

# 1. A Vibrant and Sustainable Economy

A smart and entrepreneurial city with a thriving local economy supported by improved infrastructure, training and skills

## Oxford City Council Corporate Plan Priorities 2016-2020;

**Secure a devolution agreement with central government which gives greater local control** of decisions and investment in transport, housing, skills and business support to meet the needs of our economy.

**Promote new jobs** and increased investment in local enterprises and the knowledge economy.

**Improve infrastructure**, public transport and opportunities for walking and cycling across the city to reduce congestion, and support economic and housing growth.

**Deliver effective support** to attract new businesses and allow local businesses to prosper and grow.

**Improve workforce skills** to meet local demand by working with Oxfordshire Skills Board to support educational attainment, traineeships, apprenticeships and better targeting of funding for skills across the spectrum.

**Promote and shape development** and unlock land for housing and employment sites to help meet the needs of the city.

### Key Achievements for 2016

Secured funding for infrastructure at Northern Gateway and Oxpens, which will result in 900 new homes, office space and over 4200 jobs.

Invested £8.4m to deliver a mixed used development of over 400 new homes, a hotel, office space and public realm in Oxpens, which will transform the west end of the city.

500 businesses can now access faster broadband speeds, via the Super-Connected Cities Project.

Taken forward the redevelopment of Oxford Station with planning guidance for the redevelopment of the station ready for consultation in early 2017.

Work has begun on a new Local Plan, which will shape the city's development up to 2036.

Established Community Employment Plans with partner companies, that will support 20 apprenticeships and 180 people into work experience or training. These will cover Westgate,

Barton Park and the Tower Block recladding projects.

Supported people into locally based work through community job fairs in Blackbird Leys, Rose Hill and Barton.

Engaged with over 1,200 local businesses to support economic growth and attract inward investment. Launched a new Business Forum 'The Talk of the Town'.

Set up a new Start-Up and Grow-On Group to increase office space in the city centre and established a new co-working space at Oxford Centre for Innovation.

Reached the shortlist for the European Capital of Innovation alongside Paris, Milan, Amsterdam, Glasgow, Turin, Eindhoven and Berlin.

### Areas of focus 2017-20

With the LEP and Oxfordshire Councils negotiate an ambitious Devolution Deal with Government to secure investment in infrastructure to support housing and economic growth.

Work with partners to develop a low carbon and energy efficient economy

and to increase access to lower cost and sustainable local energy.

Extensive consultation with residents and businesses on the Oxford Local Plan, which will shape the future development of the city to 2036.

Work with partners to ensure the successful opening of the Westgate Shopping Centre in 2017.

Invest £4.5m to make improvements to the Seacourt Park and Ride car park, to ensure that there are adequate car parking facilities to serve the city centre..

Take forward investment and redevelopment of key sites in the West End including Oxpens and the Oxford Station redevelopment.

Invest in the development of commercial sites and creation of space for small business, including Standingford House in Cave Street.

Agree a City Centre Strategy with local businesses, residents and other partners to enhance the physical environment of the city centre.

Create a 2,000sq ft. co-working space in Oxford Town Hall to support small businesses, increase jobs and generate revenue for the Council.

Success Measures	2016/2017 Targets	2016/2017 Projected Outcome
Amount of employment space permitted for development	15,000sqm	Achieved
Number of jobs created or safeguarded in the city as a result of the council's investment and leadership	900	Achieved
Net annual increase in number of businesses operating in the city	200	Exceeded

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