

Climate Emergency Review Group

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) That when the Council next updates its Zero Carbon Action Plan it provides, where possible, clarity over how far existing, allocated resources are expected to move the Council towards each goal.	Yes	
2) That the Council provides a clear statement of the assumptions and definitions it is applying when referencing net zero in strategies and other documents.	Yes	In December 2021 Cabinet set a definition for 'net zero' in relation to the Council's work to decarbonise its own assets and the wider city: <i>Net zero can be achieved by reducing emissions as far to zero as possible, with any remaining hard-to-decarbonise emissions compensated with greenhouse gas removals.</i> We will apply this definition as a 'boilerplate' as appropriate on Council documentation concerning carbon reduction.
3) That the Council makes greater efforts to ensure that climate policies and action on climate change are disability inclusive, including involving disability groups at the earliest stage.	Partially	The Council have initiated a number of actions such as the creation of the Inclusive Transport and Movement Focus Group, which was initially set up during the early months of the pandemic to consider proposals to change highways and footways for the safe reopening of the high streets and to support emergency active travel measures. The Focus Group also had a longer-term objective to ensure all transport and movement measures should be accessible and inclusive for people in Oxford with disabilities. It should be noted that the legal duties in respect of delivery of Transport initiatives rest with Oxfordshire County Council, not Oxford City Council. However, the City Council are a key stakeholder – and sometimes funder – of schemes within Oxford and have guidance in place to ensure that the Public Sector Equality Duty is considered

		<p>by the Council's decision makers both at the inception and during the lifetime of projects.</p> <p>This guidance includes the Council's Initial Equalities Impact Assessment form which sets out the questions that should be asked by the Council's decision makers during the initial stages of a project, and includes a requirement to consider who the project team will consult on any new policies or projects, or on proposed changes to an existing policy or service, to minimise or eliminate the adverse equality impacts. Oxford City Council will continue to ensure that impact assessments are implemented in relation to projects concerning climate policies and action on climate change.</p> <p>The EV Strategy has been commissioned with a clear requirement to consider the needs for accessibility by disabled people in respect of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.</p>
<p>4) That the Council works with the County Council to prioritise the delivery of cycle greenways into the City which were paused owing to Covid.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Oxford City Council continues to priorities the Greenways Project –jointly funded in partnership with the County Council and University of Oxford. The Project was put on hold in March 2020 at the start of the pandemic by mutual agreement, due to all officers being reprioritised to more urgent work. In February 2022, the County Council, as part of its Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP), is procuring concept design services for a county-wide Strategic Active Travel Network (SATN), which includes work on the prioritisation of active travel routes into Oxford. The SATN project is due to last approximately 12 months. The Greenways Project will benefit from awaiting the conclusion of the SATN project, so that the maximum</p>

		<p>amount of resource under the Greenways Project can be expended on creating attractive, bid-ready concept designs for the right routes rather than going back over prioritisation or doing concept drawings for implausible routes.</p> <p>Therefore, it looks like the most appropriate target for implementing the Oxford Greenways Project is during the latter part of 22-23 financial year and into the 23-24 financial year. The funds that have already been committed by all parties will remain available for this purpose.</p>
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EDI Strategy

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) That the Council provides community wifi in all its community and leisure centres.	Partially	The Oxford “free” Wi-Fi service from BT has been renewed for one year, through to March 23. The service is designed only for a few customers at a time in any one location. There will be cost implications to continue after this that we are currently working through; we will then pull together a business case.
2) That the Council ensures that potential exclusionary impacts of moving towards cashless provision on relevant vulnerable residents are mitigated on a long term basis.	Yes	
3) That the Council undertakes additional engagement with faith communities to understand their needs and support their contribution towards asset based community development.	Yes	
4) That the Council explicitly references in its policy the need for inclusive leisure provision, particularly women-only classes, crèche provision at leisure centres, and free or subsidised activities.	Yes	
5) That the Council removes bullet point 5 on page 10 of the draft Equality, Diversion and Inclusion Strategy.	Yes	

Allocation of Homelessness Prevention Funding

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) That the Council recognises the financial value to Crisis of providing the Old Fire Station as part of its future reports on the Allocation of Homelessness Prevention Funding	Yes	In future reports we will include details of the subsidy provided to Crisis and Arts and the Old Firestation in respect of the provision of the Old Fire Station building.
2) That the Council continues to monitor closely the outcomes and value for money of its grant to Greater Change	Yes	Monitoring will be undertaken of the grant provided to Greater Change,

Housing Adaptation

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) That the Council, assuming the Selective Licensing application is approved, develops guidance for landlords on best practice around disabled adaptations for tenants in the private rented sector, and ensures officers making inspections are trained and encouraged to identify and provide advice about disabled adaptations when relevant	Yes	The Home Improvement Agency webpages have been updated to include guidance for landlords on adaptations in the private rented sector and training for officers inspecting properties in the private rented sector will be developed and delivered in 2022/23

Business Plan Update

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) That the Council commits to protect its parks and play areas from development.	Yes	This is covered in the Council's Local Plan and planning policy. The Business Plan contains a set of actions based on existing policies.
2) That the Council determines and publicises the means by which local residents can evidence that a site is valued and worthy, therefore, of protection from development.	Yes	The planning process already provides the means by which residents can input to decisions on site designations.
3) That the Council updates its Business Plan to provide information on what it will do concerning river bathing in the event that the river bathing status applications currently under consideration by DEFRA are rejected or accepted.	Yes	Action has been captured in the Business Plan 2022-23.
4) That the Council includes within the Business Plan a commitment to reducing road traffic accidents, and relatedly, places restrictions on HGV access to the city centre	No	Oxford City Council has no powers in relation to restrictions on HGV access to the city centre. The work with Oxfordshire County Council on the Connecting Oxford is about reducing traffic volumes and making our roads safer. Both Councils are also working with Oxford University and others to look at the feasibility of consolidating last mile delivery in the city.
5) That in the development of the Oxford Transport Strategy the Council is particularly mindful of the impacts on small businesses and sole traders, whose businesses depend on travelling extensively throughout the city centre, of proposals which limit vehicular access.	In part	Oxfordshire County Council is the Highways Authority and is responsible for the Oxford Transport Strategy. Nevertheless, the City Council is working in partnership with the County Council on the development of the Strategy and implementation of a number of schemes including the Zero Emission Zone and traffic filters. We are mindful of the need to consider carefully the impact of

		<p>these measures on particular businesses against the wider benefits delivered and we will continue to use our influence with the County Council to seek to get this balance right.</p>
<p>6) That the Council adds a commitment in the Business Plan to investigate the practicalities of establishing a youth council in Oxford</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The Council already hosts the Children & Young People’s Partnership which is currently chaired by the Head Teacher of the Oxford Academy. This partnership is used as an important sounding board for policymaking and enables the council to share insights with a range of partners for our annual children and young person’s needs assessment.</p> <p>In addition, the Council’s Youth Ambition team supports local youth partnerships around Oxford. Youth Voice is central to our Youth Ambition programme where we listen to and provide opportunities and support to build the confidence of a large number of children and young people so their voices can be properly heard. For example these groups recently discussed how they felt about equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) which has directly fed into the Council’s new EDI strategy.</p> <p>It is worth noting that many of the Youth Councils around the country are dominated by children from relatively privileged backgrounds. By comparison, Youth Ambition specifically targets children in Oxford from less privileged backgrounds.</p> <p>Therefore, we believe the Council is already more engaged and networked with a large representative body of children and young people across the city, than many of our peer authorities.</p>

<p>7) That the Council undertakes to review its Tree Policy as part of its Business Plan</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>As is noted, the Council has only this year published its Urban Forest Strategy and will focusing on its implementation over the 2022/23 year - in particular the delivery of additional street trees in Oxford, and encouragement of others to plant trees, to mark the Platinum Jubilee 'Queen's Canopy' celebrations. ODS has replanting and maintenance schedules for trees in place and there is also an existing Tree Management Policy that was updated in 2016 under the oversight of the Council's and ODS' tree specialists. Therefore this is not an urgent matter for the Business Plan but will be considered for potential inclusion in the following year.</p>
<p>8) That the Council continues to engage with local anchor institutions over how they can meaningfully address local needs, particularly regarding rent levels, access to leisure space, minimum wages and tree-planting</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Engagement on a range of matters is taking place through the Oxford Strategic Partnership and a number of other regular partnership and bilateral meetings with anchor institutions and this will continue.</p>

Recovery and Renewal Framework

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) That the Council requests that a report detailing what has happened as a result of the establishment of the Oxfordshire Recovery and Renewal Framework is produced in a year's time to be considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board, and also made available for Scrutiny Committee consideration.	Y	
2) That the Council provides an update to coincide with the report requested in the recommendation above, reviewing what impact the Framework has had in facilitating partnership working to achieve the council's ambitions to consolidate recovery, address health inequalities and support renewal.	Y	
3) That the Council suggests to partners that the Framework be amended to be clear that in addition to not replacing county wide strategies, it does not over ride city/district level policies and strategies	Y	Note that any changes suggested by councils will need to be agreed by all the chief executives. If it is not possible to secure agreement to the change, we will ensure it is clear that this is the City Council's view and basis for endorsement.