

## **Councillor Chris Jarvis - Clarification of comments made at 24 January Cabinet Meeting**

On January 24, I made an address to a meeting of Oxford City Council's Cabinet concerning the decision around the contract for the council's leisure services. Following the address it became clear that some of my comments had been interpreted differently to how they had been intended. Specifically, it was inferred that my comments had implied that City Council officers had acted dishonestly in the preparation of the papers for the meeting. This was not in any way my intention.

During my address, I referred to elements of the public papers as being a 'dishonest' representation of the detail contained within the private papers. In doing so, I was seeking to make a point that had already been raised at Scrutiny Committee and was reflected in a recommendation from that committee to Cabinet, while maintaining the confidentiality of the private papers. On reflection, I recognise that I should have chosen my words more carefully, and that I should not have used the word 'dishonest' in my description of the public papers. All councillors have a responsibility to be measured and clear in our language and, in this instance, it is clear that I should have been both more measured and clearer. As such, I wish to apologise for and withdraw my use of that word.

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