

Minutes of a meeting of Council on Tuesday 7 November 2023

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Council members present:

Councillor Arshad (Lord Mayor)	Councillor Altaf-Khan
Councillor Aziz	Councillor Brown
Councillor Chapman	Councillor Clarkson
Councillor Corais	Councillor Coyne
Councillor Diggins	Councillor Djafari-Marbini
Councillor Douglas	Councillor Dunne
Councillor Fouweather	Councillor Fry (Deputy Lord Mayor)
Councillor Gant	Councillor Hayes
Councillor Hollingsworth	Councillor Humberstone
Councillor Hunt	Councillor Jarvis
Councillor Kerr	Councillor Latif
Councillor Lygo (Sheriff)	Councillor Malik
Councillor Miles	Councillor Muddiman
Councillor Mundy	Councillor Munkonge
Councillor Nala-Hartley	Councillor Pegg
Councillor Pressel	Councillor Railton
Councillor Rawle	Councillor Rehman
Councillor Sandelson	Councillor Linda Smith
Councillor Roz Smith	Councillor Smowton
Councillor Thomas	Councillor Turner
Councillor Upton	Councillor Waite
Councillor Walcott	

Also present for all or part of the meeting:

Caroline Green, Chief Executive
Tom Bridgman, Executive Director (Development)
Emma Jackman, Head of Law and Governance
David Butler, Head of Planning and Regulatory Services

Rachel Williams, Planning Policy and Place Manager
Sarah Harrison, Team Leader (Planning Policy)
Sally Fleming, Planning Lawyer
Jonathan Malton, Committee and Member Services Manager
Celeste Reyeslao, Committee and Member Services Officer
Tanaka Merrells, Trainee Solicitor, Legal Services
Amber Khaloon, Trainee Solicitor, Legal Services

Apologies:

Councillor(s) Hall, Landell Mills and Morris sent apologies.

The minutes show when Councillors who were absent for part of the meeting arrived and left.

Minute's silence for the lives lost in Israel and Palestine

Council held a minute's silence to remember those who have lost their lives in Israel and Palestine, and other conflicts across the world.

52. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

53. Announcements

There were no announcements.

54. Public addresses and questions that relate to matters for decision at this meeting

There were no addresses or questions.

55. Proposed Submission Draft Oxford Local Plan 2040

Council considered the report from the Head of Planning and Regulatory Services seeking approval for the Oxford Local Plan 2040 Proposed Submission Document for public consultation and approve it for consultation and, subject to the outcome of the consultation, if no matters are raised that materially impact upon the Plan strategy, submit the Submission Draft Oxford Local Plan 2040 to the Secretary of State for formal examination.

Councillor Upton, Cabinet Member for Planning and Healthier Communities introduced the report. She began by thanking the Planning Policy Team, especially David Butler, Rachel Williams, Sarah Harrison and Sally Fleming, for their dedicated efforts over the years in bringing the plan to its current stage. She also gave thanks to Councillor Alex Hollingsworth for his valuable expertise in planning policy, which significantly contributed to guiding the process. She put forward the proposal for Council to endorse the recommendation.

The recommendation was seconded by Councillor Brown, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economy.

The Planning Officer informed the Council that a note which contained additional information on viability evidence for the Local Plan 2040 had been circulated prior to the meeting. The contents of this note were read out to the Council.

Council received 11 amendments to the draft Local Plan 2040 that were submitted in accordance with Council procedure rules. The following records the decision reached on each proposed amendment.

Councillor Snowton, on being seconded by Councillor Fouweather, proposed an amendment to Policy E1 as follows:

At the end of Policy E1, add paragraph "Intensification of employment sites is likely to draw in additional workers and the pressures and infrastructure needs these generate will be considered. Developer contributions such as CIL and S106 will be used to mitigate the impacts of new developments."

The Council was temporarily adjourned.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was **carried**.

Councillor Turner joined the meeting.

Councillor Mundy, on being seconded by Councillor Thomas, proposed an amendment to Policy E4 that would incorporate inequality assessments for all major applications to evaluate their impact on local inequality issues.

The Head of Planning and Regulatory Services advised that the insertion of the proposed amendment would not modify the existing policy, and therefore its incorporation within the draft Local Plan without proper due process would be viewed as a risk.

Following debate, and on being put to the vote, the amendment was **lost**.

Councillor Muddiman, on being seconded by Rawle, proposed an amendment to the 2040 Monitoring Framework to insert an additional line that would monitor the ratio between home spaces delivered and employments created.

The Head of Planning and Regulatory Services emphasised the role of the monitoring framework in assessing the efficacy of the policies within the local plan and suggested that Councillors considered whether there were policies addressing the correlation between job and housing delivery ratio.

The Council was temporarily adjourned.

Councillor Snowton proposed a further amendment to the motion, aiming to monitor the ratio of housing units delivered and employment space delivered. This was seconded by Councillor Muddiman.

Following debate, and on being put to the vote, the amended motion was **lost**.

Councillor Snowton, on being seconded by Councillor Miles, proposed various amendments as follows:

- *At Chapter 7, paragraph 7.11, remove “Coach parking facilities will continue to be at Redbridge Park and Ride site.” and “(St Giles and St Aldates, south of Speedwell Street)”.*
- *At Chapter 7, after paragraph 7.9, add paragraph 7.10: “Another ongoing challenge is the prevalence of death and serious injury on our roads. An integrated approach is required to reduce death and injury in alignment with Vision Zero, as set out in the Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan 2022-2050.”*
- *At Policy G2 list item b) Health and Wellbeing, replace “recreation and play” with “facilitating recreation and play for people of all age groups and abilities.” In section “New public open space”, after “equally or more accessible” insert “for people of all ages and abilities”.*

Following debate, and on being put to the vote, the amendments were **carried**.

Councillor Pegg, on being seconded by Councillor Muddiman, proposed an amendment meant to strengthen the wording of the Biodiversity Net Gain policy:

At Policy G4, add “where this is not feasible” before the words “deliver of off-site biodiversity enhancements”

Councillor Railton welcomed the amendment stating that the insertion was in line with the intentions of the plan and the Council's Biodiversity strategy. This was echoed by Councillor Upton.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was **carried**.

Councillor Jarvis, on being seconded by Councillor Kerr, proposed an amendment to Policy C1 by adding "Magdalen Road" and "Hollow Way" to the list of Local Centres in

paragraph 3 to better reflect the Local Plan's definition of local centres and provide protection to crucial community hubs.

The Head of Planning and Regulatory Services explained that, along with a number of considerations outlined in the glossary for evaluating local centres, Hollow Way and Magdalen Road were not deemed sufficiently notable and providing of consistent frontages hence they were not included.

Following debate, and on being put to the vote, the amendment was **lost**.

Councillor Snowton, on being seconded by Councillor Gant, proposed an amendment to strengthen the definition of re-provision of greenspaces.

Cllr Hayes left the meeting.

Following debate, and on being put to the vote, the amendment was **lost**.

Cllr Hayes re-joined the meeting.

Councillor Miles, on being seconded by Councillor Snowton, proposed an amendment to Appendix 7.4 in regard to Policy C7 increasing cycle parking standards within the plan.

The Head of Planning and Regulatory Services highlighted that the County Council was the responsible authority for the use of Policy C7 and given the potential changes in the policy, it was not advisable to solidify this guidance within the plan.

Following debate, Councillor Miles proposed and Councillor Snowton seconded a further amendment to the motion as follows:

In Appendix 7.4, replace:

For Student Accommodation - "1 space per study bedroom".

For HMOs - "1 space per study bedroom".

Add a new row "Nurseries and Creches: 1 space per 3 staff or visitors".

Amend the row for primary school parking space at a rate of 1 space per 5 pupils as and 2 spaces per 5 members of staff and visitors.

Cllrs Djafari-Marbini and Nala-Hartley left the meeting and did not return.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was **carried**.

The Council temporarily adjourned in order to allow officers to confirm the final recommendations following amendments.

The Head of Planning and Regulatory Services summarised the list of approved amendments to the Oxford Local Plan 2040 Proposed Submission Document.

On being put to the vote, the recommendations were agreed.

Council **resolved** to:

1. **Approve** the Oxford Local Plan 2040 Proposed Submission Document, as amended, for consultation;
 - a. At the end of Policy E1, add paragraph “Intensification of employment sites is likely to draw in additional workers and the pressures and infrastructure needs these generate will be considered. Developer contributions such as CIL and S106 will be used to mitigate the impacts of new developments.”
 - b. At Chapter 7, paragraph 7.11, remove “Coach parking facilities will continue to be at Redbridge Park and Ride site.” and “(St Giles and St Aldates, south of Speedwell Street)”.
 - c. At Chapter 7, after paragraph 7.9, add paragraph 7.10: "Another ongoing challenge is the prevalence of death and serious injury on our roads. An integrated approach is required to reduce death and injury in alignment with Vision Zero, as set out in the Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan 2022-2050."
 - d. In Appendix 7.4 in replace:
 - I. For Student Accommodation - “1 space per study bedroom”
 - II. For HMOs - “1 space per study bedroom”.
 - III. Add a new row “Nurseries and Creches: 1 space per 3 staff or visitors”.
 - IV. Amend the row for primary school parking space at a rate of 1 space per 5 pupils as and 2 spaces per 5 members of staff and visitors.
 - e. At Policy G4, add “where this is not feasible” before the words “deliver of off-site biodiversity enhancements”
 - f. At Policy G2, list item b) Health and Wellbeing, replace “recreation and play” with “facilitating recreation and play for people of all age groups and abilities.” In section “New public open space”, after “equally or more accessible” insert “for people of all ages and abilities”.
2. **Approve** the following supporting statutory documentation: the Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulation Assessment, Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP) and Equalities Impact Assessment;
3. **Authorise** the Head of Planning & Regulatory Services, after consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member, to make any necessary minor typographical changes and modifications to the document, IDP, Sustainability Appraisal and Habitat Regulations Assessment, and to agree the final publication style of the draft version before publication;
4. Following publication, **authorise** the Head of Planning & Regulatory Services, after consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member, to make any minor changes to the document deemed necessary as a result of the consultation, and then to formally submit the Oxford Local Plan 2040 to the Secretary of State for examination. In the event that significant issues are raised that suggest the Plan

is not sound and major amendments are required, the Plan will need to be redrafted and brought back to Council to approve another public consultation before submission.

The meeting started at 5.00 pm and ended at 7.37 pm

Lord Mayor

Date: Monday 27 November 2023

Decisions on items of business take effect immediately:

Motions may be implemented immediately or may require further budget provision and/or reports to Cabinet before implementation.

Details are in the Council's Constitution.