

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

Make the case for greater local control and devolution of decisions and investment in transport, housing, skills and business growth to meet the needs of our economy.

Promote growth and increased investment in enterprise 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 2017

Working with Oxfordshire authorities and the LEP, secured commitment from Government to a Housing and Growth deal for Oxfordshire to provide £215 million funding for infrastructure and affordable housing and support for business growth and skills and inward investment.

With all six Oxfordshire councils published the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy to identify, map and prioritise Oxfordshire's infrastructure requirements to 2040 and beyond.

Worked with the County Council and the Westgate Alliance to ensure the successful opening of the new Westgate Shopping centre, supporting the creation of 3,400 jobs.

Progressed the Oxford Station Masterplan with the Supplementary Planning Document adopted to guide development of the area.

Secured Local Growth Funds of £11.3 million for Oxford Station

interchange and development, and Osney Mead Innovation Quarter with the potential to create 5,000 jobs
Approved investment of £14 million to redevelop commercial properties to provide new retail and office space.

As part of our OXWED joint venture we completed the masterplan for a mixed use scheme with Hotel, commercial and residential space at Oxpens and have completed the first stage to select a partner.

Produced an 'Oxford Business Guide 2017-19' with an interactive directory of businesses.

Progressed the development of the new Local Plan 2036 for Oxford, successfully taking it through the 'preferred options' stage with extensive community engagement and consultation in summer 2017.

Community Employment Plans for Westgate, Barton Park, Towers resulted in 128 training, work experience or apprenticeship placements.

Supported 50 people to move from benefits into employment.

Successfully managed two countywide projects worth £1.1 million funded by the European Social Fund, to support vulnerable and disadvantaged residents into training and employment.

Progressed planning permission for extension of Seacourt Park and Ride.

Areas of Focus 2018 – 2020

Ensure the successful delivery of Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.

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

Continue to invest in the development of commercial office space for start-ups and small businesses across identified sites within the city centre.

Publish Draft Oxford Local Plan 2036.

Finalise the City Centre Management Strategy with key city-wide partners.

Refresh the city-wide Business Engagement Framework to attract and retain jobs locally.

Success Measures	2017/2018 Targets	2017/2018 Projected Outcomes
Amount of employment space permitted for development	15,000sqm	Not achieved due to a slowing in large applications coming forward and loss of employment space to residential due to Permitted Development Rights
Number of jobs created or safeguarded in the city as a result of the City Council's investment and leadership	900	Achieved over target at 3,800
Net annual increase in number of businesses operating in the city	200	140 net increase as of November 2017. Figure suggests more people have chosen to work for an employer rather than being self-employed

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Deliver ongoing activity through Community Employment Plans to support improved workforce skills and employability and encourage Living Wage adoption by business.

Deliver the programme of Smart Oxford pilots agreed with partners.

Take forward Blackbird Leys regeneration scheme with new shops, community Centre and affordable homes.

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