

To: Council

Date: 20 July 2015

Report of: Chair of the Scrutiny Committee

Title of Report: Scrutiny Briefing

Purpose of report: To update Council on the activities of the scrutiny function

Recommendation: Council is asked to note the report.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Scrutiny work programme 2015/16

Appendix 2 - Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker April 2015 to June 2016

Introduction

1. I would like to start by thanking the members of Scrutiny for selecting me to Chair this important Committee for another year, and by congratulating Cllr Hayes on his re-appointment as Vice Chair.
2. During the 2014-15 municipal year Scrutiny considered some 63 substantive items. These included 27 reports we requested, pre-scrutiny of 27 decisions, 8 monitoring reports and 1 call in. Together with the Oxford Standard review, the Budget Review and the European Funding report, these items resulted in some 111 recommendations to the City Executive Board (CEB). Of these we believe that 83 (75%) have been accepted and a further 10 (9%) were agreed in part. I will submit the 2014/15 annual report of the Council's Scrutiny Committee to the next meeting of full Council, in September.
3. Since my last update and not included in those statistics, the Local Economy Panel led by Councillor Fry and the Inequality Panel led by Councillor Coulter have submitted reports to CEB. The latter was the major piece of review work scrutiny initiated in 2014/15. The Inequality Panel's wide-ranging report follows 6 months of evidence gathering and engagement with various groups and individuals. It includes 21 recommendations for consideration by CEB.
4. The next Committee meeting isn't until September but a lot of activity is underway over the summer, including the formulation the scrutiny work programme for 15/16. The Cycling Panel is producing a report to CEB in September and the Committee's next piece of review work, on improving standards in Guest Houses, is being scoped. A small Panel will also meet to pre-scrutinise the revised City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order.

5. I would like to thank members for their enthusiasm in engaging with the Scrutiny process and, once again, we received more ideas for review topics than we have the resources to deal with. Reluctantly, we have had to prune these down significantly and juggle the work programme to accommodate as many member ideas as possible without compromising on the quality of work or the number of items for pre-scrutiny. In this respect, we wish to thank our hard working Democratic Services, especially Andrew Brown, for their efforts in trying to accommodate the large and wide-ranging work programme.
6. I would like to thank all Officers and Board Members who have contributed to writing or presenting reports requested by the Committee and various panels.

Work programme

7. We are currently formulating our work programme for 2015/16 but the attached document includes details of the review groups and ad hoc panels in progress and indicative agenda schedules for the next round of Scrutiny Committee and Standing Panel meetings. It also gives an indication of some of the topics that have been prioritised for the year ahead and how the Committee is considering tackling those.
8. To enable the Committee to cover more ground, consideration will be given to which topics could be looked at during one-off panel meetings, as an alternative to on-going review panels which require more officer support.
9. During the year we will look to offer positions on one-off and review panels to non-executive members who aren't on the Scrutiny Committee.

Standard Information

10. I will always include the following information and this is included as appendices to this briefing:
 - Current Panel work showing membership and progress.
 - Forward agendas – these will be indicative only.
 - The number and result of any call-ins or councillor calls for action.
 - Recommendations made and the outcome of these.
11. I will also provide verbal updates where there has been progress since the last Committee.

Current Activity

The Scrutiny Committee

12. Since my last update, the Committee met on 27 April, 2 June and 30 June. The Committee reviewed a Fusion Lifestyle performance report provided by officers, the reports of the Local Economy and Inequality Panels, and pre-scrutinised the following CEB decisions:
 - Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adult Policy City Centre
 - Covered Market Action Plan
 - Covered Market Leasing Strategy
 - City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order
 - Statement of Community Involvement 2015

- Grant Monitoring Information for 2014/15

Housing Panel

13. The Housing Panel looked at the Housing Asset Management Strategy and HMO Licensing scheme in June. Councillor Smith has been selected to chair the Housing Panel for the remainder of this year. I would like to wish Councillor Smith well in this role and thank Councillor Hollick for chairing the Panel over the last year.
14. The Housing Panel will be selecting a new tenant co-optee before it meets in September. The co-optee will be a non-voting member of the Panel who will bring the reactions and insights of an individual tenant to the issues in front of the Panel. I would like to thank the Panel's previous tenant co-optee, Linda Hill, for her contribution to the work of the Housing Panel over the last 3 years.

Finance Panel

15. The Finance Panel met on 28 April and 2 July and will continue to be chaired by myself. The Panel met with a representative of the Municipal Bonds Agency and will be submitting recommendations to the executive following on from that discussion. The Panel also pre-scrutinised the Council's Capital Strategy and Debt Management Policy, and continued to monitor the Council's budgetary performance. The Panel also agreed and submitted a report on European Funding to CEB, with 9 recommendations.

Cycling Panel

16. The Cycling Panel, led by Councillor Upton, has largely completed its evidence gathering and will be submitting its report to CEB in September.

Looking Ahead

17. A review of how to raise the standards of guest houses is currently being scoped. This review will be led by Councillor Coulter and will get underway in September with the aim of reporting to CEB on or before 17 December 2015. The Committee will also decide how to approach its other priority topics for the coming year, and will continue to pre-scrutinise decisions taken by CEB.

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Appendix 1 - Scrutiny work programme 2015/16

This programme represents the work of Scrutiny, including panel work and Committee items. The work programme is divided under the following headings:

1. Standing Panels
2. Review Panels and Ad hoc Panels in progress
3. Items for other panels or Committee meetings
4. Draft Scrutiny Committee agenda schedule
5. Items called in and Councillor calls for action
6. Items referred to Scrutiny by Council
7. Finance Panel work programme 2015/16
8. Housing Panel work programme 2015/16

1. Standing Panels

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Nominated councillors (no substitutions allowed)
Finance Panel – All finance issues considered within the Scrutiny Function.	See section 7	Councillors Fooks, Fry, Hayes and Simmons
Housing – All strategic and landlord issues considered within the Scrutiny Function.	See section 8	Councillors, Benjamin, Henwood, Hollick, Sanders, Smith and Wade Co-opted Member – TBC

2. Review panels and ad hoc panels in progress

Topic	Scope	Progress	Next steps	Nominated councillors
Waste Water Flooding	To continue engagement with Thames Water Utilities (TWU)	Meeting with TWU on 16 July	On-going monitoring	Councillors Darke (Chair), Goddard, Pressel & Thomas
Recycling Rates	Review recycling and waste data, consider recycling incentives	Meeting and site visit in Feb 2015	Monitor progress of recycling incentives	Councillor Fry (Chair), other members TBC
City Centre PSPO	To consider Liberty's advice and changes to the proposed PSPO	One-off meeting arranged	Meeting on 2 Sept	Councillors Gant & Thomas (Lab nominees TBC)
Cycling	How the City Council can make best use of unallocated investments.	Recommendation drafting stage	Report to 10 Sept CEB	Councillors Upton (Chair), Gant, Pressel & Wolff
Guest Houses	TBC - how to raise standards of guest houses	Not started	Scope to 7 Sept Scrutiny Committee	Councillors Coulter (Chair), Lygo, Royce & Simmons
Inequality	To review how the City Council contributes to combatting harmful inequality in Oxford.	Awaiting CEB response to recommendations	Report to CEB for response on 10 September	Councillors Coulter (Chair), Gant, Lloyd-Shogbesan & Thomas
Budget Review 2015/16	Review of draft budget and medium term financial plan	Not started	Scope to 3 Nov Finance Panel.	Finance Panel Members

Indicative timings of review panels

Scrutiny Review	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
Budget Review 2016/17												
Guest Houses												
Review 2												
Review 3												

	Scoping
	Evidence gathering and review
	Reporting

3. Items for other panels or Committee meetings

The Committee has reviewed all new suggestions received from Councillors. These have been assessed these against the following objective criteria to determine whether they are a higher or lower priority for inclusion in the work programme:

- *Is the issue controversial / of significant public interest?*
- *Is it an area of high expenditure?*
- *Is it an essential service / corporate priority?*
- *Can Scrutiny influence and add value?*

Items carried forward

Topic	Possible Approach
Discretionary Housing Payments	Committee items
Performance Monitoring (corporate)	Committee items
Oxfordshire Growth Board	Committee items
Taxi licensing	Committee item
Fusion Lifestyle annual performance	Committee item
City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order	One off panel
Waste Water Flooding	Ad hoc panel

New suggestions rated as a higher priority for inclusion in the scrutiny work programme

Topic	Possible Approach
Equality and Diversity (diversity strand TBC)	One off or review panel
Youth Ambition	One off or review panel / Committee item
Tackling loneliness among the elderly	One off or review panel / Committee item
Educational Attainment	One off or review panel / Committee item
Local Economy (including the Local Enterprise Partnership)	Review panel
Tree cover, biodiversity and the work of the Forest of Oxford	One off panel
Personnel Committee to deal with employment, training and HR matters	One off panel

Recycling rates	Ad hoc panel
Planning enforcement and monitoring compliance	Committee item

New suggestions rated as a lower priority for inclusion in the scrutiny work programme

Topic	Possible Approach
Maintenance of roads and pavements, quality of sub-contractor works.	Committee item
Public Communications / Consultation	Committee item
Graffiti	Committee item
Complaints received by the City Council	Committee item
Employment of interns, apprentices and work experience students	Committee item
Contact Centre performance	Committee item
School/employer links and careers advice	Committee item
Heritage listing process	Committee item
The Council's external contracts, funding raised and their impacts	One off panel
Better Partnership with the County Council	One off panel

New suggestions not taken forward in scrutiny work programme

Topic	Reason removed
Cycling	Cycling Panel will end when report submitted
Oxford Transport Strategy	Already considered by Cycling Panel / little influence
S106 funding	Already considered by Cycling Panel
New community centre for Jericho	Area-specific
Child Poverty	Already considered by Inequality Panel
How to improve the health of people in the city	Responsibility of Joint Health Committee
Primary care in Oxford	Responsibility of Joint Health Committee
Mental health services	Responsibility of Joint Health Committee

4. Draft Scrutiny Committee Agenda Schedule

Date	Agenda Item	Lead Officer(s)
7 September, 6.15pm, St. Aldate's Room	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy (pre-scrutiny)2. Oxford Railway Station Redevelopment (pre-scrutiny)3. Proposed Lease and Monitoring Arrangements for Community Centres (pre-scrutiny)4. Community Centre Strategy 2015-2020 (pre-scrutiny)5. Gloucester Green Market (pre-scrutiny)6. Performance report – 2015/16 quarter 17. Report of the Cycling Panel	Ian Brooke Fiona Piercy Mark Spriggs Ian Brooke Piers Scrimshaw-Wright

5. Items called in and Councillor calls for action

None

6. Items referred to Scrutiny by Council

None

7. Finance Panel work programme 2015/16

Items for Finance Panel meetings

Suggested Topic	Suggested approach / area(s) for focus
Budget 2016/17	Review of the Council's medium term financial strategy.
Budget monitoring	Regular monitoring of projected budget outturns through the year.
Municipal Bonds	To receive an update on the progress of a municipal bonds agency and consider whether there is a case for the City Council investing in or borrowing from the agency.
Low Carbon Hub funding model	To receive a briefing on the Low Carbon Hub funding model and consider whether there is an opportunity for the City Council to use a similar model to generate capital funding.
Corporate Debt Policy	To pre-scrutinise the Council's Corporate Debt Policy.
Treasury Management	Scrutiny of the Treasury Management Strategy and regular monitoring of Treasury performance.
Recommendation monitoring -Budget Review 2015/16	To receive an update on the progress of the Panel's budget review recommendations from 2015/16.
Recommendation monitoring – European Funding	To receive an update on the progress of the Panel's European Funding recommendations.
Council tax exemptions	To receive an update on the financial implications of different types of exemptions.

Draft Finance Panel agenda schedule

Date and room	Agenda Item	Lead Member; Officer(s)
29 October 2015, 5.30pm, St. Aldate's Room	1. Treasury Management Performance (pre-scrutiny)	Anna Winship
	2. Recommendation monitoring – Budget Review 2015/16	Nigel Kennedy
	3. Recommendation monitoring – European Funding	Nigel Kennedy

8. Housing Panel work programme 2015/16

Items for Housing Panel meetings

Topic	Approach
Tenant Participation	Possible review topic.
Performance monitoring	Regular monitoring of housing performance measures.
STAR survey results	Annual monitoring of results of the tenant survey.
Rent arrears	Monitoring of performance measures; update report.
De-designation of 40+ accommodation	Final annual report on the latest phase of the de-designation of 40+ accommodation.
Review of the Homelessness Action Plan 2013-18	Mid-point review of homelessness action plan.
Supporting people	Verbal updates on the joint commissioning of housing support services.
Choice Based Lettings	Request report for autumn 2015 (current 3-year agreement ends in December). To consider issues of fairness, communication and a possible move to a weekly cycle.
Security in communal areas	Request report to consider ways of improving security for tenants, including the use of PSPOs in tower blocks. Engage with block representatives.
Great estates programme	Request report to update members on capital investments to improve housing estates including Blackbird Leys and Barton.
Environmental sustainability of the Council's housing stock	Consider in pre-scrutiny of Housing Energy Strategy.
Licensing for private landlords	Consider in pre-scrutiny of Private Sector Housing Policy
Research trends of private sector housing costs	Consider in pre-scrutiny of Private Sector Housing Policy and Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Licensing Scheme.
Sustainability of the Council's housing stock and HRA business plan in light of national policy changes	Report to CEB expected in 2016.
Alternative delivery models including; community land trusts, self-build, more housing on the waterways, high-density housing.	Consider in pre-scrutiny of Housing Development Delivery Models & project approval for the delivery of the Council's 2015-18 affordable housing programme.

Draft Housing Panel Agenda Schedules

Date (all 5pm start)	Agenda Item	Lead Officer(s)
4 June	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Asset Management Strategy (pre-scrutiny) 2. Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Licensing Scheme (pre-scrutiny) 	<p>Stephen Clarke</p> <p>Ian Wright / Adrian Chownes</p>
3 September	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. De-designation of 40+ accommodation 2. Review of the Homelessness Action Plan 2013-18 3. Housing Energy Strategy (pre-scrutiny) 4. Performance Monitoring – quarter 1 	<p>Tom Porter</p> <p>Dave Scholes</p> <p>Debbie Haynes</p>
8 October	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choice Based Lettings (TBC) 2. Private Sector Housing Strategy (pre-scrutiny) 3. Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Licensing Scheme (pre-scrutiny) 4. Sheltered Housing Review (pre-scrutiny) 	<p>TBC</p> <p>Ian Wright</p> <p>Ian Wright / Adrian Chownes</p> <p>Frances Evans</p>

Appendix 2 - Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker April 2015 to June 2016

Report of the Local Economy Panel – Scrutiny Committee 2 June				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / update due date
<p>1. We recommend that the City Council:</p> <p>a) Ensures that information about appealing to the Valuation Office Agency is made available to local businesses. In particular, this information should be communicated to all independent traders who may be affected by the major redevelopments taking place in Oxford.</p> <p>b) Takes any opportunities to join with other local authorities to lobby the new Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government for more council controls over business rates.</p>	yes	There is no doubt that business rate reform and/or local capacity to benefit from business rate growth on a more generous basis are major issues for local government. The devolution agenda will also have a bearing on these issues.	Matt Peachey	Nov 2015
<p>2. We recommend that the City Council works with the County Council through the Town Team to agree on a single united channel of regular communications to businesses, such as about travel disruptions, supported by a single online source of information.</p>	yes		City Centre Manager	Nov 2015
<p>3. We recommend that the City Council develops a more corporate approach to communicating with businesses, including guidance for all departments whose work has an impact or involvement with businesses. This could take the form of defining a central point of contact within the City Council, which can</p>	no	The Communications team will examine this recommendation and consider what elements of it will be feasible and useful to take forward	Head of Comms	N/A

identify the appropriate unit to respond on specific issues, including the County Council as appropriate.				
4. We recommend that the City Council works with partners through the Town Team to reinforce the coordinated overall marketing and publicity campaign for Oxford in ways that cover all major potential audiences.	yes	The Town Team should also work closely with the Chief exec of Experience Oxfordshire on marketing and publicity for the city	City Centre Manager	Nov 2015
5. We recommend that the City Council develops a one stop shop function for events. This exercise should include a review of the costs and processes associated with aspects such as permission for road closures, stall licences and permits for distributing leaflets.	possibly	The Events Team already provides a pretty comprehensive one stop shop function within the City Council but they have to work alongside County Council officers on highways issues, which inevitably results in a less than fully comprehensive service. Worth exploring the scope for greater integration	Peter McQuitty/Alison Drummond	Nov 2015
6. We recommend that the City Council produces a simple analysis of the costs and benefits of pop up shops to landlords and the City Council.	no	The costs and benefits will vary so widely that this is likely to be a nugatory exercise.		N/A
7. We recommend that the City Council takes a lead in establishing and facilitating a city centre commercial property landlord forum. This would be intended to bring together the owners of commercial properties, including the City Council, to ensure that there is a coordinated approach towards issues affecting the city centre, such as the minimisation of the time during which premises are empty. The forum could be chaired by the Leader of the Council,	yes	This is a worthwhile initiative and worth trying, although there is an obvious danger that it would simply replicate the Town Team's work. The TOR would have to be very carefully written.	Jane Winfield	Nov 2015

linked to the work of the Town Team and constituted based on the model of the previous Pensions and Language School forums. We also suggest that its membership should include a representative of each political group and that City Councillors should be able to observe meetings of the forum.				
8. We recommend that the City Council leads on the development of a long term strategy for the city centre as a whole. This should include a commitment to developing and supporting vibrant and distinct city quarters away from prime sites, in locations such as Gloucester Green, Jericho/Observatory Quarter, Market Street, Broad Street and a possible arts quarter around the Ashmolean Museum.	yes	Work is already under way in the Planning Policy team on a city centre strategy.	Rachel Williams	Nov 2015
9. We recommend that dedicated officer time is allocated to the development and delivery of this city centre strategy. This could be funded wholly or in part via a BID and by additional business rates income that the role will generate, via reduced voids in commercial properties.	premat ure	When we have an agreed strategy, the resource implications will be assessed. The Town Team will be continuing their consideration of a BID over the next few months. The initiative lies with the business community		Nov 2015
10. We recommend that the City Council's next Asset Strategy (2016-2020) builds upon the aim (not always presently achieved) of utilising City Council assets in ways that can provide wider strategic benefits to the city centre. The Asset Strategy could provide clear guidelines on the use of City Council-owned commercial premises to ensure the diversity and vitality of the city's wider retail offer.	no	This recommendation will be remitted to the Asset management team for consideration with the portfolio holder and key officers when work on the 2016-20 strategy is started.	David Edwards/Jan e Winfield	N/A

Covered Market Leasing Strategy – Scrutiny Committee 2 June				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
We recommend that the City Executive Board approve the updated Covered Market Leasing Strategy 2015 with the following amendments: a) The word ‘discouraged’ in paragraph 4.4 is strengthened to ‘avoided’. b) The word ‘typically’ in the sixth bullet point of paragraph 4.9 is changed to ‘usually’. It could also be stated that exceptions will be considered for larger independent retailers that originate from Oxford.	Y	Happy to accept these changes	Bob Price / Elaine Philip	Y
City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) – Scrutiny Committee 2 June				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. We recommend that an Enforcement Code of Conduct for Officers should be produced and that this code should be in place and in the public domain before any enforcement actions are taken under the City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order.		<i>Decision deferred.</i>	Dee Sinclair / Richard Adams	TBC
2. We ask Executive to note that a minority of the Scrutiny Committee opposed aspects of the PSPO most notably the inclusion of non-aggressive begging and busking in the PSPO.			Dee Sinclair / Richard Adams	
3. We recommend that the existing ‘Code of Conduct for Busking and Street Entertaining in Oxford’ should be reviewed and revised to provide a more comprehensive “Guide to Busking and Street Entertaining in Oxford”.			Dee Sinclair / Richard Adams	

<p>This guide should be accessible to buskers, street entertainers, businesses and the public, and draw on examples of good practice from other cities, as well as input Dee Sinclair / Richard Adams from stakeholders such as the Musicians Union. It should be in place before any enforcement actions are taken under the PSPO.</p>				
<p>4. We recommend that officers are instructed to look at the differential equalities impact of the PSPO proposals, for example the behaviour of sleeping in public toilets, having regard for example to safeguarding concerns for vulnerable adults.</p>			Dee Sinclair / Richard Adams	
Housing Asset Management Strategy – Housing Panel 4 June				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
<p>1. We note that a number City Council owned garages are not in use and recommend that the City Council reviews how it could make better use of these assets (for example as sites for new affordable housing or free off street car parking for residents), treating several garage sites as a virtual site. Consideration should be given to explicitly stating this aim, currently implied, in the Asset Management Strategy.</p>	In part	Garages are not housing assets so won't be mentioned in this strategy but we will be make better use of our garage assets.	Scott Seamons / Stephen Clarke	

Review of the HMO Licensing Scheme – Housing Panel 4 June				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. We recommend that the City Council renews the HMO licensing scheme in its entirety for a further 5 years (option 3). Consideration should be given to appropriate incentives and disincentives for landlords, and to the balance between taking a more pro-active approach to compliance whilst continuing efforts to extend the licensing scheme to cover more HMOs.	Y		Scott Seamons / Ian Wright	Y
2. We note that the City Council is developing a Corporate Enforcement Policy and recommend that: a) Enforcement within the Private Rented Sector is a corporate priority, b) The Policy recognises that the City Council should take a different approach to enforcement in different sectors (e.g. Private Rented Sector, Public Spaces Protection Orders, etc.), rather than a one size fits all approach.	Y		Alex Hollingsworth / Cathy Gallagher	Nov 2015
European Funding – Finance Panel 28 April				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. We recommend that the City Council actively looks to bid for LEP managed funding in priority issue areas (see recommendation 2).	Y	The LEP are in discussions with Whitehall about ESIP funding.	Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel Kennedy	
2. We recommend that the City Council identifies a small number of priority issue areas	Y		Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel	Oct 2015 update to

for future EU bids. We suggest that these priorities should be drawn from the following short-list: - Housing (see recommendation 3) - Low Carbon Economy - Sustainable transport - Recycling - Air pollution			Kennedy	Finance Panel
3. We recommend that the City Council keeps a watching brief on details of the EU Strategic Investment Plan, including whether this covers housing, with a view to identifying viable projects in Oxford.	Y		Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel Kennedy	
4. We recommend that the City Council explores whether there is an appetite amongst regional partner organisations for the establishment of a South East England European Office, similar to the East of England European Partnership Office.	N	The South East is a big and disparate region with unrelated local economies. It is relatively unlikely that Councils would commit to this spend.	Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel Kennedy	
5. We recommend that the City Council encourages Oxfordshire LEP to develop expertise and provide advice to local organisations on obtaining European funding.	Y		Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel Kennedy	
6. We recommend that a member or officer champion is appointed to raise the profile of EU funding. Given that maximising non-government funding streams is increasingly important to the City Council, this role could be explicitly set out in the responsibilities of an Executive Board Member.	In part	We have appointed an officer champion. Executive members will champion their own areas.	Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel Kennedy	
7. We recommend that the City Council discusses the option of joint EU funding bids	Y	We warmly accept this recommendation.	Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel	

with Oxford's Twin Towns and identifies other cities across the EU to partner with on future bids. This could involve working with historic cities in Southern Europe on sustainable transport solutions, for example.			Kennedy	
8. We recommend that the City Council identifies local businesses that it could potentially collaborate with on future EU funding bids.	Y	This is already happening through Oxford Economic Strategic Partnership	Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel Kennedy	
9. We recommend that the City Council promotes the Low Carbon Hub model through MEPs or other suitable channels, and encourages its replication across the EU.	Y	There is an EU level climate change forum and climate alliance at municipal level.	Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel Kennedy	
Capital Strategy – Finance Panel 28 April				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
<p>We recommend that the City Executive Board approve the Capital Strategy subject to the following suggestions:</p> <p>a) To enable more accurate and consistent ratings, Key Outcomes in the Capital Project Scoring Guidance should be more clearly defined and explicitly aligned to the Council's corporate objectives (Appendix B).</p> <p>b) The Project Delivery Process and the Gateway Process should be better integrated and provide similar levels of detail at each stage (Appendix F, pages 1 and 2).</p> <p>c) A member briefing on the capital process</p>	Y		Cllr Ed Turner / Nigel Kennedy	20 July 15

<p>should be offered to all City Councillors.</p> <p>d) The City Council should look to improve its project management function by exploring what can be learnt from Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) guidance and from partners who do project management successfully, such as the University of Oxford.</p>				
Covered Market Action Plan – Scrutiny Committee 27 April				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
<p>We recommend that the City Executive Board note the following comments:</p> <p>a) Wifi in the Covered Market should remain a priority for the City Council, even if traders do not want to invest in this.</p> <p>b) The Covered Market website should be updated more regularly as the News section is several months out of date.</p> <p>c) Improvements to signage are very welcome and we would like to see progress in developing an overall brand identity for the Covered Market, which should be tied in with on-going improvements.</p> <p>d) A new leaflet promoting the Covered Market that includes a map showing transport links would be welcome.</p>	In part	<i>To follow</i>	Cllr Ed Turner / Jane Winfield	

e) Consideration should be given to providing signage and menus in different languages to cater for the needs of the main visitor groups.				
f) Moving the gates to the Covered Market would push rough sleepers somewhere else.				
Safeguarding Policy – Scrutiny Committee 27 April				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
Recommendation 1 – We recommend that the City Council strengthens engagement and protocols with Housing Associations in relation to vulnerable groups that they house.	Y	Yes we do want to strengthen our engagement and protocols with Mental Health. For Clarification We do not have such protocols with Housing Associations. We are, however, working with Housing associations and other housing providers to develop information sharing and an interface with the MASH	Cllr Pat Kennedy / Val Johnson	
Recommendation 2 – We recommend that the City Council prioritises the following in the next budget round: a) Continuing to fund the Safeguarding Coordinator post, b) Supporting the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub.	Y		Cllr Pat Kennedy / Val Johnson	Dec 15
Recommendation 3 – We recommend that the City Council ensures that feedback from frontline staff is sought more widely when	Y		Cllr Pat Kennedy / Val Johnson	

monitoring the effectiveness of training and policy.				
Recommendation 4 – We recommend that the City Council monitors feedback from children to test the effectiveness of Safeguarding policies and plans on the ground and to identify any blockages.	Y	<p>Yes we can do some engagement with young people around safeguarding issues through the youth Ambition Programme and Young Engagement Officer.</p> <p>For clarification.</p> <p>We would not monitor feedback directly from children involved in safeguarding cases. This would be done through OSCB Case File Reviews.</p>	Cllr Pat Kennedy / Val Johnson	
Recommendation 5 – We recommend that the City Council ensures that training for City Councillors includes a focus on their role as being the eyes and ears of their communities.	Y		Cllr Pat Kennedy / Val Johnson	
<p>Recommendation 6 – We recommend that the City Council raises the following with the County Council:</p> <p>a) The need for schools to be issued with guidance on safeguarding policies, including the role of elected Councillors in safeguarding,</p> <p>b) Concern that some School counsellors have been cut and that some pupils have to wait a long time to be able to access this provision.</p>	Y	Yes we could pass on members' concerns to the County Council.	Cllr Pat Kennedy / Val Johnson	