Agenda



Cabinet

This meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday 10 December 2025

Time: **6.00 pm**

Place: Long Room - Oxford Town Hall

For further information please contact:

Dr Brenda McCollum, Committee and Member Services Officer, Committee Services Officer

1	01865 252784	DemocraticServices@oxford.gov.uk
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Members of the public can attend to observe this meeting and.

- may submit a question about any item for decision at the meeting in accordance with the Cabinet's rules
- may record all or part of the meeting in accordance with the Council's protocol

Details of how City Councillors and members of the public may engage with this meeting are set out later in the agenda. Information about recording is set out later in the agenda and on the website

Please contact the Committee Services Officer to submit a question; to discuss recording the meeting; or with any other queries.

Cabinet Membership

Councillors: Membership 10: Quorum 3: No substitutes are permitted.

Leader/ Chair

Cabinet Members

Councillor Susan Brown Leader, Partnership Working

Councillor Ed Turner Deputy Leader (Statutory) - Finance

and Asset Management

Councillor Lubna Arshad Cabinet Member for a Safer Oxford

Councillor Nigel Chapman Cabinet Member for Citizen Focused

Services and Council Companies

Councillor Alex Hollingsworth Cabinet Member for Planning and

Culture

Councillor Chewe Munkonge Cabinet Member for a Healthy, Fairer

Oxford and Small Business Champion

Councillor Anna Railton Cabinet Member for a Zero Carbon

Oxford

Councillor Linda Smith Cabinet Member for Housing and

Communities

Apologies received before the publication are shown under *Apologies for absence* in the agenda. Those sent after publication will be reported at the meeting.

Agenda

Items to be considered at this meeting in open session (part 1) and in confidential session (part 2).

Future items to be discussed by the Cabinet can be found on the Forward Plan which is available on the Council's website

Pages

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting

13 - 18

Recommendation: That Cabinet resolves to **approve** the minutes of the meetings held on 19 November 2025 and 04 December 2025 as a true and accurate record.

The minutes from the meeting held on the 4th of December will be circulated as a supplement to the agenda.

4 Addresses by members of the public

Public addresses relating to matters of business for this agenda, up to five minutes is available for each public address.

The request to speak accompanied by the full text of the address must be received by the <u>Director of Law, Governance and Strategy</u> by 5.00 pm on <u>Thursday, 04 December 2025</u>.

Councillor addresses on any item for decision on the Cabinet agenda

Councillor addresses relating to matters of business for this agenda, up to five minutes is available for each address.

The request should be received by the <u>Director of Law,</u>
<u>Governance and Strategy</u> by 5.00 pm on <u>Thursday, 04 December</u>
<u>2025</u>.

6 Councillor addresses on Neighbourhood Issues

7 Items raised by Cabinet Members

8 Reports from the Scrutiny Committee

The Scrutiny Committee will meet on 2 December 2025 to consider the following items. Report and recommendations, including those from its working groups, will be published as a late supplement.

- Devolution
- Authority Monitoring Report and Infrastructure Funding Statement
- Housing Complaint Handling Performance (Q1 and Q2)
- Building Safety & Compliance (Q1 and Q2)
- Draft Resident Involvement Strategy 2025-28
- Decarbonisation update: Impact of Energy Efficiency Funding programmes (LAD1b and SHDF) and EPC programme
- Net Zero Tracker
- Air Quality Action Plan
- Biodiversity Strategy and Environment Act update
- Treasury Management Annual Report

9 Quarterly Integrated Performance Report - Q2 2025/26

19 - 40

The Group Finance Director submitted a report for Cabinet to note the update on Finance, Risk and Corporate Performance matters at 30th September 2025.

Cabinet is recommended to:

 Note the financial position for quarter 2 (Q2) 2025/26 including forecast outturn, as well as the current position on risk and performance at 30th September 2025.

Medium Term Financial Strategy 2027-28 to 2029-30 and 2026-27 Budget for Consultation

41 - 144

The Group Finance Director submitted a report to propose a Medium-Term Financial Strategy and the 2026/27 Budget for consultation.

Cabinet is recommended to:

- Approve the 2026-27 General Fund and Housing Revenue Account budgets for consultation and the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Strategy as set out in Appendices 1-10, noting:
 - a. The Council's General Fund Budget Requirement of £30.945 million for 2026/27 and an increase in the Band D Council Tax of 2.99% or £10.67 per annum representing a Band D Council Tax of £367.38 per annum assuming it is confirmed that the authority is able to do so.
 - b. The Housing Revenue Account budget for 2026/27 of £68.2 million and an increase of 4.8% .(average of £8.47 per week) in social dwelling rents from 1 April 2026 (see paragraphs 90-92) giving a revised weekly average social rent of £143.40 as set out in Appendix 5.
 - c. The increase in shared ownership rental in accordance with the lease as shown in paragraph 93-94
 - d. The General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme as shown in Appendix 6.
- 2. Agree the fees and charges shown in Appendix 7
- 3. Delegate to the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Board Member for Finance and Assets the decision to determine whether it is financially advantageous for the Council to enter into a Business Rates Distribution Agreement as referred to in paragraphs 29-30 of the report.

11 Annual Monitoring Report and Infrastructure Funding Statement

145 -224

The Director of Planning and Regulation submitted a report to seek Cabinet's approval of the Authority Monitoring Report and Infrastructure Funding Statement for publication.

Cabinet is recommended to:

1. **Approve** the Authority Monitoring Report and Infrastructure

Funding Statement 2024/25 for publication.

2. **Authorise** the Director of Planning and Regulation to make any necessary minor corrections not materially affecting the document prior to publication.

12 Approval of the revised Local Development Scheme 2025-2030

225 -238

The Director of Planning and Regulation submitted a report to request Cabinet's approval of the Local Development Scheme 2025-2030, which sets out the work programme for the revised Oxford Local Plan 2045.

Cabinet is recommended to:

- 1. **Approve** the Local Development Scheme 2025-2030;
- 2. **Authorise** the Director of Planning and Regulation Services to make any necessary minor corrections not materially affecting the document prior to publication.
- 3. **Agree** the change to the Oxford Local Plan period from 2022-2042 to 2025-2045

13 Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy

239 -308

The Director of Housing submitted a report to Cabinet to request that Cabinet recommend to Council approval of the updated new Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy.

Cabinet is recommended to:

- 1. **Approve** the draft Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy.
- 2. **Recommend to Council** to approve and adopt the draft Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy.
- 3. **Delegate** authority to the Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, authority to update the Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy with minor amendments to keep the documents up to date with any future changes in legislation, regulations, governance and best practice.

14 Resident Involvement Strategy

309 -354

The Director of Housing submitted a report to Cabinet and to request that Cabinet recommend to Council to approve the new Resident Involvement and Engagement Strategy – 2025/28.

Cabinet is recommended to:

- 1. **Approve** the draft Resident Involvement and Engagement Strategy (2025 2028) and action plan attached to the strategy which outlines how the priorities for resident involvement and engagement will be taken forward.
- 2. **Recommend to Council** to approve and adopt the new Resident Involvement and Engagement Strategy 2025-2028.
- 3. Delegate authority to the Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for housing and Communities, on approval of the strategy, to put in place the necessary governance and monitoring arrangements to oversee the implementation and delivery of the strategy as well as to make any minor amendments reflective of legislative changes or best practice.

15 Procurement Strategy

355 -388

The Group Finance Director submitted a report to request that Cabinet recommend to Council approval to a three-year Procurement Strategy.

Cabinet is recommended to:

- 1. **Consider** the draft Procurement Strategy 2026-2029 (at appendix 1); and
- 2. **Recommend** to Council that the draft Procurement Strategy be adopted.

16 Fleet Procurement Report

389 -392

The Group Finance Director submitted a report to request that Cabinet delegate authority to the Group Finance Director for

the remainder of the current financial year to award any fleet contracts valued in excess of £750k following a compliant procurement process.

Cabinet is recommended to:

- **Delegate** authority, for the remainder of the current financial year, to the Group Finance Director to award contracts with values in excess of £750k for the purchase of fleet vehicles.

17 Land Quality Strategy 2025

393 -422

The Head of Environmental Sustainability submitted a report to request that Cabinet agree the adoption of the Land Quality Strategy 2025.

Cabinet is recommended:

- 1. To approve the revised Land Quality Strategy for adoption.
- 2. To continue to endorse the approved procedure for dealing with contaminated land by:
 - Using the development control regime wherever possible in order to assess and remediate land affected by contamination.
 - Where this is not possible we will utilise powers under Part 2a of the Environmental Protection Act (1990) in order to ensure contaminated land is remediated.
- 3. Note that if works are required under Part 2a Of the Environmental Protection Act (1990), then this will be funded from contingencies and reserves.

18 Treasury Annual Report

423 -434

The Group Finance Director submitted a report to Cabinet which sets out the Council's Treasury Management activity and performance for the financial year 2024/25, (including any prudential borrowing limits which are in line with the capital programme and proposed financing), in line with requirements from CIPFA's code of practice.

Cabinet is recommended to:

 Note the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2024/25 and the Council's compliance with the Prudential and Treasury Indicators.

19 Dates of future meetings

Meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

- 21 January 2026
- 11 February 2026
- 18 March 2026

All meetings start at 6.00 pm.

Matters Exempt from Publication

If Cabinet wishes to exclude the press and the public from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the exempt from publication part of the agenda, it will be necessary for Cabinet to pass a resolution in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 4(2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 on the grounds that their presence could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in specific paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Cabinet may maintain the exemption 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.

Information for those attending

Recording and reporting on meetings held in public

Members of public and press can record, or report in other ways, the parts of the meeting open to the public. You are not required to indicate in advance but it helps if you notify the Committee Services Officer prior to the meeting so that they can inform the Chair and direct you to the best place to record.

The Council asks those recording the meeting:

- To follow the protocol which can be found on the Council's website
- Not to disturb or disrupt the meeting
- Not to edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation of the
 proceedings. This includes not editing an image or views expressed in a way that may
 ridicule or show a lack of respect towards those being recorded.
- To avoid recording members of the public present, even inadvertently, unless they are addressing the meeting.

Please be aware that you may be recorded during your speech and any follow-up. If you are attending please be aware that recording may take place and that you may be inadvertently included in these.

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.

Members' Code – Other Registrable Interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to the financial interest or wellbeing** of one of your Other Registerable Interests*** then you must declare an

interest. You must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and you must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code - Non Registrable Interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which *directly relates* to your financial interest or wellbeing (and does not fall under disclosable pecuniary interests), or the financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate, you must declare the interest.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which affects your own financial interest or wellbeing, a financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate or a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under Other Registrable Interests, then you must declare the interest.

You must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room, if you answer in the affirmative to this test:

- "Where a matter affects the financial interest or well-being:
- a. to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b. a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting."

Otherwise, you may stay in the room, take part in the discussion and vote.

- *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.
- ** Wellbeing can be described as a condition of contentedness, healthiness and happiness; anything that could be said to affect a person's quality of life, either positively or negatively, is likely to affect their wellbeing.
- *** Other Registrable Interests: a) any unpaid directorships b) any Body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority c) any Body (i) exercising functions of a public nature (ii) directed to charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

How Oxford City Councillors and members of the public can engage at Cabinet

Addresses and questions by members of the public (15 minutes in total)

Members of the public can submit questions in writing about any item for decision at the meeting. Questions, stating the relevant agenda item, must be received by the Head of Law and Governance by 9.30am two working days before the meeting (eg for a Tuesday meeting, the deadline would be 9.30am on the Friday before). Questions can be submitted either by letter or by email (to cabinet@oxford.gov.uk).

Answers to the questions will be provided in writing at the meeting; supplementary questions will not be allowed. If it is not possible to provide an answer at the meeting it will be included in the minutes that are published on the Council's website within 2 working days of the meeting.

The Chair has discretion in exceptional circumstances to agree that a submitted question or related statement (dealing with matters that appear on the agenda) can be asked verbally at the meeting. In these cases, the question and/or address is limited to 3 minutes, and will be answered verbally by the Chair or another Cabinet member or an officer of the Council. The text of any proposed address must be submitted within the same timescale as questions.

For this agenda item the Chair's decision is final.

Councillors speaking at meetings

Oxford City councillors may, when the chair agrees, address the Cabinet on an item for decision on the agenda (other than on the minutes). The member seeking to make an address must notify the Head of Law and Governance by 9.30am at least one working day before the meeting, stating the relevant agenda items. An address may last for no more than three minutes. If an address is made, the Cabinet member who has political responsibility for the item for decision may respond or the Cabinet will have regard to the points raised in reaching its decision.

Councillors speaking on Neighbourhood issues (10 minutes in total)

Any City Councillor can raise local issues on behalf of communities directly with the Cabinet. The member seeking to make an address must notify the Head of Law and Governance by 9.30am at least one working day before the meeting, giving outline details of the issue. Priority will be given to those members who have not already addressed the Cabinet within the year and in the order received. Issues can only be raised once unless otherwise agreed by the Cabinet. The Cabinet's responsibility will be to hear the issue and respond at the meeting, if possible, or arrange a written response within 10 working days.

Items raised by Cabinet members

Such items must be submitted within the same timescale as questions and will be for discussion only and not for a Cabinet decision. Any item which requires a decision of the Cabinet will be the subject of a report to a future meeting of the Cabinet.