

Special Meeting of Council

Monday 10 November 2025

Members of Cherwell District Council.

A Special Meeting of Council will be held at 39 Castle Quay, Banbury, OX16 5FD on Monday 10 November 2025 at 6.30 pm, and you are hereby summoned to attend.

Monitoring Officer Wednesday 29 October 2025

Shring Greek

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

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 Communications

To receive communications from the Chair and/or the Leader of the Council.

4 Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chair to report on any requests to address the meeting.

Addresses may be presented by:

- A Local Government elector for the area,
- A person who is wholly or mainly resident in the area,
- A Council Taxpayer or National Non-Domestic Ratepayer for the area

Addresses must be on an item on the agenda before the meeting and not exceed 5 minutes. No person may address more than one meeting on any particular issue.

Requests to address the meeting (including the agenda item and reason for the address) should be submitted to democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk The deadline for requests to address this meeting is noon on Friday 7 November 2025.

Full details of public participation at meetings are available in the Constitution.

Council Business Reports

5 Local Government Reorganisation - Full Proposal (Pages 5 - 468)

Report of Executive Director of Resources

Purpose of report

This report summarises the council's Full Proposal for LGR in Oxfordshire which is due to be submitted to the Government on 28 November 2025 subject to Executive approval (Special Executive, 13 November 2025). The Full Proposal makes the case for two unitary councils underpinned by a robust options appraisal and thorough financial analysis. Two unitary councils will help ensure the future of local government in Oxfordshire is cost effective, simplified and strengthened whilst unlocking further devolution for the county. Council is invited to debate the matters within the report and provide comments to Executive for their consideration.

Recommendations

Full Council is asked to:

- 1.1 Consider the Executive report of 13 November 2025 (attached including the full proposal) and provide any comments for the Executive to consider.
- 1.2 Note that the Executive is asked to approve the Full Proposal for Local Government Reorganisation across Oxfordshire at its meeting on 13 November, and in doing so, endorse Option 2:
 - A two-unitary model comprising:
 - One unitary authority covering the boundaries of Cherwell District Council, West Oxfordshire District Council, and Oxford City Council, with the working title 'Oxford & Shires'.
 - A second unitary authority covering South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, and West Berkshire Council, with the working title 'Ridgeway'.

For information

Please note:

Members are advised that written questions and motions for the next scheduled Council meeting on Monday 15 December must be submitted to the Assistant Director Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer, democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, by noon on Wednesday 3 December.

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.

Evacuation Procedure

If you hear the fire alarm, please leave the building via the nearest available exit. The fire assembly point is outside the Premier Inn, adjacent to the canal.

Access to Meetings

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

Mobile Phones

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

Webcasting and Broadcasting Notice

The meeting will be recorded by the council for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the council's website. The whole of the meeting will be recorded, except when confidential or exempt items are being considered. The webcast will be retained on the website for 6 months.

If you make a representation to the meeting, you will be deemed by the council to have consented to being recorded. By entering the Council Chamber or joining virtually, you

are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

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 / Aaron Hetherington, Democratic and Elections democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, 01295 221534