

Record of Decisions of the meeting of the Council

On Monday 24 November 2025

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Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Monday 24 November 2025.

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 HRA Policies

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** the Damp and Mould Policy
2. **Approve** the Fire Safety Policy
3. **Approve** the Asbestos Policy
4. **Approve** the Disrepair Policy

11 Updates to Constitution

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** the reservation to full Council of the decision making and approval of Taxi Licensing Policy as set out in Part 5.6 of the Constitution.
2. **Approve** the updates to the Constitution, as listed in Appendix 1 and as amended;
3. **Delegate authority** to the Monitoring Officer to make any other consequential amendments to the Constitution to reflect the changes in appendix 1 to the extent that they have not been identified in the above, provided such changes are purely required as a direct consequence.

12 Recommendation from the Standards Committee to censure Councillor Malik

Council resolved to:

1. **Censure** Councillor Malik in respect of the finding that he breached the Members' Code of Conduct.

13 **Recommendation from the Standards Committee to censure Councillor Latif**

Council resolved to:

1. **Censure** Councillor Latif in respect of the finding that he breached the Members' Code of Conduct.

19 **Oppose a Work Place Parking Levy and planned Bus Gates in Oxford (proposed by Cllr Henwood, seconded Cllr Yeatman)**

Council resolved to:

Reject the following motion:

Oxford City Council notes that Oxfordshire County Council has approved and expressed support for:

1. The proposed Bus gate (filter) scheme;
2. The proposed Workplace Parking Levy (WPL);

Oxford City Council further notes significant public concern regarding the potential economic, social, and accessibility impacts of these measures on residents, businesses, and visitors.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Oppose for the proposed Bus Gate (filter) Scheme, and the proposed Workplace Parking Levy.
2. Request the Leader of the Council to write to the Leader of Oxfordshire County Council and other relevant authorities as the local highways authority to communicate this resolution.
3. Continue to support sustainable, balanced approaches to improving air quality, public transport, and cycling/walking infrastructure that do not unduly penalise residents, workers, or businesses.

20 **Bring Thames Water into public ownership (Proposed by Cllr Mundy, Seconded by Cllr Djafari-Marbini)**

Council resolved to:

Support the following motion:

Thames Water has become known for poor performance for managing their vital infrastructure. Having managed to discharge raw sewage into the region's waterways for almost 300,000 hours in 2024¹, the company faced record breaking fines from Ofwat this year. In an ironic twist, Thames Water pleaded poverty when negotiating the fine downwards- committing to paying less than 20% of the £122.7 million fine within the next four and a half years. A fine made larger and of course less affordable by the £170

¹ <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2025/mar/18/thames-water-data-reveals-raw-sewage-discharges-rivers-2024> Thames Water data reveals raw sewage discharges in rivers rose 50% in 2024. The Guardian 18/03/2025

million in dividends paid out over the last two years.² The failure of water companies across the country is being rewarded with huge executive salaries: The average pay for water company CEOs in 2022 was £1.7 million.³ A natural monopoly like water should be publicly owned. According to The People's Commission on the Water Sector, the environment secretary's claims that taking water back into public ownership is unaffordable, was backed by misleading figures with no basis in law.⁴

People of Oxford are fed up of polluted waterways that used to be fit for leisure activities, fed up of aging burst water pipes flooding our streets⁵, and dismayed at the daft plans for an enormous reservoir which tears up local landscape and is costly and un-necessary.⁶ Yes, we have been here before, our Council passed a motion pushing for the nationalisation of Thames Water back in January 2023. But the Labour government still chooses not to take bold action to take back control of our water supply, deciding instead that a new regulator will solve the problems. Our Council has the opportunity to push for a rethink, to urge the government to renationalise Thames Water.

This Council resolves to:

- Request that the Leader of the Council writes to Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Emma Reynolds, with Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Water and Flooding Emma Hardy, stating that water privatisation has failed the people of Oxford and that our water supplier needs to be brought in to public hands.
- Ask the Planning cabinet member to write to Thames Water CEO seeking:
 - An explanation for the deplorable state of our water infrastructure. Asking, why our city suffered so much disruption from burst water mains this summer, and what is being done to ensure that the same won't be repeated.
 - A resolution of when we will see an end to routine (outside of recognised extreme wet weather conditions) dumping of raw sewerage overflow in to Oxford's local waterways.
 - An urgent timetable of when sewage works in The Leys and Littlemore will be modernised and brought up to capacity to prevent the annual stench across these areas in the summer months.
- For Oxford City Council to engage with local groups such as Windrush Against Sewage Pollution and Boycott Thames Water, to push for better standards from our water supplier.

² <https://www.itv.com/news/meridian/2025-08-27/thames-water-negotiates-payment-plan-following-record-fine> **Thames Water negotiates payment plan following record £122.7 million fine. ITV Meridian 27/08/2025**

³ <https://www.mirror.co.uk/money/fat-cat-water-firm-bosses-26229950> **EXCLUSIVE: 'Fat cat' water firm bosses earn £15m as amount of raw sewage dumped in rivers rockets. Daily Mirror 15/02/2022**

⁴ <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2025/aug/03/a-fair-price-to-the-public-for-water-nationalisation> **A fair price to the public for water nationalisation**

⁵ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c79qr333jv4o> and <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwyj7ldw14eo> and <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cr5v223epnlo> and <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/video/news/video-2750371/Video-Oxford-City-Centre-suffers-water-pipe-burst-UK-hosepipe-ban.html> **BBC and Daily Mail Summer 2025**

⁶ <https://theconversation.com/the-uk-is-surprisingly-short-of-water-but-more-reservoirs-arent-the-answer-243440> **The UK is surprisingly short of water – but more reservoirs aren't the answer. The Conversation 01/13/2025**

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

Jonathan Malton, Committee and Member Services Manager, Mobile: 01865 602767
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.