

Cabinet responses to Scrutiny Recommendations

Cabinet response to recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee made on 01/09/2020 concerning the Air Quality Action Plan report

Response provided by Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Green Transport and Zero Carbon Oxford, Tom Hayes

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1) That the Council amends its action plan to make specific reference to the particular negative impacts experienced by BAME community members as well as other risk factors such as disability and low incomes, as well as the particular negative outcomes experienced by those intersecting multiple risk factors.	Yes	To be incorporated in AQAP prior to public consultation
2) That the Council makes the achievement of the legal 40 µg/m³ of NO₂ as a milestone in its plan clearer.	Yes	To be incorporated in AQAP prior to public consultation
3) That the Council provides an explanatory note or glossary reference to explain the technical meanings within the Action Plan of references to NO and NO₂.	Yes	To be incorporated in AQAP prior to public consultation
4) That the Council provides within its plan a definition of the term 'local annual mean'.	Yes	To be incorporated in AQAP prior to public consultation
5) That the Council will continue to think of new and imaginative ways of increasing engagement with the issue of air pollution, especially amongst children and young people, and to increase participation in the Council's consultation on the	Yes	The Council will continue to work with schools and community groups to reach as wide an audience as possible for the public consultation

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Air Quality Action Plan.		
6) That in its communications plan the Council broadens the story it tells about the impact of air pollution away from the City Centre, including people and locations from across Oxford.	Yes	The Council will continue to ensure stories from across the city is hold in relation to air pollution to ensure it is clear this is a city wide issue.
7) That the Council, in its efforts to increase the number of electric vehicle charging points around the city, does not overlook provision for lower-income areas of the City.	Yes	The Council will continue its work as part of Go Ultra Low Oxford to engage across the city.
8) That the Council considers the feasibility of implementing an electric taxi service to replace the Pick Me Up service.	Yes	The Council regularly meet with the taxi trade and will seek their views. We have strong ambitions to help electrify the fleet so recognise one ambition of the recommendation is to clean up our demand responsiveness in the city
9) That the Council will work with ODS to bring forward the plans for the electrification of the ODS fleet.	Yes	The Council will continue to work with ODS on their plans for electrification of their fleet.
10) That the Council continues to employ its best endeavours in working with its partners to realise the plans for the Zero Emissions Zone and Connecting Oxford.	Yes	The Council will continue to progress plans for the introduction of the Zero Emission Zone and Connecting Oxford.

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Cabinet response to recommendations of the Housing and Homelessness Panel made on 03/09/2020 concerning Selective Licensing

Provided by the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Delivery, Councillor Alex Hollingsworth

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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
<p>1) That the Council is mindful of the challenges to hearing the views of vulnerable tenants – those in dangerous accommodation and non-English speakers in particular – and that it adapts its approach to consultation to ensure their views are not overlooked.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>As identified at the panel it is important that the Council hears the views of those tenants living in the private rented sector. Officers in Regulatory Services have been in contact with colleagues across the council to obtain contact details from the voluntary sector and other organisations in the city who provide support for private tenants either directly or indirectly. The list of contacts who will be contacted to advise them about the consultation, is far reaching and includes organisations such as Asylum Welcome, Open Door, the CAB, Connection Floating Support and Oxford Food Bank. We will also engage with the Oxford Tenants Union and Acorn who represent private rented sector tenants. Private sector tenants who contact our Tenancy Relations service for help and advice will be advised of the consultation and given details of how to take part. The consultation will be advertised via social media and other press communications and respondents will be encouraged to complete a questionnaire via the Council's website which has a translation facility. Members also have a key role to play in forwarding details of the consultation to their constituents and networks in the City to have their say and encouraging them to advise their friends and communities to contribute.</p>

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Cabinet response to recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee made on 01/09/2020 concerning the Renewing Discretionary Housing Payment Policy report

Response provided by Cabinet Member for Supporting Local Communities, Marie Tidball

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Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1) That the Council reviews how non-English speakers access advice services, including the suitability of current arrangements for advice services grant-funded by the Council, and the case for providing an in-person translation service in East Oxford, as part of the recommissioning of advice services.	Yes	The council wants to ensure fair access to its commissioned advice services, in particular for groups and communities who may currently struggle to access advice and support, including non-English speakers. The current 3 year funding agreement with the advice organisations in the city runs until the 31 st March 2021 and therefore the council will soon begin the process of reviewing and recommissioning services. The committee's recommendations will be used to inform the review.
2) That the Council develops and implements a plan to monitor the ethnicity and other protected characteristics of DHP applicants, with a view to identifying any particular communities where access to DHP or the number of successful awards from DHP claims are unexpectedly low so as to understand the barriers to access and to inform service development to ensure fair and equal access to DHP for excluded groups.	Yes	We share the view that collecting detailed data on protected characteristics should be priority, and that it will provide valuable insight in the future to shape service development, helping ensure fair access to support. The team will make the necessary procedural changes to fully monitor equality data, so this information will be available in the future.
3) That the Council makes further effort to increase access to DHP for those most in need, including raising awareness with stakeholders and residents through a clear communications plan, and by carrying out targeted outreach to residents most at risk of homelessness informed	Yes	The Welfare Reform Team have a strong track record of promoting DHP, and carrying out targeted outreach to engage residents in greatest need, ensuring the DHP fund is used effectively. However we acknowledge this needs to be continually renewed and reinforced, so accept the recommendation. The team will review its plan, ensuring

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by business intelligence.		there are clear communications reaching residents and stakeholders over the next year, as well as key internal stakeholders, alongside continuing to develop and rolling out new targeted outreach schemes to reach those most in need.
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