



Cherwell

DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting
of the Executive held on Monday 3 April 2023**

1. Date of publication of this summary: 4 April 2023
2. Decisions (if any) taken as a matter of urgency under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in the Constitution (and not therefore subject to the call-in procedure): None, however item 11 is not subject to call in as it is notifying Executive of a decision already taken under urgent action
3. Date by which notice of call-in of any of the following decisions must be received in writing by the Chief Executive (see notes below):- Noon on Tuesday 11 April 2023
4. Notes:-
 - (a) For background documentation to the following decisions, please refer to the agenda and supporting papers (copies of which are available on the Council's website (www.cherwell.gov.uk) or from Democratic Services);
 - (b) Notice of call-in must be submitted in writing, by email or text to the Chief Executive by the deadline specified above, and must state the reason or reasons why "call-in" has been requested;
 - (c) Call-in can be requested by any six non-executive members of the Council.
However, if at any point during a municipal year the total number of opposition councillors is six or less the total number of non-executive members required to call-in a decision shall be the total number of opposition councillors less two.
 - (d) Decisions not called-in by the deadline specified above will become effective immediately the deadline has expired (unless they are recommendations to the Council).
 - (e) The Council has stipulated that the call-in procedure should not be used to challenge decisions as a matter of course and should be used only when fully justified.

**Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive**

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options	Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service
<p>Agenda Item 6 Oxfordshire Net Zero Route Map & Action Plan</p> <p>Report of Climate Action Manager</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 Support the proposed Route Map and Action Plan which seeks to deliver the ambitions of the Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire (PaZCO) 2021 report.</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the proposed Route Map and Action Plan which seeks to deliver the ambitions of the Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire (PaZCO) 2021 report be supported.</p> <p>(2) That, for the avoidance of doubt, it be agreed that this Council does not support the closure of the level crossing at London, Road, Bicester.</p>	<p>This Action Plan and Pathway which aim to achieve a zero carbon Oxfordshire, is a detailed study of the work and actions needed to achieve the county-wide 2050 target. The actions are based on the most ‘ambitious’ pathway to achieve 2050, with an interim target of reducing our emissions by half by 2030. It has been written with Cherwell in mind, and there are many aspects that we will be responsible for delivering ourselves.</p> <p>By working jointly with our local authority partners on this Route Map and Action Plan, we place ourselves in the strongest position possible to meet our climate change objectives.</p>	<p>Option 1: Not support the Pathway and Action Plan. This work supports our own ambitions around reducing greenhouse gas emissions and is an important body of evidence that can underpin our own action planning for carbon net zero.</p> <p>Pursuing Option 1 however, would mean that CDC would not benefit from wider opportunities that are presented from joint working with other local authorities. Climate action is almost always more effective when taken collaboratively leading to joint benefits achieved at a greater scale.</p>	<p>None</p>

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		<p>Examples of areas of work where working collaboratively is particularly beneficial include regional retrofitting of homes, conserving and enhancing our natural capital and planning to meet future energy needs.</p> <p>The entire body of work required to achieve the 2050 target is not contained within this study, although there is a wider programme of work already taking place, of which this study is a part.</p> <p>The delivery of significant and high impact decarbonisation solutions is dependent on building and sustaining successful and productive co-working relationships across the public, private and third</p>		

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		<p>sectors. Oxfordshire is fortunate enough to have strong existing partnerships and collaborations on which to build.</p> <p>Securing the appropriate funding to execute the priority actions is an integral part of Oxfordshire's net zero journey, with finance acting as either a key enabler or barrier to success. Whilst a fundamental component, finance is historically difficult to secure. It requires ongoing attention, critically taking forward the enabling action to identify innovative approaches to sit alongside conventional funding sources (including grants from national government and the allocation of local authority budgets).</p>		

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		<p>An innovative approach to delivering the actions will be needed. This includes sourcing and accessing alternative funding opportunities, supporting and bringing inventive technology into the mainstream, and encouraging communities to adopt novel solutions to local problems.</p> <p>Opposition to the closure of the level crossing at London Road, Bicester is agreed for the avoidance of doubt.</p>		
<p>Agenda Item 7 Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Action Plans</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director – Customer Focus</p> <p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the draft action plans for Inclusive Communities, Inclusive Services and Inclusive Workplaces be approved.</p>	<p>The council is committed to going above and beyond our statutory responsibilities in creating inclusive communities and services and an inclusive workforce. To do this effectively we need to have the right resources</p>	<p>Option One: To continue to deliver the original action plan. This option has been rejected as the council is now a standalone authority and therefore the action plan needs to reflect its single council status.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To approve the draft action plans for Inclusive Communities, Inclusive Services and Inclusive Workplaces.</p> <p>1.2 To approve the addition to the Inclusive Communities plan of an action to “use our participation in the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Charter as a spur to further activities which promote equality, diversity and inclusion locally”.</p> <p>1.3 To agree the recommendation from Overview and Scrutiny Committee to amend the Inclusive</p>	<p>(2) That the addition to the Inclusive Communities plan of an action to “use our participation in the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Charter as a spur to further activities which promote equality, diversity and inclusion locally” be approved.</p> <p>(3) That the recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to amend the Inclusive Communities to include an additional action to <i>“develop and agree a policy for supporting national events that further our corporate priorities</i></p>	<p>and infrastructure in place to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capture the latest EDI data and trends • use the data available to identify and address any barriers • ensure EDI implications are identified and considered at the earliest opportunities through our service planning and decision making processes <p>The Inclusive Communities, Inclusive Services, and Inclusive Workplaces Action Plans provides a structure in which this can be delivered and a basis on which further more specific, substantive work on this topic can be delivered.</p>		

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<p>Communities to include an additional action to <i>“develop and agree a policy for supporting national events that further our corporate priorities and reflect the diversity of our communities”</i> and provide further clarification under commitment 1.03 that the review of our support to refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants would consider the impact on migrants <i>“of all nationalities”</i>.</p> <p>1.4 To delegate authority to the Assistant Director for Customer Focus to make minor amendments to the</p>	<p><i>and reflect the diversity of our communities”</i> and provide further clarification under commitment 1.03 that the review of our support to refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants would consider the impact on migrants <i>“of all nationalities”</i> be approved.</p> <p>(4) That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director for Customer Focus in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services and the Chair of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion working</p>			

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<p>agreed action plans in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services and the Chair of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion working group.</p>	<p>group, to make minor amendments to the agreed action plans and to update on a rolling basis.</p>			
<p>Agenda Item 8 Performance Outcomes Framework 2023-2024</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director – Customer Focus</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To approve the proposed approach for measuring and monitoring the council’s performance against</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the proposed approach for measuring and monitoring the council’s performance against achieving its desired outcomes for 2023/24 be approved.</p>	<p>This report sets out a suggested framework for measuring and monitoring the council’s performance and progress towards achieving better outcomes for its communities. This framework will ensure there is a clear pathway to achieving success, hence the recommendation for approval of the proposed framework.</p>	<p>Option One: Not to agree a performance management framework, but without one the council cannot monitor its progress towards its desired outcomes and therefore agree any corrective action that might be necessary to keep them on track. Therefore, the council would risk not delivering its desired outcomes for its communities. This option has therefore been rejected.</p>	<p>None</p>

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achieving its desired outcomes for 2023/24.				
<p>Agenda Item 9 Integrated Care Board 5-year Strategic Plan Update</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director Wellbeing and Housing</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To endorse the 5 year strategic plan of the Integrated Care Partnership for Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West.</p> <p>1.2 To welcome the opportunity to participate in the</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the 5 year strategic plan of the Integrated Care Partnership for Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West be endorsed.</p> <p>(2) That the opportunity to participate in the development of the Oxfordshire specific plan and the importance of the Health and Wellbeing Board in shaping that for residents' benefit be welcomed.</p>	<p>This is a significantly influential strategy that may impact on the development of the Local Plan and Healthy Place Shaping policies as well as the developing Wellbeing Strategy for Cherwell.</p>	<p>Option 1: Not endorse the future strategy of the BOB ICB. Rejected as there is a significant synergy with our own developing plans and past place-based plans that have shaped the direction of travel for our policies over the last 5 years.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>development of the Oxfordshire specific plan and the importance of the Health and Wellbeing Board in shaping that for residents' benefit.</p>				
<p>Agenda Item 10 Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Investment</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director of Finance (S151)</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended to:</p> <p>1.1 Note the Local Government context for the application of ESG principles and how the</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the Local Government context for the application of ESG principles and how the Council will respond to the motion relating to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles be noted.</p> <p>(2) That, in response to proposal 1, "Holding transparent annual</p>	<p>The report sets out ESG in the context of Local Government and the proposed actions in response to the motion received by Council and referred to the Executive.</p>	<p>No alternative options have been identified and rejected.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>Council will respond to the motion relating to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles.</p> <p>1.2 In response to proposal 1, to request officers to update the Executive on ESG audit requirements following the outcome of the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) and subsequent CIPFA requirements.</p> <p>1.3 In response to proposal 2, to agree to continue to comply with the current Council approved Capital and Investment and Treasury Management Strategies until such time as there is more</p>	<p>audits of all our investments to be measured against ESG principles which will be published alongside the annual accounts”, officers be requested to update the Executive on ESG audit requirements following the outcome of the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) and subsequent CIPFA requirements.</p> <p>(3) That, in response to proposal 2, “To divest as soon as practicable from any investment that runs contrary to ESG principles and any other standards set by the council, particularly with respect to any funds</p>			

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<p>information available about defining ESG principles within a Capital and Investment or Treasury Management Strategy.</p> <p>1.4 In response to proposal 3, to agree the Leader to initially write to the Pension Fund to understand how the pension fund invests in its assets and then act appropriately based on the information received.</p>	<p>connected with fossil fuels, unfair labour practices or exploitation of workers”, it be agreed to agree to continue to comply with the current Council approved Capital and Investment and Treasury Management Strategies until such time as there is more information available about defining ESG principles within a Capital and Investment or Treasury Management Strategy.</p> <p>(4) That in response to proposal 3, “To urge the Oxfordshire Pension Fund to further divest from</p>			

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	<p>fossil fuel investments at the earliest opportunity with a firm timetable for complete divestment from such funds by 2030”, it be agreed that the Leader initially write to the Pension Fund to understand how the pension fund invests in its assets and then act appropriately based on the information received.</p>			
<p>Agenda Item 11 Notification of Urgent Action - Insurance Award</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the urgent decision taken by the Corporate Director Resources on 13 March 2023 in relation to the award of insurance be noted.</p>	<p>In line with the Constitution, this report is informing Executive of the decision which were taken by the Corporate Director Resources to ensure that the Council has insurance in place on 1 April 2023.</p>	<p>Option 1: Not to note the report. This is not recommended as the urgent action has been taken and it is a constitutional requirement for it to be reported to Executive.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>The meeting is recommended to:</p> <p>1.1 To note the decision that was taken by the Corporate Director Resources on 13 March 2023 (Appendix 1).</p>				