

Agenda

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Scrutiny Committee

Date: **Thursday 6 October 2016**

Time: **6.00 pm**

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

For any further information please contact:

Sarah Claridge, Committee Services Officer

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As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record the meeting please let the Contact Officer know how you wish to do this before the start of the meeting.

Scrutiny Committee

Membership

Chair	Councillor Andrew Gant
	Councillor Tom Hayes
	Councillor Jamila Begum Azad
	Councillor Nigel Chapman
	Councillor Van Coulter
	Councillor James Fry
	Councillor David Henwood
	Councillor Jennifer Pegg
	Councillor Craig Simmons
	Councillor Sian Taylor
	Councillor Marie Tidball
	Councillor Ruth Wilkinson

The quorum for this Committee is four, substitutes are permitted.

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AGENDA

Pages

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 WORK PLAN AND FORWARD PLAN

Contact Officer: Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer Tel: 01865 252230
abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

9 - 32

Background Information
The Scrutiny Committee operates within a work plan which has been set for the 2016/17 council year. This plan will be reviewed at every meeting so that it can be adjusted to reflect the wishes of the Committee and take account of any changes to the latest Forward Plan (which outlines decisions to be taken by the City Executive Board or Council).
Why is it on the agenda?
The Committee is asked to review and note its work plan for the 2016/17 council year. The Committee is also asked to select which Forward Plan items they wish to pre-scrutinise based on the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the issue controversial / of significant public interest?• Is it an area of high expenditure?• Is it an essential service / corporate priority?• Can Scrutiny influence and add value? A maximum of three items for pre-scrutiny will normally apply.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer

4 REPORT BACK ON RECOMMENDATIONS

Contact Officer: Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer Tel: 01865 252230
abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

33 - 34

Background Information
The Committee makes a number of recommendations to officers and decision makers, who are obliged to respond in writing.
Why is it on the agenda?
This item allows Committee to see the results of recent recommendations to the City Executive Board. Since the last meeting CEB has responded to scrutiny recommendations on the following items:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OxLEP Strategic Economic Plan, • Credit Union Services, • Equality and Diversity (recommendation 15).
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer.

5 DEVOLUTION PLANS FOR OXFORDSHIRE

35 - 40

Contact Officer: Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer Tel: 01865 252230
 abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information
The Scrutiny Committee has appointed a Review Group to examine devolution proposals for Oxfordshire. The Committee considered a proposed review scope in July 2016 and asked the Review Group to consider both consultant reports before proposing a tighter scope. The Review Group met on 19 September 2016 and questioned the Leaders and Chief Executives of the City and County Councils.
Why is it on the agenda?
For the Scrutiny Committee to approve the revised scope of the Devolution Review Group. Also included is a list of evaluation criteria used in conducting the unitary studies.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Marie Tidball, Chair of the Devolution Review Group.

6 RECOMMENDATION MONITORING - INEQUALITY PANEL

41 - 70

Contact Officer: Val Johnson, Policy Team Leader Tel: 01865 252209
 vjohnson@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information
The Inequality Panel was chaired by Councillor Van Coulter and reported to the City Executive Board in July 2015. CEB responded to the recommendations in October 2015 and the Scrutiny Committee requested a progress update report after 12 months.
Why is it on the agenda?
For the Scrutiny Committee to monitor progress and the implementation of agreed recommendations.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Bob Price, Leader and Board Member for Corporate Strategy and Economic Development, • Val Johnson, Policy and Partnerships Team Leader.

7 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

71 - 116

Contact Officer: Tim Sadler, Executive Director Community Services Tel: 01865 252101 tsadler@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information
The Council commissioned independent research from Oxford Brookes University on the impacts of the Council's educational attainment investments in the poorest performing Oxford schools. The Scrutiny Committee has previously considered the Council's educational attainment programme and this item was included in the Scrutiny work plan for 2015/16.
Why is it on the agenda?
For the Scrutiny Committee to consider the report on educational attainment. The Committee is asked to note the report and to provide any feedback on the Council's educational attainment investments.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Pat Kennedy, Board Member for Young People, Schools and Skills;• Tim Sadler, Executive Director for Community Services;• Deb McGregor, Oxford Brookes University.

8 REVIEW OF TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY

117 - 134

Contact Officer: Stuart Fitzsimmons, Parks and Open Spaces Manager sfitzsimmons@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information
The Scrutiny Committee has asked for this item to be included on the agenda for pre-decision scrutiny. The Committee previously provided feedback on the Tree Management Policy in April 2016.
Why is it on the agenda?
The City Executive Board will be asked to approve the updated Tree Management Policy at its meeting on 13 October 2016. This is an opportunity for the Scrutiny Committee to make recommendations to the City Executive Board.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Linda Smith, Board Member for Leisure, Parks & Sport,• Stuart Fitzsimmons, Parks and Open Spaces Manager.

9 FINANCE PANEL REPORT ON THE IMPACTS OF BREXIT

135 - 138

Contact Officer: Andrew Brown, Scrutiny Officer Tel: 01865 252230
abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

Background Information
The Finance Panel requested a report from the Head of Financial Services on the expected impacts on the Council of Brexit. The Panel considered this item in September.
Why is it on the agenda?
For the Scrutiny Committee to review and comment on the report of the Finance Panel before it is submitted to the City Executive Board on 13 October 2016.
Who has been invited to comment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Craig Simmons, Chair of the Finance Panel.

10 MINUTES

139 - 146

Minutes from 5 September 2016

Recommendation: That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2016 be APPROVED as a true and accurate record.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Meetings are scheduled as followed:

Scrutiny Committee

7 November 2016
6 December 2016
30 January 2017
28 February 2017
27 March 2017

All meetings start at 6.00 pm.

Standing Panels

Housing Standing Panel – 9 November 2016, 5.00pm
Finance Standing Panel – 8 December 2016, 5.30pm

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.

a)

b)

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