



Committee: Executive

Date: Tuesday 7 October 2025

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue 39 Castle Quay, Banbury, OX16 5FD

Membership

**Councillor David Hingley
(Chair)**

Councillor Tom Beckett
Councillor Jean Conway
Councillor Ian Middleton
Councillor Rob Pattenden

Councillor Lesley McLean (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Chris Brant
Councillor Nick Cotter
Councillor Robert Parkinson

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

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

3. Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chair to report on any requests to submit petitions or to address the meeting.

4. Minutes (Pages 9 - 18)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2025.

5. Chair's Announcements

To receive communications from the Chair.

6. Urgent Business

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

7. Notice of Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Pages 19 - 96)

Report of Assistant Director Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to notify the Executive of recommendations from the March 2025 meetings of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and to request an Executive Response.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To note the reports and recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2 To agree that an Executive Response be prepared for each set of recommendations, for consideration and agreement, within two months of this notice.

8. Bicester Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Implementation Report (Pages 97 - 124)

Report of Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety

Purpose of report

A consultation was recently undertaken on a proposal to renew the current Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for Bicester town centre. This report provides the Executive with the background to the proposal, a summary of the consultation undertaken and the feedback from stakeholders and the details of the potential scope of the Order. The report asks the Executive to decide whether to renew the current PSPO in Bicester town centre.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To renew the Public Spaces Protection Order for Bicester town centre taking into consideration the outcomes of the public consultation and the feedback received from stakeholders.

1.2 The basis of the order will be items (a)-(e) as set out in the consultation in section 4.14 and the order will apply to the area set within the red border in appendix 1.

1.3 To agree the order can remain in place for up to 3 years.

9. Local Nature Recovery Strategy (Pages 125 - 372)

(Appendix 2d is a link available in the report under the list of appendices)

Report of Corporate Director Communities

Purpose of report

To endorse the publication of the Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

1.1 To endorse the Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and approves its publication by Oxfordshire County Council.

10. Response to Motion: Primary Care Facilities in North Oxfordshire (Pages 373 - 378)

Report of Corporate Director Communities

Purpose of report

To agree the response to the motion raised at the Council meeting on 21 July 2025 with regard to supporting the Integrated Care Board (ICB) in making provision for Primary Care Facilities.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

1.1 To affirm its clear commitment to supporting the ICB in meeting its responsibilities for the planning, commissioning and management of NHS services for the population of Cherwell.

1.2 To request that officers offer regular, structured meetings with the ICB to support this commitment.

1.3 To note the important role the Council has in holding the ICB to account for the appropriate and timely provision of Primary Care and its supporting infrastructure.

11. Award of Grant to Banbury Museum Trust (Pages 379 - 384)

Report of Assistant Director Wellbeing and Housing

Purpose of report

Cherwell District Council is the principal funder of The Banbury Museum Trust. This report sets out the reasoning for an award of grant funding until March 2027.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To award Banbury Museum Trust a grant for their continued operation until 31 March 2027.

12. Growth and Regeneration Funding 2025/26 - 2027/28 (Pages 385 - 396)

Report of Corporate Director Communities

Purpose of report

To secure project funding to the Growth & Regeneration and Development Management Services within the Place and Regeneration Directorate to address capacity constraints and to support priority projects including the Housing Delivery Action Plan, Local Area Energy Planning, inputting into the Oxford Growth Commission and enabling infrastructure to support complex development sites.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To accept an award of £300k funding from MHCLG to be spent in 2025/26 on investment in capacity funding to support the acceleration of infrastructure and housing delivery in Bicester as part of the Bicester Garden Town Programme.
- 1.2 To transfer £600k from the projects reserve to a new earmarked "Growth and Regeneration Projects Reserve" and to allocate £100k of this in 2025/26. This funding will add capacity to the other two Area Oversight Group areas of Banbury and Kidlington (and the 4 surrounding parish areas of the Local Plan Partial Review 2020) to accelerate housing and employment delivery through projects detailed in the report.
- 1.3 To delegate to the Corporate Director Communities (post title will change to Executive Director Place and Regeneration effective 15 October 2025), in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Property and Regeneration, the programme management and change control of funding to meet the identified projects, and subject to approval of the project business plans by Executive Committee as identified within the report.

13. Cherwell Futures Programme (Pages 397 - 412)

Report of Corporate Director Resources and Transformation

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the next phase of Transformation to transition to the Cherwell Futures Programme. Following a comprehensive review by the Executive and analysis of progress made in 2024-25, the programme's focus has been strategically narrowed to focus on three priority areas: Planning, Environmental Services, and Customer Engagement (Single Front Door).

This approach will provide clear assurance on targeted savings and establish a definitive means of implementation. Depending on the full scope of the project agreed, it is anticipated to achieve between £3 million and £4 million in savings per annum over the medium term (6-18 months) from approval.

The report asks the Executive to allocate an initial £400k in funding to enable work on the priority areas identified, and to agree that a further £1.1m can be accessed subject to strict governance and oversight procedures.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To approve the Cherwell Futures Programme to prioritise the three key areas of Planning, Environmental Services, and Customer Engagement (Single Front Door), as the core focus for the next phase of work.
- 1.2 To approve the allocation from the Projects Reserve of £0.4 million to fund initial support and preparatory work required for the three prioritised areas noted in recommendation 1.1 above, together with transferring £1.1 million from the Projects Reserve to a new Cherwell Futures Reserve for implementation and resource costs, subject to Executive approval, as required by the Council's Reserves Policy.
- 1.3 To approve the proposed delivery model referenced in section 4. This model aims to bring more project management in-house to reduce risk and maximise cost-effectiveness, using external support only where necessary.

14. Finance Monitoring Report August 2025 (Pages 413 - 438)

Report of Assistant Director Finance (S151 Officer)

Purpose of report

To report to Executive the council's forecast year-end financial position as at the end of the August 2025. Further detail can be found in the report and its appendices.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To consider and note the contents of the council's financial management report as at the end of August 2025.
- 1.2 To approve the Use of Reserve and Grant Funding Requests in Appendix 4.
- 1.3 To approve the amendments to the capital programme in Appendix 5.
- 1.4 To approve the proposed, write offs set out in exempt Appendix 6.

15. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The following item contains exempt information as defined in the following paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of Local Government Act 1972.

- 1 – Information relating to any individual
- 2 – Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
- 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Members are reminded that whilst the following item has been marked as exempt, it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider it in private or in public. In making the decision, members should balance the interests of individuals or the Council itself in having access to the information. In considering their discretion members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.

No representations have been received from the public requesting that this item be considered in public.

Should Members decide not to make a decision in public, they are recommended to pass the following recommendation:

“That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the ground that, if the public and press were present, it would be likely that exempt information falling under the provisions of Schedule 12A, Part 1, Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 would be disclosed to them, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”

16. Finance Monitoring Report August 2025 - Exempt Appendix (Pages 439 - 446)

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

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or 01295 221534 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.

Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

This agenda constitutes the 5-day notice required by Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 in terms of the intention to consider an item of business in private.

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Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact Natasha Clark, Democratic and Elections democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, 01295 221534

Shiraz Sheikh
Monitoring Officer

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