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# Agenda

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## Special City Executive Board

To consider the Scrutiny Committee's call-in of the decision to dispose of the Temple Cowley Swimming Pool site to Catalyst Housing

Date: **Tuesday 23 December 2014**

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Time: **3.00 pm**

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Place: **St Aldate's Room, Town Hall**

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For any further information please contact:

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# City Executive Board

## Membership

<b>Chair</b>	Councillor Bob Price	Corporate Strategy, Economic Development and Planning
	Councillor Ed Turner	Finance, Asset Management and Public Health
	Councillor Dee Sinclair	Crime and Community Response
	Councillor Christine Simm	Culture and Communities
	Councillor Susan Brown	Customer Services and Social Inclusion
	Councillor Pat Kennedy	Educational Attainment and Youth Ambition
	Councillor Mark Lygo	Sports, Events and Parks
	Councillor Mike Rowley	Leisure Contract and Community Partnership Grants
	Councillor Scott Seamons	Housing and Estate Regeneration
	Councillor John Tanner	Cleaner, Greener Oxford, Climate Change and Transport

The quorum for this meeting is 3, substitutes are not allowed.

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# AGENDA

## PART ONE PUBLIC BUSINESS

Pages

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

### 3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

When the chair agrees, the public can ask questions about any item for decision at the meeting for up to 15 minutes. Questions must have been given to the Head of Law and Governance by 9.30am one clear working day before the meeting (email [executiveboard@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:executiveboard@oxford.gov.uk) or telephone the person named as staff contact). No supplementary questions or questioning will be permitted. Questions by the public will be taken as read and, when the Chair agrees, be responded to at the meeting.

### 4 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following scrutiny committee reports have been, or will be, submitted to this meeting:-

### 5 COUNCILLOR ADDRESSES ON ANY ITEM FOR DECISION ON THE BOARD'S AGENDA

When the chair agrees, Councillors can address the Board about any item for decision at the meeting for up to 3 minutes. Addresses must have been given to the Head of Law and Governance by 9.30am, one clear working day before the meeting (email [executiveboard@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:executiveboard@oxford.gov.uk) or telephone the person named as staff contact). The Board Member who has political responsibility for the item for decision may respond or the Board will have regard to the points raised in reaching its decision.

### 6 SALE OF TEMPLE COWLEY SWIMMING POOL

**Lead Member:** Councillor Turner, Executive Board Member for Finance, Asset Management and Public Health

On 10 December 2014 the Executive Director of City Regeneration and Housing submitted a report to the City Executive Board which detailed the commercial bids received to purchase the Temple Cowley Pools site.

The report identified the commercial bid which best meets the Council's policy objectives and offers the best value for money; and reported on the

proposal received from the Save Temple Cowley Pool Community Interest Group (CIC). Key aspects of this bid were compared with the best commercial bid so that members could make an informed decision on whether to dispose of the site or work with the CIC to develop their proposal.

The City Executive Board resolved:

1. To note and accept the recommendation of the Regeneration and Major Projects Service Manager that in regard to the “commercial” bids received for the Temple Cowley pool site (“the Site”) for use of the site for housing purposes, the preferred bidder would be Catalyst Housing.
2. To note the terms of the “community” proposal received from the Save the Temple Cowley Pools CIC (“the CIC”), taking full note of its proposed retention of a pool/leisure facility at the Site.
3. To accept the “commercial” bid from Catalyst Housing set out in Recommendation 1.
4. To delegate authority to the Executive Director of City Regeneration and Housing to enter into an appropriate contract with Catalyst Housing for the disposal of the Site in accordance with the terms of its bid, or any reasonable variation thereof approved by the Executive Director of City Regeneration and Housing.

Cllr Simmons, Chair of the Scrutiny Committee, called-in the report for the Scrutiny Committee to consider a number of aspects in more detail.

Should the Scrutiny Committee decide to ask for reconsideration of the decision, Cllr Simmons (or a representative of the Scrutiny Committee) will present the views of the Scrutiny Committee’s to the City Executive Board. The Board will then decide whether to confirm the resolutions they made on 10 December or to make new ones.

## 7 MINUTES

1 - 4

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2014

**Recommendation:** The City Executive Board NOTES the minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2014 as a true and accurate record.

## **DECLARING INTERESTS**

### **General duty**

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

### **What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?**

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your\* employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licences for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

### **Declaring an interest**

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

### **Members' Code of Conduct and public perception**

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member "must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself" and that "you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned". What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the Code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

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



## CITY EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Wednesday 19 November 2014**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** Councillors Price (Chair), Turner (Deputy Leader), Sinclair, Brown, Kennedy, Lygo, Rowley, Seamons, and Tanner.

**OTHER COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** Councillors Fooks and Hayes, (Vice Chair of the Scrutiny Committee).

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Peter Sloman (Chief Executive), David Edwards (Executive Director City Regeneration and Housing), Jackie Yates (Executive Director Organisational Development and Corporate Services), Nigel Kennedy (Head of Finance), Lindsay Cane (Law and Governance), Michael Crofton-Briggs (Head of City Development) and Sarah Claridge (Committee Services Officer)

### **76. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Simm.  
Apologies for lateness were given by Councillor Brown.

### **77. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

### **78. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

No public questions were received.

### **79. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Board noted the Scrutiny Committee's report on Westgate Community Infrastructure Levy (minute 81).

The Scrutiny Committee's recommendation and comments on the Statement of Community Involvement 2014 Review (minute 82) were considered during the Board's discussion of the item.

### **80. COUNCILLOR ADDRESSES ON ANY ITEM FOR DECISION ON THE BOARD'S AGENDA**

Councillor Fooks addressed the Board on Westgate Community Infrastructure Levy (minute 81) during the discussion of the item.

### **81. WESTGATE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY**

Councillor Brown arrived at the meeting.

The Head of City Development has submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) which considered a proposed financial contribution to the Westgate Alliance towards the public realm works associated with the Westgate development.

Cllr Price, Board member for Corporate Strategy, Economic Development and Planning presented the report.

The Executive Director of City Regeneration explained that there was a draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) list attached to the report. The work at Westgate does not compromise consideration of the wider CIL programme.

Councillor Tanner asked whether the work proposed to Pennyfarthing Place by St Ebbes Church could be extended to include Pembroke Street and can it be added to the list of work or are there reasons for it being excluded?

The Head of City Development said it has been excluded from this contribution because the developer would not be undertaking work in the wider vicinity. However, he reported he has been speaking with the County Council about wider schemes in the area.

Councillor Fooks asked how the figures were reached. The Head of City Development explained that they are the estimated sums for the work.

The City Executive Board resolved to:

1. Recommend to Council to apply Community Infrastructure Levy receipts to the value of £1,134,000 in two phases of £567,000 each (50% in Q1 2016/17 and 50% in Q1 2017/18) in order to fund public realm works that fall outside the site covered by the planning application for the Westgate redevelopment scheme .

2. Delegate to the Executive Director of Regeneration and Housing responsibility to complete an appropriate legal agreement in conjunction with the Council's Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer.

## **82. STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT 2014 REVIEW**

The Head of City Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) which detailed the draft updated Statement of Community Involvement to publish for public consultation.

The Head of City Development presented the report. He explained that although it was no longer a legal requirement it was still useful to do. Consultation will run through December- January 2015.

Cllr Price asked that a Members' consultation session be run at the end of January to review the public submissions.

Cllr Hayes, Vice Chair of the Scrutiny Committee presented the Scrutiny Committee's report. Cllr Price accepted the Scrutiny recommendation to include in the statement of community involvement how the public can access paper versions of planning documents.

The City Executive Board resolved to:

1. Agree to publish the draft Statement of Community Involvement for public consultation.
2. Authorise the Head of City Development, in consultation with the Executive Board Member, to make any necessary editorial corrections to the document and to agree the designed version before publication for consultation.

### **83. TREASURY MANAGEMENT FIRST HALF YEAR REPORT 2014/15**

The Head of Finance has submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) which detailed the performance of the treasury management function for the six months to 30th September 2014.

Cllr Turner, Board member for Finance, Asset Management and Public Health presented the report. He explained that

- Invested money with commercial property funds was getting a 6% return.
- The amount of money in Iceland banks was dwindling.
- We were now following Council's ethical investment statement.
- Most debt was related to the HRA and the purchase of the Council's housing stock from the government.

Cllr Tanner noted that all the maturity dates were short term. He asked whether the Council had any longer term deposits. The Head of Finance explained that interest rates are currently forecast to increase in the second quarter of 2015 and it made sense to invest short term to guard against the risk of being caught by interest rate rises. The Council does have £10 million in long term indirect property funds although the interest rates are significantly higher than traditional investments.

Cllr Price noted that the Low Carbon Hub investment proposal had offered quite a high interest rate. He asked whether the Council had looked into any other forms of energy schemes. The Head of Finance explained that these form of investments are classified as 'non-specified investments' as the organisations being invested with have no official credit rating and as such they tend to be more risky but offered a higher return. Under the Council's current Treasury Strategy such investments are limited to 25% of the total portfolio and the Council already held £10 million in indirect property fund non-specified investments.

The Head of Finance explained that these forms of investment fall into a non-specified investment category and these tend to be more risky but offered a higher return. The Chief Executive stated that investing in bonds was a growing area for local authorities. Green energy investments provided a modest rate of return with risks spread over a number of smaller schemes. Possibly the Council should consider using treasury management funds to support some of the strategic objectives, for example to encourage people to purchase property in Oxford. The Executive Director of Organisational Development and Corporate Services explained that there were set limits on different types of investment so that the Council always has the cash flow to deal with its daily business. While it is possible to look at alternatives the Council needed to be mindful not to put too much into risky investments

Consideration of investing in other vehicles such as Green energy bonds would be considered when the Treasury Management Strategy was reviewed in a few months time.

The City Executive Board resolved to:

- Note the performance of the treasury management function for 2014/15.
- Thank officers for the work done

#### **84. MINUTES**

The Board resolved to APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2014 as a true and accurate record.

Councillor Brown asked if there was an update on the development at Frideswide Square. The Head of City Development will update the members outside the meeting.

**The meeting started at 5.00 pm and ended at 5.25 pm**