

Record of Decisions of the meeting of the Cabinet

On Wednesday 18 March 2026

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Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Wednesday 18 March 2026.

Decisions made by the Cabinet and Planning – Oxford City Planning Committee will be subject to a two-day call-in period.

The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Committee and Member Services.

8 Measures to meet growing demand for Temporary Accommodation

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Approve the latest set of mitigations the Council is taking, as summarised in paragraph 6 of this report, to increase the provision of temporary accommodation, to improve quality, and decrease cost.
2. Delegate to the Director of Housing Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy, and the Group Finance Director:
 - a. subject to the parameters as set out in paragraph 19, authority to agree the properties to be acquired and the detailed terms for the acquisition of properties and enter into all necessary documentation to effect the acquisition of each property into the Housing Revenue Account for the use of Temporary Accommodation; and
 - b. authority to enter into necessary agreements or contracts required, and to authorise expenditure, for any works required to convert or carry out works to (a) any new properties acquired by the Housing Revenue Account or (b) to suitable existing properties from the General Fund to enable them to be used for Temporary Accommodation and to ensure compliance prior to occupation Provided all such expenditure is within the £32 million capital budget as contained in the MTFP.
3. Note the additional measures as set out in paragraphs 21 to 26 of this report.

9 Allocations Scheme Review

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Recommend that Full Council approve the new draft Social Housing Allocations Scheme for Oxford;
2. **Recommend** that Full Council delegates authority to the Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, to

authorise the date on which the Allocations Scheme is implemented, noting the explanation and timelines in paragraph 23;

3. **Recommend** that Full Council delegates authority to the Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, to make minor changes to the Allocations Scheme, in order to comply with changes to legislative and statutory guidance, related Council policies (approved by Cabinet) and to make technical changes to ensure the effective and efficient functioning of the scheme.

10 **Jericho Wharf**

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive - Place to seek to procure a development partner / operator, with a viable business plan, to try to acquire the Jericho Wharf site by agreement and deliver the requirements set out in *Oxford Local Plan* Policy SP33 and to indemnify the Council for the associated costs
2. Confirm that if the Jericho Wharf site cannot be acquired by agreement, then, as a last resort it would be willing subject to compliance with all relevant legal and policy requirements, if necessary consider the use of its Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) powers to acquire the site; and to
3. Note that if an option to use CPO powers was to be pursued a further report would need to be submitted to Cabinet to seek approval for a detailed scheme for the redevelopment of this site demonstrating that the legal and policy tests for the use of its CPO powers had been satisfied. This would need to be accompanied by a recommendation to Council to seek authority to set up a budget for any additional costs for the implementation of its CPO powers, which would be redeemed from the development partner.

11 **More Leisure Annual Service Plan (Year 3) and Update**

Cabinet resolved to:

1. **Approve** the Leisure Annual Service Plan 2026-27 and delegate authority to the Director of Communities and Citizens Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for a Healthy, Fairer Oxford, to make any necessary amendments.

12 **Disposal of City Centre Property**

Cabinet resolved to:

1. **Delegate authority** to the Director of Property and Assets, in consultation with the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy and the Group Finance Director and Lead Member for Finance and Asset Management to agree the final sale terms and enter into the final agreement and any other documents necessary to effect the transfer of the freehold titles of Floyds Row and Old Mortuary. The delegation will be on the basis that the sale will meet the

requirements of s123 of the Local Government Act 1972 (which states that a council shall not dispose of land otherwise than by way of a short tenancy, for a consideration less than the best that can reasonable be obtained).

13 Oxford City Council annual Business Plan 2026 to 2027

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Agree the draft Oxford City Council annual Business Plan priorities 2026 to 2027, which set out the Council's priority work for the next financial year beginning 1 April 2026;
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy and Transition Director in consultation with the Council Leader to make any further minor amendments to the Business Plan priorities before implementation, provided that such amendments do not materially affect the substance of the Business Plan;
3. Note the progress made delivery against the actions set out in the Business Plan 2025 to 2026.

14 Integrated Performance Report for Quarter 3 2025/26

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Note the financial position for quarter 3 (Q3) 2025/26 including forecast outturn, as well as the current position on risk and performance at 31st December 2025.

15 Additional HMO licensing scheme renewal

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Having considered the outcome of the statutory consultation and the evidence previously considered by Cabinet in October 2025, confirm that the statutory tests set out in sections 56 and 57 of the Housing Act 2004 are met and that a renewed Additional HMO Licensing Scheme is required.
2. Designate the whole of the City of Oxford as subject to Additional HMO Licensing under section 56(1)(a) of the Housing Act 2004 for a period of five years commencing from June 2026 and following expiry of the 3-month statutory notice period.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of Planning and Regulation to finalise and sign, publish and implement the designation and take all necessary steps to give effect to the renewed scheme.
4. Approve the Additional HMO Licensing Scheme as set out in Appendix 2 including the simplified licence condition relating to waste management.
5. Note that the Additional HMO Licensing Scheme will continue to operate on a full cost-recovery basis, with licence fees set through the Council's annual budget

and fees and charges approval process.

16 **Grant of Easement**

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of Property and Assets in consultation with the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy, the Group Finance Director, and the Lead Cabinet Member for Finance and Assets to agree the final commercial terms for the Option Agreement as set out in Exempt Appendix 1.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Property and Assets in consultation with the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy, Group Finance Director, and Lead Member for Finance and Assets, to approve the final form of the Option Agreement and enter into it on behalf of the Council.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of Property and Assets in consultation with the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy and the Group Finance Director and Lead Member for Finance and Assets to agree the final disposal price for the easement and to ensure that the disposal is compliant with the Council's statutory duty to obtain Best Consideration reasonably obtainable pursuant to Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972.

17 **HRA Policies: Compliance, Gas Safety, Decant, Permit to Work, Radon, Health and Safety**

Cabinet resolved to recommend the following policies for Council approval:

1. The draft Compliance Policy
2. The draft Decant Policy
3. The draft Gas Safety Policy
4. The draft Health and Safety Policy
5. The draft Permit to Work Policy
6. The draft Radon Policy

18 **Project Approval and Delegations for the Harebell Road affordable housing scheme**

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Grant project approval noting Full Council allocation of the £863,000 budget for this scheme within the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme as part of its budget setting in February 2026, to develop this scheme, as set out in this report, within the allocated Housing Revenue Account capital budget and business plan, for the purpose of delivering more affordable housing in Oxford on the Harebell Road former garage site;
2. Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive - City and Citizens' Services in

consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing; the Group Finance Director/Section 151 Officer; and the Council's Monitoring Officer, to enter into design and build contracts and any other necessary agreements to facilitate the delivery of the scheme within the identified budget, except where there is an existing officer delegation within the Council's Constitution;

3. Agree to commence the process for the appropriation of this site (as per the red line shown at para 5) to a planning purpose;
4. Note the intent to take a report to the Full Council to approve the appropriation of land from the General Fund (GF) to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) at a later date (prior to scheme completion).

19 **Project Approval and Delegations for Redbridge Paddock affordable housing scheme**

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Give project approval for the development, including the land sale and acquisition of affordable dwellings developed by Oxford City Housing (Development) Ltd (OCH(D)L) for which budgetary provision has been made in the Council's Housing Revenue Account (HRA) in respect of Redbridge Paddock;
2. Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive - City and Citizens' Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing; the Head of Financial Services/Section 151 Officer; and the Head of Law and Governance/Monitoring Officer, to finalise the scheme design and financial appraisals and enter into any necessary agreements and contracts to facilitate the agreed purchase by the Council of the affordable housing (to be held in the HRA) and any associated land, within the identified budget, for the provision of the affordable homes, as set out in this report, on the Redbridge Paddock development, within the project approval;
3. Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Asset Management; the Head of Financial Services/Section 151 Officer; and the Head of Law and Governance/Monitoring Officer, to approve the final terms, which will be S123 compliant, and enter into the sale agreement for the Redbridge Paddock site from the General Fund to OCH(D)L;

20 **Project Approval and Delegations for Sandy Lane Recreation Ground affordable housing scheme**

Cabinet resolved to:

1. **Grant project approval** noting Full Council allocation of the £97,551,302 budget for this scheme within the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme as part of its budget setting in February 2026, to fund the development of this scheme, as a proposed Housing Revenue Account ("HRA") project, as set out in this report, within the allocated HRA capital budget and business plan, for the purpose of delivering more affordable housing in Oxford on the Sandy Lane Recreation Ground site;
2. **Delegate authority** to the Deputy Chief Executive – City and Citizens' Services

in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing; the Group Finance Director/Section 151 Officer; and the Council's Monitoring Officer, to enter into design and build contracts and any other necessary agreements to facilitate the scheme development within the identified budget, except where there is an existing officer delegation within the Council's Constitution. Facilitating the scheme development includes the relocation of football pitches and providing a pavilion as set out in the report;

3. **Agree** to commence the process for the appropriation of this Site (as per the red line shown at para 12) to a planning purpose, following completion and handover of the replacement playing pitch facilities at Herschel Crescent and **note** the intention to bring forward a further report for Cabinet to consider the appropriation of the Site from recreation/open space purposes to planning purposes and the potential to rely on *section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016* in the event of interference with private rights;
4. **Note** the intent to take a report to the Full Council seeking approval for the subsequent appropriation of the Site from the General Fund (GF) to the HRA (prior to practical completion of the scheme or delivery of the first phase, if delivery of the units is phased).

21 **Making of a new parking order at 1 car parking site and introduction of a tariff**

Cabinet resolved to:

1. Approve the making of new off-street parking places order covering Car Park off Meadow Lane
2. Approve the introduction of charges at Meadow Lane Car Park as set out in Appendix 1
3. Delegate authority to the Director for Property & Assets in consultation with relevant Cabinet Members to follow due procedure as set out in the Local Authorities' Traffic Order (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 and in the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 including required public consultation and consideration of objections and responses to them.
4. Delegate authority to the Director for Property & Assets in consultation with relevant Cabinet Members to approve Notice of Making and Making of Orders.

For more details on the subject of the Decision or for a copy of the Decision Note please contact:

Dr Brenda McCollum, Committee and Member Services Officer, Mobile: 01865 252784 or Email: DemocraticServices@oxford.gov.uk

The Record of Decision sets out the decision taken by the Committee. Details of the reasons for the decision and any alternative options put forward for consideration (if any) were published within the reports

The Decision is available on the [Council's website](#) for the call-in period.