## DECISIONS DELEGATED TO OFFICERS

Decision title:	Entering into appopriate legal agreements with the Environment Agency in order to facilitate the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS)			
Decision date:	13 November 2023			
Source of delegation:	City Executive Board, on 13 February 2018 resolved to:			
	<ol> <li>Approve the disposal of land (as identified in Appendix 1) to the Environment Agency for the purposes of the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme. Such disposal to be below market value but subject to receipt of appropriate consents and the inclusion of appropriate restrictive covenants; with the Council also foregoing any land compensation in relation to the severance to the retained land. The values of the land identified in Appendix 1, being set out in Appendix 2;</li> </ol>			
	<ol> <li>Approve the total net in-kind contribution to be made by the Council to the Environment Agency of £450,500;</li> </ol>			
	<ol> <li>Approve the use of the Council's powers under the Local Government Act 1972 and General Disposal Consent 2003 to dispose of the land identified in Appendix 1 below market value; and</li> </ol>			
	<ol> <li>Grant delegated authority to the Executive Director - Sustainable City, in consultation with the Heads of Finance and Law and Governance, to enter into appropriate legal agreements with the Environment Agency to give effect to the above matters.</li> </ol>			
	City Executive Board, <u>on 18 September 2018</u> , resolved to:			
	<ol> <li>Approve the amended disposal of land (as identified in Appendix 1) to the Environment Agency for the purposes of the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme. Such disposal to be below market value but subject to receipt of appropriate consents and the inclusion of appropriate restrictive covenants; with the Council also foregoing any land compensation in relation to the severance to the retained land. The values of the land identified in Appendix 1, being set out in Appendix 2;</li> </ol>			
	<ol> <li>Approve the increase in net in-kind contribution to be made by the Council to the EA from £450,550 to</li> </ol>			

	£663,500 (and up to £696,675 if required);		
	<ol> <li>Approve the use of the Council's powers under the Local Government Act 1972: General Disposal Consent 2003 – disposal of land for less than the best consideration that can reasonable be obtained – to dispose of the land identified in Appendix 1 below market value; and</li> </ol>		
	<ol> <li>Grant delegated authority to the Executive Director – Sustainable City, in consultation with the Heads of Finance and Law and Governance, to enter into appropriate legal agreements with the Environment Agency to give effect to the above matters.</li> </ol>		
	Note: these delegations are now in the remit of the Executive Director (Development).		
What decision was made?	To enter into to the following agreements with the Environment Agency:		
	1. Option Agreement covering the land set out in the 2018 decision; and		
	2. Clawback Agreement.		
Purpose:	The decision enables the progression of the OFAS project.		
Reasons:	The Environment Agency (EA) requires land and rights over land owned by the Council to enable delivery of the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS). The Option Agreement will allow the EA to draw down identified land currently in the ownership of the City Council for the purposes of the delivery of the OFAS scheme. It also sets out the terms of the arrangement between OCC and the EA. The Clawback Agreement sets out how OCC would be recompensed should the land be used outside of these terms.		
Decision made by:	Tom Bridgman, Executive Director (Development)		
Other options considered:	Not including any Council land has been considered but this would prevent the delivery of the OFAS scheme, meaning flooding events would continue to heavily impact large areas of the city. Another option would have been to sell the land to the EA at market value, but this would have increased the cost of the scheme. The disposal of the land at nil cost is the City Council's local contribution to the scheme, which will benefit local residents.		
Documents considered:	None		

Key or Not Key:	Кеу
Wards significantly affected:	Osney & St Thomas
Declared conflict of interest:	None
This form was completed by: Name & title:	Emma Gubbins Corporate Asset Lead 6 November 2023
Date:	

## Approval checklist

Approver	Name and job title	Date
	Tom Bridgman	
Decision maker	D.	13 November 2023

## **Consultee checklist**

Consultees	Name and job title	Date
Head of Financial Services	AKS	13/11/2023
	Nigel Kennedy	
Head of Law and Governance	Beterrers.	13/11/2023
	Emma Jackman	
Cabinet Member	Councillor Nigel Chapman Cabinet Member for Citizen Focused Services and Council Companies	13/11/2023