

# Record of Decisions of the meeting of the Council

## On Monday 26 January 2026

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Monday 26 January 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 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Rent Setting 2026/27

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** an increase of 4.8% + up to £2 for rent convergence (max) for 2026/27 (subject to any subsequent cap on increases imposed by central government) in social dwelling rents from 1st April 2026 giving an average weekly increase of £8.47 per week, and a revised weekly average social rent of £143.40 as set out in the Financial Implications section of this report.
2. **Approve** an increase to rents for shared ownership dwellings as outlined in paragraph 21 of the Financial Implications.
3. **Approve** an increase to service charges by 4.8% (CPI + 1%) to enable the HRA to recover the associated cost of supply.
4. **Approve** an increase to the charge for a garage of 5.0%, equating to an increase of £1.00 per week for a standard garage within a curtilage with a revised charge of £21.00 per week.
5. **Approve** an increase to the rent and service charges for General Fund Temporary Accommodation as set out in the Financial Implications section of this report.

### 9 Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** and **adopt** the draft Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy.
2. **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.

## 10 Resident Involvement and Engagement Strategy

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve and adopt** the Resident Involvement & Engagement Strategy 25 – 28 and action plan attached to the strategy which outlines how the priorities for resident involvement and engagement will be taken forward.
2. **Delegate authority** to the Director of Housing, on approval of the strategy, to put in place the necessary governance and monitoring arrangements to oversee the implementation and delivery of the strategy.

## 11 Proposed Submission Draft Oxford Local Plan 2045

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** the Proposed Submission Draft Local Plan 2045 document, as amended, for public consultation;
2. **Authorise** all the supporting statutory documentation including the Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulation Assessment, Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP), Policies Map and Equalities Impact Assessment;
3. **Authorise** the Director of Planning and Regulation, after consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member, to make any necessary minor editorial corrections to the Submission Draft Oxford Local Plan 2045, IDP, Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment, Policies Map, and to agree the supporting evidence base prior to going out to consultation.
4. **Authorise**, following publication, the Director of Planning and Regulation, after consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member, to make any minor changes to the document deemed necessary as a result of the consultation.
5. **Authorise** submission of the Oxford Local Plan 2045 to the Secretary of State for examination, following Regulation 19 consultation and any minor amendments made according to recommendation 3 or 4 and subject to there being no matters raised in the consultation that are considered to materially impact upon the Plan strategy.
6. **Authorise** the Director of Planning and Regulation, after consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member, to invite the examining inspector(s) to recommend any modifications considered to be necessary in accordance with section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

## 12 Designation of Section 151 Officer

Council resolved to:

1. **Designate** the newly appointed Interim Group Finance Director as the Council's Section 151 Officer with effect from the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

## 13 **Appointment of Committees for the remainder of the Council Year 2025/2026**

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** the structure of the Council committees, as defined within the Council's Constitution and set out in Appendix 1: Committee Structure 2025-2026;
2. **Approve** the methods, calculations and conventions used in determining political representation on committees as outlined in the report and shown in Appendix 2: Political Proportionalities on Council Committees 2026;
3. **Appoint** to committee seats, against the requirements of political proportionality, and the nominations made by political groups, as shown in Appendix 3: Committee Nominations 2026 Revised;
4. **Agree** that all members of Council will form the pool of members able to observe on appeals and some grievances panels in accordance with the Council's policies;

## 14 **Working Overseas Policy and Procedure for Staff**

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** the following:
  - a. Working Overseas Policy and Procedure for Employees
  - b. Working Overseas Procedure for Members

## 15 **Constitution Updates**

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** the updates to the Constitution, as listed in Appendix 1;
2. **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.

## 16 **Council and Committee Meetings Programme for May 2026 to May 2028**

Council resolved to:

1. **Approve** the programme of Council, committee and other meetings from 1 May

- 2026 to 31 May 2028 attached at Appendix 1;
2. **Delegate authority** to the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy, in consultation with the political Group Leaders, to make changes to this programme in the event that there is any decision by Council to change the committee structure or committee remits which impacts on the programme of meetings; and
3. **Delegate authority** to the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy to set dates for additional training and briefing sessions for Members.

## 17 Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel

Council resolved to:

1. **Delegate authority** to the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy to make appointments to the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel as needed, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, up to when the replacement Members' Allowances Scheme will expire in March 2027.

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](mailto: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.