

Appendix 3A Cabinet Responses to Scrutiny recommendations

22 January 2020 CABINET

Waterways

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>1) That the post of Oxford Waterways Coordinator be extended for a sufficient duration to enable the benefits of the Oxford Waterways partnership to be realised.</p>	Agree	The post has established a strong partnership approach to improving the waterways, developed and published a clear vision and a framework for improvements. Already, much as been achieved and extending the post to continue this work is supported.
<p>2) Where appropriate and in line with our standard review processes and timescales, council strategies and policies will be updated to reflect the contribution of the waterways to the city. For example, the Local Plan, Infrastructure Delivery Plan, Housing and Homelessness Strategy, Green Spaces Strategy and Leisure Strategy.</p>	Agree	As the review cycle allows, and in line with the Council's priorities, there will be opportunities to update our strategies and policies to reflect the contribution made to the city by the waterways.
<p>3) That the city's waterways are recognised as an infrastructure asset and consideration is given to where and when the Council should invest to support them, alongside that of wider partners.</p>	Agree	As the project has developed, we have gained a better understanding as to the range of benefits and opportunities which the waterways present to the city. We will continue to work across the organisation and with our partners to support and maximise those, in line with our priorities.
<p>4) Given the limited understanding of the diverse communities living on boats in the city, the Council considers how, together with the other key partners and communities involved, it can develop a better understanding of the number of people living permanently on boats in the City, the varying reasons for living on boats, the provision of mooring sites and services and the suitability of existing infrastructure to support these communities and whether there are any unmet needs which partners can work together to</p>	Agree	<p>We will discuss with colleagues across the council as to whether there are gaps in our knowledge, where any further research/evidence base can assist in our policy making and the way we respond to specific needs.</p> <p>This will also require further joint work with key partners such as the Environment Agency and the Canal & River Trust.</p>

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
resolve.		
<p>5) That consideration is given as to how the Council should establish a position on the issue of boats as housing and what roles and responsibilities the Council has, alongside those of its partners. Consideration of the following questions may help inform this position:</p> <p>a) Does Cabinet agree with the Scrutiny Committee that boats should be recognised and welcomed for the contribution they currently make to housing provision in the city?</p> <p>b) Council should consider its own roles and responsibilities, alongside those of its partners, with regard boats being used as homes. This should include seeking to understand the Council's statutory roles, such as those associated with being a housing and planning authority, also the wider legal obligations under, for example, equalities legislation.</p> <p>c) Are there sufficient mooring sites and service infrastructure, and what is the Council's role and those of other partners in addressing any shortfalls?</p> <p>d) Is the infrastructure at current Council-owned sites sufficient?</p> <p>e) Are there opportunities for the Council to develop approaches to prioritise the allocation of moorings to those most in need?</p>	Agree	<p>It is acknowledged that boats make a valuable contribution to housing supply in the city, providing homes to vibrant communities.</p> <p>However, the growth in the use of boats as homes and the associated issues is a complex area for the council and our partners.</p> <p>We recognise that further work with colleagues across the council, with key partners and of course with those communities living afloat, is now needed.</p> <p>Through this, we will seek to develop clearer policies, identify and address any shortfalls or unmet need, based on evidence and through engaging and involving our communities.</p> <p>We will first discuss with Cabinet colleagues how best to progress this, in line with our wider priorities.</p>
6. As the Council works together with its partners and communities to regenerate and improve the waterways within the City, it should increase the	Agree	Scrutiny Committee's support for this area of focus is welcomed. Celebrating, protecting and enhancing the heritage of the waterways remains a key objective of the

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>emphasis on the contribution made to local history and culture, ensuring that this heritage is protected and enhanced wherever possible.</p>		<p>Oxford Waterways Project work and there is a range of activity planned across 2020.</p>
<p>7. That the Council will support the use of the waterways as a health and wellbeing resource, supporting healthy communities. In particular, it will support efforts to explore how the waterways can contribute to social prescribing activity and other health initiatives such as health walks.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>Scrutiny Committee's support for this area of focus is welcomed. Promotion of the waterways as an infrastructure asset which supports active, healthy people is a key aim for the Oxford Waterways Project and there is a range of activity planned across 2020.</p>
<p>8. That Council will work with its partners and communities to deliver and support improvement initiatives on the waterways which contribute to wider efforts to combat the climate and ecological crisis</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>Scrutiny Committee's support for this area of focus is welcomed. Good progress has already been made with delivering initiatives that protect and enhance the biodiversity of the waterways, combat pollution and damage. There is a range of activity planned across 2020.</p>
<p>119 9. That the Council identifies how it intends to increase access and use of the waterways by all in the city, particularly as routes for sustainable alternative transport modes such as cycling and walking, with particular consideration given to the issues at Wolvercote Lock and Hythe Bridge.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>Scrutiny Committee's support for this area of focus is welcomed. We continue to work closely with colleagues in the County Council, with the Canal & River Trust and other partners such as SusTrans, to improve the infrastructure, and to promote and increase use of the waterways as places to walk, run and cycle. This work looks across the whole city and there is a range of activity planned across 2020.</p>

Housing and Homelessness Strategy

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>1. That the Council will develop an informed qualitative understanding of the support provided by supported housing providers commissioned by OCC, particularly through additional consultation with recent and current service users.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>The Lived Experience Advisory Forum, established through the Oxford Homeless Movement, has been established partly for this purpose. The Council would very much like to engage with LEAF to better understand the client experience of our commissioned services.</p>

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>2. That the Council will discuss with the Lived Experience Advisory Forum to agree the most appropriate means of ensuring those with lived experience of homelessness are involved in the transformation programme of homelessness services at strategic and service design levels, as well as the development the new Housing and Homelessness Strategy.</p>	Agree	<p>We intend and have already started to work closely with the Lived Experience Advisory Forum to help inform the design and implementation of our homelessness services in this crucial period of transformation. The voice of those with lived experience is a key element of Crisis’s workplan during the feasibility/needs assessment phase of the transformation programme. We also fully intend to involve the forum to help us shape the new Housing and Homelessness Strategy.</p>
<p>3. That the Council makes further progress on embedding homelessness prevention within all the services it delivers. This work to include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuing and reinvigorating the work of the cross council Homelessness Reduction Act Project Group/Homelessness Prevention Officer Group, and ensuring this group continues to identify and deliver actions to embed prevention work across the authority. - The continuation of “Tenants at Risk meetings to continue to ensure officers from teams across the authority work together on cases to prevent homelessness. - Enablement of the Council’s key partner organisations in homelessness prevention through continued support of the Oxfordshire Homelessness Prevention Champions Network to build understanding and relationships with staff from a range of organisations in order to prevent homelessness 	Agree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) This is already in train and the Council-wide Homelessness Prevention Officer Group, with a new scope agreed for their work, has its first meeting scheduled in January. ii) We are fully committed to continuing the Tenants at Risk meetings. These are chaired by a senior officer, reviewed on a regular basis and is a critical tool in the prevention of homelessness. iii) As a legacy of Trailblazer, Oxford City continues to support the Champions Network with officer support confirmed.

12 February 2020 CABINET

Budget Review Group Report

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>1. That the Council, in the event that it receives external homelessness-related grant receipts above predicted levels, tops up the homelessness reserve with unspent monies.</p>	Yes	The Council received £755k Flexible Homelessness Grant (£255k above predicted levels) and £171k of New Burdens grant (which was predicted to be zero). The additional amount of £426k has been added to the homelessness reserve. It should be noted that these grants are linked to the delivery of the Homelessness Reduction Act obligations and expenditure is monitored by MHCLG.
<p>2. That the Council, in its final budget report, includes specific reference to the cost of Council-funded homelessness services (street homelessness and temporary accommodation) as a percentage of its net budget. Further, that it adds commentary to explain the long-term financial paybacks of investing in prevention and early-intervention homelessness services.</p>	Yes	The £7.4m is 7.5% of the gross General Fund expenditure and 30.6% of the net budget requirement Upfront investment in prevention and early intervention services reduces the expenditure on expensive, crisis services such as B&B, temporary accommodation and services related to rough sleeping. There is also a wider impact on broader public services such as children and adult social care, criminal justice and health.
<p>3. That the Council identifies and uses national benchmarks for homelessness-related spending to monitor the value for money of its approach.</p>	Partially	This is not possible at this time. Whilst we agree with the principle in terms of giving an indication of value for money, there is no approved available benchmarking to reference and although there is financial information available from CIPFA, financial information alone without detailed non financial information on service levels is unreliable. However, as and when such information becomes available, we stand ready use it.
<p>4. That the Council monitors and reports on the outcomes of commissioned outreach services at Floyds Row to determine efficacy and value for money before such services are recommissioned.</p>	Yes	Yes, robust contract monitoring is in place and service specifications are set up with a view to enabling a flexible approach within the current contract period and lessons learnt to be taken into consideration as part of future specifications.

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
5. That in its final budget, the Council reports separately on how much of the £18 million of capital investment the Council has made to help support decarbonisation measures in Oxford has been spent to date.	Yes	Details confirmed in the table at the end of this document
6. That the Council in its final budget itemises the percentage of spending on decarbonisation measures within each service area.	Yes	The £18million identified above is over a number of years and with the exception of £1.5 million on HRA initiatives and Home Improvement Agency initiatives of £1.7m is largely spent on areas within the Environmental Sustainability service area. In addition to the above, there is the cost of the staff working on these areas plus other future work which has yet to be fully understood and costed on the councils operational buildings and council houses.
122 7. That future budget proposals feature independent officer comment on the impact that the Council's plans may have on the environment, and how closely aligned the proposals are to the Council's broader environmental ambitions	Yes	The impact of the Council's capital projects on the environment is now being picked up in the capital monitoring process which is overseen by the Project Management Office. Managers are required to input comments relating to this on their monthly updates
8. That the Council devises a policy on offsetting to balance the delivery of efficient and accredited offsetting with tangible local benefits. Specific consideration to be given to investing in 'pure' carbon offsets and donating the spread figure between the price of those and 'co-benefit' carbon offsets to the Lord Mayor's Climate Fund.	Yes	Detailed consideration will be given to how offsets are implemented. The council will devise a policy around offsetting, however this is a complex and specialist technical area which will take some time to develop.
9. That the Council reconsiders the costs and benefits of the proposal to cancel the funding for the Blue Bin recycling league, and to consider this as a priority item for funding in the event that funding becomes available between the creation of the draft budget and the agreement of the final budget.	Partially	There may have been a misunderstanding on this point. Only £19k of the £139k cost of providing the Blue Bin recycling initiative has been put forward as a saving: members declined to take a larger saving in this area. This saving principally relates to the Blue Bin League itself in terms of financial incentives and prizes to organisations. The team undertaking the education of customers to

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
		recycle will remain in place.
10. That the Council undertakes a review of its approach to those who repeatedly contaminate recycling bins, and to include greater consideration of whether the use of fines is an appropriate response.	Yes	Yes, a review will be undertaken. Options analysis is a regular part of officer recommendations and best practice is sought continually.
11. That the Council will encourage as a member of the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership the use of the WRAP Toolkit for Local Authorities to identify and support partnership priorities.	Yes	This can be considered, however, as is recognised in the question the Oxfordshire Waste and Resources Partnership is made up of all Oxfordshire local authorities and consequently all authorities will need to agree to this suggestion before it is implemented.
12. That prudent assumptions for income expectations arising from the Zero Emissions Zone be included with the Medium Term Financial Plan.	No	Given that this is a new initiative it is difficult to assess a realistic level of income that would accrue to the authority as this would depend on the amount collected, the associated cost of provision and how proceeds were distributed by the County Council who are primarily responsible for implementation. Any revenue due to the authority will be introduced into the Council's budget once the zero emission zone is operational and more information is available. We therefore believe that a nil figure is appropriate at this stage.
13. That the Council takes actions to promote the successes of the Planning apprenticeship team and the positive impact well-delivered apprenticeships can deliver.	Yes	It is proposed to have an article in the external 'Your Oxford' newsletter which highlights the successful apprenticeship programme delivered by the Council, of which the Planning apprenticeship will feature. This is due Spring 2020. It is also proposed to run some internal 'stories' of successful apprenticeships taken up by current employees in line with the Your Oxford article and promote the opportunities available through the levy funding.
14. That the Council, in its final budget report, lists the perceived risk to deliverability of savings within the General Fund Budget Proposals	Yes	This has been covered within the risk implications section of the report.

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
Summary.		
<p>15. That the Council continues to pursue prudent invest to save schemes, and that it gives particular attention to savings enabled through technology, especially artificial intelligence and automation.</p>	Yes	<p>Yes the Council will continue to invest in schemes which seek to improve efficiency and save money. Members will note the considerable investment in ODS of approximately £18million which will drive increased dividends to the council of circa £3 million per annum. The Council will continue to pursue all efficiencies and invest to save schemes that arise from ICT, accommodation and service transformation.</p>
<p>16. That in considering the viability of proposed projects within the New Ways of Working programme consideration of social value impacts be embedded as part of the decision-making process.</p>	Yes	<p>The Council has taken steps in the procurement of supplies and services to embed social value offered by tenderers in the evaluation of all quotations and tenders received. The council has also recently hosted a number of seminars on the inclusive economy and working with social enterprises. Whilst there is still much to be done we have made some progress and there is a report tracking to Finance Panel in February on this progress. We will seek to embed the consideration of social value in all that we do although how this is still the subject of discussion.</p>
<p>17. That the Council takes steps to become more ‘digital by default’ rather than ‘digital by choice’ in its service provision, and as part of this presents to members a report on the costs of current non-digital provision, the possible savings made by digitalisation in key service areas and the cost of possible mitigation measures. The Council will also consider potential internal savings by additional digitisation.</p>	Partly	<p>The Customer Experience Strategy responds to rising demands and expectations caused by a more digital society. The strategy is predicated on helping and encouraging those that can to help themselves, whilst recognising that there is still a need for other customers to be supported either because of vulnerability or the complexity of a case. The strategy is clear that the service should not diminish for these customers. It is also clear that the online offering should be at least as good as other channels to encourage their use, and to ensure customers are not pushed to more expensive channels.</p> <p>The enabling tools, skills and services described in the strategy have already helped to identify the delivery of</p>

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
		savings in the medium term financial plan, and the potential for further efficiencies may also arise and as they do will be captured as part of the budget process.
<p>18. That the Council reconsiders the costs and benefits of the proposal to reduce the Community Safety out-of-hours service to weekends only, and to consider this as a priority item for funding in the event that funding becomes available between the creation of the draft budget and the agreement of the final budget.^[1]</p>	No	Analysis of the demand for out of hours noise services during the week show that the cost of each call represents poor value for money, in contrast to demand levels at weekends. Staffing the project also impacts on the well-being of staff who are delivering the project as they also perform their day time roles. This is a good example of where new technology (in this case, the ability of citizens to collate evidence with officer attendance) means a service can be delivered more efficiently.
<p>19. That the Council in its final budget provides an explanatory note which references the unmentioned staffing and other cost-neutral impacts the scheme will have, and significant benefits of the selective licensing scheme: protection of private sector tenants, and the creation of additional employment at no cost to the Council.</p>	Yes	The work to develop a case for selective licensing will be undertaken in 20/21, this work will include the operation of the proposed scheme and the costs of implementation and operation.
<p>20. That the Council reviews its pavement café licensing scheme outside the City Centre giving particular consideration to the cost-benefit of existing fee income and the cost of monitoring and enforcement.</p>	Yes	A review will be carried out during the financial year 2020/21 taking account of these and related matters.
<p>21. That the Council writes an explanatory note concerning the extra legal roles in Law and Governance, drawing attention to their necessity for the delivery of corporate priorities, the additional benefits they expect to bring and the challenge of quantifying those benefits.</p>	Yes	<p>Additional Planning Lawyer and Commercial Property Lawyer - £132k</p> <p>Following a review of the capacity within the Legal Services team to support the Council's plans to invest £67m in commercial property within the period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and to deal with the resultant planning advice two new posts have been</p>

^[1] No priority is given between this recommendation and recommendation 9

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
		recommended. Whilst beneficial financial impacts are anticipated from both posts, particularly through the preparation of S106 Agreements, too many uncertainties exist to allow a quantification of their income generation.
<p>22. That the Council reviews the merits and anticipated negative impacts of increasing fees and charges for land transactions within the Planning and Law and Governance services by the rate of inflation.</p> <p>126</p>	Yes	<p>Following the meeting of the Budget Review Group on 20 January 2020 the Head of Law and Governance has again reviewed the proposed fees and charges for Law and Governance and recommends that they remain as stated without any increase for 2020/2021. These will be kept under review during 2020/2021. The property transaction charges largely apply to small/one person businesses or community groups. With the fees at the current level, the Council does not generally have a problem recouping the costs. The main concern with increasing the fees would be that a) small business/individuals would be put off following the proper course of entering into legal agreements (for example a Licence to Occupy where the fee is currently £400.00), b) the Council would have more difficulty finding tenants for empty units and c) any increase in fees would lead to non-payment and result in a lower income through fees overall. In commercial transactions if higher legal fees are charged then the tenant usually counters this by negotiating a longer rent-free period or a lower rent. It should also be noted that if the tenant has security under the Landlord & Tenant Act 1954, the Council is not able to charge for the work in relation to the renewal lease.</p>

NB A further 3 recommendations restricted due to commercial sensitivity, two agreed, one rejected. For full details see the confidential pack from the Council meeting of 13 February

Planning for the Zero Emissions Zone

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1. That the Council considers the suitability of the 'Zero Emissions Zone' name based on comparisons with the names and vehicle-charging criteria of other Clean Air Zones.	No	The Council has already undertaken considerable assessment of the name Zero Emission Zone and find it suitable to describe the zone and the Council's intentions.
2. That the Council explores the potential future use of geofencing for hybrid vehicles entering the zero emissions zone.	Yes	When geofencing is widely available it will be appropriate to consider how the technology can be used to enforce the ZEZ.
3. That the Council revisits the business case for use of fixed cameras as opposed to mobile ANPR, with particular focus on the capital and revenue costs, anticipated fee generation and levels of behaviour change between the two methods of enforcement.	No	The business case will form part of any final signoff for the scheme by both the City and County Council and it will be under review up to that point.
127 4. That the Council seeks to extend the Red Zone to include Broad Street and Turl Street.	No	These areas will form part of the Green Zone in 2021/22. No stakeholders have been engaged in these areas to date and it would therefore not be appropriate to include them in the Zone from Dec 2020.
5. That the Council amends the proposed daily charges to remove blue badge holders from the charge until December 2030, but for reconsideration as part of a full review of charges in 2024.	No	The Councils are already committed to a review in 2024.

Performance Monitoring Q2

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1. That the Council adds an additional indicator: percentage of total spend on non Council-owned local businesses	Yes	This figure could be easily calculated. Caterina Abrusci
2. That the Council amends the wording of indicator ED002 (Implementation of measures to reduce the City Council's carbon footprint by 5% each year)	Yes	Our target is based on emissions reductions through installed measures and seeks to clearly show a reduction

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>by adding 'below what it would otherwise have been' afterwards</p> <p>128</p>		<p>target that the Council has control over. This approach was audited by PWC, endorsed and held up as best practice as to an approach that many organisations are taking. Emissions capture is so complex and interwoven, there are challenges to where it starts and stops being our responsibility. We are content with the wording being added, we don't believe it changes the methodology of reporting either in year or in the future. We understand that this has been changed with immediate effect anyway because we have previously accepted this wording from Scrutiny. Absolute emissions are reported through our Greenhouse Gas Report to BEIS done on an annual and retrospective basis. The calculations around reporting change each year with grid decarbonisation and are captured and reported through the ONS. We believe our KPI internally seeks to forward look to remove emissions from our Estate and Operations, where-as reporting on absolute emissions is a backward look.</p> <p>Jo Colwell</p>
<p>3. That the Council adds an additional annual indicator: total carbon footprint (excluding the impact of offsetting measures and including the Council's companies)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>We are happy to publish this indicator using the best data available, however, we would not wish it to distract from our core KPI.</p> <p>Jo Colwell</p>
<p>4. That the Council devises an indicator to show the length of time taken between leisure centre repairs being reported and their completion</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Ian Brooke will work through the measures to ensure the measure provides meaningful insight.</p>
<p>5. That the target WR001 (Number of people moved into work by the Welfare Reform Programme) be reduced by 25%</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>It has been agreed for the measure to be reduced by 25% for the remainder of the current financial year. The target set at the start of 19/20 will be maintained for 20/21 as staffing issues in the Welfare Reform Team have now been addressed: A new caseworker has been recruited and another member of staff has returned from maternity leave.</p>

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
		Paul Wilding
<p>6. That the Council provides to Scrutiny an additional measure: capital expenditure in the year-to-date as a percentage of the start of year capital expenditure budget.</p>	Yes	<p>The capital outturn report which went to CMT today for the second quarter ended 31-12-2020 showed forecast outturn of £54.621 million against a revised budget approved by Council in December of £59.961 million i.e. 91% forecast spend.</p> <p>The budget approved in February 2019 for 2020-21 was £101.5 million. Taking this budget the outturn forecast is 53.8%.</p> <p>It will be possible to itemise spend against Service Area.</p> <p>I will attend the next Scrutiny Committee to explain further.</p> <p>Nigel Kennedy</p>

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Customer Experience Strategy

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>1. That the Council gives consideration to the variety of customer-groups the Council engages with, their specific needs and desired outcomes from their engagement, and the Council's current performance in delivering those outcomes in the delivery and prioritisation of work within this strategy.</p>	Yes	
<p>2. That the Council as shareholder ensures that a similar customer experience and service improvement exercise is undertaken in its wholly-owned companies, particularly Oxford Direct Services.</p>	Yes	<p>ODS is undertaking a review of the commercial customer experience, focusing on how we measure and improve customer satisfaction, how we identify and manage new customer expectation, and how we capture customer value beyond the obvious financial transactions. This will be reported back to the ODS Board and Shareholder in the coming months</p>

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>3. That in future iterations of the strategy, the Council looks at future opportunities to increase democratic engagement.</p>	Yes	
<p>4. That the Council develops a citizen engagement strategy to raise the level of engagement across all elements of its interface with the public.</p>	Partial	<p>The Council did previously have a Community Engagement Policy which expired in 2017.</p> <p>Scrutiny has requested a paper on “Public participation in decision making and citizen involvement” for their April 2020 meeting: ‘To consider how the public could be better engaged with council decision making, such as through public meetings, consultations and other public forums, for example’. The Council is in agreement with the broad recommendation, but considers that more targeted recommendations and responses may be made following Scrutiny’s report on Citizen Engagement in April and suggests a delay until after this report has been presented may be a more effective way of sequencing this work..</p>
<p>5. That the Council engages with GP surgeries through their social prescriber link coordinator and any other social prescriber fora to promote the availability of the HIA and other relevant services.</p>	Yes	<p>The Council is already undertaking this, specifically through participating in</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health work streams such as the Health Improvement Board Sub groups, and working with Locality Officers, Prevention Champions, and all of the Physical activity work programm and are currently giving consideration to how we use these links to support the development and prioritisation of services within our priority areas. 2. The primary care network working group, which includes the newly appointed social prescribers and will involve attending the social prescribing Workshop with all the new social prescriber staff lead by Public Health

Capital Strategy

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1) That the Council consults with the ODS workforce, elected members and the public on any future proposal for depot rationalisation.	Yes	<p>This will be carried out by Oxford Direct Services as part of the business plan, as a deliverable criteria in the evaluation and consultation with staff.</p> <p>The development of the ODS New Depot delivery plan is being carried out by ODS and it will be incumbent upon ODS to carry out consultation with workforce, residents, public, and elected members.</p>
2) That clarity is provided in the Capital Strategy that when properties are assessed for potential purchase consideration will be given to any opportunities to redevelop or retrofit properties that are not compliant with the relevant energy efficiency standard.	Yes	<p>Properties for purchase will be assessed against investment criteria, which includes compliance with the relevant energy efficiency standard. Where there is non compliance, the cost of bringing up to the required standard will be factored into the bid price.</p>

11 March CABINET

Blackbird Leys Development

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1. That the Council asks Catalyst Housing Limited to complete the Council's social value procurement paperwork and to agree for its undertakings to be included within the Stage Two Gateway proposals.	Yes	<p>The Council has asked Catalyst who have agreed in principle and we will work with Catalyst to generate a Social Value strategy moving forward.</p>
2. That the Council: a) consults extensively on the adequacy of its alternative provision for current activities at the Community Centre during the decant period, to ensure that the new centre will continue to	Yes	<p>The Cabinet report identifies this work will be included as detailed in the section on Stakeholder Engagement</p>

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>support the community as part of a wider healthy place making agenda</p> <p>b) invests the time and resources to develop the social capital required to enable community-management of the Community Centre to be a viable operating model.</p>	Yes	Boosting social capital of residents and local organisations is definitely planned for as we move forward however, no decision has been taken on future management options and the final choice of business model will need to be agreed at a later stage
<p>132</p> <p>3. That in the detailed design phase of the project the Council requires that Catalyst Housing Limited includes the following within the Stage Two Gateway proposals</p> <p>a) Passivhaus standards of insulation and air-tightness</p> <p>b) Appointing a suitably experience sustainable construction consultant to advise on best practice for delivering homes at Passivhaus standards at construction prices at or below those for Building Regulations</p> <p>c) A 'comfort payment' system similar to that from Nottingham City Homes as a means of closing any viability gaps related to the cost of delivering Passivhaus standards</p> <p>d) The appointment of a biodiversity partner to advise on and monitor actions to support ecological mitigations to the development.</p>	<p>Partial</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Provision has been made for compliance with the emerging Local Plan requirements however we will continue to look at further options to improve standards in line with the overall budget envelope</p> <p>The Catalyst team already includes a sustainability consultant with Passivhaus experience</p> <p>Catalyst is unable to agree as they do not have the financial systems to support this and it is not part of the current Development Agreement</p> <p>Catalyst team already includes an environmental consultant who will advise on biodiversity as part of their environmental impact assessment</p>

Gender Pay Gap

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>1. That the Council gives greater prominence to promoting male take-up of shared parental leave within its current and prospective workforce. A particular suggestion is the inclusion of articles within Council Matters by male staff who have taken shared parental leave on their experiences and the benefits they have encountered.</p>	Yes	The Council is happy to accommodate this recommendation

08 June CABINET

No Scrutiny recommendations considered.

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24 June CABINET

Covid Recovery Programme

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>1. That the Council coordinates and / or develops an overarching digital strategy for the City and considers in joined-up fashion the multiple areas in which digital will play an increasingly important role in the Covid recovery response. Areas to include but not limited to: working from home, service user modal-shift, infrastructure requirements, the impacts of increasing digital shopping and working on the city centre, and enabling shop-local within an increasingly digital retail environment.</p>	Y	<p>The response to COVID has meant a significant shift towards digitalisation across our services as people accessing and staff delivering our services have been doing so from home. The “delivering services differently” workstrand of our recovery programme will be looking to sustain and maximise opportunities to digitise many of our services. In terms of the impact of changes in the way that people are using and travelling within the city, the City Economic Strategy will provide the framework for understanding these trends and informing Countywide work to secure investment in digital infrastructure.</p>

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
2. That the Council investigates the potential of setting up a regional mutual bank	Part	We will explore the practice and experience from elsewhere, particularly to see what impact (positive or negative) the COVID-19 pandemic has had on other regional mutuals. We will then need to assess whether to progress this further.
3. That the Council encourages OxLEP to provide advice on how to set up or convert to social enterprise or cooperative business models to those for whom it would be appropriate	Y	We will discuss with OxLEP how this might be done, building on their eScalate programme which supports social entrepreneurs, enterprising charities and other purposeful businesses committed to enabling positive social and environmental impact
4. That the Council develops options on how it mobilises its leisure services, officers, and assets, and how it can work in partnerships with communities , health and other partners to target higher-need groups to get people active and improve their health. The Council is especially encouraged to consider how it might increase the use of outdoor facilities and spaces more	Y	This will be taken forward as part of the work on future options for community services and development of the hubs and as part of the discussions with health partners in tackling Health Inequalities highlighted as part of the Health and Social Care workstrand we are aiming to take forward with partners. We are also launching a new programme called Go Active Outdoors that includes a range of activities in our parks and on the waterways.
5. That the Council endorses the request of Scrutiny to the Council's Health Overview Scrutiny Committee representatives that the HOSC undertake a review concerning the equalities impacts of the Covid epidemic.	Y	Agreed

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April Budget Monitoring Report

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1) That the Council continues to take all possible steps in lobbying government to allow the capitalisation of its deficits	Y	The Council is like a number of authorities lobbying for the Government to issue a Directive to allow capitalisation of its losses, in the absence of further cash support. This would ease the pressure of the balancing of the MTFP

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
		since losses could be charged over a longer period of time. We have raised this with representative organisations of which we are a member and with neighbouring districts, as well as directly to the government.
2) That the Council does not pause but proceeds with its £60,000 planned capital spend on cycling infrastructure	Y	We agree that the crisis presents a unique opportunity to promote cycling and other sustainable forms of transport. Moreover, it is important to show Oxfordshire County Council that we are supportive of cycle infrastructure and would wish it, as the Highways Authority (and in receipt of substantial government funding for this purpose) to pursue the same approach. For this reason, we agree not to include the £60k expenditure this year in the pause, although future years' funding will depend on the review of the MTFs.

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Corporate Plan Update 2016-20 Y4 Report

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>Recommendation 1: That the Council agrees to make the following amendments to the Annual Update on the Corporate Plan 2016-20 for inclusion in the published version:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After 'Implementation of measures calculated to reduce the City Council's carbon footprint by 5% each year' add the words 'below what it would otherwise have been' or to add a similar explanatory footnote to the measure. 2. Add to the existing text relating to the Council's achievements regarding 'Convene a Citizens' Assembly in Oxford to help consider additional carbon reduction measures to address the climate emergency' the following text: 'The 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Happy to agree the proposed amendments</p>

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>Council's Scrutiny function also established the Climate Emergency Review Group which, over seven meetings, developed 56 recommendations of its own and signposted to 31 more developed externally on how to realise the expressed ambition of Citizens' Assembly members regarding the Climate Emergency, particularly in relation to the built environment.'</p>		