

Agenda

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Council

Date: **Monday 25 November 2019**

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: **Council Chamber - Oxford Town Hall**

For any further information please contact:

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This meeting will also be available via a webcast. The webcast will be available to view on the City Council's website after the meeting.

Council

Membership

Lord Mayor **Councillor Craig Simmons**

Deputy Lord Mayor **Councillor Mohammed Altaf-Khan**

Sheriff **Councillor Stephen Goddard**

Members	Councillor Lubna Arshad	Councillor Dan Iley-Williamson
	Councillor Jamila Begum Azad	Councillor Pat Kennedy
	Councillor Shaista Aziz	Councillor Tom Landell Mills
	Councillor Nadine Bely-Summers	Councillor Ben Lloyd-Shogbesan
	Councillor Susan Brown	Councillor Mark Lygo
	Councillor Nigel Chapman	Councillor Sajjad Malik
	Councillor Mary Clarkson	Councillor Dr Joe McManners
	Councillor Colin Cook	Councillor Chewe Munkonge
	Councillor Tiago Corais	Councillor Susanna Pressel
	Councillor Steven Curran	Councillor Mike Rowley
	Councillor Dr Hosnieh Djafari-Marbini	Councillor Martyn Rush
	Councillor Alex Donnelly	Councillor Christine Simm
	Councillor James Fry	Councillor Linda Smith
	Councillor Andrew Gant	Councillor Roz Smith
	Councillor Stef Garden	Councillor John Tanner
	Councillor Michael Gotch	Councillor Richard Tarver
	Councillor Mick Haines	Councillor Sian Taylor
	Councillor Paul Harris	Councillor Marie Tidball
	Councillor Tom Hayes	Councillor Ed Turner
	Councillor David Henwood	Councillor Louise Upton
Councillor Alex Hollingsworth	Councillor Elizabeth Wade	
Councillor Richard Howlett	Councillor Dick Wolff	
Councillor Rae Humberstone		

The quorum for this meeting is 12 members

Copies of this agenda

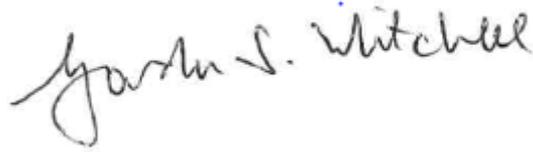
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Summons

A meeting of the City Council will be held in the Council Chamber - Oxford Town Hall, on Monday 25 November 2019 at 5.00 pm to transact the business set out below.



Proper Officer

AGENDA

	Pages
PART 1 - PUBLIC BUSINESS	
1 Apologies for absence	
2 Declarations of interest	
3 Minutes	19 - 28
Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Council held on 7 October 2019. Council is asked to approve the minutes as a correct record.	
4 Appointment to Committees	
Council is asked to note that the Leader has appointed Councillor John Tanner as the Substitute Member on the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel (Joint Committee). The Head of Law and Governance has not been notified of any resignations from committees or changes of membership requested by group leaders. Any proposed changes will be circulated with the briefing note.	
5 Announcements	
Announcements by: 1. The Lord Mayor 2. The Sheriff 3. 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

Public addresses and questions to the Leader or other Cabinet member received in accordance with Council Procedure Rules and relating to matters for decision in Part 1 of this agenda.

The request to speak accompanied by the full text of the address or question must be received by the Head of Law and Governance by 5.00 pm on Tuesday 19 November 2019.

The briefing note will contain the text of addresses and questions submitted by the deadline, and written responses where available.

A total of 45 minutes is available for both public speaking items. Responses are included in this time. Up to five minutes is available for each public address and up to three minutes for each question.

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

No reports or recommendations from Cabinet

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

7 Appointment of independent persons 2019

29 - 32

The Monitoring Officer has submitted a report asking Council to approve the appointment of the council's independent persons for a term of five years to 30 November 2024 following a formal recruitment exercise.

Councillor Aziz, the Chair of the Standards Committee, will present the report.

Recommendation: Council is recommended to:

1. **approve** the appointment of Chris Ballinger, Andrew Mills-Hicks, Jill McCleery and Osama Raja as the council's independent persons for a term of five years to 30 November 2024; and
2. **delegate authority** to the Monitoring Officer to make the necessary arrangements.

OFFICER REPORTS

8 Urgent decision report on Housing Infrastructure Funding (HIF) - Osney Mead Innovation Quarter.

33 - 40

Council is asked to note the urgent officer decision taken by the Executive Director (Development) on 31 October 2019 to enter a

contract with Homes England to secure £6.088m for infrastructure. These funds will enable new development at Osney Mead Innovation Quarter under the Housing Infrastructure Fund Marginal Viability Scheme

Council is also asked to amend the capital budget to include these funds of £6.088m for this project in the Council's capital programme.

Councillor Brown, the Leader of the Council, will present the report

Recommendations: that Council resolves to:

1. **note** the urgent officer decision taken by the Executive Director (Development) on 31 October 2019 to enter a contract with Homes England to secure £6.088m for infrastructure.
2. **approve the inclusion of a budget of £6.088m in the Council's capital programme for Osney Mead Infrastructure enabling works.**

9 Council and Committee meetings programme May 2020 - May 2022

41 - 50

The Head of Law and Governance has submitted a report which sets out a programme of Council, committee and other meetings for the 2020/21 and 2021/2022 council years (11 May 2020 to 31 May 2022 inclusive)

Councillor Brown, the Leader of the Council, will present the report

Recommendations: Council is recommended to:

1. **approve** the programme of Council, committee and other meetings attached at Appendix 1 for the council year 2020/21;
2. **approve** the programme of Council, committee and other meetings attached at Appendix 2 for the council year 2021/22;
3. **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 a decision by Council to change the committee structure or remit which impacts on the programme of meetings; and
4. **delegate authority** to the Head of Law and Governance to set dates for additional training and briefing sessions for members, and, in consultation with the Head of Business Improvement, to set meetings of the Appointments Committee and Investigations and Disciplinary Committee (should they be required).

QUESTIONS

10 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:

10a	Minutes of meeting Thursday 3 October 2019 of Cabinet	51 - 54
10b	Minutes of meeting Wednesday 9 October 2019 of Cabinet	55 - 60
10c	Minutes of meeting Wednesday 13 November 2019 of Cabinet	61 - 66

11 Questions on Notice from Members of Council

Questions on notice from councillors received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.11(b).

Questions on notice may be asked of the Lord Mayor, a Member of the Cabinet or a Chair of a Committee. One supplementary question may be asked at the meeting.

The full text of questions must have been received by the Head of Law and Governance by no later than 1.00pm on 13 November 2019

Outside Organisation report - Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Improvement Board

All questions submitted by the deadline and written responses where available are in the full briefing note published as a supplement.

PART 2 - PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND SCRUTINY

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

Public addresses and questions to the Leader or other Cabinet member received in accordance with Council Procedure Rules and not related to matters for decision in Part 1 of this agenda.

The request to speak accompanied by the full text of the address or question must be received by the Head of Law and Governance by 5.00 pm on 19 November 2019.

The briefing note will contain the text of addresses and questions submitted by the deadline, and written responses where available.

A total of 45 minutes is available for both public speaking items. Responses are included in this time. Up to five minutes is available for each public address and up to three minutes for each question.

13 Outside organisation/Committee Chair reports and questions

- a) Each ordinary meeting of Council shall normally receive a written report concerning the work of one of the partnerships on which the Council is represented.
- b) Members who are Council representatives on external bodies or Chairs of Council Committees may give notice to the Head of Law and Governance by 1.00 pm on Thursday 21 November that they will present a written or oral report on a matter before, or decision taken by, that body or committee and how it may influence future events. Written reports will be circulated with the briefing note.

13a Outside Organisation report - Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Improvement Board

Submitted to this meeting on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Healthy Oxford

Council is invited to note and comment on the report.

67 - 84

14 Scrutiny Committee update report

The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee has submitted a report which updates Council on the activities of scrutiny since the last meeting of Council.

Council is invited to comment on and note the report.

85 - 106

PART 3 - MOTIONS REPRESENTING THE CITY

15 Motions on notice

This item has a time limit of 60 minutes.

Motions received by the Head of Law and Governance in accordance with Council Procedure Rules by the deadline of 1.00pm on Wednesday 13 November 2019 are listed below.

Motions will be taken in turn from the, Green, Labour, Liberal Democrat groups in that order.

Substantive amendments to these motions must be sent by councillors to the Head of Law and Governance by no later than 10.00am on Friday 22 November 2019 so that they may be circulated with the briefing note. 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) Setting an Oxford Living Rent (proposed by Councillor Wolff)
- b) Mental Health (proposed by Councillor Bely-Summers, seconded by Councillor Upton)
- c) Kashmir (proposed by Councillor Altaf-Khan)
- d) Long Service Awards (proposed by Councillor Simmons, seconded by Councillor Wolff)
- e) International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (proposed by Councillor Tanner)
- f) Greening the city centre (proposed by Councillor Gant)
- g) Tourism Management (proposed by Councillor Wade)

15a Setting an Oxford Living Rent

Proposed by Councillor Wolff

Green member motion

This Council notes

- 1) the high cost of rent within the private rented sector within the City;
- 2) that it has limited influence on the private rented sector rental values;
- 3) that it has a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act to do what it can to prevent homelessness including helping those who are not in priority need from losing their home;
- 4) the success of the Oxford Living Wage campaign in raising awareness of low pay and encouraging more employers to pay a living wage;
- 5) that the Mayor of London has set and published benchmark London Living Rent levels for every neighbourhood in the capital. These are based on a third of average local household incomes and adjusted for the number of bedrooms in each home.

Council therefore agrees to:

- 1) ask Cabinet to commission a report to explore the idea of setting and publishing an annual 'Oxford Living Rent' for the private rented sector with a view to exerting influence on the rental market within Oxford.**
- 2) write to the incoming Government after 12th December asking for the power to establish and enforce local rent controls**

The Oxford Living Rent should be calculated using a methodology that utilises existing, annually published data using

research from organisations such as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation who have studied this in some detail.

This motion does not prescribe the method to be used but notes that various options exist and should be evaluated for their relevance to Oxford and their alignment with the values of this Council.

15b Mental Health

Proposed by Councillor Bely-Summers, seconded by Councillor Upton

Labour member motion

The 2012 Health and Social Care Act opened the NHS to private companies, allowing them to bid for big contracts and sue the NHS if they didn't get it.

The NHS is being dismantled piece by piece. This is compounded by the longest spell of austerity cuts in living memory and a lower investment in health compared to other EU countries.

Oxfordshire CCG is a serial under-funder of Mental Health services. It persistently spends well below the national average figure of 13.9%. For the people in Oxford it means rationing and difficulty accessing services for those who need it at a time when public awareness of mental illness is increasing and the rate of Oxfordshire pupils suffering from mental health problems tops national average (see Oxford Mail 8/10/19).

Unite which represents 100,000 members in the Health service have pointed out that psychological therapies have lost about 90% of their most senior clinicians since 2007 and that the trend needs to be reversed to prevent mentally ill people falling through the care net. Consultant psychology posts in adult psychology have recently been reduced by a third. The expectation is that less qualified staff will do more complex work with people who have serious mental health problems.

Oxfordshire Unison Health branch has highlighted the following:

- a shortage of Mental Health nurses in psychiatric wards.
- the recruitment and retention crisis being made worse by high cost of living in Oxfordshire.
- overcrowded wards are creating stressful environments, hampering recovery.
- the lack of decent housing and supportive placements prevents rapid discharge.
- the lack of adequate community services to support people in crisis leading to readmission.

Put under pressure from politicians, local people, councillors and

campaign groups , the county council reversed its decision over a £1.6 million cut in the Mental Health budget earlier this year but we will need to do much more just to stand still as our population grows.

Therefore

- 1) We call on the Leader of the City Council to write to the Secretary of State to urge them to increase Mental Health funding to meet national target and address the needs of the population.**
- 2) We call on the Systems Leaders Group for the Buckingham, Oxfordshire and West Berkshire Integrated Care System (BOB ICS) to ensure they will consult the local population on decisions made regarding Mental Health provision.**
- 3) We request a clear line of accountability to be outlined by BOB ICS to ensure that the public has confidence in its decisions.**

15c Kashmir

Proposed by Councillor Altaf-Khan

Liberal Democrat member motion

This Council supports the calls of the Oxford Kashmiri/Pakistani community to take notice of the humanitarian crisis intensified since 5th August 2019 when the Indian government revoked Article 370 of the Constitution thus abrogating the special status granted to Kashmir.

This Council notes that:

- eight million people in the valley of Kashmir are completely disconnected from the rest of the world due to curfew imposed by the Indian government;
- the enforced disappearances of civilians, the state-endorsed sexual violence of women by armed forces and the overall prevalence of human rights violations in the region worsens;
- the consequences of the abrogation of Article 370s and 35A along with the lockdown is aimed to demolish Kashmiri identity and bring about a demographic change against the wished of the people of Kashmir;
- thousands of Kashmiris including political leaders, both pro-freedom and mainstream, have been imprisoned without lawful justification;
- the number of children abducted from their homes is estimated by Indian human rights activists is about

13,000;

- the ongoing communications black-out is causing disruption for medical agencies and distress for the families.

This Council affirms that:

Jammu and Kashmir is a UN mandated disputed territory and the people of Kashmir must be given the right to self-determination as provided by the UN charter and UN resolutions.

It endorses the UN High Commissioners' demand to send a fact-finding Mission to Kashmir as demanded in OHCHR reports of June 2018 and July 2019.

This Council resolves:

- 1) That the international community including our incoming Government should ask the Government of India to lift all restrictions, ensure restoration of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and allow access to all aid agencies and international observers to obtain an independent estimate of this crisis situation.
- 2) The global community through the United Nations should invoke preventative diplomacy to prevent a military conflict between India and Pakistan in the interests of international peace and security and to ensure that the curfew enforced since 5th August should be lifted to guarantee the security and even the lives of the Kashmiri people.
- 3) To ask group leaders to write jointly to the Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Oxford's incoming MPs and MEPs supporting this motion.

This Council acknowledges the brave and principled work of Oxford's Kashmiri/Pakistani community and wider diaspora to push for accountability over the many decades of human rights violations and crimes against the Kashmiri people by the Government of India;

and asks the Leader/Chief Executive of the Council to write to the relevant U.K. Government Ministers in the Home and Foreign Offices, and to the city's incoming MPs, asking:

- 1) The UK government to condemn the use of force, rape and other human rights violations of the Kashmiris.
- 2) The Home Office to provide sanctuary to Kashmiri people seeking safety from the oppressive regime in Indian Occupied Kashmir.
- 3) The city's MPs to write appropriate letters to the Home Office and Foreign Office representing the demands set out in this motion.

15d Long Service Awards

Proposed by Councillor Simmons, seconded by Councillor Wolff

Green member motion

I recently had the pleasure of presenting the Long Service Awards to City Council staff. The City Council only gives out an award after 25 years of service. It was suggested that additional awards could be considered for shorter periods of service; say, marking 5 and 10 years of service to the Council.

This Council asks the Cabinet to explore awards for shorter periods and to consider what gift might be appropriate.

15e International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons

Proposed by Councillor Tanner, seconded by Councillor Rush

Labour member motion

Oxford City Council has been a long-standing member of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) which has been working for over three decades to promote multilateral nuclear disarmament.

Oxford City Council is particularly concerned about the huge cost to the taxpayer of nuclear weapons, the risk posed by the regular transport of nuclear weapons on Oxfordshire's roads and the continuing threat of nuclear war.

NFLA has worked with Mayors for Peace and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) to promote the International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Over two thirds (122) of United Nations member states have agreed the TPNW.

Council regrets that the Governments of the existing nuclear weapon states, including the UK, refuse to support the Treaty. Council fully supports the TPNW as one of the most effective ways to bring about long-term and verifiable multilateral nuclear disarmament. Oxford City Council calls on the United Kingdom Government to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- Cancelling the programme to replace its entire Trident nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons;
- Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to reduce and then eliminate their nuclear arsenals by supporting both the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear

Weapons and the 'Good Faith' Protocols within the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Oxford City Council asks the Chief Executive of the Council to write to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the incoming UK Government and Oxford's newly elected MPs to inform them of this resolution and urge them to take appropriate action.

Note: Similar resolutions have been agreed by Manchester City Council and Renfrewshire Council. The TPNW was agreed at the UN by 122 countries (including the Republic of Ireland) in July 2017 and is currently being ratified, a process that is expected to conclude in 2019.

15f Greening the city centre

Proposed by Councillor Gant

Liberal Democrat member motion

Council believes that among the many other aspects of the Climate Emergency, the one which falls most easily within its own remit is nature-based solutions. Council notes recent academic work which shows that carefully located planting can have a significant impact on heat-stress, carbon sequestration, waterflow regulation and air quality (especially at the most polluted points in cities). Equally, Council notes studies which indicate the enormous benefits to mental health and wellbeing of exposure to green infrastructure and natural colours.

Council acknowledges the considerable degradation of the city centre, largely as a result of the opening of the Westgate Centre

Council therefore asks officers to:

- 1) develop a comprehensive scheme for suitable, sustainable urban planting, considering all relevant factors;
- 2) work up a proposal for green walls, such as those widely seen in other major European city centres, including on its own buildings where appropriate;
- 3) make a plan for the "greening" of the city centre, principally (but not limited to) in Queen Street, Cornmarket and George Street, in partnership with all other stakeholders, including window-boxes and rooftop planting;
- 4) factor these proposals into all other relevant work including preparations for the budget.

15g Tourism management

Proposed by Councillor Wade

Liberal Democrat member motion

This Council has cut its £173K annual contribution (part grant/part use of property) to Experience Oxfordshire (EO) by £20K from April 2019; by £25K from April 2020; and, from April 2021, EO will receive no grant. It may also lose its City owned base in Broad Street in 2021, which houses the Visitor Information Centre and EO's offices. Oxford had nearly nine million tourists last year, half a million of whom used the Centre. 15,000 Oxfordshire residents work in the tourist trade.

In February EO won Destination Marketing Company of the Year award, in face of competition from cities with multi-million-pound budgets, and has consistently been praised for punching above its weight despite limited budgets. At the same time as the City Council grant is being slashed to zero, EO will be working flat out to ensure that Oxford is chosen as part of one of the five 'tourist zones' in the new Government Tourism Sector Deal of 28 June. There could be a boost from Government funding, a tourist data hub, and thousands of new apprenticeships.

The City expects EO to take on this new challenge, as well as its existing workload.

Experience Oxfordshire has transformed into a much more commercial business model to help deliver on the promotional aspects, whilst still working to not for profit principles and has attracted significant private sector support. However, EO will need continued Local Authority support to continue to provide destination management and marketing services.

This Council recognised the importance of tourism to Oxford's economy by establishing a Tourist Management Review Group. Its recommendations were responded to by the Cabinet Member on 29 May 2019. These numbered responses are referenced in the proposals below.

Council therefore asks the Leader to work with officers to explore funding to:

- 1) Support EO's bid to make Oxford one of the UK's 5 'tourist zones.
- 2) Develop a shared vision for tourism in Oxford with EO, the Universities and businesses, working to EO's ambition statement priorities (Rec1)
- 3) Discuss commissioning services from EO as a possible way of providing continued funding to EO and ensure that the Council continues to provide business support in this area. (Rec3)

- 4) Provide an appropriate officer leading on tourism for the Council to work closely with EO to avoid an 'unsustainable workload' on the officers (Rec5)
- 5) Discuss with EO and Oxfordshire County Council what information they have and need to research on tourist coaches e.g. number and movements (Rec10)
- 6) Partner with EO in identifying the digital provision of apps and tourism products (Rec12)
- 7) Partner with EO and Oxfordshire CC to make the case for the Discover England Fund to continue beyond 2019 (Rec13)
- 8) Explore, primarily through the Events Team, closer working with EO and Oxfordshire CC on developing an events strategy (Rec14)
- 9) Support Experience Oxfordshire through a continued finance arrangement for at least an additional 5-year period to enable the organisation to continue delivery of services and become more sustainable.

16 Matters exempt from publication and exclusion of the public

If Council wishes to exclude the press and the public from the meeting during consideration of any aspects of the preceding agenda items it will be necessary for Council to pass a resolution in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 specifying the grounds on which their presence could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in specific paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

(The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Section 15 of the Council's Constitution – sets out the conditions under which the public can be excluded from meetings of the Council)

UPDATES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO SUPPLEMENT THIS AGENDA ARE PUBLISHED IN THE COUNCIL BRIEFING NOTE.

Additional information, councillors' questions, public addresses and amendments to motions are published in a supplementary briefing note. The agenda and briefing note should be read together.

The Briefing Note is published as a supplement to the agenda. It is available on the Friday before the meeting and can be accessed along with the agenda on the council's website.

Councillors 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; licenses 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 member’s spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.