

Decision type: Single Member Decision
Decision date: 30th April 2025
Decision maker: Councillor Susan Brown – Leader of the Council
Decision title: Declaration of dividend from OCH(D)L

Summary	
Decision being taken:	The decision is required for OCH(D)L to pay OCC £3m dividend income.
Key decision:	Declaration of a dividend of £3m for the financial year 2024/25 from OCH(D)L. Decision is not exempt.
Source of delegation:	<p>Part 4.6 and 3.4 of the Constitution:</p> <p>The Leader may delegate executive responsibilities to a single Cabinet Member with or without consultation with officers or other Cabinet Members.</p> <p>The decision making is currently delegated to the Shareholder & Joint Venture Group.</p> <p>Under Part 3.4 the Leader may take back responsibility at any time where they have been delegated. The Leader has determined to do so in relation to this decision.</p>
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Susan Brown
Corporate Priority:	Well run council
Policy Framework:	Budget

The Leader of the Council decides as follows:

1. To receive a dividend payment of £3million from OCH(D)L to Oxford City Council

Introduction and background

1. OCH(D)L have recommended to shareholders to pay a dividend to the council of £3million.

Reasons for the decision

2. The Council is required to make a decision to accept or not accept the dividend of £3million

Alternative Options Considered

3. The Council could choose not to accept the £3million being declared by the Company although that would create a financial whole in the Councils finance which would need to be funded from alternative resources.

Equalities Impact

4. There are no equalities impacts

Risks

5. There are no risks of accepting the dividend payment.

Carbon and Environmental Considerations

6. There are no implications

Implications of making the decision

Financial implications	Release of available distributable reserves from OCH(D)L in the order of £3million to meet the Council's MTFP assumptions	Completed by: Nigel Kennedy, Group Finance Director Date: 30/04/2025
Legal implications	This is a matter for the SHJVG, however the Leader can take back a delegation under Part 3.4 of the constitution and make further delegations as they require to Single members or take a decision themselves.	Completed by: Emma Jackman, Director of Law, Governance and Strategy Date: 30/04/2025
Other implications	None	
Member declared interests	None declared.	

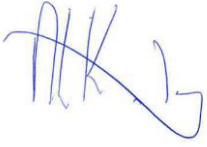
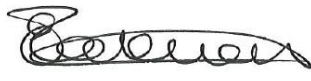
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Background Documents

Finance Performance and Dividend Report to OCHL Board on 15 December 2024, where the Board approved the recommendation of declaring a £3m dividend from OCH(D)L, subject to compliance with the Council's governance arrangements. Not Exempt

Report author	David Watt
Job title	Strategic Finance Manager
Service area or department	Oxford City Housing Limited
Email contact	dwatt@oxford.gov.uk

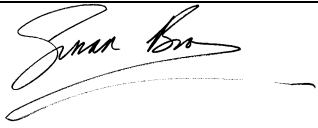
Consultee checklist

Consultees	Name and job title	Date
Senior officer e.g. the relevant service manager / Director where the decision maker is the Chief Executive or a Deputy Chief Executive.	N/A	
Group Finance Director Where required by the Constitution or conditions of the delegation	 NIGEL KENNEDY	30/04/2025
Director of Law, Governance and Strategy Where required by the Constitution or conditions of the delegation	 EMMA JACKMAN	30/04/2025
Cabinet Member(s) Where required by the conditions of the delegation	n/a	
Ward Members Where required by the	N/A	

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Constitution or conditions of the delegation		
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Decision Maker Approval

<i>Name and job title</i>	<i>Date</i>
 Councillor Susan Brown, Leader of the Council	30/04/2025

This form must be completed and sent to Committee and Member Services **on the date that the decision maker signs it. This must be only done once all consultees have given their approval. The decision shall be effective from the date of publication; therefore, it is important that you send to Committee and Member Services as soon as it is completed and dated by the decision maker. Please note that it is not effective until it is published and the call in period has passed.**

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NOTES

The law¹ requires the Council to record executive and non-executive decisions taken by officers under delegated powers and to publish them on the Council's website.

These requirements apply to decisions that would have been taken by Council or the Cabinet if delegated powers had not been given to an officer:

- under an express delegation granted at a meeting of Cabinet, Council or a Committee.
- in accordance with Part 4.4 of the Constitution as follows:
 - Awarding a contract where authority has been specifically delegated to officers by Cabinet or a Cabinet Member (regardless of value)
 - Acquiring or disposing of freeholds or leaseholds granting new leaseholds (excluding assignments and rent reviews) where authority has been specifically delegated to officers by Cabinet or a Cabinet Member (regardless of value)
 - Making a regulatory order which affects a number of people, for example a Public Space Protection Order or a Parking Place Order
 - Where the effect of a decision is to grant a licence or permission or it affects the rights of citizens
 - Discharging any other express delegation from Cabinet or a Cabinet Member a committee or Council.

These requirements **do not** apply to:

- planning and licencing matters where there are established arrangements for recording decisions: or
- decisions which are purely administrative or operational in nature

All other officer decisions should be recorded on an officer decision form but do not need to be published. They must though be stored so as to ensure that they are not lost should an officer leave the authority.

Exempt or Confidential information

Information relating to a delegated officer or single member decision does not have to be made public if it is exempt or confidential. Summary information from this decision

¹ the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012/2089 (Regulation 13(4)) and The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014/2095 (Regulation 7)

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sheet (excluding all exempt or confidential information) will be published on the Council's website.

Key or Non Key Decision

A key decision is an executive decision which is likely to:

- Have a significant effect on people living or working in a least two wards or
- Involve spending, income, or saving a significant amount – whether an amount is significant depends on the Council's total budget for the service involved. For this Council 'significant' in budgetary terms is:
 - Expenditure, income, or savings of £750,000 or greater in the context of the medium term financial strategy,
 - Acquiring or disposing of freeholds with a consideration over £500,000 in the context of the medium term financial strategy except for disposals pursuant to right to buy legislation
 - Acquiring or disposing of leaseholds where either the rental value is in excess of £250,000 per annum and/or the premium is £750,000 except for statutory lease renewals under Part 2 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 and disposals pursuant to right to buy legislation and disposals pursuant to right to buy legislation.
 - Acquiring or disposing of easements with a value over £750,000 and/or rental value over £250,000 each year

A key decision can only be taken and recorded here if notice of it has been published on the Forward Plan for at least 28 clear days. Key decisions taken by officers may be "called in" by any four councillors or the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee within two days of the notice of decision being published.

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