

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 2018

Successful partnership work to secure the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal which will deliver £215 million investment in affordable housing and infrastructure projects.

Delivery of first Growth Deal projects in Oxford including cycle path improvements, and public consultation on the Oxfordshire 2050 Plan.

Built on our partnership with Network Rail and others to look at options for redevelopment of Oxford Station and the area around it.

Worked with Independent Oxford to create a new incubation space for independent and local start-ups in Oxford City Council owned properties.

Extensive public engagement and consultation to develop the draft Oxford Local Plan 2036 which will shape sustainable development of the City.

Established a city centre partnership, bringing together private and public partners to identify key priorities and improvements to benefit the city centre.

Successful implementation of a community employment plan for Westgate and Barton projects benefitting 140 people.

Working with the Living Wage Foundation, launched a living wage initiative for the city and committed to raising the Oxford Living Wage from £9.69 to £10.02 per hour in April 2019.

Consulted on the City Centre Conservation Area, which will inform future alterations, development and demolition and ensure that its character and appearance are not harmed.

Achieved near £12 million in rental income and raised £15 million from sales of property, including the

disposal of Temple Cowley Pool and land at Oxpens.

Acting as custodian of the Covered Market on behalf of the residents of Oxford, committed to invest £3.1 million over 6 years to secure its future and completed the lease renewal programme for another 15 years.

Successfully delivered Phase 1 of the £380,000 European Social Fund (ESF) grants programme that funded community-based organisations supporting the most vulnerable residents to access the job market.

Areas of Focus 2019 – 2020

Continue the successful delivery of Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal investment to provide affordable homes and transport improvements for Oxford's residents.

Continue initiatives with the aim of encouraging further take up of the Oxford Living Wage and Oxford becoming the first fully accredited Living Wage City in England.

Publish a refreshed Oxford Economic Growth Strategy that will set out a range of economic initiatives and interventions to safeguard the continued economic success of the city as well as ensuring this is delivered in an inclusive and sustainable manner.

| Success Measures | 2018/2019 Targets | 2018/2019 Projected Outcome |
|---|-------------------|---|
| Amount of employment space permitted for development | 15,000 | 15,000 – <i>On track Apr-Sept 2018 delivered 8412 so far)</i> |
| Number of jobs created or safeguarded in the city as a result of the City Council's investment and leadership | 1,100 | <i>750 to end Dec – expected outturn below target due to economic uncertainty</i> |
| Net annual increase in number of businesses operating in the city | 200 | <i>40 to end-Dec - expected outturn below target due to economic uncertainty</i> |

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Publish the Oxford Local Plan 2036. The Planning Inspectorate will examine the plan later in 2019 with a view to adoption in early 2020.

Progress Oxford Station redevelopment plans, working closely with Network Rail and partners. This will involve station works, bridge works, additional tracks, as well as the wider commercial development and transport interchange proposals.

Develop Blackbird Leys masterplan in consultation with local people for new shops and affordable homes.

Develop a new Asset Management Plan for 2020-2025 so our investment portfolio continues to make a significant contribution to the Council's revenue.

Develop a Vision for Oxford's City Centre to guide the Council's policies and support our ambition that it is a world class, attractive and vibrant centre for culture, retail, commerce, learning and leisure.

Take forward our capital investment programme to develop, for example, Seacourt Park & Ride and East Oxford Community Centre.

Work with traders in the Covered Market to increase footfall and awareness so it continues to be a sustainable and vibrant place to work.

Successfully deliver phase 2 of our ESF project to provide a further £195,000 to community based organisations supporting the most vulnerable residents in the community to access the job market.

The Council's digital technology partnership Smart Oxford will provide co-working space with support and mentors for 10-20 digital technology start-ups to deliver apps and solutions to support health and wellbeing.

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