

# Agenda

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## Scrutiny Committee

This meeting will be held on:

Date: **Wednesday 8 December 2021**

Time: **6.00 pm**

Place: **St Aldate's Room - Oxford Town Hall**

**For further information** please contact:

John Mitchell, Committee Services Officer, Committee Services Officer

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## Committee Membership

Councillor Elizabeth Wade (Chair)

Councillor Nigel Chapman (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Tiago Corais

Councillor Dr Hosnieh Djafari-Marbini

Councillor Paula Dunne

Councillor James Fry

Councillor Linda Smith

Councillor Dr Christopher Snowton

Councillor Marie Tidball

Councillor Imogen Thomas

Councillor Naomi Waite

Councillor Dick Wolff

Apologies and notification of substitutes received before the publication are shown under *Apologies for absence* in the agenda. Those sent after publication will be reported at the meeting. Substitutes for the Chair and Vice-chair do not take on these roles.

# Agenda

	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1 Apologies for absence</b>	
<b>2 Declarations of interest</b>	
<b>3 Chair's Announcements</b>	
<b>4 Work Plan and Forward Plan</b>	9 - 22
<p>The work plan is driven to a very large extent by the Cabinet Forward Plan a summary of which is attached. The Scrutiny Committee agrees its priorities for items coming onto the Forward Plan, which then form part of its work plan.</p> <p>The Committee is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Confirm</b> its agreement to the current priorities and the work plan both of which are attached.</li></ul>	
<b>5 Minutes</b>	23 - 28
<p><b>Recommendation:</b> That the minutes of the meeting held on 02 November be APPROVED as a true and accurate record.</p>	
<b>6 Annual Monitoring Report and Infrastructure Funding Statement</b>	29 - 134
<p>Cabinet, at its meeting on 15 December, will consider a report on the Annual Monitoring Report and Infrastructure Funding Statement. The Committee is asked to consider the report and agree any recommendations thereon.</p> <p>The Committee considered the report for 2019/20 on 01 December 2020 and made no recommendations in relation to it.</p> <p>Cllr Alex Hollingsworth, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Delivery and Rachel Nixon, Senior Planner, have been invited to attend for this item.</p>	

<b>7</b>	<b>Workplace Equalities and Action Plan</b>	135 - 198
	<p>Cabinet, at its meeting on 15 December, will consider a report on the Workplace Equalities and Action Plan. The Committee is asked to consider the report and agree any recommendations thereon.</p> <p>The Committee considered the previous year's report on 01 December 2020 and made a number of recommendations in relation to it; a reminder of the Cabinet's response to them is attached.</p> <p>Cllr Mike Rowley, Cabinet Member for Customer Focused Services and Helen Bishop, Head of Business Improvement, have been invited to attend for this item.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Strategic Grants Review</b>	199 - 262
	<p>Cabinet, at its meeting on 15 December, will consider a report on the Strategic Grants Review. The Committee is asked to consider the report and agree any recommendations thereon.</p> <p>Cllr Shaista Aziz, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Communities and Ian Brooke, Head of Community Services, have been invited to attend for this item.</p> <p>No report was brought to Scrutiny last year concerning grants. However, a number of grants-related recommendations were made as part of the Domestic Abuse Review Group, which are attached.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Budget Review Group - Scope</b>	263 - 266
	<p>At its first meeting of the civic year Scrutiny established a Budget Review Group to examine the Council's budget proposals for 2022/23. The Committee is asked to agree the attached scope, having raised any questions or made any amendments.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Report back on recommendations and from Scrutiny Panel meetings</b>	267 - 272
	<p>At its meeting on 10 November Cabinet responded to the following reports from Scrutiny, copies of which are attached.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Anti-social Behaviour Policy</li> <li>- East Oxford Community Centre</li> <li>- Discretionary Housing Payment Policy</li> <li>- EV Strategy</li> </ul>	

Requests for updates from the following Panel Chairs will be requested:

- Councillor Nigel Chapman (Companies Scrutiny Panel)
- James Fry (Finance Panel)

## **11 Reports for approval**

273 -  
278

The following report awaits the Committee's approval to be submitted to Cabinet:

- Tourism Review Update

## **12 Dates of future meetings**

### **Scrutiny Committee**

- 18 January
- 01 February
- 07 March
- 05 April

### **Standing Panels**

Housing & Homelessness: 16 December, 02 February, 04 April

Finance & Performance: 07 December, 24 January, 09 March

Companies: 13 December, 24 March

All meetings start at 6.00 pm except Housing and Homelessness on 16 December, which will start at 5pm.

## **Information for those attending**

### **Recording and reporting on meetings held in public**

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The Chair of the meeting has absolute discretion to suspend or terminate any activities that in his or her opinion are disruptive.

### **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". 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.