Written response to a question on minute 89: Scrutiny Committee Update Report

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| **Subject** | **Question** | **Response by Cllr Liz Wade, Scrutiny Committee Chair** |
| Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (on Scrutiny Committee Update Report item) | Cllr Gant – at tomorrow’s meeting (01 February 2022), the Scrutiny Committee is reviewing the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. The officer recommendations are about noting the consultation responses rather than substantively engaging with them. Is it your understanding the item will come back to the Scrutiny Committee again after that? | The Scrutiny Committee considered the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 item at its meeting on 01 February and made a number of high-level recommendations. However, the Committee felt that additional consideration of the item was required in order to make more detailed and meaningful recommendations, with additional information provided by officers.  An extraordinary meeting of Scrutiny was due to be scheduled for a substantive conversation on the emerging content and direction of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, however this has now been extended to an All-Member Briefing to facilitate additional Member engagement. This briefing is due to take place on Monday 14 March. With the agreement of the Committee, exactly what will be considered is being decided by myself (Chair of Scrutiny) and the Vice-Chair, in consultation with the Scrutiny Officer and the Planning Policy and Place Manager. We are working to ensure an optimal balance between the issues that Scrutiny Members wish to consider and the information that will be available at that stage.    In addition, there has been recognition amongst member councils that the process to date has not been as accommodating to meaningful scrutiny as it could have been. The expectation is that greater space for Scrutiny engagement is to be built into the overall programme and planners are said to welcome that additional input. |
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