every decision made as a result of emerging plans and strategies for Oxfordshire has the potential to, and very probably will, impact (positively or negatively) on local, national and global emissions in the short, medium and long-term, to way beyond plan end dates.
- 1.4 Most recently, the COVID-19 crisis has generated considerable uncertainty and brought into sharp focus important, complex and sometimes uncomfortable questions about the impact of the pandemic. But we have also seen how, although physically apart, people have come together to give care, support and friendship within their communities. It has also given us a glimpse of a world less dependent on personal travel and more reliant on digital connectivity. How can we capture the positive aspects of these changes as we move forward? The pandemic has forced us to think about how we should frame our choices as the country moves towards recovery, what our priorities should be and how to deliver positive outcomes.
- 1.5 We need to be pragmatic in responding to current circumstances, whilst recognising the importance of taking this opportunity to think strategically about how best to tackle long-term problems as we re-build and secure the future of our local economies. Others have referred to this process as 'building back better', in which traditional models of growth are re-thought, re-set and replaced with a more balanced approach based on a broader range of objectives. We should not avoid tackling issues now, but it is also important to establish a pathway for long-term change.

- 1.6 We know that within Oxfordshire there is a desire to see a different approach to place-shaping. Early in 2019 the partnership preparing the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 started a formal conversation with the public and stakeholders about planning for Oxfordshire's long-term future. The public's response to that consultation gave us a very clear steer that there is an appetite for an approach that:
- is more ambitious, radical, innovative and creative
 - is more Oxfordshire-specific and reflective of local people's views
 - prioritises climate change, and
 - focusses on social, economic and environmental well-being, and not solely on a narrow definition of growth.
- 1.7 Similar thoughts were also reflected in the One Planet Living Oxfordshire Shared Vision¹. Developed for a broadly-based Oxfordshire partnership, and drawing on input from some 100 stakeholders from across Oxfordshire, the One Planet approach sets out the sorts of big thinking and action that is required to achieve sustainable living based on a happier, healthier, greener future. And, the Oxfordshire Growth Board's Open Thought initiative² has added to the debate and pool of ideas by tapping into the wealth of knowledge to help find solutions to accommodate changes in how we will live and work, how we will connect with each other and how we will manage and respond to climate change.
- 1.8 Our bold economic ambitions³ have been brought to life in an investment plan⁴. We can see from this how Oxfordshire is uniquely placed to embrace the dynamic potential of world-leading innovation and research and development to support economic recovery and growth for the benefit of local residents.
- 1.9 Innovative work on inclusive growth⁵ has brought relevance and visibility to a need for us to actively recognise and address the inequalities in our success. It has highlighted a wide range of issues, including the need to tackle deprivation and disadvantage in Oxford and our other urban areas, improve educational attainment and to develop the skills required to access new employment opportunities and to improve physical and digital connectivity in our rural areas. If we are to deliver our vision and ambitions, these inequalities will need to be addressed so that growth is genuinely inclusive.
- 1.10 These conversations and thinking have shown that if we frame our ambition based on what is demonstrably achievable over the next thirty years, we could fall well short of what those who have contributed are looking to achieve. That would be a missed opportunity that fails to capitalise on Oxfordshire's scope for innovation over the longer-term. We therefore wish to determine in a positive, open and transparent way what our ambition for Oxfordshire should look like and how we can achieve it by drawing on new ways of thinking about sustainable development.
- 1.11 In doing so, we should not lose sight of the rich variety of places that make up Oxfordshire. We value the character of these different settings – our city, towns and villages and our natural and historic environments – and recognise that delivering our shared Strategic Vision will require place-focussed responses to specific challenges and opportunities that reflect particular circumstances. For example, activity to achieve ambitions for zero carbon and increased biodiversity will need different design solutions

¹ One Planet Oxfordshire: Our Shared Vision, Bioregional, 2019

² See: <https://www.oxfordshireopenthought.org>

³ Oxfordshire's Local Industrial Strategy, 2019

⁴ Oxfordshire's Local Industrial Strategy Investment Plan, 2020

⁵ Led by Oxfordshire's Local Enterprise Partnership under Oxfordshire's 'Social Contract' and by the City of Oxford

in the high-density environments of the city and urban areas than in rural settings. This happens best through inclusive processes and a detailed understanding of places and communities to arrive at solutions that work for them.

- 1.12 We also recognise that positive change will evolve and take time: it is not linear and not smooth. This Vision sets our ambition high: while we are realistic in understanding this will evolve over time and must be couched against dynamic economic, political and social forces beyond our direct control, we want to challenge the norm and the lowest common denominator to provide the best possible future for our residents.

2. Purpose & Status of the Strategic Vision

- 2.1 This Strategic Vision has been prepared by the collective leadership of the Oxfordshire Growth Board. The Growth Board comprises the six councils of Oxfordshire⁶ and key strategic partners⁷. It facilitates collaborative working on economic development, strategic planning and growth, and oversees the projects agreed in the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, seeking agreement on local priorities.
- 2.2 The Strategic Vision cuts across many sectors and is designed to inform a range of strategies, plans and programmes. It represents our common and shared ambition but is not intended to replace or set the vision for any of our communities or partner organisations.
- 2.3 Not all the ambitions and outcomes will be within the sphere of influence of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. That plan will deliver parts of the Vision, but as a statutory planning document, it cannot address all aspects involved in delivering this Vision. Local plans, infrastructure plans, economic strategies and associated plans and programmes will also have important roles to play. There is also a role for the individual to help deliver our ambitions, as our own actions can support or detract from delivering the Vision.
- 2.4 We want our plans, strategies and programmes, including the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, to be ambition-led and outcome focussed. Our Strategic Vision will be transformative, centred on people's well-being, addressing climate change, as well as on the health and quality of our natural environment. The Strategic Vision is intended to facilitate a step-change in our approach to planning for and delivering sustainable development for Oxfordshire.
- 2.5 The Strategic Vision is high-level, overarching and long-term. While the outcomes and priorities are unlikely to alter over the short to medium-term, our approach needs to be resilient to change over time. Our Strategic Vision is positive and optimistic. It recognises that although there is a high level of uncertainty over a 30-year period, particularly around external factors including climate and technological change, new opportunities to balance environmental, social and economic needs to deliver sustainable development in different and better ways will emerge. This will position Oxfordshire to challenge and capitalise on the scope for innovation over the longer-term.
- 2.6 Delivery against a 30-year vision will require pragmatism and realism as the tools of our innovation and ambition develop. However, this pragmatism should be seen to support delivery against our vision and not as an excuse to under-perform.

⁶ Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council

⁷ Oxfordshire LEP, Oxfordshire Skills Board, Oxford Brookes University, University of Oxford, Homes England, DEFRA, Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Environment Agency, Network Rail and Highways England

- 2.7 Our Vision should be read by partners within and beyond Oxfordshire as a statement of intent by the partnership that has prepared it. Of particular significance is the Government's announcement in March 2020 of its backing for a spatial framework for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc. Oxfordshire will look to influence any framework for the Arc based on this Strategic Vision to help achieve our collective ambition.
- 2.8 The Strategic Vision forms part of the informal interface between national and local policy, helping to deliver national objectives such as those for 'clean growth' which aim to make the most of low carbon opportunities locally while meeting national and international commitments to tackle climate change⁸. It also supports delivery of national health priorities⁹. These identify the importance of prevention and reducing health inequalities and recognise that embedding healthy place-shaping principles within plans ensures that future developments are designed to support prevention and physical and mental well-being.
- 2.9 This Strategic Vision is part of the existing portfolio approach to plan and strategy development in Oxfordshire. Its role is to establish an overarching ambition that informs the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 amongst other relevant plans, strategies and programmes that reflect wider considerations such as health and well-being and infrastructure that impact on place-making in Oxfordshire. By providing clear strategic leadership and direction, we aim to increase confidence in the delivery of long-term spatial priorities.
- 2.10 This is the beginning of a process. We want to be open about what we are trying to achieve so we are carrying out bespoke public and stakeholder engagement providing an early opportunity for people to share and shape our thinking through public discussion and debate.

3. Oxfordshire's Challenges & Opportunities

- 3.1 The starting point for developing ambition-led plans and strategies is agreement about what they are seeking to achieve or change and what strategic challenges will need to be addressed. We have identified six key strategic challenges facing Oxfordshire:
- Health & Social Inequalities
 - Our Natural & Built Environment
 - Climate Change & Energy
 - Housing Affordability & Access to Affordable Housing
 - Economic Growth
 - Transport & Digital Connectivity.
- 3.2 Many factors impact on our lives and well-being, and there are strong and complex relationships between these challenges: from the links between the well-being of the natural and built environments and the well-being of individuals, communities and the economy; to the relationships between social and economic inequalities and health; to the linkages between connectivity and climate change, the natural environment, economic productivity, physical and mental health, and community connectedness.

⁸ The Clean Growth Strategy – Leading the way to a low carbon future, HM Government, 2018

⁹ NHS Long Term Plan, 2019

4. Strategic Influencers

- 4.1 A key role for this Strategic Vision will be to help align long-term spatial, economic and infrastructure investment priorities across Oxfordshire. There are already other plans, strategies, policies and investment programmes (in existence or emerging), as well as legislative requirements, that will influence place-shaping in Oxfordshire, including where development in Oxfordshire should take place and where investment should be focussed. Oxfordshire will be shaped by these 'strategic influencers' to varying degrees over the next 30 years. We have 'mapped' the main strategic influencers and summarised their key messages for Oxfordshire. This information is set out in [Annex 1](#).
- 4.2 The strategic influencers will continue to evolve – some will change, and other new influencers will emerge as plans and strategies for Oxfordshire are developed, national policy changes and sub-national frameworks take shape. Some parts of this evolving context of strategic influencers will be more within the control of the partnership organisations than others. But in most cases, the relationship is a two, rather than one-way, process and there is an opportunity to influence and shape the priorities, plans, strategies and investment decisions of others, particularly in the longer-term – a means of 'influencing the influencers'. Our Strategic Vision can help maximise the benefits of decisions made by others, as well as helping to mitigate the impact of decisions outside the partnership's control.

5. Defining Our Ambition

- 5.1 Enhanced well-being sits at the heart of our ambition. We want Oxfordshire to thrive so that the lives of current and future generations are improved. To achieve this will require bold, innovative, collaborative and inclusive thinking with decisions and actions that deliver real and lasting change in ways that build resilience and enhance well-being.
- 5.2 The well-being of individuals is important, and the actions we take to address our own well-being are key to cumulative and collective success. But we have also taken the opportunity to think about well-being in the round and in ways that make important connections, recognising that different dimensions of well-being are intrinsically linked. To be well physically and mentally, we need the right environmental, social and economic conditions underpinned by improved resilience. By resilience we mean de-carbonisation, tackling climate change and mitigating its impacts, securing a biodiverse natural environment, building community connectedness, better health, and improved educational attainment and skills that will support the jobs of the future. Our ambition is to **utilise the unique opportunities and assets in Oxfordshire** to shape healthy, sustainable, resilient communities in which it is possible for all residents to thrive.
- 5.3 If we are successful, these are the **outcomes** that will have been achieved in Oxfordshire by 2050 – this is what better will look like. Although the outcomes are long-term, decisions, actions and investment are required now to place Oxfordshire on the pathway to delivery by 2050.

Outcomes for Oxfordshire

- We will be the first generation to leave Oxfordshire's natural environment in a better state than that in which we found it. The natural environment will be more biodiverse, supporting social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change.
- Oxfordshire will already be carbon neutral, and will be moving towards a carbon negative future, in which the County is removing more carbon than it emits each year.
- The population will be healthier and happier, inequalities will have been reduced, young people will feel excited about their future and the overall well-being of the population will have improved.
- The economy of Oxfordshire will be successful and sustainable, making the most of all our people and with quality places where people want to live and work.
- We will have energy efficient, well-designed homes, sufficient in numbers, location, type, size, tenure and affordability to meet the needs of our residents.
- Movement around Oxfordshire will be transformed, with greater connectivity and mobility in and between places in ways that enhance environmental, social and economic well-being.
- Our communities will be rooted and flourishing, with enhanced and lasting connectedness driven by individual and community action.

6. Achieving our Ambition

6.1 Our Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire's future is driven by improvements to people's well-being. This is reflected in our definition of what 'good growth' will look like in Oxfordshire.

6.2 National planning policies require Oxfordshire to plan positively for growth in ways that achieve the three overarching objectives of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. Growth can be defined narrowly in terms of expansion in numbers of homes and jobs and economic output. But growth can also encompass progress based on improvements in quality and circumstances for individuals and society.

6.3 We think this is a better approach to achieving transformative and long-term sustainable development. This is how Oxfordshire will approach growth. It will be inclusive, focussing on progress in improving health and well-being, transitioning to a low carbon future, addressing inequalities and prioritising our natural environment, alongside greater resilience to climate and economic change.

We want current and future generations in Oxfordshire to share in: improvements in health and well-being; better access to truly affordable and high-quality housing; cleaner air and water; better jobs and access to education and training; enhanced green space; and protection from extreme weather and other impacts of climate change.

'Good growth' in Oxfordshire will:

- Be **sustainable**, focusing development in ways that enhance quality of place and at locations which enable people to live and work nearby, avoiding unnecessary travel in the first instance, but using opportunities to increase movement by sustainable and active modes of travel when needed.
- Be **healthy and inclusive**, with all development addressing inequalities and contributing positively to the overall health and well-being of Oxfordshire's communities, environment and economy.
- Be **clean and green**, placing the County at the leading edge of UK and global de-carbonisation efforts by maximising all opportunities to significantly reduce Oxfordshire's carbon footprint, and increasing natural capital across the County.
- Embrace **innovation** based on our technology sectors and knowledge-intensive activity, and develop new innovative solutions for working, learning, mobility, health care, energy, sustainable design and improved public services.
- Facilitate **efficient** use of Oxfordshire's natural resources and land, with priority given to supporting a high-productivity economy.
- Build **resilience** to change, with growth planned in a way that can accommodate changes in technology, and in the way that people live and work, changing demographics, and global impacts, particularly climate and economic changes.
- Expect **high-quality** development which will have a positive impact on communities in terms of design, energy efficiency and public realm, utilises low impact building and construction methods and materials, and is properly supported by the necessary infrastructure. Everything we build or design in Oxfordshire will be fit for purpose in the world of 2050.

- 6.4 Our definition of 'good growth' forms the basis for a set of **Guiding Principles**. Taken together, our outcomes, the definition of 'good growth' and the guiding principles, form the foundation for our overarching approach to sustainable development for Oxfordshire, and for developing our plans, strategies and programmes.

Guiding Principle 1: We will reduce the impacts of climate change

We will reduce the impacts of climate change by making climate action a top priority in our decisions. We will maximise opportunities through our plans, strategies and programmes, to build long-lasting resilience to climate change, demonstrating leadership in carbon reduction and supporting emerging transformative technologies and sectors. Our aim is that Oxfordshire will be carbon neutral by 2040, or earlier if possible, and by 2050 will be moving towards a carbon negative future.

Guiding Principle 2: We will improve our overall health and well-being and reduce inequalities

We will place overall health and physical and mental well-being at the forefront of our decision-making. We will seek to deliver a net increase in the health and well-being of our communities in all our place-shaping decisions and activities, reducing inequalities and helping to enhance the overall quality of life, health and happiness of existing and future residents. This will include providing homes to meet people's needs, jobs to support livelihoods, enhanced access to green spaces, better access to sustainable, inclusive and resilient active and low carbon transport and improvements in air quality. We have access to some of the greatest health care facilities and minds in the world in Oxfordshire and through working closely with the universities and health organisations, we will ensure we are leading on prevention and healthy place-shaping.

Guiding Principle 3: We will enhance our natural capital assets

We will enhance our natural capital assets through our plans, strategies and programmes, recognising the significant contribution natural capital makes to our quality of place, the health and well-being of our communities, and their value in building resilience to climate change, reducing flood risk, increasing biodiversity and boosting economic productivity. We will value Oxfordshire's countryside, our parks and open spaces, the River Thames and our other rivers, canals, reservoirs, lakes, ponds and wetlands. We will protect where necessary, and seek new opportunities to add to and enhance our highly valued countryside, landscape and the greenspaces and environmental assets within the urban areas that provide valued recreation space and vital green lungs. Natural capital is a key reason why many people choose to live here, many businesses choose to locate here, and tourists choose to visit here.

Guiding Principle 4: We will reflect our distinctive and diverse qualities

We will ensure that our plans, strategies and programmes reflect the unique and distinctive qualities of places within Oxfordshire, maximising opportunities to deliver the development needed, embracing innovation whilst enhancing our valuable assets and recognising the diversity of our city, towns and villages, the quality of the historic, natural and built environment and the importance of local identity. While we are the most rural county in the South East, the vast majority of our population lives in our city, towns and villages. The diversity of our settlements, the synergy between urban and rural and the benefits both bring are critical to our success.

Guiding Principle 5: We will deliver homes that meet the needs of current and future generations

New homes will add to the vitality and vibrancy of our communities whilst positively contributing to our collective well-being. We will tackle the significant challenge of housing affordability in Oxfordshire by delivering more truly affordable homes. And we will deliver homes that allow people to live healthily, happily and independently in their old age. The emphasis will be on place-shaping: new homes will be high quality and low carbon, resilient to the impacts of climate change, meet people's needs, form part of connected communities and improve the local environment.

Guiding Principle 6: We will embrace technological changes

We will ensure that our plans, strategies and programmes are sufficiently flexible to embrace the potential offered from new and evolving technology in creating better opportunities and outcomes for people, in addressing inequalities, and in its impact on mobility, communications, energy and water supply, models of construction and increasing economic productivity.

Guiding Principle 7: We will create the conditions to support an inclusive, successful and sustainable economy based on world-leading innovation

We will work collaboratively with economic partners to ensure that our spatial priorities and economic priorities are aligned to deliver good, inclusive economic growth that supports people's health and well-being. We will ensure there is improved physical and digital connectivity, and that the right type of premises, land and infrastructure are provided to facilitate a high productivity economy and to meet the needs of our priority sectors. Inequalities in employment opportunities, and in access to education, skills and training will be addressed, building a skilled population with better opportunities for all.

Guiding Principle 8: We will expect high-quality development

We will expect all new development to be of the highest quality and design standards, with particular support given to innovative building solutions and sustainable construction methods, and development that improves the overall built environment and promotes good physical and mental health.

Guiding Principle 9: We will maximise the benefits of strong collaboration

We will build stronger collaboration with our partners to secure a plan-led approach to good growth, delivering strategic development opportunities that are aligned with our shared ambition and long-term investment priorities, particularly where these provide opportunities to enhance our strategic connectivity. And, we will create the conditions where people feel involved and empowered, embedding a culture of meaningful involvement and enabling communities to inform and shape local decisions.

Guiding Principle 10: We will help people to help each other by supporting communities and individuals to achieve positive change for themselves

We will help communities to be more cohesive and better able to adapt to change, based on accessible and quality key services and infrastructure, good digital connectivity and strong community networks. Communities will be supported and empowered to do the things that matter to improve their health and well-being.

Guiding Principle 11: We will proactively and positively engage and collaborate beyond Oxfordshire

We will foster links with neighbouring areas to facilitate the delivery of good growth through mutually beneficial relationships. Key to this will be ensuring that the Oxfordshire Plan's strategic priorities are fully aligned and integrated with regional and sub-regional priorities including the emerging Oxford-Cambridge Arc.

- 6.5 All the Guiding Principles articulate how Oxfordshire will change as a place over the next 30 years and all will shape our overarching approach. Individual Guiding Principles have not been weighted. Rather, because we are seeking to drive improvements to environmental, social and economic well-being in ways which build resilience, and because most of our Guiding Principles are relevant to more than one of our goals, the Guiding Principles form an inter-related set of equally important ground rules.

7. Next Steps – Delivering the Strategic Vision

- 7.1 This Strategic Vision has been prepared by the collective leadership of the Oxfordshire Growth Board which is ultimately responsible for it. Delivering the Vision will require long-term collective commitment and investment by the partners that make up the Growth Board but also, crucially, by a wider set of strategic stakeholders and partnerships.
- 7.2 As a first step in delivering the Strategic Vision, it is proposed several work streams are taken forward:
- Engaging with partners and communities
 - Measuring what matters
 - Developing plans & strategies and investment priorities.

Engaging with Partners & Communities

- 7.3 Because we want to be open about what we are trying to achieve, one of the first actions will be to carry out bespoke public and stakeholder engagement late in 2020. This will provide partners and our communities with an early opportunity to challenge and shape the thinking we have done on our ambition, principles and shared outcomes. This engagement does not form part of any statutory process and is additional to consultations on other plans, strategies and programmes.

Measuring What Matters

- 7.4 The ambition, outcomes and priorities set out in the Strategic Vision have been explicitly designed for the long-term. They are unlikely to change over the short to medium-term and it is not anticipated that there will be a need for frequent reviews. To achieve the outcomes we have identified by 2050 will require some trends to be reversed, while for some other trends, where progress is already being made, there will need to be an increase in the pace of change. And, we will need to make the most of the vital role place-making plays in delivering positive outcomes.
- 7.5 Measuring progress, so that we know what responses are needed, will be an important part of our approach to delivering the Strategic Vision. It also provides a robust basis on which Oxfordshire's communities and stakeholders may hold the Growth Board to account. We will measure what matters, based on the strategic outcomes and the definition of Good Growth set out in the Strategic Vision. At this stage we have not attempted to define or agree targets or the indicators for monitoring delivery. Development of a robust monitoring framework, with agreed targets and indicators, will form a key part of the next phase of work on the Strategic Vision, drawing on the public and stakeholder engagement we will be carrying out.

Developing Plans, Strategies and Investment Priorities

- 7.6 Our well-being goals are ambitious. Achieving them will require all those who make future decisions about investment, and those planning for and delivering place-making across Oxfordshire, to maximise impact by working collaboratively based on shared strategic priorities and by embracing innovation to develop solutions.
- 7.7 The Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire will be delivered by a wide range of plans, strategies and programmes. The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is one important example, but there are many others. At an Oxfordshire-wide level they include the Joint Health & Well-Being Strategy, the Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS), the Local Industrial Strategy, and the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan, while sub-nationally the spatial framework for the

Oxford-Cambridge Arc and England's Economic Heartland's Transport Strategy will have important roles to play.

- 7.8 It is vital that we have an agreed set of long-term, strategic economic, infrastructure and environment investment priorities aligned to the outcomes we are committed to. This will help us to ensure that we are investing in the right infrastructure and other assets in a timely way, maximising the benefits of that investment, and avoiding unnecessary expenditure. It will also better position Oxfordshire to influence the priorities of other relevant organisations.
- 7.9 Oxfordshire's Growth Board will seek that those preparing relevant strategic-level plans, strategies and programmes consider how their policies, proposals and investment decisions deliver against this Strategic Vision, and future responses to these plans, strategies and programmes from the Growth Board will take these into account.

DRAFT

Annex 1: Strategic Influencers

A1.1 The following graphic 'maps' the main strategic influencers. Most have been, or are being, developed at an Oxfordshire-wide level, or relate to sub-national geographic areas, or are UK-wide. Many have a direct relationship with government policy or legislative requirements. We have not attempted to present an exhaustive set of influencers. Rather, we have captured those which we consider to be the most significant and most relevant at the strategic level, whilst acknowledging that some of these will have a greater impact than others.

A1.2 The key messages from the strategic influencers are summarised in the following table.

Key Messages	Strategic Influencers
There is a commitment to maximise the potential of existing urban areas to 2031 to deliver 100,000 new homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing & Growth Deal ▪ Local Plans ▪ National Planning Policy Framework (2019) ▪ Oxfordshire Local Transport & Connectivity Plan
Development should enhance the natural environment, improve access to the countryside and increase its natural capital, recognising its valuable role in supporting clean growth and improvements to health and well-being.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Green Future: 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment ▪ Local Plans ▪ Oxford-Cambridge Arc: Government Ambition ▪ Oxfordshire's Draft Nature Recovery Network ▪ Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Joint Health & Well-Being Strategy
Strategic transport investment priorities should aim to enhance Oxfordshire's strategic connectivity value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ England's Economic Heartland Transport Strategy 2050 ▪ Oxford-Cambridge Arc: Government Ambition ▪ Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Local Transport & Connectivity Plan
Long-term strategic investment decisions should be responsive to climate, demographic and technological change, building resilience in the economy, transport infrastructure and the physical and natural environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clean Growth Strategy ▪ England's Economic Heartland Transport Strategy 2050 ▪ Oxfordshire Joint Health & Well-Being Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Local Transport & Connectivity Plan ▪ UK Industrial Strategy

Key Messages	Strategic Influencers
<p>The priority is to invest in strategic infrastructure that supports economic growth, particularly in the areas that have potential to support a transition to a low carbon economy, facilitate mobility changes away from the private car and where there is potential to support key sectors (especially in the science, technology and innovation sectors).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxford-Cambridge Arc: Government Ambition ▪ England's Economic Heartland Transport Strategy 2050 ▪ Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Local Transport & Connectivity Plan ▪ UK Industrial Strategy
<p>Economic growth should be driven by innovation and higher productivity, should be 'clean', should focus on supporting clusters and corridors of economic activity and should reflect Oxfordshire's national and international role and profile. Economic growth should be more inclusive, with the benefits shared more equitably so that they reach all communities, including socially disadvantaged groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxford-Cambridge Arc: Government Ambition ▪ England's Economic Heartland Transport Strategy 2050 ▪ Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Local Transport & Connectivity Plan ▪ UK Industrial Strategy
<p>Improvements to health and well-being should be at the heart of all decisions around place-making and infrastructure investment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local Plans ▪ Oxfordshire Joint Health & Well-Being Strategy ▪ Oxfordshire Local Transport & Connectivity Plan
<p>Delivering the right type of housing, which is built to a high quality and design and is affordable, is as important as increasing overall supply.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local Plans ▪ Oxfordshire Joint Health & Well-Being Strategy



This page is intentionally left blank

To: Council
Date: 30 November 2020
Title of Report: Motions and amendments received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.17

Councillors are asked to debate and reach conclusions on the motions and amendment listed below in accordance with the Council's rules for debate.

The Constitution permits an hour for debate of these motions.

Introduction

This document sets out motions received by the Head of Law and Governance in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.17 by the deadline of 1.00pm on 18 November 2020, as amended by the proposers.

All substantive amendments sent by councillors to the Head of Law and Governance by publication of the briefing note are also included below.

Unfamiliar terms are explained in the glossary or in footnotes.

Cross party motions as agreed by the group leaders will be taken first. Motions will be then taken in turn from the Green group, the Labour group, the Liberal Democrat group, and an Independent member (if any) in that order.

- a) Improving coronavirus testing and tracing (proposed by Cllr Upton, seconded by Cllr Simmons and supported by Cllr Gant) [proposers have amended their own motion]
- b) Domestic Abuse and Covid-19 workplace and community safety (proposed by Cllr Aziz)
- c) Universal Basic Income (proposed by Cllr Garden, seconded by Cllr Gant) [proposer has amended her own motion]
- d) Supporting the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill (proposed by Cllr Simmons, seconded by Cllr Wolff) [amendment proposed by Cllr Hayes]
- e) Charitable donations from members' allowances (proposed by Cllr Henwood)
- f) Homelessness and Social Housing (proposed by Cllr Tidball)
- g) Pavement Parking (proposed by Cllr Roz Smith, seconded by Cllr Landell Mills)
- h) Defining 'Net Zero' buildings (proposed by Cllr Wolff, seconded by Cllr Simmons)
- i) Chinese New Year 2021 (proposed by Cllr Henwood)
- j) The Permitted Deportation of EU Nationals Found Rough Sleeping (proposed by Cllr Wade, seconded by Cllr Gotch)
- k) Student Fees (proposed by Cllr Garden)
- l) Fireworks (proposed by Cllr Goddard)

a) Improving coronavirus testing and tracing (proposed by Cllr Upton, seconded by Cllr Simmons and supported by Cllr Gant) [proposers have amended their own motion]

Cross party motion

Substantive motion: Original motion and agreed additional text in italics at the end

Oxford City Council expresses concern that, so far into the COVID pandemic, the country still does not have an adequate testing and tracing system, putting the people of Oxford at increased risk of suffering from coronavirus.

Test and trace has been proven in countries with a properly functioning system to be a successful strategy to manage and contain COVID-19 outbreaks.

Numerous experts have repeated that, to be effective, testing and tracing needs to be managed and carried out at a local level. However, instead of funding local bodies – which have the expertise, experience and vital local connections – this Government has squandered billions of pounds of public money on private companies (though the system has still been misleadingly named ‘NHS’ Test & Trace). This poor performance has contributed to the failure to contain COVID outbreaks and, ultimately, to an increased loss of life. This lack of integration into normal local NHS services (which would allow GPs to contact positive cases with crucial and timely medical advice) could and probably will cost lives. This lack of integration with local authorities prevents the timely offering of financial and practical support.

In late recognition that its tracing performance could not improve without local participation, NHS Test and Trace have in recent months passed to local authorities the names of people with positive tests whom they failed to reach. In short, they are getting local authorities to clean up their mess.

This Council believes the only way to fully rectify the situation is for full control to be passed to local authorities, with the necessary funding to do the job properly, with national input providing any support necessary to ensure effective co-ordination.

We believe a local scheme will:

- Improve traceability
- Enable increased and targeted testing, including asymptomatic testing
- Be better integrated into existing Council COVID support services
- Be a more cost-effective solution
- Achieve greater community engagement
- Allow for the engagement of local volunteers

Pressure is building on the Government both to use local authorities more and to cease contracting out ‘NHS’ Test and Trace’ to private companies.

This Council agrees to add its voice to those challenging the current, failed system by asking the Leader to:

- Call on our Director of Public Health and the leader of the County Council to support more local authority engagement in testing and tracing.
- Write to our MPs asking them for their support.

Council also recognises the tireless work of the Oxford Vaccine Group who, in partnership with AstraZeneca, have taken us a giant step closer to ending the pandemic.

Council particularly applauds the decision to make the vaccine available on a not-for-profit basis around the world.

b) Domestic Abuse and Covid-19 workplace and community safety (proposed by Cllr Aziz)

Labour member motion

This Council notes more than 40,000 calls and contacts were made to the National Domestic Abuse Helpline during the first three months of the Covid-19 lockdown, as reported by the BBC in July 2020.

Domestic Abuse is a common form of violence, overwhelmingly impacting women and girls globally and nationally and here in Oxford. Men and children are also impacted by domestic abuse as are non- binary and LGBTQTI+ people.

According to women's groups, at least twenty six women including children have been killed in domestic homicides since the lockdown started, the eldest victim was over 82 years old and the youngest were four and two, killed alongside their mother.

Domestic Abuse impacts people of all ages, genders, race, disabilities and class, as well as work places, places of worship, places of learning and all communities.

This Council recognises people with insecure immigration status are especially vulnerable to seeking help due to the Hostile Environment, leaving many homeless and facing additional threats with pregnant migrant women facing particular risks.

This Council recognises the Covid pandemic, lockdowns and restriction of movement, means there is a greater need for increased protection and support for victims and survivors in Oxford.

This Council resolves:

to ask the Head of Business Improvement to submit a report to Cabinet setting out proposals to

- Develop a Domestic Abuse in the Workplace Policy for Oxford City Council and encourage Oxford's workplaces to do the same. As the government instructs people to work from home over the next six months, this council encourages all workplaces to prioritise domestic abuse as a work place and community safety issue.
- Support and build links with trade unions and employers to implement work place domestic abuse policies.
- Raise awareness and provide information on how to help friends, family members and colleagues affected by domestic abuse.
- Campaign and lobby for increased sustainable and emergency funding from central government for organisations working with victims and survivors, especially services for BAME women, which are hugely underfunded.

This Council thanks Oxford's frontline domestic abuse workers, charities and organisations for their life saving work.

**c) Universal Basic Income (proposed by Cllr Garden, seconded by Cllr Gant)
[proposer has amended her own motion]**

Liberal Democrat member motion

Minor amendment to the 1st action and deleting the 3rd action: made by the proposer

This Council recognises that financial security is critical to a stable and thriving society. Yet, too many people are without enough money to meet their basic needs. Universal Basic Income (UBI) is an opportunity to revolutionise a welfare system that is no longer fit for purpose.

The Bank of England predicts that unemployment levels will rise to 7.7% by the middle of next year. Oxford will not be immune. Businesses closing, zero hour contracts and gig economy adding further uncertainty. Housing is expensive and too much income is being spent on rent or mortgages so we can expect an increase in evictions and homelessness. These trends are likely to persist and worsen as climate change intensifies requiring significant industry restructuring.

Demand for financial state support is anticipated but there's little confidence that Universal Credit will be sufficient. The system is intrusive and demeaning, and has caused much distress and hardship even before the current crisis. Many are expected to fall through the gaps.

Financial inequality impacts social cohesion and productivity. The consequent cost to the health, police, education and social services are immense.

We need a more flexible and supportive social security infrastructure to allow society to cope with the necessary changes. Poverty and inequality pose great threat to the economic recovery. But with the right support, individuals could be empowered to embark on new enterprises and retraining for new careers. Rebuilding can be successful, and support the much need transition to a low-carbon high-tech economy, but we need a strong confident innovative workforce.

UBI would provide every adult (regardless of employment status, wealth, or marital status) with a fixed, regular and unconditional income to relieve some of the financial pressures facing households. It's a monthly grant sufficient to contribute to the basic needs of food, shelter and education. It is a fair way of eliminating poverty, guaranteeing a minimum standard of living, and improving well-being. It helps the local economy by providing stability and security; allowing people to thrive rather than just survive.

There have been several trials of basic income internationally and most recently in Finland. Results have been encouraging. Spain is rolling it out as part of their COVID-19 response measures.

The Scottish government is considering the practicalities. The UK government has not come out in support as yet, but several authorities (Manchester, Sheffield, Liverpool, Hull in the north, and Brighton and London in the south) are calling for trials. This requires political will and Oxford should stand in solidarity with them.

The Council calls on the Leader:

1. to write to the Chancellor and Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy requesting that the government considers ~~Oxford~~ *for a pilot study of Universal Basic Income.*
2. to circulate the response from the government to all council members once the reply is received.

[final sentence removed: *that Oxford campaigns for a Universal Basic Income.*]

References:

- 1: "The Many Faces of Universal Basic Income — US Basic Income"
<http://www.usbig.net/pdf/manyfacesofubi.pdf>. Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.
 - 2: "Radical transformation or technological intervention? Two"
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X19301652> . Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.
 - 3: "Universal Basic Income: A Dynamic Assessment | NBER." 11 Jun. 2020,
<https://www.nber.org/papers/w27351> . Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.
 - 4: "Universal basic income in the developing world - MIT Economics." 4 Feb. 2019,
<https://economics.mit.edu/files/16000> . Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.
 - 5: "A universal basic income: the answer to poverty, insecurity" 12 Dec. 2016,
<https://www.bmj.com/content/355/bmj.i6473> . Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.
- Rutger Bregman (2017-03-14). Utopia for Realists: How We Can Build the Ideal World . Little, Brown and Company/Hachette Book Group USA.
- World Economic Forum Growth Development Index 2017
http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Forum_IncGrwth_2017.pdf
- 6: "Basic Income Scotland." <https://basicincome.scot/> . Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.

d) Supporting the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill (proposed by Cllr Simmons, seconded by Cllr Wolff) [amendment proposed by Cllr Hayes]

Green member motion

1. Council notes that, on 12 August 2020, the CEE Bill Alliance launched the campaign for the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill which was presented to Parliament on 2 September. This is a Private Members' Bill (PMB) written by scientists, lawyers and activists; it is gathering support from a broad range of campaign groups, businesses, charities and individuals. The bill has the potential to become the most significant move forward since the Climate Change Act 2008 (which also notably started as a PMB)
2. At the time of writing, 81 MPs have supported the Bill with co-sponsors from across the political spectrum including Labour, Green, Liberal Democrat.
3. In summary, the Bill will set an emergency path for the UK to follow. It will see the creation of a Citizens' Assembly that will put forward recommendations, contributing to the work of both the UK Government and UK Parliament in delivering an essential climate and ecological emergency strategy. The key objectives of the Bill are to:
 - Ensure that the UK plays its fair and proper role in limiting global temperatures to 1.5°C; and
 - Actively conserving the natural world

Full details of the CEE Bill and the background to it, can be found at:
<https://www.cebill.uk/>

4. This Council recognised the urgency of the climate and ecological emergency in January 2019 subsequently holding its own Citizen Assembly in Autumn 2019 and well as setting up its own Climate Emergency Review scrutiny group. All of these highlighted the important role that the Westminster Government in galvanising action.
5. **This Council therefore wishes to express its strong support for the CEE Bill by:**
 - a) Publicly expressing its support for the CEE Bill by joining the campaign and encouraging individual Councillors to do likewise
 - b) Asking the Leader to write to the City's MPs asking them to sign the CEE Bill Early Day Motion (no. 832) as well as offering their public support and backing for its aims and goals
 - c) Taking into account the aims and goals of the CEE Bill when setting its own strategies, policies and targets.

Amendment proposed by Cllr Hayes

Deletions struck-through, additions in italic.

Add at the start:

Council notes that while Parliament declared an environment and climate emergency in May last year, Boris Johnson's Government is not responding with the necessary urgency to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Council regrets that the Government's recently announced climate budget contains just £3bn of new funding, meaning that its level of ambition pales in comparison to Germany's €42.8bn green stimulus and France's €35bn.

In original 2nd paragraph, delete:

At the time of writing, 81 MPs have supported the Bill with co-sponsors from ~~across the political spectrum including~~ Labour, Green, Liberal Democrat MPs.

In original 3rd paragraph amend:

~~In summary, the Bill will set an emergency path for the UK to follow. The Bill is a Presentation Bill (which does not involve a debate or a vote in Parliament but is a way of drawing attention to an issue which requires a real change in the law). The nature of the Bill could~~ *it will see the creation of a Citizens' Assembly that will would* put forward recommendations, contributing to the work of both the UK Government and UK Parliament in delivering an essential climate and ecological emergency strategy.

In original 5th paragraph amend:

This Council therefore wishes to express its strong support for the ~~CEE Bill~~ urgent climate action and significant new national funding to match the scale of the climate emergency and jobs crisis we face by:

Delete (a) ~~Publicly expressing its support for the CEE Bill by joining the campaign and encouraging individual Councillors to do likewise~~

New (a) welcoming the CEE Bill for raising awareness and sharing ideas; and

(b) asking the Leader to write to the City's MPs asking them to sign the CEE Bill Early Day Motion (no. 832) as well as offering their public support and backing for its aims and goals;

new (c) publicly expressing its support for many of the aims of the CEE Bill by expressing strong support for real action right now. This means backing the Labour Party's Green Economic Recovery, a widely supported and implementable plan for Government to speedily bring forward £30bn in capital investment as part of a rapid stimulus package to support up to 400,000 new low-carbon jobs over the next 18 months;

~~Delete (c) Taking into account the aims and goals of the CEE Bill when setting its own strategies, policies and targets.~~

New (d) as the aims and goals of the CEE Bill have already been acted upon by the Council when setting its own strategies, policies and targets across many years, commit to the continuation of this approach

[and some minor corrections to text to remain within word limit]

If the amendment is agreed, the motion would read:

Council notes that while Parliament declared an environment and climate emergency in May last year, Boris Johnson's Government is not responding with the necessary urgency to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Council regrets that the Government's recently announced climate budget contains just £3bn of new funding, meaning that its level of ambition pales in comparison to Germany's €42.8bn green stimulus and France's €35bn.

Council notes that on 12 August 2020 the CEE Bill Alliance launched the campaign for the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill which was presented to Parliament on 2 September. This is a Private Members' Bill (PMB) written by scientists, lawyers and activists; gathering support from a broad range of campaign groups, businesses, charities and individuals. The bill has the potential to become the most significant move forward since the Climate Change Act 2008 (which also notably started as a PMB).

At the time of writing, 81 MPs have supported the Bill with co-sponsors from Labour, Green, Liberal Democrat MPs.

The Bill is a Presentation Bill (which does not involve a debate or a vote in Parliament but is a way of drawing attention to an issue which requires a real change in the law).

The nature of the Bill could see the creation of a Citizens' Assembly that would put forward recommendations, contributing to the work of both the UK Government and UK Parliament in delivering an essential climate and ecological emergency strategy.

This Council recognised the urgency of the climate and ecological emergency in January 2019 subsequently holding its own Citizen Assembly in Autumn 2019 and setting up its own Climate Emergency Review scrutiny group. All of these highlighted the important role of the Westminster Government in galvanising action.

This Council therefore wishes to express its strong support for *urgent climate action and significant new national funding to match the scale of the climate emergency and jobs crisis we face by:*

1. *welcoming the CEE Bill for raising awareness and sharing ideas; and*
2. *asking the Leader to write to the City's MPs asking them to sign the CEE Bill Early Day Motion (no. 832) as well as offering their public support and backing for its aims and goals;*
3. *publicly expressing its support for many of the aims of the CEE Bill by expressing strong support for real action right now. This means backing the Labour Party's Green Economic Recovery, a widely supported and implementable plan for Government to speedily bring forward £30bn in capital investment as part of a rapid stimulus package to support up to 400,000 new low-carbon jobs over the next 18 months;*
4. *as the aims and goals of the CEE Bill have already been acted upon by the Council when setting its own strategies, policies and targets across many years, commit to the continuation of this approach.*

e) Charitable donations from members' allowances (proposed by Cllr Henwood)

Independent member motion

Each councillor receives a basic allowance of £5,142. This allowance is intended to help councillors meet the costs of representing their communities. The pandemic has caused a great deal of hardship both in the public and private sector, with in need of universal credit suffering from food poverty and as we approach winter fuel poverty.

Council is agreed that in recognition of their community's increased need for support. Councillors are encouraged individually contribute 20% from their basic allowance to support the efforts of the Oxford Hub or other bodies that continue support our local communities.

Therefore, Council asks that:

- Each Oxford City Councillor agrees to commit 20% of their basic allowance to support local community groups, making personal contributions from their monthly allowance
- The portfolio holder for supporting local communities identifies and advertise to councillors groups and projects committed to alleviating hardship
- On the Council's behalf the leader writes to local MP's and the leader of County Council requesting a similar scheme be introduced both locally and nationally.

Officer's explanatory note:

This motion would not affect the Members' Allowances Scheme or the allowances paid to each councillor but if passed would encourage each councillor individually to make donations from the allowances they receive. Such donations may be to groups identified by the portfolio holder, or to other groups. It would be for Councillors to take account of their own circumstances and the needs of their community when deciding on any such donation.

f) Homelessness and Social Housing (proposed by Cllr Tidball)

Labour member motion

This Council notes with horror proposals by the Government to make sleeping rough sufficient grounds for deportation from the UK once the Brexit Transition period ends; nothing could expose the callous brutality of the current Conservative administration more clearly than this.

The Council also notes that in addition to long-standing and indisputable evidence linking both homelessness and poor quality housing with poor mental and physical health, poorer educational outcomes and worse life chances, it is becoming clearer that overcrowded homes are likely to be a significant factor in both the spread of Covid and deaths from the virus.

This Council notes that overcrowding is just one factor that has been identified as leading to the higher rates of people from BAME backgrounds becoming critically ill and dying from Covid-19 and the work Shelter and The Big Issue have done to highlight the government's own figures that black people are 'three times as likely to experience homelessness'. The pandemic is intensifying the housing crisis and widening inequalities for these groups.

The pandemic has demonstrated that we are only as safe as our most vulnerable member; those with no recourse to public funds must have access to public services including housing services with no fear of deportation.

The Council further notes that the 'everyone in' campaign at the onset of lockdown showed that it is possible to end rough sleeping with sufficient political will and funding, and also notes that over the last 70 years it is only when council housing was being built in sufficient volumes alongside market housing that enough homes for everyone were provided.

This Council believes that nobody should have to sleep rough on our streets, and that having a secure, safe and affordable home is a basic human right for all our residents.

This Council believes that the Government should use the opportunity of the long-delayed Social Housing White Paper – promised more than three years ago and still not published – to address properly both the moral imperative to end rough sleeping, and the equally important need to provide genuinely affordable and secure homes for all.

This Council therefore asks that

- the Leader of the Council writes to the Home Secretary to demand that Government abandons their proposals to make sleeping rough a ground for deportation, and instead to properly fund local authorities, health services and support providers to ensure that no one in Oxford, or anywhere else in the UK, has to sleep rough on the streets;
- all members of Council support Shelter's campaign for a mass programme of social housing building, with 200,000 new homes a year being required to address a backlog that has built up over decades;
- all members of Council endorse efforts by Oxford City Council and the other local authorities in Oxfordshire to provide enough affordable housing to meet the needs of our current and future citizens

g) Pavement Parking (proposed by Cllr Roz Smith, seconded by Cllr Landell Mills)

Liberal Democrat member motion

The Government has recently consulted on "Pavement Parking: Options for Change". Liberal Democrats in Oxfordshire submitted a joint response fully supporting the option of banning pavement parking, as has been the case in London since 1974.

This Council:

- Recognises that dangerous parking, on pavements, in cycle lanes, around schools and in many other instances, has got worse in recent years and causes significant danger and inconvenience to many people including wheelchair users, parents with small children, the less mobile, and many others.
- Recognises that enforcement is widely seen to be limited in effectiveness.
- Believes that the right of pedestrians and cyclists to safe use of their space takes priority over the right of motorists to stop or park nearer to their destination than the nearest legitimate parking space and that pavement parking is an obstacle to Active Travel.

Council therefore:

1. Fully endorses the objective of the government consultation to end pavement parking, while taking into account local circumstances and supporting Option 3 as set out in the [Government consultation paper](#).
2. Commits to supporting the use of civil enforcement powers in a way which both enforces this policy effectively and does not represent a financial cost to the council.
3. Asks the Cabinet Member for Green Transport and Zero Carbon Oxford to write to the Leaders of the County Council and neighbouring district councils informing them of this resolution and offering to investigate opportunities for effective joint working over, for example, enforcement contracts.
4. Asks the Cabinet Member for Green Transport and Zero Carbon Oxford to write to the Secretary of State and the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Transport informing them of this resolution and urging them to move to banning pavement parking as soon as possible.

References:

- 1: full consultation document "Pavement Parking: Options for Change"
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/managing-pavement-parking/pavement-parking-options-for-change>.

h) Defining 'Net Zero' buildings (proposed by Cllr Wolff, seconded by Cllr Simmons)

Green member motion

Oxford City Council is listed as a member of the UK Green Building Council (UKGBC), along with Cambridge, Bristol and 43 other local authorities.

1. For the sake of clarity in public discourse, the Council therefore accepts at a point in the future the 'framework definition' of 'net zero carbon buildings' as developed by the UKGBC, which in summary states:

Net zero carbon – construction (1.1):

When the amount of carbon emissions associated with a building's product and construction stages up to practical completion is zero or negative, through the use of offsets or the net export of on-site renewable energy.

Net zero carbon – operational energy (1.2):

When the amount of carbon emissions associated with the building's operational energy on an annual basis is zero or negative. A net zero carbon building is highly

energy efficient and powered from on-site and/or off-site renewable energy sources, with any remaining carbon balance, after all efforts have been otherwise made, offset.

Note: The framework also provides reporting templates, which (if followed) enable claims of 'net zero' construction and operation to be supported with evidence.

2. Council asks that the Transition Director brings a report to Cabinet to investigate ways to ensure that:

- 'net zero' claims made by house-builders and the Council are evidentially supportable (and in compliance with the definition as above)

3. Council asks that the Head of Regeneration & Economy brings a report to Cabinet setting out proposals (including costings) as to how the authority can ensure that:

- its own properties meet net-zero operational standards by 2030 at the latest; and
- all new build by the Council meets net zero carbon construction standards by 2030 at the latest; and
- it further explores the possibility of reflecting this in the relevant planning policies and guidance when they are reviewed in the future.

i) Chinese New Year 2021 (proposed by Cllr Henwood)

Independent member motion

Some 24,000 students study at Oxford University, including approximately 1,068 students from China of which 631 are graduates and 360 undergraduates and the remainder visiting students. Oxford also remains a popular destination for Chinese tourists that number 13,000 (from a Visit Britain report) annually. China contributes much to Oxford's economy and cultural diversity.

In recent months the Chinese government has been under pressure to contain the coronavirus. China's resolve in trying to contain this virus has received global recognition, however, at the same time Chinese and Asian citizens living in Oxford have been subject to prejudicial statements.

The Chinese New Year celebration is organised by the Chinese Community Advice Centre every year at Oxford Town Hall and in 2020 it was decided to cancel the event due to the coronavirus outbreak in China.

2021 is the year of Chinese zodiac Ox sign. Ox people born in this year should have a particular connection to Oxford. A connection Oxford City Council should also recognise and celebrate.

Council is resolved to reassure Chinese and Asian stakeholders that Oxford will not tolerate of any kind of discrimination, and to further demonstrate that Oxford is a welcoming and diverse city to all.

Therefore, Council asks that at the earliest possible convenience the Head of Communities offer to rescind charges for renting the town hall for Chinese New Year celebrations.

j) The Permitted Deportation of EU Nationals Found Rough Sleeping (proposed by Cllr Wade, seconded by Cllr Gotch)

Liberal Democrat member motion

This Council welcomes the excellent work done by its officers, by charities and by volunteers since March in ensuring that the 'everyone in' policy worked for all our Rough Sleeper residents, whether they were UK or other European nationals, and whether or not they had recourse to public funds.

While the pandemic has raged, all those who wanted to be 'in' have been found a room of their own, and now more MHCLG (Ministry of Homes, Communities and Local Government) funding will make a permanent home a reality for people who must have thought the community didn't care about them.

Meanwhile, the Home Office has introduced a draconian policy wholly at variance with the approach from MHCLG during covid, which will come into force on the day the UK finally leaves the EU: 1 January 2021.

The change to the Immigration Rules will mean that for any EU National, simply being a rough sleeper will be a ground for deportation (however unfortunate or temporary his or her sad circumstances may be).

Inevitably Rough Sleepers will become fearful of seeking help from Council officers or outreach teams, and may retreat into the clutches of the underground economy, exploitation and at worst modern slavery. Oxford will not be immune from this hidden nightmare.

This Council therefore calls on the Leader:

1. To write to the Secretary of State for the Home Office and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to ask that the changes to the Immigration Rules shall not be implemented.
2. To confirm the City Council's support for the 'everyone in' policy for people rough sleeping on our streets, whether or not they are UK or other EU Nationals or have recourse to public funds.

k) Student Fees (proposed by Cllr Garden)

Liberal Democrat member motion

Oxford should be rightly proud of its record for fighting against injustice, for its record in supporting access to university for all students, and fighting to retain Oxford's connection to Europe. The approach to Brexit has taken us through an unfortunate period in our country's history. There's little doubt that, whatever the outcome of the negotiations, Brexit reduces our right to live, work and retire in over 30 countries. It's divided the nation and driven many away, and the government, intentionally or unintentionally, continues to sever ties, even with its own citizens.

Frequently overlooked are those British citizens, who sought to live or work in the European Union as so many have done over the years. Many of their children are often enrolled in their local British school. Most retain links to the UK.

Until now British students living anywhere in the European Union were included in the home fees agreement (British students who happened to live in an EU country could return to study at a university in the UK and be treated as "Home / EU").

After the end of the transition period and as of 1st January 2021, British passport-holding students living in the European Union will no longer meet the residency qualification for UK universities. They will be treated as foreign if they've not lived in one of the UK's four nations (England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland) for three years up to when they start the course ; and liable to the international fee rate. Yet these same British students will also be seen as foreign in European Universities, where the fees are dependent on nationality, and therefore charged accordingly.

We do not believe that the vote to leave the EU intended to forsake all those British children and their families who had taken the opportunity of living and working in the European Union. The law needs to change to enable those British students living in the EU to be given the opportunity to attend a British university, the opportunity to re-establish ties with the UK, the opportunity for a Higher Education.

Council calls on the Leader to write to the Secretary of State for Education:

1. Requesting him to ensure that all British citizens who are resident in the European Union, who are planning to study at UK universities, have access to the home fees rate.
2. Asking that they should also be granted access to be able to apply for student loans.

References:

1: "Student finance - GOV.UK." <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance> . Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.

2: "Living Abroad And Uk Citizen Fees - Complete University Guide."

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/ask/answer/3878/living-abroad-and-uk-citizen-fees> .

Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.

3: "Many British expats are shocked to find that they may be" 8 Feb. 2016,

<https://ukstudyoptions.com/many-british-expats-are-shocked-to-find-that-they-may-be-expected-to-pay-overseas-fees-when-their-son-or-daughter-is-applying-to-university-in-the-uk/> . Accessed 18 Nov. 2020.

I) Fireworks (proposed by Cllr Goddard)

Liberal Democrat member motion

This Council notes:

- that in the absence of public firework displays, private use of fireworks seems anecdotally to have been more widespread this Bonfire Night than in most years;
- that both public and private use of fireworks can have harmful effects on the welfare of vulnerable people and domestic and wild animals;
- that it is necessary to strike a balance between the enjoyment fireworks can provide and the harm they can cause.

This Council resolves that in time for next Bonfire Night, November 5th 2021, it will:

1. require all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people;
2. actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people — including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks;
3. write to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy urging him to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays;
4. encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock 'quieter' fireworks for public display.

This page is intentionally left blank