



Committee: **Executive**

Date: **Tuesday 3 February 2026**

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 6 January 2026.

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. Budget Setting and Corporate Plan for 2026/2027 and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy up to 2030/2031 (Pages 19 - 244)

(Please note appendix 3 is not used for this report)

Report of Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)

Purpose of report

To consider and recommend the Budget Setting for 2026/27 and MTFS 2030/31 as per the recommendations.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves to:

- 1.1 Recommend this budget proposal to Council, and in doing so note the summary of consultation responses in Appendix 10.
- 1.2 Delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer (S151), following consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Member for Finance, Regeneration and Property to complete the legal Council Tax calculations once all the information required has been received and submit as appendices to the budget report to Council.
- 1.3 Delegate authority to the S151, following consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Member for Finance, Regeneration and Property to make appropriate changes to the proposed budget to Council including policies and plans.

The Executive resolves to recommend to Council as follows:

- 1.4 Approve the proposed Fees and Charges schedule for 2026/27 (Appendix 7) and statutory notices be placed where required.
- 1.5 Consider and note the Equality Impact Assessments of the Budget (Appendix 8)
- 1.6 In relation to the Corporate Plan (Section 4.1) to:
 - 1.6.1 Note the Corporate Plan Vision and Strategy set out in Appendix 1.
 - 1.6.2 Approve the Annual Delivery Plan set out in Appendix 2.
- 1.7 In relation to the Revenue Budget Strategy (Section 4.2) and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (Section 4.6) to approve:

- 1.7.1 The net revenue budget for the financial year commencing on 1 April 2026, as set out in Table 4.2.1, and further analysed in the Budget Book provided at Appendix 12.
- 1.7.2 The MTFS and Revenue Budget 2026/27 (Sections 4.6 and 4.2 respectively), including the Savings Proposals and Investments included at Appendices 4 and 5 respectively.
- 1.8 In relation to Council Tax (Section 4.2.49) to approve:
 - 1.8.1 An increase in the Basic Amount of Council Tax for Cherwell District Council for the financial year beginning on 1 April 2026 of £5, resulting in a Band D charge of £163.50 per annum.
 - 1.8.2 From 1 April 2027 the implementation of a premium (second homes premium) of 100% for dwellings that are no one's sole or main residence and are substantially furnished, following consultation undertaken in November and December 2024 which showed 88% support for the introduction.
 - 1.8.3 That the mandatory notice of 12 months to all owners of second homes that a premium will commence from 1 April 2027 be issued.
 - 1.8.4 That relevant exceptions be applied as set out by Government guidance (Appendix 22).
- 1.9 In relation to the Capital Programme and related strategies (Section 4.3) to approve:
 - 1.9.1 The Capital Bid(s) and Capital Programme at Appendices 17 and 18 respectively.
 - 1.9.2 The Capital and Investment Strategy 2026/27 (Appendix 19), including the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy.
 - 1.9.3 The Treasury Management Strategy, including the Prudential Indicators, and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2026/27 (Appendix 21).
- 1.10 In relation to reserves (Section 4.4), to approve:
 - 1.10.1 A minimum level of General Balances of £8.011m as supported by Appendix 15.
 - 1.10.2 The Reserves Policy (Appendix 14).
 - 1.10.3 The medium-term reserves plan described in Appendix 16.
- 1.11 In relation to the Pay Policy Statement, to approve:
 - 1.11.1 The Pay Policy Statement, as required by the Localism Act 2010, detailed in Appendix 9.
- 1.12 In relation to the Pension Fund (Section 4.5) to:
 - 1.12.1 Approve a pension fund prepayment for the years 2026/27 – 2028/29 of £5.028m.

8. Finance, Performance & Risk Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2025-2026 (Pages 245 - 302)

Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Interim Head of Chief Executive's Office

Purpose of report

To report to Executive the council's forecast year-end financial, performance and risk position as of the end of Quarter 3 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 finance, performance, and risk management report as at Quarter 3.
- 1.2 To note the approval of £0.010m from Policy Contingency for the Climate Change Action Plan for 2025/26, approved within S151 delegations.
- 1.3 To approve the reprofiling of projects in the capital programme as per Appendix 1.
- 1.4 To note the budgets approved under S151 delegations within in the capital programme held within Table 7 of the report.

9. Air Quality Update (Pages 303 - 356)

Report of Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety

Purpose of report

To request Executive approval to confirm the revocation of the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Bicester.

Recommendations

The Executive resolves:

- 1.1 To revoke Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) No.4 (Kings End/Queens Avenue, Bicester)

10. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The following reports contain exempt information as defined in the following paragraph 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 items have been marked as exempt, it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider them 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 any item be considered in public.

Should Members decide not to make decisions 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 items 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.”

11. Approval to Appoint a Contract for the Provision of Temporary Accommodation for Homeless Households (Pages 357 - 362)

Exempt report of Interim Executive Director Neighbourhood Services

12. Adoption of an Agency Model for the Leisure Centre Service Delivery (Pages 363 - 394)

Exempt report of Interim Executive Director Neighbourhood Services

13. Proposed New Lease to Banbury Young Homeless Project (BYHP) (Pages 395 - 404)

Exempt report Assistant Director Property

14. Sale of Bodicote House Site, White Post Road, Bodicote, OX15 4AA (Pages 405 - 414)

Exempt report of Assistant Director Property

15. Approval to Appoint a Contract for the Provision of the Council's Revenues and Benefits Software (Pages 415 - 422)

Exempt report of Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)

Councillors are requested to collect any post from their pigeon hole in the Members' Lounge before or 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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The council is obliged, by law, to allow members of the public to take photographs, film, audio-record, and report on proceedings. The council will only seek to prevent this should

it be undertaken in a disruptive or otherwise inappropriate manner.

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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