

Agenda



Listening Learning Leading

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A MEETING OF THE

Oxfordshire Environment Partnership

WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 4 APRIL 2014 AT 11.00 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBER, DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, CROWMARSH
GIFFORD

Members of the Oxfordshire Environment Partnership:

Membership is a loose group comprising the elected members of the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership, officers and representatives from governmental and non-governmental agencies. The partnership has no formal decision making powers.

Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Councillors

Mr David Dodds (Chairman of the OWP)

Mr Reg Waite (Vice-Chairman of the
OWP)

Mr Nigel Morris

Mr John Tanner

Mr David Nimmo-Smith

Mr David Harvey

Representing:

South Oxfordshire District Council

Vale of White Horse District Council

Cherwell District Council

Oxford City Council

Oxfordshire County Council

West Oxfordshire District Council

Deputies: any Cabinet or Executive member of a member authority notified to the contact officer as attending in accordance with the substitution rules of that authority.

Oxfordshire Environment partnership – current member organisations – **Currently represented by officers and staff including but not limited to:**

Oxfordshire Waste Partnership
Cherwell District Council
Oxford City Council

Oxfordshire County Council

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Council
West Oxfordshire District Council
Environment Agency
Oxfordshire Rural Community Council
BBOWT

Wayne Lewis
Ed Potter
John Copley
Tim Sadler
Tom Flanagan
Andrew Pau
Gavin Hull
Nick King
Sarah Gilbert
Rachel Burns
Matt Prosser
Clare Kingston
Ralph Young
Lucy Bee
Linda Watson
Matt Jackson

Agenda Items

1 Apologies for absence and notification of deputy members attending

2 Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interest

3 Addresses and questions to the partnership

Members of the public wishing to speak to the partnership for up to five minutes must register with the committee clerk named above by noon on Thursday (the day before the meeting).

4 Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 5 - 8)

Minutes attached.

Purpose: To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Oxfordshire Environment Partnership meeting held on 17 January 2014 (attached) and to receive information arising from them.

5 Climate Local update (Pages 9 - 14)

Report attached.

Purpose: To provide an overview of current Oxfordshire Environment Partnership commitments and ask councillors to consider the format of future joint working.

6 Chairman's announcements

*The next meeting is on Friday, 20 June 2014 in the Council Chamber, South
Oxfordshire District Council Offices*

MARGARET REED

Head of Legal and Democratic Services

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Minutes



Listening Learning Leading

OF A MEETING OF THE

Oxfordshire Environment Partnership

HELD AT 10.00 AM ON FRIDAY 17 JANUARY 2014

COUNCIL CHAMBER, DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, CROWMARSH
GIFFORD

Voting members of the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership attending

Councillor D Dodds (Chairman)	South Oxfordshire District Council
Councillor D Harvey	West Oxfordshire District Council
Councillor N Morris	Cherwell District Council
Councillor D Nimmo-Smith	Oxfordshire County Council
Councillor J Tanner	Oxford City Council
Councillor R Waite	Vale of White Horse District Council

Officers attending for the whole of the meeting

Mr W Lewis	Oxfordshire Waste Partnership
Ms R Lake	Oxfordshire Waste Partnership
Ms M Brookes	Oxford City Council
Ms J Colwell	Oxford City Council
Ms M Nielsen	Oxford City Council
Mr T Flanagan	Oxfordshire County Council
Ms S Gilbert	Oxfordshire County Council
Mr N King	Oxfordshire County Council
Mr G Hull	Oxfordshire County Council
Mr M Prosser	South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils
Mrs J Thompson	South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils
Ms C Locke	West Oxfordshire District Council
Mr R Young	West Oxfordshire District Council
Dr A Simpson	Low Carbon Hub
Ms L Bee	Environment Agency

Apologies for absence

Ms L Watson	ORCC
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16 Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interest

None.

17 Addresses and questions to the partnership

None.

18 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Oxfordshire Environment Partnership meeting held on 1 November 2013 were agreed as a correct record and signed as such by the Chairman.

19 Oxfutures project

Ms M Brookes, Oxfutures Project Leader, Oxford City Council and Dr Simpson from the Low Carbon Hub gave a presentation on the project including funding and the partners' roles. This covered the focus of the project; funding; and targets. There was a launch event for the Oxfutures project on 24 January 2014.

The Low Carbon Hub helped develop projects with community and public buildings and with larger scale residential projects. Recent projects included helping Oxford Bus Company to fit large-scale solar panels. Schools, community, and commercial buildings around Oxfordshire could benefit from the hub's expertise. While the hub was not actively sourcing new projects it was always open for discussions with groups who had projects to take forward within a reasonable timescale.

20 Update on Climate resilience and SWIMs

The partnership considered a short update on Oxfordshire County Council's progress toward recording and monitoring the impact of severe weather events on properties and services. The update also outlined opportunities to work with the county's Community Action Groups to build community resilience to weather events.

Oxfordshire County Council was holding a summit on flood prevention for key stakeholders on 21 March.

The Environment Agency had proposed a major flood alleviation scheme for Oxford.

Members commented and noted that:

- all of West Oxfordshire's parishes which had experienced flooding had a parish flood plan;
- the partnership's emergency protocol had co-ordinated communications about waste collections to the public to reduce confusion;
- waste partnership officers were collating information on the impact of flooding on waste collection and disposal;
- the sand in sandbags could be reused (if uncontaminated) or returned for reuse as aggregate.

The partnership agreed:

1. to ask the Environment Agency for information on their proposed flood alleviation scheme;
2. that the outcome of the flood prevention summit should be discussed at a future meeting;
3. to support building community resilience work through their local contacts; and
4. to consider a report about participating in the Severe Weather Monitoring System (SWIMS) at a future meeting of the Partnership.

21 Chairman's announcements

None.

22 Community engagement and education on environmental impact - Contract Procurement update

This item is included in the Waste Partnership minutes.

The meeting closed at 10.35 am

Chairman

Date

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OXFORDSHIRE ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP

4 April 2014

Oxfordshire Environment Partnership Commitments and Future Working

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide an overview of current Oxfordshire Environment Partnership commitments and ask Councillors to consider the format of future joint working.

2. Background

- 2.1 Oxfordshire Environment Partnership (OEP) is currently signed up to commitments under the Climate Local initiative running until August 2014 (reflecting the date of publication of these commitments by LGA - Annex 1).
- 2.2 Oxfordshire's current Climate Local commitments are drawn from the wider strategy and objectives laid out in "Oxfordshire 2030".
- 2.3 Signed in 2008 by the six Oxfordshire Councils, "Oxfordshire 2030" represents a strategic plan for the future of Oxfordshire, listing "Environment and Climate Change" as one of the 4 key priorities.
- 2.4 Oxfordshire Environment Partnership currently meets consecutively with Oxfordshire Waste Partnership (OWP), and utilises the same secretariat and hosting functions.
- 2.5 The Oxfordshire Environment Partnership working group sitting under the Councillor forum, comprises energy officers from each partner authority. It is currently coordinated by the energy officer at Oxfordshire County Council.
- 2.6 A number of Climate Local commitments are not directly related to the officer posts within the working group – e.g. those related to natural environment and flooding. For these work areas the coordinating officer contacts relevant officers directly to update Councillors on progress.
- 2.7 The decision of leaders to dissolve the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership (OWP) presents an opportunity to discuss the future of Oxfordshire Environment Partnership (OEP) and its work beyond the current Climate Local timescales.

3. Financial, Risk and Staff Implications

- 3.1 OEP does not currently have any dedicated staffing to deliver its agenda.
- 3.2 OEP currently uses the secretariat function associated with the main OWP meeting for organising and recording Councillor meetings.

4. Areas Affected

- 4.1 All Partner Councils are affected by the matters within this report.

5. Effect on Strategic Policies

- 5.1 The current Climate Local Framework maintains the golden thread with commitments laid out in Oxfordshire 2030.

6. Options

- 6.1 OEP could be maintained in its existing format and the current Climate Local commitments reviewed and refreshed in August 2014. The inclusion of waste commitments, drawn from Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) could be considered. This may necessitate retaining the secretariat function for Councillor OEP meetings in host authorities.
- 6.2 OEP could be dissolved alongside OWP, or in August 2014 when the current commitment has expired. There would no longer be an annual joint work plan and reporting to deliver the commitments laid out in Oxfordshire 2030. Officers for each area (waste and environment) could continue to meet informally, as necessary.
- 6.3 Councillors could consider different models of partnership working across waste and wider environmental issues. Officers could be mandated to explore these ideas and present a future way of working at the OWP/OEP meeting scheduled for June.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 Members consider the advantages and implications of continuing joint working.
- 7.2 If deemed advantageous, request officers to develop a working plan to be presented at the scheduled June meeting.

8 Reasons for recommendations

- 8.1 To explore a future framework for partnership working on environmental topics.

Contact Officer

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Annex 1: Current Climate Local Commitments

The aim of Climate Local is to help drive and support council action to reduce carbon emissions and develop resilience to the effects of a changing climate and extreme weather. It succeeds the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change and offers a framework that can reflect local priorities and opportunities for action.

Climate Local allows for commitments under the following headings:

- Energy
- Finance
- Local economic growth
- Natural environment
- Planning and the built environment
- Transport
- Waste
- Health and communities
- Climate change adaptation

Existing Oxfordshire Climate Local Commitments 13/14

<p>Commitment: In order to meet our Oxfordshire 2030 priority objectives 1 and 2, which are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Manage the risk and effects of flooding; 2) Ensure Oxfordshire organisations and communities are preparing for the impacts of climate change in the longer term; <p>We will make the following commitments:</p>		
<p>Justification:</p>		
Specific action (s)	Measure	Timescale
1. Develop a flood risk management strategy for Oxfordshire.	Strategy published	July 2013
2. Promote sustainable drainage systems	Use of sustainable drainage systems promoted on all new developments in Oxfordshire.	Ongoing
3. Provide advice to business about weather and climate resilience to business and share good practice with District Councils.	Publish updated guidance for business on Local Enterprise Partnership business portal.	Ongoing

Commitment: In order to meet our 2030 priority objective 3, to Reduce greenhouse Gas Emissions in Oxfordshire, we will:		
Justification:		
Specific action (s)	Measure	Timescale
4. Reduce carbon emissions from local authority estate	Average 3% annual reduction in local authority CO2 emissions against 2010/2011 baseline.	April 2014
5. Work with local stakeholder and community groups to support rollout of the Green Deal in Oxfordshire	Increase in community group engagement (through Low Carbon Hub and Community Action Groups) against 2011 baseline	April 2014
6. Set up the OxFutures Fund as part of Oxfordshire Total Retrofit- led by Oxford City Council in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council, to attract private sector funding and to support community energy efficiency projects across the county.	At least £5.5m private sector funds committed or invested in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects across the public estate.	By 2016

Commitment: In order to meet our 2030 objective to Protect and Enhance the Biodiversity of the County we will:		
Justification:		
Specific action (s)	Measure	Timescale
7. Develop a green infrastructure framework (or equivalent)	Draft framework published.	April 2014

8. Increase the proportion of Local Sites in positive conservation management	Oxfordshire BAP 2015 targets.	2015
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Endorsed at meeting of Oxfordshire Environment Partnership

22 March 2013 (published by LGA August 2014)

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