

# 1. A Vibrant and Sustainable Economy

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

## Corporate Plan Priorities 2016-2020

**Secure greater local control** 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 safe walking and cycling to reduce congestion, and support economic and housing growth.

**Provide effective support** for new businesses and for local businesses to prosper and grow.

**Improve workforce skills** to meet local demand by working with Oxfordshire Skills Board to support education provision, traineeships, apprenticeships, career advice and better targeting of skills funding.

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

## Key Achievements in 2017

Working with Oxfordshire authorities and the LEP, secured commitment from Government for 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 completed the masterplan for a mixed use scheme at Oxpens and completed the first stage to select a development partner.

Produced the '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 resulted in 128 training, work

experience or apprenticeship placements.

Successfully managed a £1.1 million project to support vulnerable and disadvantaged residents into training and employment.

Secured planning permission for the extension of the Seacourt Park and Ride site.

## Priorities for 2018 – 2020

Successful delivery of Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.

Progress redevelopment of Oxpens and the station areas.

Secure more development of commercial office space for start-ups and small businesses.

Publish the draft Oxford Local Plan 2036 for public consultation.

Complete a City Centre Management Strategy with key partners.

Increase use of Community Employment Plans to support improved workforce skills and employability.

Deliver the Smart Oxford programme as agreed with partners.

Progress the Blackbird Leys regeneration scheme with new shops, new community

Success Measures	2017/2018 Targets	2017/2018 Projected Outcomes
Amount of employment space permitted for development	15,000sqm	Not achieved due to a reduction in large applications and the loss of employment space to residential use through 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 (November 2017).

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centre and affordable homes.

Promote the adoption of the Oxford Living Wage by businesses.

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