

Supplement for

Cabinet

On **Wednesday 9 April 2025** At **6.00 pm**

Agenda Item 7: Scrutiny Reports

Contents

7. **Scrutiny Reports**

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The Scrutiny Committee met on 26 March 2025 and the Climate and Environment Panel met on 27 March 2025. The report and recommendations from these meetings are published as supplement.

- Anti-Social Behaviour Policy Update
- Urgent Key Decisions End-of-Year Update
- Energy Efficiency Update
- Carbon Offsetting (Local Carbon Oxford) Update

The agenda, reports and any additional supplements can be found together with this supplement on the [committee meeting webpage](#).

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To: Cabinet
Date: 9 April 2025
Report of: Scrutiny Committee
Title of Report: Recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee
26 March 2025

Introduction

1. The Scrutiny Committee met on 26 March 2025 and reviewed the following items:
 - Anti-Social Behaviour Policy Update
 - Urgent Key Decisions End-of-Year Update
2. Following the meeting, Cabinet Members, in consultation with the relevant Officers were asked to either, agree, agree in-part, or disagree with the recommendations.
3. The tables below detail the Committee's recommendations for each report which Cabinet has considered ahead of their meeting on 9 April 2025. If no recommendations were suggested for an item, no table has been produced.
4. Cabinet has provided a commentary on each recommendation to inform the Scrutiny Committee of the rationale behind its decision.
5. The draft minutes of the meeting are available [here](#).
6. The Scrutiny Committee would like to thank Cabinet Member Cllr Lubna Arshad (A Safer Oxford), Richard Adams (Community Safety Service Manager) and Jonathan Malton (Committee and Members Services Manager) for their participation in presenting reports and responding to questions from its members.

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Table 1 – Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee – Anti-Social Behaviour Update

The table below sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee on 26 March 2025 concerning the Anti-Social Behaviour Update. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) That the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy incorporate a clause referencing the principles of 'Safe by Design' in public spaces, and ensure its application in the planning of new public spaces and redesign of existing locations identified as hotpots for anti-social behaviour.	Yes	The policy can include a principle of designing out the opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour, and working retrospectively in locations that are of greater concern. The Oxford Local Plan, paragraph 6.11 sets out the Secure By Design expectations for new developments.
2) That Council explore approaches to pavement parking as a form of ASB, for example identifying any multi-agency approaches to combat such problems trialled in designated areas by other local authorities, and assess the feasibility of implementing similar measures locally, noting the potential need for cross-agency collaboration in enforcement and policy development.	Partially	The Council are not the lead agency on highways enforcement issues but will work with the County Council, Thames Valley Police and other partners at their behest where the issue of pavement parking persists. Pavement parking will not fall under the definition of ASB in the new policy.

Table 2 – Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee – Urgent Key Decisions End-of-Year Update

The table below sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee on 26 March 2025 concerning the Urgent Key Decisions End-of-Year Update. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
5 1) That an end-of-year summary update on Urgent Key Decisions is provided to the Scrutiny Committee, at the discretion of the Scrutiny Chair, in the next municipal year, enabling the Committee to assess whether the mitigations implemented have effectively addressed the high frequency of these decisions.		The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee is always consulted on all urgent key decisions and will be told why it is deemed that the decision can't be taken with either 28-day notice and/or a 2-day call-in period. We will liaise with the Chair next year to confirm if a report would be required, subject to a reduction of urgent key decisions taken. As per the Constitution, all urgent key decisions are reported to full Council at the meeting after the decision has been taken.

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To: Cabinet
Date: 9 April 2025
Report of: Climate and Environment Panel
Title of Report: Recommendations from the Climate and Environment Panel 27 March 2025

Introduction

1. The Climate and Environment Panel met on 27 March 2025 and reviewed the following items:
 - Energy Efficiency Update
 - Carbon Offsetting (Local Carbon Oxford) Update
 - Zero Carbon Industrial Decarbonisation Update
2. Following the meeting, Cabinet Members, in consultation with the relevant Officers were asked to either, agree, agree in-part, or disagree with the recommendations.
3. The tables below detail the Panel's recommendations for each report which Cabinet has considered ahead of their meeting on 9 April 2025. If no recommendations were suggested for an item, no table has been produced.
4. Cabinet has provided a commentary on each recommendation to inform the Scrutiny Committee of the rationale behind its decision.
5. The draft minutes of the meeting are available [here](#).
6. The Scrutiny Committee would like to thank Councillor Anna Railton, Cabinet Member for Zero Carbon Oxford, Vikki Robins, Environmental Sustainability Manager, Emily Green, Energy Efficiency Officer, Ruth Harris, Net Zero Transition Officer, Lucy Fairchild, Zero Carbon Community Engagement Officer and Samantha Morgan-Price, Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership Manager for their participation in presenting reports and responding to questions from its Members.

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Table 1 – Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Climate and Environment Panel – Energy Efficiency Update

The table below sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Climate and Environment Panel on 27 March 2025 concerning the Energy Efficiency Update. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1) A brief assessment of the heat mapping exercise as part of the District Heating Network across the city of Oxford, and to confirm when the data would be available.	Yes	Heat Mapping is a key part of both the District Heat Network (DHN and Local Energy Area Planning (LAEP) projects. The mapping will assess current and future heat demand and supply, including where a district heat network could provide the lowest cost solution for decarbonised heat. This exercise should be completed during 2025.
∞ 2) Explore the properties in Oxford that have already installed air source heat pumps (i.e commercial properties, private landlords, private properties).	In Part	<u>Domestic Properties</u> The Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) data shows Oxford currently has 309 ASHPs and EPC data shows 346 properties with an ASHP. Further work would need to be done to determine tenure type. <u>Commercial properties</u> Data on commercial property ASHPS installs is not currently collected. It may be possible to gain indicative figures from commercial EPCs. Local Energy Area Planning (LAEP) will provide an audit of the baseline data for commercial EPCs. It is likely that numbers of commercial ASHPs could be possible via this process and data can be reported back to the panel once completed.

Table 2 – Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Climate and Environment Panel – Carbon Offsetting (Local Carbon Oxford) Update

The table below sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Climate and Environment Panel on 27 March 2025 concerning the Carbon Offsetting (Local Carbon Oxford) Update. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) Update for Local Carbon Oxford project to be provided for the Panel at a later date.	Yes	An update can be provided to the panel when the Innovate UK grant funding support for the project ends in June 2025.

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