

**Decision type:** Decision Specifically Delegated to Officers

**Decision date:** 6 May 2026

**Decision maker:** Tom Bridgman, Deputy Chief Executive - Place

**Decision title:** Amendment of the collaboration agreement with Oxfordshire County Council in relation to the proposed Oxpens River Bridge

### Summary

<b>Decision being taken:</b>	To enter into an amendment to the collaboration agreement with Oxfordshire County Council to extend the deadline for expenditure of funds.
<b>Key decision:</b>	Yes <a href="https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=41042&amp;PlanId=580&amp;RPID=66235052">https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=41042&amp;PlanId=580&amp;RPID=66235052</a>
<b>Source of delegation:</b>	Cabinet decision 13 August 2025 <a href="https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=42771">https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=42771</a>
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Alex Hollingsworth Cabinet Member for Planning and Culture
<b>Corporate Priority:</b>	Enable an inclusive economy; Support thriving communities; and Pursue a zero carbon Oxford.
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Adopted Local Plan policy AOC1 and SP2 and West End SPD

The Deputy Chief Executive - Place decides as follows:

1. To agree to enter into a deed of variation to amend a Collaboration Agreement dated 31 March 2020 with Oxfordshire County Council to extend the date the Oxfordshire Growth Deal funding can be spent to 31 March 2027. This will be done by a 2<sup>nd</sup> deed of variation.

<b>Appendix No.</b>	<b>Appendix Title</b>	<b>Exempt from Publication</b>
<b>Appendix 1</b>	None	

### **Introduction and background**

1. Following a request by Oxfordshire County Council, the City Council agreed to deliver the Oxpens River Bridge and a collaboration agreement was entered into by the Councils. The Agreement enabled the transfer of Oxfordshire Growth Deal funding from the County Council to the City Council.

Following delays to the delivery of the bridge a revision to the collaboration agreement has been agreed to extend the date by which the funds are to be spent. Further delays have led to a further request to extend the date for the expenditure of funds until March 2027.

### **Reasons for the decision**

The amendment of the collaboration agreement will enable the Growth Deal funding to be used to deliver the proposed bridge as originally intended.

2. The proposed bridge will provide an attractive walking and cycling route between the south and west of the city and the city centre.

### **Alternative Options Considered**

3. The alternative option is not to enter the amendment to the collaboration agreement. In these circumstances funding to which the agreement related could not be used. This has therefore been rejected.

### **Equalities Impact**

4. This decision relates to the entering into an amending agreement to enable the terms of the agreement to be met and as such it does not give rise to any new equality impacts.
5. An equalities impact assessment was done in relation to the proposed bridge.

### **Risks**

6. The entering into the amending agreement does not give rise to any new risks but enables funding to be spent.
7. Risk registers in relation to the delivery of the bridge were attached to the Cabinet report referenced above.

### **Carbon and Environmental Considerations**

8. This decision does not give rise to any new carbon or environmental considerations.

### **Implications of making the decision**

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<b>Financial implications</b>	Risks of not extending could result in grant funding being returned. However, this risk is mitigated by budget capacity within the current Capital Programme	<b>Completed by:</b> Paul Swaffield Finance Project Accountant <b>Date:</b> 02/04/2026
<b>Legal implications</b>	Risk if variation not completed would place OCC in breach of a contractual obligation to spend the money by a date that has now passed with funding being returned, if requested by County Council.	<b>Completed by:</b> Jaz Janghra (locum) Major Projects Lawyer Law, Governance & Strategy <b>Date:</b> 30.04.26
<b>Other implications</b>	Include any other relevant implications not listed above.  None	<b>Completed by:</b> Jenny Barker <b>Date:</b> 2/04/26
<b>Member declared interests</b>	None	<b>Completed by:</b> Jenny Barker <b>Date:</b> 2/04/26

<b>Background Documents</b>
List the background documents and, if possible, link to them. <b>None</b>


<b>Report author</b>	Jenny Barker
Job title	Regeneration Lead
Service area or department	Economy, Regeneration and Sustainability Service
Email contact	<a href="mailto:jbarker@oxford.gov.uk">jbarker@oxford.gov.uk</a>

### Consultee checklist

Please send the completed form to [acforwardplan@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:acforwardplan@oxford.gov.uk)

<b>Consultees</b>	<b>Name and job title</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Senior officer</b> e.g. the relevant service manager / Director where the decision maker is the Chief Executive or a Deputy Chief Executive.	Carolyn Ploszynski, Director of Regeneration, Economy and Sustainability	05 May 2026
<b>Group Finance Director</b> Where required by the Constitution or conditions of the delegation	Alistair Rush, Group Finance Director	30 April 2026
<b>Director of Law, Governance and Strategy</b> Where required by the Constitution or conditions of the delegation	Emma Jackman Director of Law Governance and Strategy	30 April 2026
<b>Cabinet Member(s)</b> Where required by the conditions of the delegation	Councillor Alex Hollingsworth Cabinet Member for Planning & Culture	30 April 2026
<b>Ward Members</b> Where required by the Constitution or conditions of the delegation	None	

### Decision Maker Approval

<b>Name and job title</b>	<b>Date</b>
 Tom Bridgman Deputy Chief Executive - Place	06/05/26

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**

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**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.**

**Please send the completed form to [acforwardplan@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:acforwardplan@oxford.gov.uk)**

## NOTES

The law<sup>1</sup> 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 sheet (excluding all exempt or confidential information) will be published on the Council's website.

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<sup>1</sup> 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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## 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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