



Committee: Executive

Date: Tuesday 2 December 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 - 24)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2025 and the special meeting held on 13 November 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. Response to Motion: Planning Support for Town and Parish Councils (Pages 25 - 30)

Report of Executive Director for Place and Regeneration

Purpose of report

To agree the response to the motion raised at the Council meeting on 20 October with regard to planning support for Town and Parish Councils. To seek approval for the allocation of £15,000 to provide targeted support to parish and town councils (PCs/TCs) in responding effectively to large-scale planning applications.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To approve the in-year funding of up to £15,000 for the funding of a support package to Town and Parish Councils to respond to planning applications.
- 1.2 To approve the virement of £15,000 from Health and Wellbeing (this budget was originally intended for the heating hardship fund, however the Government reinstated the winter fuel allowance national scheme, so this is no longer required) to Planning and Development Management.

8. Executive Response to Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations (Pages 31 - 50)

Report of Assistant Director Law and Governance and Monitoring Office

Purpose of report

To present the draft Executive responses to four sets of recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committee, following the presentation of the scrutiny reports to the Executive on 7 October 2025.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To agree the Executive responses to the Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations, attached at Appendices 1 to 4.

9. Infrastructure Funding Statement 2024-2025 (Pages 51 - 106)

Report of Head of Development Management

Purpose of report

To seek approval of the Council's Infrastructure Funding Statement 2024-25 for publication by 31 December 2025.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To approve the Infrastructure Funding Statement 24-25 at Appendix 1 for publication by 31 December 2025 subject to any final changes considered to be necessary by the Head of Development Management to secure accuracy in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development Management.

10. Annual Monitoring Report (Planning) 2025 (Pages 107 - 116)

** Due to document length, to assist access, the appendices to the report are published as a supplement to the main agenda pack **

Report of Assistant Director Planning

Purpose of report

To seek approval for publication the 2025 Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) which includes a five-year housing land supply update (as at 31 October 2025).

To seek approval of the accompanying updates to the Local Plan's Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Brownfield Land Register update (December 2025).

To seek approval of the Regulation 10A review of the adopted policies in the Cherwell Local Plan 2011 – 2031 (Part 1) Partial Review – Oxford's Unmet Housing Need. (The Partial Review).

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To approve the 2025 Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) presented at Appendix 1 including a Housing Land Supply Statement and 2024/25 Infrastructure Delivery Plan update for publication.
- 1.2 To approve the 2024/25 Brownfield Land Register presented at Appendix 2 be approved for publication.
- 1.3 To approve the review of the adopted policies in the Cherwell Local Plan 2011 – 2031 (Part 1) Partial Review – Oxford's Unmet Housing Need under

Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 presented at Appendix 3 be approved.

- 1.4 To authorise the Assistant Director Planning to approve the final presentation of the AMR and Brownfield Land Register and to make any necessary minor administrative amendments and corrections to them prior to formal publication and in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development Management.

11. Flexible Home Improvement Loans Limited - Future of Company (Pages 117 - 126)

Report of Interim Executive Director Neighbourhood Services

Purpose of report

To update the Executive on Flexible Home Improvement Loans Limited and its status, the alternative governance structures proposed for the company and to agree the preferred model as stated within the recommendations.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To delegate authority to the Executive Director Neighbourhood Services to enter into negotiations to form a consortium with other Local Authority members.
- 1.2 To delegate authority to the Executive Director Neighbourhood Services to engage with the procurement of a Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) regulated provider to undertake loan administration services on behalf of the consortium.
- 1.3 To authorise the Executive Director Neighbourhood Services to engage with the winding up of FHIL once the net assets have been transferred with the appropriate safeguards.
- 1.4 To delegate to the Executive Director Neighbourhood Services in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer the authority to negotiate and agree new contracts pertaining to the future of FHIL on behalf of the Council.

12. Thames Valley Devolution Expression of Interest Endorsement (Pages 127 - 142)

Report of Executive Director Place and Regeneration

Purpose of report

This report seeks to endorse an Expression of Interest (EOI) to be made by the Oxfordshire County Council to Government. This is in response to the

Government's devolution policy and seeks to position our region in the next round of devolution for the purpose of creating a Mayoral Strategic Authority (MSA).

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To endorse the benefits from the proposed devolution of powers and functions, and agree to continue building on the collaborative approach across the region to date.
- 1.2 To endorse the Expression of Interest (EOI) to be submitted by Oxfordshire County Council as the upper-tier authority to Government, noting that the EOI is designed to proactively position our region for early consideration in the next wave of the Devolution Programme.
- 1.3 To acknowledge the EOI as an initial invitation to Government, opening further dialogue and engagement, and not a decision to establish a Strategic Authority.
- 1.4 To agree that a further report will be brought to Executive prior to any final decision by the County Council as upper-tier authority on the creation of a Strategic Authority.
- 1.5 To note the informal Devolution Programme Board will oversee discussions with Government, ensuring robust governance and stakeholder engagement by elected members throughout this process.

13. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2026-2027 (Pages 143 - 150)

Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)

Purpose of report

To enable Executive to consider the proposed banded scheme for Council Tax Reduction (CTR) for 2026/2027.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To note the contents of the report, and any financial implications for the Council.
- 1.2 To note the comments of Budget Planning Committee at Section 6.2.
- 1.3 To recommend to Council that the current scheme is retained for 2026/27.

14. Finance Monitoring Report October 2025 (Pages 151 - 184)

Report of Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)

Purpose of report

To report to the Executive the council's forecast year-end financial position as at the end of the October 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 October 2025.
- 1.2 To approve the Use of Reserve and Grant Funding Requests in Appendix 4.
- 1.3 To recommend to Council to approve the allocation of £1.65m capital budget to undertake roof replacement works at Castle Quay, details are held within 4.1.7 and 4.1.8 of this report and at Appendix 5.

15. Exclusion of the Press and Public

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

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, Paragraph 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. Approval to Appoint a Contract for the Provision of the Council's External Print and Mail (Hybrid Mail) (Pages 185 - 192)

Exempt report of Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)

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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