

# Public Document Pack



**Cherwell**

DISTRICT COUNCIL  
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

**Committee:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** Tuesday 1 February 2022

**Time:** 6.30 pm

**Venue:** Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA

## Membership

### **Councillor Tom Wallis (Chairman)**

Councillor Mike Bishop  
Councillor Matt Hodgson  
Councillor David Hughes  
Councillor Perran Moon  
Councillor Les Sibley

### **Councillor Douglas Webb (Vice-Chairman)**

Councillor Sandy Dallimore  
Councillor Simon Holland  
Councillor Ian Middleton  
Councillor Adam Nell  
Councillor Bryn Williams

**Substitutes** Any member of the relevant political group, excluding Executive members

## AGENDA

Overview and Scrutiny Members should not normally be subject to the party whip. Where a member is subject to a party whip they must declare this at the beginning of the meeting and it should be recorded in the minutes.

### 1. **Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitute Members**

### 2. **Declarations of Interest**

Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

### 3. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 12)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2021 .

#### **4. Chairman's Announcements**

To receive communications from the Chairman.

#### **5. Urgent Business**

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

#### **6. Digital Infrastructure Update (Pages 13 - 20)**

Craig Bower, Programme Director of Digital Infrastructure Oxfordshire, will give a presentation updating the Committee on Full Fibre and 5G rollout across the district.

A copy of the presentation is included with the agenda. If Committee Members wish to ask questions on the item, they are encouraged to submit them to the Democratic and Elections Team in advance of the meeting.

#### **7. Oxfordshire Plan 2050: Summary of responses from Regulation 18 Part 2 Consultation and next steps**

Report of Assistant Director – Planning and Development

\*\*\*Please note this report will be to follow as it is being finalised\*\*\*

#### **8. Work Programme 2021-2022 (Pages 21 - 32)**

There are three documents for the Committee to consider:

- Appendix 1 – Work Programme for 2021-2022
- Appendix 2 – Topic list update
- Appendix 3 – Update on items previously submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

#### **Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the work programme update (appendix 1).
- 1.2 To note the update on topics previously suggested for review (appendix 2).
- 1.3 To note the update on items previously submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**Councillors are requested to collect any post from their pigeon hole in the Members Room at the end of the meeting.**

## **Information about this Meeting**

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence should be notified to [democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk) or 01295 221953 / 01295 221591 prior to the start of the meeting.

### **Declarations of Interest**

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item.

### **Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates**

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare the fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

### **Evacuation Procedure**

When the continuous alarm sounds you must evacuate the building by the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the car park as directed by Democratic Services staff and await further instructions.

### **Access to Meetings**

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named below, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting.

### **Watching Meetings**

Please note that Council meetings are currently taking place in person (not virtually) with social distancing at the meeting. Meetings will continue to be webcast and individuals who wish to view meetings are strongly encouraged to watch the webcast to minimise the risk of COVID-19 infection.

Places to watch meetings in person are very limited due to social distancing requirements. If you wish to attend the meeting in person, you must contact the Democratic and Elections Team [democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk) who will advise if your request can be accommodated and of the detailed COVID-19 safety requirements for all attendees.

Please note that in line with Government guidance, all meeting attendees are strongly encouraged to take a lateral flow test in advance of the meeting.

### **Mobile Phones**

Please ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off.

### **Queries Regarding this Agenda**

Please contact Emma Faulkner / Lesley Farrell, Democratic and Elections [democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk), 01295 221953 / 01295 221591

**Yvonne Rees**

**Chief Executive**

Published on Monday 24 January 2022

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## **Cherwell District Council**

### **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Minutes of a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA, on 30 November 2021 at 6.30 pm

#### Present:

Councillor Tom Wallis (Chairman)  
Councillor Douglas Webb (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Matt Hodgson  
Councillor David Hughes  
Councillor Ian Middleton  
Councillor Perran Moon  
Councillor Adam Nell  
Councillor Les Sibley  
Councillor Bryn Williams

#### Also Present:

Councillor John Broad  
Councillor Barry Wood, Leader of the Council

#### Apologies for absence:

Councillor Mike Bishop  
Councillor Sandy Dallimore  
Councillor Simon Holland

#### Officers:

Claire Taylor, Corporate Director Customers and Organisational Development  
Louise Tustian, Head of Insight and Corporate Programmes  
Ed Potter, Assistant Director: Environmental Services  
Sandra Fisher-Martins, Climate Action Mobilisation Manager  
Sarah Gilbert, Team Leader Climate Action  
Sue Marchand, Community Nature Officer: Wellbeing  
Nicola Riley, Assistant Director: Wellbeing  
Emma Faulkner, Democratic and Elections Officer  
Lesley Farrell, Democratic and Elections Officer  
Natasha Clark, Governance and Elections Manager

27

### **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

28 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19 October 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

29 **Chairman's Announcements**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

30 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

31 **Monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring**

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Finance and the Head of Insight and Corporate Programmes which detailed Performance, Risk and Finance monitoring at the end of September 2021.

In introducing the report, the Head of Insight and Corporate Programmes reported that 82% of the programme measures and key performance indicators had reported green for quarter 2, with 13% reporting amber and the remaining 5% reporting red.

With regard to the measures that had reported as red, the Head of Insight and Corporate Programmes explained that one major planning appeal had been overturned by the Planning Inspectorate during September 2021. In relation to number of visits or usages of leisure centres, three of the main centres had experienced an increase in visitors in August 2021, but one centre had shown a decrease following the seasonal programming change for the outdoor swimming pool.

The Head of Insight and Corporate Programmes agreed to gather responses to the questions submitted in advance of the meeting. Responses would be circulated to all committee members after the meeting:

- Indicator BP2.2.2 reduction of fuel consumption used by fleet – clarification on how an increase in fuel consumption can be reported as amber when the aim of the indicator is to reduce consumption.
- Indicator BP3.2.2 percentage of business rates collected, increased the NNDR base – details regarding the total arrears and clarification on how the indicator can report green if there are arrears.
- Indicator BP3.1.3 support business enterprise, retention, growth and promote inward investment – more details requested on the council's support to businesses.

- Indicator BP4.1.1 support community safety and reduce antisocial behaviours – more details on the more regular and routine presence in Kidlington referred to.
- Indicator BP3.1.5 proactively manage the Cherwell workstreams of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal – an explanation of the term ‘homes from infrastructure’ used in the commentary, and clarity on what ‘productivity’ refers to in the context of the indicator.
- Key action of ‘business engagement’ under ‘an enterprising economy with strong & vibrant local centres’ programme measure – an explanation regarding how engagement with property developers and commercial property benefits residents of Cherwell.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report be noted.
- (2) That the Quarter 2 Climate Action Plan and Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Action plan progress updates be noted.

32

### **Climate Action Programme Update**

The Committee considered a report from the Director for Environment and Place, and a presentation from the Climate Action Mobilisation Manager which gave an update on progress in delivering the Climate Action Programme, and the reduction in the council’s greenhouse gas emissions in 2020/21.

The Climate Action Mobilisation Manager explained that 20 homes suffering from fuel poverty had been approved for ‘green homes’ grant funding, which would include provision of insulation and in some cases solar powered generation solutions.

The team was also working on a heat network feasibility study, which would give a district-wide map of opportunities available to take heat from a central source and deliver it to properties that may need it. A more detailed map of Banbury would be produced that would allow the team to approach potential partners to gauge interest in applying for funding for a pilot scheme. The mapping exercise was being completed with funding from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, with match funding provided by Cherwell District Council.

The Climate Action Mobilisation Manager explained that the team had secured a £6m government grant from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. The grant was being used to focus on heat decarbonisation of council buildings, through methods such as the replacement of boilers with heat pumps or solar thermal systems.

Once all replacements had been completed it was anticipated the changes would save 1000 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

The next steps for the programme included the continued rollout of park and charge points in Bicester, Banbury and Kidlington, and Carbon Literacy training during 2022 for senior officers and members.

With regards to the Greenhouse Gas emissions report for 2020/21, the Climate Action Mobilisation Manager explained that the 22.5% reduction in emissions compared to the 2019/20 figures was as a direct result of the COVID-19 lockdowns and the closure of council buildings. It was expected that the figures would increase for the 2021/22 year to reflect the buildings reopening, but the decarbonisation work being undertaken would offset some of the increase.

In response to questions from the Committee, the Climate Action Team Leader agreed to circulate more information after the meeting regarding a previous pilot scheme in Oxford that involved using gullies to assist EV charging.

The Climate Action Mobilisation Manager agreed to circulate more information after the meeting in response to a question regarding the potential for shared heat schemes such as ground source heat pumps as part of the local plan related developments in the south of the district.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the progress and next steps in the Climate Action Programme be noted.
- (2) That the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report for 2020/21 be noted.

33

### **2020-2022 Community Nature Plan Progress Update**

The Committee considered a report from the Assistant Director – Wellbeing which provided an update on the 2020 – 2022 Community Nature Plan and its approach to addressing the Council’s statutory biodiversity duty.

Introducing the report the Assistant Director – Wellbeing explained that work on the Community Nature Plan involved a number of teams across the Council including planning, environmental services and the climate action team.

The wellbeing team had launched a ‘Connect to nature initiative’ during the COVID-19 lockdowns, which gave a monthly theme for residents across the district to engage with nature. The November theme was ‘be kind’, and focussed on looking after hibernating creatures such as ladybirds and hedgehogs.



Work would be starting during 2022 on the next iteration of the plan, and the Assistant Director – Wellbeing explained that Members would be involved in the drafting of the new plan via a workshop that would take place during Spring 2022.

The Community Nature Officer highlighted some of the partnership working with external organisations, including the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust, Wild Oxfordshire and Warriner School Farm.

In response to questions from the Committee the Community Nature Officer explained that the online activity hub gave details of all nature related activities taking place, and a flyer had also been produced to help publicise the sessions. The Community Nature Officer agreed to circulate details of the online hub and flyer after the meeting.

The Community Nature Officer also agreed to gather detailed information on hedgehog numbers in the district for circulation to the Committee after the meeting.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the 2020-2022 Community Nature Plan progress report and its approach to addressing the Council's statutory biodiversity be noted.
- (2) That the essential role of key partners in the delivery of the Community Nature Plan be recognised.
- (3) That it be noted that the development of the 2022-2024 Community Nature Plan (CNP) will include an all-member seminar in 2022 involving planners, as requested by Overview & Scrutiny in December 2020, and it be noted that the implications of the Environment Act will be taken into account in this next iteration of the CNP.

34

### **Safeguarding Self-Assessment Audit**

The Committee received a presentation from the Safeguarding Officer that detailed the work of the Safeguarding Team during 2020/21, and gave an overview of the Safeguarding Self-Assessment audit.

The Safeguarding Officer explained that the self-assessment audit had to be completed annually. The 2021 assessment was due to be submitted to the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children and Adults Board on 3 December, and would include evidence of working with the Domestic Abuse Partnership and the Neglect Strategy Group to raise awareness.

The Safeguarding Officer reported that actions from the 2020 audit included improving the level of training and awareness of safeguarding responsibilities amongst staff and elected Members.

Mandatory Safeguarding training for staff had been moved to the online iHasco platform in December 2020, which meant that staff received email reminders to complete the required modules, and the Safeguarding Team could monitor completion levels. Elected Members had also been added to the online platform, with 44% having completed “Prevent” training and 10% “Safeguarding” training.

Safeguarding briefings were held twice a month for staff, covering themes such as neglect, domestic abuse, modern slavery and hate crime. Details of the ‘See It Report it’ system were also available to staff who wanted to report potential issues, and links to the system had been added to the Members’ Portal.

Council staff undertaking non-office based work in the district such as waste collection staff and youth activators had received specific briefings regarding neglect and safeguarding, as their roles meant they would be well placed to spot potential issues. The teams had been provided with cards and posters raising awareness of the signs of neglect and how to report them.

The Safeguarding Officer explained that this would be particularly helpful in Banbury, as the area had the highest percentage of domestic abuse cases in Cherwell.

In response to questions from the Committee, the Assistant Director – Wellbeing explained that it would be possible to provide more details on the figures around domestic abuse in the district, but it was unlikely it could be provided as a ward by ward breakdown as the information held by Police also covered West Oxfordshire. The Assistant Director – Wellbeing agreed to investigate and circulate further information after the meeting.

The Committee congratulated the team on the involvement of the waste collection staff and youth activators in highlighting potential issues, and asked if the details for reporting potential concerns were available to members of the public. The Corporate Director Customers Organisational Development and Resources advised that both Cherwell District and Oxfordshire County Council customer contact centre staff could take reports from members of the public with concerns, or contact details could be found via either council’s website.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the presentation be noted.

35

### **Work Programme 2021-2022**

The Committee considered its work programme for 2021-22, received an update from officers on potential subjects for review and considered a scoping document in relation to the Parish review, as well as draft Terms of Reference for the Constitution Review Working Group.

With regard to the proposed review of the district council's relationship with parishes, the Democratic and Elections Officer advised that Councillors Hallchurch and Mallon had joined the working group. The aim of the review was to look at the working relationship between Cherwell District Council and the parishes, with a view to mapping the various interactions and highlighting areas for improvement.

Councillor Bryn Williams expressed an interest in joining the working group.

In relation to the Constitution Review Working Group, the Governance and Elections Manager explained that the Director of Law and Governance had spoken with all Group Leaders individually regarding the prospective Terms of Reference for the review.

Councillors Barry Wood and Les Sibley had indicated they were happy with the proposed approach to the review and the Conservative and Independent Groups would be participating.

Councillor Sean Woodcock had indicated that the Labour Group were not happy with the proposed approach, and would not be participating in the review.

The Governance and Elections Manager explained that the absence of the Labour Group from the working group did not prevent the review from taking place, and the proposed Terms of Reference had been drafted to reflect that.

The timetable for the review had been altered to take account of the time spent discussing the review with the Group Leaders, and it was now proposed to bring proposals from the working group to the March 2022 meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, with a view to recommendations being considered by full Council in May 2022.

In response to a comment from Councillor Perran Moon that if no opposition members took part in the review, the working group not be referred to as 'cross-party', Councillor Les Sibley confirmed that the Independent Group would be participating in the working group and multiple groups would therefore be represented.

Councillor Ian Middleton stated that the Progressive Oxfordshire stance remained the same as that of the Labour Group, but that the group were happy to continue discussions to try and resolve the issues and give the working group a full democratic oversight.

With regard to the indicative work programme, the Democratic and Elections Officer explained that the COVID-19 response update had been moved to the January 2022 meeting at the request of officers involved in preparing the update.

In relation to the update on topics previously suggested for scrutiny, the Democratic and Elections Officer advised the Committee that information available from a number of sources had been signposted to Members, as well

as a report that was considered by the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting on 7 October 2021. It was proposed to close the subject and remove it from the topic list, if Councillor Perran Moon was satisfied that his initial queries had been answered sufficiently.

Councillor Moon indicated that he was happy with the information provided, and that the subject could be removed from the topic list.

With regards to potential new topics for Scrutiny, the Committee requested that a personal safety update be arranged for Members, in light of the recent death of Sir David Amess MP. The Democratic and Elections Officer explained that senior officers had requested a session be arranged for all Members, and discussions were underway with Thames Valley Police for a suitable session to be held in 2022.

In response to questions from the Committee regarding scheduling of updates on Planning Policy, the Recovery and Prosperity Strategy and Digital Infrastructure, the Democratic and Elections Officers advised that discussions were ongoing with relevant officers. A draft of the Recovery and Prosperity Strategy was due to be considered by Executive in January 2022, and would subsequently be scheduled for an Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting. The Corporate Director Customers Organisational Development and Resources undertook to liaise with relevant officers and Democratic and Elections Officers to schedule a briefing update on digital infrastructure at a future committee meeting.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That, subject to the inclusion of Councillors Hallchurch, Mallon and Williams in the group membership, the Parish Working Group scoping document be approved.
- (2) That the Constitution Review Working Group Terms of Reference be approved.
- (3) That the work programme update be noted.
- (4) That the update on topics previously suggested for review be noted and it be agreed to remove Teenage Mental Health from the topic list.
- (5) That the update on items previously submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.

The meeting ended at 8.22 pm

Chairman:

Date:

# Digital Infrastructure Cherwell DC Update

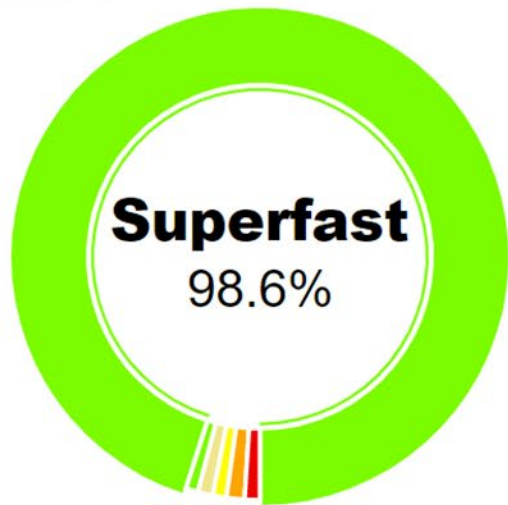
1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2022

- Headline Coverage stats and plans
- Public Sector Hubs Update
- Openreach Commercial Delivery Update
- Project Gigabit
- Small Cell 4g/5g contract
- Voucher Schemes
- Poles/Highways/Planning
- AOB



# Cherwell Superfast and Fibre Coverage

Latest Figures History ?



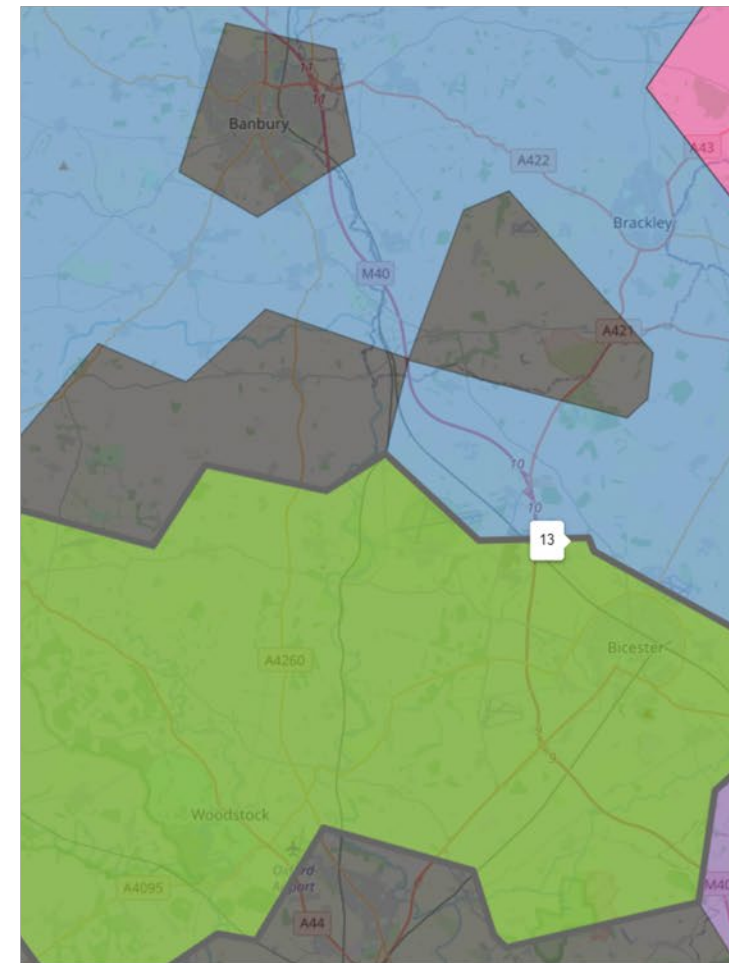
Page 14

Authority classified as Significant Rural (SR) ?

Superfast (>24 Mbps):	<b>98.74%</b>	Below 2 Mbps down:	<b>0.25%</b>
Superfast (>=30 Mbps):	<b>98.64%</b>	Below 10 Mbps down: (Legal USO)	<b>0.79%</b>
Ultrafast (>100 Mbps):	<b>52.23%</b>	Below 10 Mbps, 1.2 Mbps up:	<b>0.90%</b>
Openreach (>30 Mbps):	<b>94.46%</b>	Below 15 Mbps: (High Speed Broadband)	<b>0.99%</b>
Openreach FTTP:	<b>13.29%</b>	Virgin Media Cable:	<b>21.16%</b>
Openreach G.fast:	<b>18.08%</b>	Full Fibre (FTTP or FTTH):	<b>19.35%</b>
'Fibre' partial/full at any speed: (FTTC/WDSL/G.fast/Cable/FTTP)	<b>99.56%</b>	Gigabit (DOCSIS 3.1 or FTTP):	<b>40.51%</b>



Openreach FTTP delivery underway:  
Confirmed Exchanges Banbury 8600 THP,  
Bicester 7000 THP, Bloxham 1700 THP

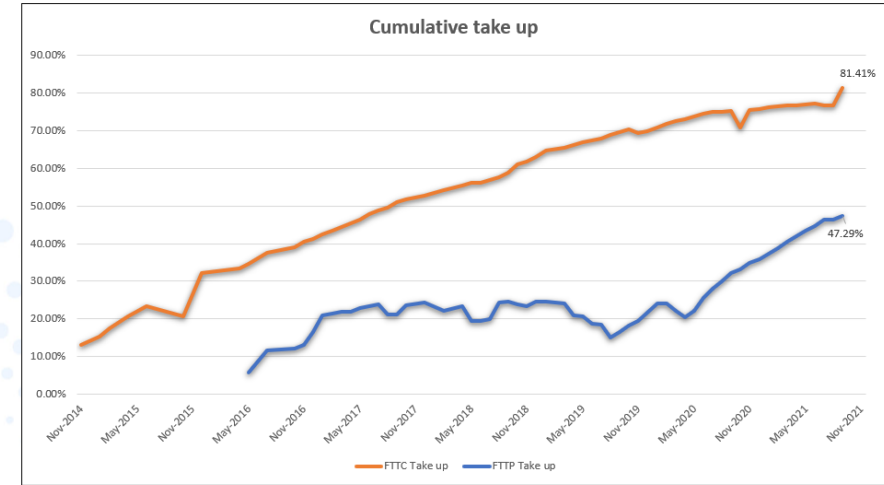


Project Gigabit: Grey = no build as commercial, Green = Lot 13, Blue = 'Small Lots'

## Biro (Businesses in Rural Oxfordshire)

District	Live Business Premises	Live Residential Premises	Total
Cherwell	135	97	232

## BBFO Take-up



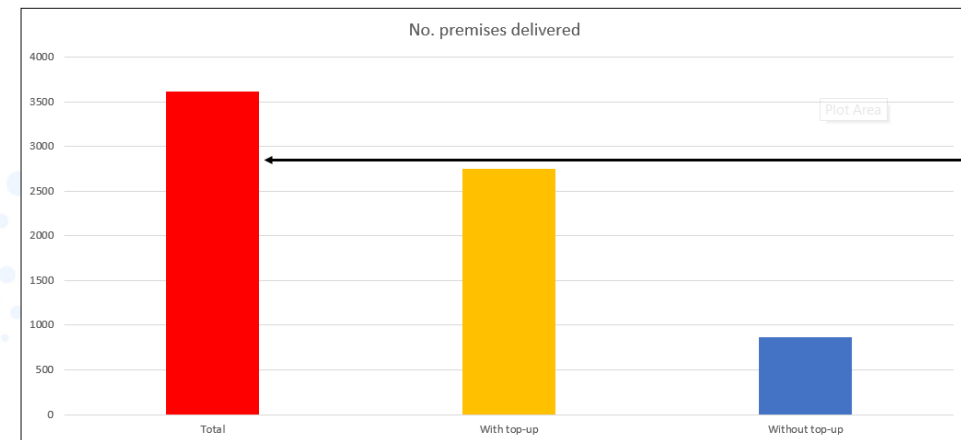
## Gigahubs Project

Day One Order

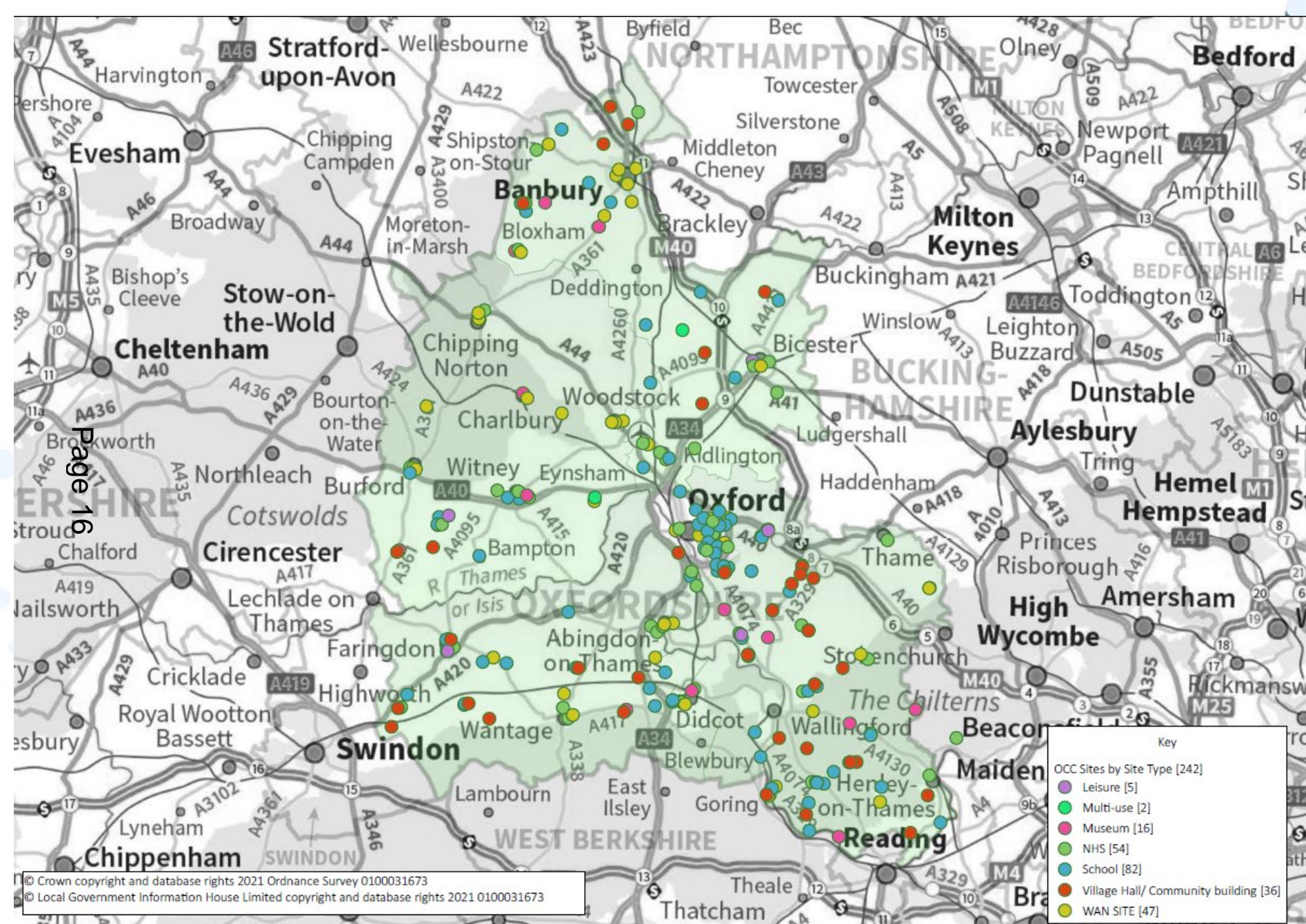
District	GP Surgeries	Schools	Community Buildings	Council Buildings	Museums	Total
Cherwell	5	7	7	4	1	24

Neos  
Openreach  
Gigaclear  
Virgin Media

## Vouchers (County)



£1m of MHCLG Funding has enabled over 2700 premises to be connected to FTTP = £364 per premise



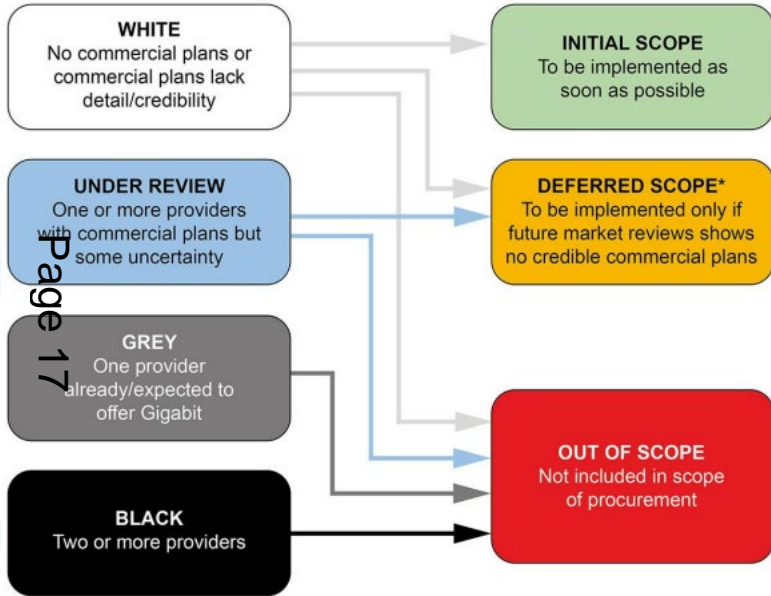
**Hub Site  
Locations by Site  
Type**



# Project Gigabit



## OMR Process



Page 17

Regional  
Procurement

Local  
Procurements

DCMS  
Procurement

CCS – Dynamic  
Purchasing System

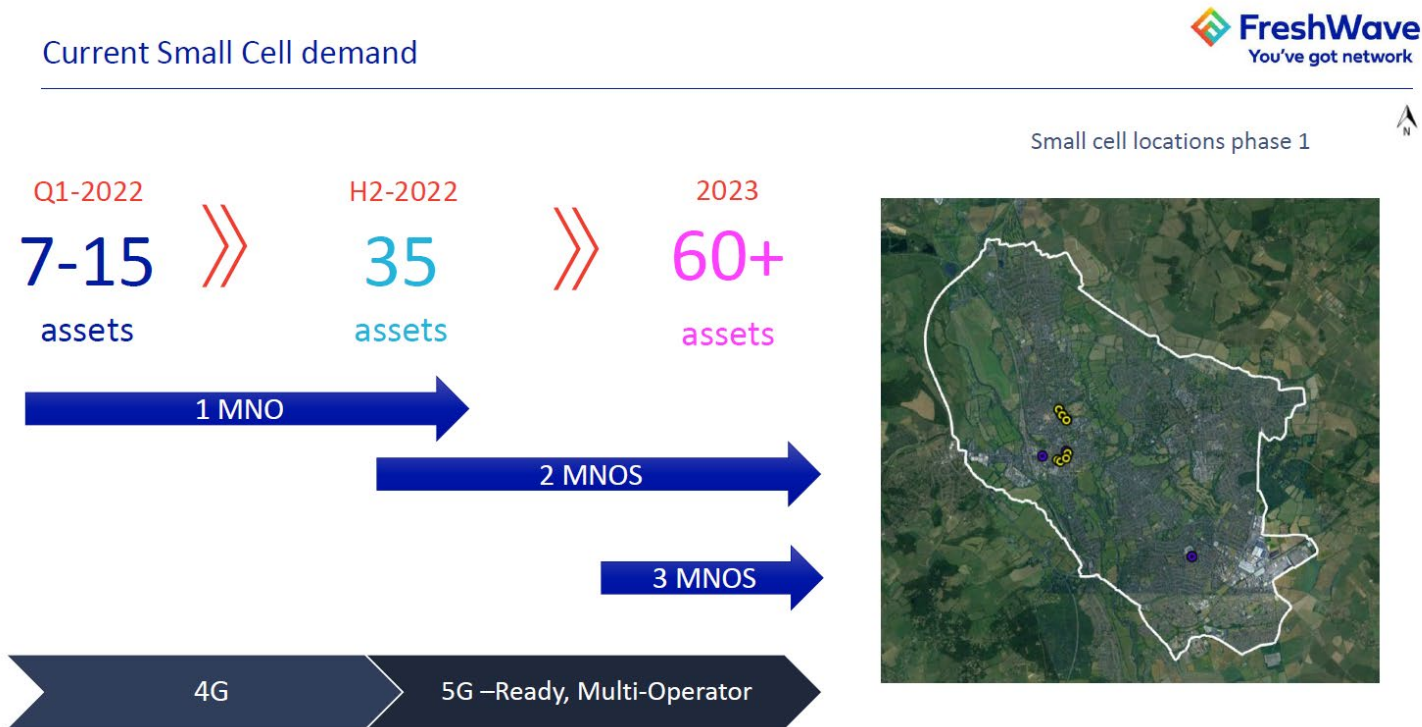
Regional Supplier Procurements				
Phase 2	Estimated Procurement Start Date subject to change	Estimated contract commencement date subject to change	Modelled number of uncommercial premises in the procurement area <sup>2</sup> subject to change	Indicative Contract Value subject to change
Oxfordshire and West Berkshire (Lot 13)	May - Jul 2022	Apr - Jun 2023	67,000	£67m - £114m



DCMS Data management....Supplier commercial plans constantly evolving....Openreach not bidding....loss of control....significant lack of civils contracting resource

# Small Cell 4g and 5g Mobile

- Contract signed with Freshwave
- Initial deployment of seven 4G infill sites in central Oxford



**Lighting Column:**

- £300 per asset per year for the first MNO
- £150 per asset per year for the second MNO
- £100 per additional MNO per asset per year
- Price excludes power consumption

# Vouchers

- Top Up funding has been highly successful
- But...Openreach withdrawing due to focus on commercial delivery
- Where next?



# Poles/Highways/Planning

Approximately 4000 premises per month getting FTTP connections between commercial operators and project gigabit

As this is major infrastructure build, there will be inevitable inconvenience to residents and businesses

Communication important, but constrained by 'altnets' not wanting to provide detailed plans (when and where)

Current Comms planning is to heavily engage with parish councils





## Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2021-22

(Updated: 24 January 2022)

Item	Description	Contact Officer
<b>15 March 2022</b>		
Performance Monitoring January 2022 & Corporate Plan 2022-2023 update	Performance Report relating to January 2022, and an overview of the Corporate Plan for 2022-2023	Louise Tustian, Head of Insight and Corporate Performance
Draft Recovery & Prosperity Strategy	Policy Development: To consider and comment on the draft Recovery and Prosperity Strategy for Cherwell	Robert Jolley, Assistant Director Growth and Economy
Constitution Annual Review	To consider and review the proposals and recommendations of the working group and changes and make recommendations to the May Full Council meeting	Anita Bradley, Director – Law and Governance/Monitoring Officer
Report of the Member Education Scrutiny Review Working Group	To consider the final report of the Member Education Scrutiny Review Working Group	Emma Faulkner, Democratic and Elections Officer
Report of the District and Parish Relationship Scrutiny Review Working Group	To consider the final report of the District and Parish Relationship Scrutiny Review Working Group	Lesley Farrell, Democratic and Elections Officer
Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2021/22	The Constitution requires that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee submit an annual report to Council. This is an opportunity for the Committee to review the draft Annual Report	Emma Faulkner, Democratic and Elections Officer Lesley Farrell, Democratic and Elections Officer
Work Programme	Standing item: Updates on topics	Emma Faulkner, Democratic and Elections



Item	Description	Contact Officer
	suggested for consideration and review of work programme	Officer Lesley Farrell, Democratic and Elections Officer
<b>Items to be allocated</b>		
COVID Response – Recovery Planning and Lessons Learnt	Following a <a href="#">COVID update report to Executive on 5 July 2021</a> , a programme of engagement with the O&S Committee, all members and key partners will be developed	Robin Rogers, Programme Director COVID Response
<b>Items allocated for 2022/23 municipal year</b>		
1 June 2022: Recovery and Prosperity Strategy for Cherwell	Policy development: To consider and comment on the final version of the Strategy prior to Executive consideration on 4 June 2022	Robert Jolley – Assistant Director Growth and Economy

**Meeting Dates 2021/22 (All Tuesday, 6.30pm unless indicated)**

30 June 2021 – informal meeting; 14 July 2021; 7 September 2021; 19 October 2021; 30 November 2021; 18 January 2022; 15 March 2022

**Meeting Dates 2022/23 (All Tuesday, 6.30pm unless indicated)**

Wednesday 1 June 2022; 5 July 2022; 6 September 2022; 11 October 2022; 29 November 2022; 24 January 2023; 14 March 2023

**Work Programme Items:**

Members are reminded of the five roles of scrutiny when considering items for the work programme:

- Performance Monitoring; Policy Development; Policy Review; Holding the Executive to Account; External Scrutiny

Appendix 2

Topic and suggested by	Update	Status / Proposed action
<p>Member Education and Training</p> <p>Raised by Councillor Sandy Dallimore at the 7 September meeting</p>	<p>The <a href="#">scoping document</a> was approved at the 19 October 2021 meeting of the Committee, and now forms the terms of reference for the review.</p> <p>The working group met on 11 January to continue work on the review, and have started to consider draft recommendations.</p> <p>A further meeting will be held w/c 24 January, and a verbal update will be given at Committee on 1 February.</p>	<p>Committee to note the verbal update.</p>
<p>The relationship between the District council and our parishes</p> <p>Raised by Councillor Sandy Dallimore at the informal session held on 30 June 2021</p>	<p>The <a href="#">Scoping document</a> was approved at the 30 November 2021 meeting of the Committee, and now forms the terms of reference for the review.</p> <p>The group met on 7 January. Matters discussed included: Statutory duties of different tiers of local government; district consultation and communication with Parishes; Ward Councillor communications and liaison with parishes.</p> <p>The working group are scheduled to meet again on 26 January. A verbal update will be given at Committee on 1 February.</p>	<p>Committee to note the verbal update.</p>
<p>Planning Policy for the District, including the Growth Deal.</p> <p>Raised by Councillor Ian Middleton and 3 former committee members, May 2019</p>	<p>As previously reported, officers from Planning Policy have agreed to attend a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to discuss this subject.</p>	<p>Attendance will be scheduled when appropriate.</p>

Appendix 2

<p>Recovery and Prosperity Strategy</p> <p>Digital Infrastructure/5G</p> <p>Raised by Councillors Tom Wallis, Bryn Williams and 1 former committee member, May 2019</p>	<p>Digital infrastructure / 5G arose during the Committee’s initial consideration of the Cherwell Industrial Strategy (CIS). In light of COVID, the CIS has evolved to the Recovery and Prosperity Strategy (RPS). A draft of the RPS will be submitted to Executive in due course to agree for consultation to commence. As part of this process, the Committee will review the RPS.</p> <p>A presentation on Digital Infrastructure is scheduled for the 1 February meeting of the Committee</p>	<p>Attendance relating to the Recovery and Prosperity Strategy will be scheduled when appropriate.</p> <p>Committee to note the Digital Infrastructure presentation.</p>



**Update on items previously submitted to Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

This document will be used to track progress of items that have been considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to submission to another meeting, such as Executive or Full Council.

Item Description	Resolution from Overview & Scrutiny	Outcome
<p><b>**New**</b> 2020-2022 Community Nature Plan Progress update</p> <p>(Considered <a href="#">30 November 2021</a>, Minute 33 refers)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the 2020-2022 Community Nature Plan progress report and its approach to addressing the Council's statutory biodiversity be noted.</li> <li>2. That the essential role of key partners in the delivery of the Community Nature Plan be recognised.</li> <li>3. That it be noted that the development of the 2022-2024 Community Nature Plan (CNP) will include an all-member seminar in 2022 involving planners, as requested by Overview &amp; Scrutiny in December 2020, and it be noted that the implications of the Environment Act will be taken into account in this next iteration of the CNP.</li> </ol>	<p>This item was considered by Executive at its <a href="#">10 January 2022</a> meeting.</p> <p>Executive resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That The 2020-2022 Community Nature Plan progress report and its approach to addressing the Council's statutory biodiversity duty be noted.</li> <li>2. That the essential role of key partners in the delivery of the Community Nature Plan be recognised.</li> <li>3. That it be noted that the development of the 2022-2024 Community Nature Plan (CNP) will include an all-member seminar in 2022 involving planners, as requested by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee December 2020 and the implications of the provisions of the Environment Act will be taken into account in this next iteration of the Community</li> </ol>

		Nature Plan.
<p>Changes to Cherwell District Council's Housing Allocation Scheme</p> <p>(Considered <a href="#">7 September 2021</a>, Minute 16 refers)</p>	<p>1. That the proposed changes to the Housing Allocation Scheme be supported</p>	<p>This item was considered by Executive at its <a href="#">1 November 2021</a> meeting, and the comments of the Committee were reported.</p> <p>Executive resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the proposed changes to the Housing Allocation Scheme be approved and the scheme (Annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be adopted.</li> <li>2. That authority be delegated to the Interim Assistant Director, Housing and Social Care Commissioning in consultation with the Lead Member for Housing, to make any minor editorial amendments to the Scheme as needed prior to publication.</li> </ol>
<p>Draft Tenancy Strategy and Affordability Statement 2021 (Cherwell District Council)</p> <p>(Considered <a href="#">7 September 2021</a>, Minute 17 refers)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the draft Tenancy Strategy and Affordability Statement be noted</li> <li>2. That the following comments be submitted to the Executive: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. For all future consultations, a mechanism for ensuring residents directly affected by a consultation are contacted and encouraged to respond</li> <li>b. A continuous effort is required to improve quality and standard of housing in the district</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>This item was considered by Executive at its <a href="#">1 November 2021</a> meeting, and the comments of the Committee were reported</p> <p>Executive resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the changes to the draft Tenancy Strategy and Affordability Statement in response to the feedback and officer responses set out in the Consultation Report be noted</li> </ol>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. That the final draft Tenancy Strategy and Affordability Statement (Annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved to ensure that the council meets statutory requirements and complies with good practice</li> <li>3. That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director, Housing and Social Care Commissioning in consultation with the Lead Member for Housing, to make any minor editorial amendments to the strategy as needed prior to publication; and, to approve annual updates to the Tenancy Strategy appendices to ensure the data remains relevant.</li> </ol>
<p>Constitution Review 2021 (Considered <a href="#">7 September 2021</a>, Minute 18 refers)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the process for the 2021 annual review of the Constitution be endorsed.</li> <li>2. That the establishment of a cross-party Constitution Review working group be agreed.</li> <li>3. That the Director Law and Governance be requested to liaise with Political Group Leaders to agree the practical steps and process for the review.</li> </ol>	<p>Following liaison with Political Group Leaders, the Terms of Reference for the review have been submitted to the 30 November meeting of the Committee for consideration.</p>
<p>The Oxfordshire Plan Regulation 18 Part 2 Consultation Document</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the draft Executive report and the Regulation 18 (Part 2) consultation</li> </ol>	<p>Considered by Executive on <a href="#">19 July 2021</a> Minute 37 refers.</p>

<p>(Considered <a href="#">14 July 2021</a>, Minute 10 refers)</p>	<p>document for public consultation be noted.</p> <p>2. That the following observations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be reported to the Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A feeling of discontent amongst the Committee regarding the volume of information relating to the consultation, and the length of time Members had to go through it (acknowledging that it was within statutory legal timescales for agenda publication but not ideal). The Committee felt unable to sufficiently scrutinise the documentation in the available time.</li> <li>2. A request for a clear communications strategy, and for progress updates and further involvement of both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee specifically, and more general briefings for all Members during the course of work on the plan following the Regulation 18 consultation</li> <li>3. A request for an understanding as to how the plan will address the estimated annual cost to the economy in relation to Mental Health, as detailed in the table in paragraph 248 of the consultation document</li> </ol>	<p>Councillor Wallis attended the meeting to present the feedback from the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee. The Committee was thanks for its contribution.</p> <p>Executive resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Regulation 18 (Part 2) consultation document be approved for public consultation</li> <li>2. That an updated Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which will become the formal basis for the forthcoming Regulation 18 Part 2 Consultation be adopted</li> <li>3. That the Assistant Director be authorised to make any necessary editorial corrections and minor amendments to the documents, and to agree the final publication style, in liaison with the Lead Member for Planning and subject to agreement with their counterparts in the other four partner Local Planning Authorities.</li> </ol> <p>The consultation document was also approved by the four other Local Planning Authorities, and the consultation opened at the end of July and will run for 10 weeks, to Friday 8 October. Any individuals wishing to submit a consultation response can do so through the <a href="#">Consultation website</a>.</p>
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	<p>(Committee supplement part 1, page 87).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. A request for the later stages of the Plan process to focus on the Affordable Homes aspect, specifically social housing and social rented housing, acknowledging the explanation from the Assistant Director – Planning and Development that in planning terms ‘affordable’ does include social rented housing.</li><li>5. A request for clarity regarding how the preferred and alternative options will be presented in the final consultation document, to avoid possible confusion for those reading it.</li><li>6. In relation to Policy Option 01: Sustainable Design and Construction, the removal of caveats such as ‘this policy would be subject to viability and deliverability testing’ (Committee supplement part 1, page 52) as they could be used as ‘get outs’ by land owners/developers later in the plan process</li><li>7. Concerns around the Oxfordshire Growth Needs Assessment documents and the accuracy of the figures</li></ol>	
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	<p>8. Natural growth is not referred to through the document, trajectory graphs provided are all straight lines and do not seem to take account for natural growth to decrease as well as increase.</p> <p>9. Within Policy Option 10 – Green Belt (Paragraph 258, Committee supplement 1 page 89), National Planning Policy Framework guidelines are frequently referred to but the messages are mixed. In some cases there seems to be a suggestion of making it easier to build on Green Belt, and in others discussion is around enhancing Green Belt.</p>	
<p>Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2021 to 2026 – considered on <a href="#">12 January 2021</a>, Minute 41 refers</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the draft strategy be noted.</li> <li>2. That Executive be advised the strategy should focus on Social Housing provision rather than Affordable Housing.</li> <li>3. That the Executive be requested to explore the potential of housing co-operatives.</li> </ol>	<p>Considered by Executive on <a href="#">1 March 2021</a>, Minute 105 refers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The amended Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2021 – 2026 be approved</li> </ol> <p>In addition to the resolution the then Lead member for Housing Councillor John Donaldson confirmed that increasing social housing was a priority.</p>
<p>Draft Statement of Licensing Policy – considered on <a href="#">12 January 2021</a>, Minute 42 refers</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy be supported</li> </ol>	<p>Considered by Executive on <a href="#">1 February 2021</a>, Minute 96 refers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The proposed changes to the policy</li> </ol>

Appendix 3  
 Updated: 24 January 2022

	<p>The Committee also requested clarity on the process for notifying Councillors and town/parish councils of Licensing applications in their areas.</p>	<p>were endorsed          2. Officers were requested to provide feedback to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in response to their comments regarding...notification to ward members of licensing applications</p>
<p>Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2020/21 – considered on <a href="#">16 March 2021</a>, Minute 52 refers</p>	<p>1. That the draft Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report for 2020/21 be noted.</p>	<p>Considered by full Council on <a href="#">19 May 2021</a>, Minute 16 refers.          1. The report was noted           The Committee fulfilled their Constitutional obligation to provide an annual report.</p>

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