



**Cherwell**

DISTRICT COUNCIL  
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting  
of the Executive held on Monday 3 October 2022**

1. Date of publication of this summary: 4 October 2022
2. Decisions (if any) taken as a matter of urgency under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in the Constitution (and not therefore subject to the call-in procedure): None
3. Date by which notice of call-in of any of the following decisions must be received in writing by the Chief Executive (see notes below):- Noon on Friday 7 October 2022
4. Notes:-
  - (a) For background documentation to the following decisions, please refer to the agenda and supporting papers (copies of which are available on the Council's website ([www.cherwell.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk)) or from Democratic Services);
  - (b) Notice of call-in must be submitted in writing, by email or text to the Chief Executive by the deadline specified above, and must state the reason or reasons why "call-in" has been requested;
  - (c) Call-in can be requested by any six non-executive members of the Council.  
However, if at any point during a municipal year the total number of opposition councillors is six or less the total number of non-executive members required to call-in a decision shall be the total number of opposition councillors less two.
  - (d) Decisions not called-in by the deadline specified above will become effective immediately the deadline has expired (unless they are recommendations to the Council).
  - (e) The Council has stipulated that the call-in procedure should not be used to challenge decisions as a matter of course and should be used only when fully justified.

**Yvonne Rees  
Chief Executive**

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options	Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service
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**Agenda Item 6  
Responding to the Cost of  
Living Crisis**

\*\* Report to follow “”

Report of Corporate Director  
of Resources

**Resolved**

- (1) That the work that the Council is undertaking be noted.
- (2) That the Council’s Food Champion and the work of the Food Insecurity Working Group be supported.
- (3) That the allocation of £250k from the COVID fund to support the Food Voucher Scheme be supported and authority to approve further expenditure be delegated to the Corporate Director Resources, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer

This report provides an update on work the Council is undertaking with respect to the Cost of Living Situation. The Council is committed to supporting our residents where we can help them through this current period of economic uncertainty.

Option 1: To reject the recommendations.

None

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and Portfolio Holder for Healthy Communities.

- (4) That it be agreed to successfully deliver new Central Government funding initiatives that support our communities.

**Agenda Item 7  
Air Quality Action Plan**

Report of Assistant Director Regulatory Services and Community Safety

**Purpose of report**

This report provides an update on the air quality monitoring carried out across the district in 2021 and the air quality data obtained, the current district

**Resolved**

- (1) That the work undertaken by the Council its partners in relation to air quality in the District and the 2021/22 air quality monitoring data be noted.

The Council will continue to work in partnership with the County Council to monitor air quality in the district and update the district AQAP. Proposals for the new air quality targets are being monitored and the implications will be assessed once those targets are finalised. A further annual update will be provided in 2023.

The council has a statutory duty to work with partners to review and assess air quality in the district and to develop air quality action plans for areas where air quality limits are exceeded. This report provides an update on the work carried out by the Council in this function and therefore there are no alternative options to be explored.

None

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Air Quality Action Plan, and other air quality related matters.

Air quality monitoring data shows significant air quality improvements over a 5-year period in the air quality management areas of the District.

The Council's Business Plan includes a specific commitment to "Work with partners to improve air quality" within the Supporting Environmental Sustainability priority.

**Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the work undertaken by the Council its partners in

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relation to air quality in the District and the 2021/22 air quality monitoring data.

**Agenda Item 8  
Domestic Abuse - Strategic Briefing and Support Services Contract Commissioning**

Report of Assistant Director Regulatory Services & Community Safety

**Purpose of report**

The Council works in partnership with the other local authorities in Oxfordshire and the Police and Crime Commissioner to commission support services for domestic abuse victims in the county. Cherwell contributes £25k per annum to the current domestic

**Resolved**

(1) That the work taking place across Oxfordshire to meet the new statutory duties and to commission a new domestic abuse support services contract be noted.

(2) That it be agreed that Cherwell District Council will maintain its contribution to the costs of this contract.

The new statutory duties relating to domestic abuse and the need to commission a new support service contract for Oxfordshire are driving considerable partnership activity in Oxfordshire. Work is progressing to bring in additional capacity to support Cherwell with this work.

The Executive is recommended to:

a) Agree that we will continue to contribute to the cost of the Domestic Abuse support services contract for Oxfordshire at current funding levels.

b) Agree that proposals for

The Council could withdraw its funding for the Domestic Abuse Support Services Contract. This was discounted since this would result in the Council not meeting its statutory duties and would also lead to a significant reduction in domestic abuse support services in the district.

None

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abuse support services contract with A2 Dominion. This current contract expires in April 2023 and therefore work is underway in preparation to tender for a new domestic abuse support services contract.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 introduced new statutory duties on local authorities in relation to support for domestic abuse victims in safe accommodation. Subsequent national guidance published in the Domestic Abuse Plan 2022 includes additional recommendations for prevention and perpetrator services to help reduce domestic homicides, suicides, risks, and harm to victim-survivors.

This paper updates the

seeking White Ribbon Accreditation should be developed if the council is successful in appointing a suitable candidate to the new Domestic Abuse Lead Officer post.

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Executive on progress in Oxfordshire to meet the new statutory duties and to commission a new domestic abuse support services contract.

Ensuring there is an effective response to domestic abuse in Cherwell contributes to the corporate priority to promote healthy, resilient and engaged communities. In particular it supports the commitment to work with partners to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour, and it also supports our commitment to equalities, diversity and inclusion and work with partners to address the causes of health inequality and deprivation.

**Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

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- 1.1 To note the work taking place across Oxfordshire to meet the new statutory duties and to commission a new domestic abuse support services contract.
- 1.2 To agree that Cherwell will maintain its contribution to the costs of this contract.

**Agenda Item 9  
Monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report August 2022**

Report of Assistant Director of Finance and Interim Assistant Director – Customer Focus

**Purpose of report**

**Resolved**

- (1) That the monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Reports for August 2022 be noted.
- (2) That it be agreed to create an income and expenditure budget of

This report provides an update on progress made during August 2022, to deliver the Council’s priorities through reporting on Performance, Leadership Risk Register and providing an update on the Financial Position. The Council is committed to performance, risk and

Option 1: This report illustrates the Council’s performance against the 2022-23 Business Plan. Regarding the monitoring aspects of the report, no further options have been considered. However, members may wish to request that officers provide additional

None

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This report summarises the Council's Performance, Risk and Finance monitoring positions as at the end of August 2022.

**Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report August 2022.
- 1.2 To create an income and expenditure budget of £0.503m for the Homes for Ukraine Grant.
- 1.3 To agree additional Capital Project to be included within the Capital Programme for a new mains electrical

- (3) That an additional Capital Project to be included within the Capital Programme for a new mains electrical connection to accommodate the newly installed Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) to operate at Kidlington Leisure Centre be agreed.
- (4) That the following changes to reserves as detailed in the Annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book) be approved:

Directorate	Typ
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budget management and reviews progress against its corporate priorities on a monthly basis.

information. Regarding the recommendation to approve changes in use of reserves, members could choose not to reject the change of use, however, the request is in accordance with the councils Reserves Policy and within existing budgets. If Members chose not to agree to the changes in transfers to reserves, then this would mean resource would need to be found for these projects separately in future years.

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connection to accommodate the newly installed Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) to operate at Kidlington Leisure Centre.

			£m
Communities	Earmarked	Works in Default	0.040
Communities	Earmarked	Castle Quay	0.671
		Total Earmarked Reserves	0.711

1.4 To approve the changes to reserves as detailed in Appendix 5.

**Agenda Item 10  
Budget and Business  
Planning Process 2023/24 -  
2027/28**

Report of Assistant Director of Finance

**Purpose of report**

This report is to inform the Executive of the proposed approach to the 2023/24 Budget and Business Planning

**Resolved**

- (1) That the Budget and Business Planning Process for 2023/24 be approved.
- (2) That a five-year period for the Medium-Term Financial Strategy to 2027/28 and five-year period for the Capital Programme to 2027/28 be approved.

The Council has a legal obligation to set a balanced budget and ensure it maintains a suitable level of reserves each year. The process laid out in this report will allow Cherwell District Council to develop budget proposals that will allow it to meet these legal obligations.

The Council has a legal obligation to set a balanced budget and evaluate its level of reserves to ensure they are held at a suitable level. Therefore, there are no alternative options other than to carry out a budget process that reviews the levels of reserves and identifies a budget proposal that can be delivered within the overall

None

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Process and provides context and background information on the existing Medium-Term Financial Strategy and information on latest government announcements relevant to the Strategy.

level of resources available to the Council.

**Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended to:

- 1.1 Approve the Budget and Business Planning Process for 2023/24
- 1.2 Approve a five-year period for the Medium-Term Financial Strategy to 2027/28 and five-year period for the Capital Programme to 2027/28.