



**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of Council held on 15 December 2025**

<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2026/27</b></p> <p>Report of Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151)</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>Council resolves:</p> <p>1.1 To note the contents of the report, and any financial implications for the Council.</p> <p>1.2 To approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The option of no change to the Council Tax Reduction Income Banded Scheme for Working Age Applicants for 2026/27</li><li>• To amend Working Age Regulations in line with annual uprating and to amend the Council Tax Regulations for pensioners in line with uprating announced by Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities.</li></ul>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the contents of the report, and any financial implications for the Council be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the option of no change to the Council Tax Reduction Income Banded Scheme for Working Age Applicants for 2026/27 be approved and the Working Age Regulations be amended in line with annual uprating and Council Tax Regulations be amended for pensioners in line with uprating announced by Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities.</p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Appointment of Independent Person to Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee</b></p> <p>Report of Monitoring Officer</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>Council resolves:</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the appointment of Nelly Lukwo as an Independent Person, to be appointed for a four-year term expiring on the date of the December Council meeting in 2029, be endorsed and authority be delegated to the Assistant Director Law and</p>

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	<p>1.1 To endorse the appointment of Nelly Lukwo as an Independent Person, to be appointed for a four-year term expiring on the date of the December Council meeting in 2029 and to delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make the appointment.</p> <p>1.2 To note that the appointment may be renewable in 2029 for a further term of four years subject to the Independent Person wishing to continue in the role and Council agreeing the renewal of the appointment.</p>	<p>Governance and Monitoring Officer to make the appointment.</p> <p>(2) That it be noted that the appointment may be renewable in 2029 for a further term of four years, subject to the Independent Person wishing to continue in the role and Council agreeing the renewal of the appointment.</p>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Appointment of Independent Persons for Standards</b></p> <p>Report of Assistant Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>Council resolves:</p> <p>1.1 To appoint Tom Edwards and Terry Williams as Independent Persons for a four-year term expiring on the date of the December Council meeting in 2029.</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That Tom Edwards and Terry Williams be appointed as Independent Persons for Standards for a four-year term expiring on the date of the December Council meeting in 2029.</p>
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Castle Quay Banbury - Roof Works</b></p> <p>Report of Assistant Director Property</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>Council resolves:</p> <p>1.1 To approve the utilisation of Capital Programme funds of £1.65m to undertake landlords works to ensure a fit for purpose watertight roof to</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the utilisation of Capital Programme funds of £1.65m to undertake landlords works to ensure a fit for purpose watertight roof to mitigate loss of rent and further claims from occupiers at Castle Quay, Banbury be approved.</p>

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	mitigate loss of rent and further claims from occupiers at Castle Quay, Banbury.	
<b>14</b>	<p><b>Treasury Management Report - Mid-year review 2025/26 (September 2025)</b></p> <p>Report of Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>Council resolves:</p> <p>1.1 To note the contents of this Treasury Management mid-year review as recommended by the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee on the 19 November 2025.</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the Treasury Management mid-year review, as recommended by the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee on the 19 November 2025, be noted.</p>
<b>15</b>	<p><b>Amendment(s) to Committee Membership</b></p> <p>To note amendment(s), if any, to Committee membership notified to the Monitoring Officer by Group Leaders.</p>	<p>The Chair advised that no amendments to Committee membership had been notified to the Monitoring Officer by Group Leaders.</p>
<b>16</b>	<p><b>Motions</b></p> <p>To receive the following two motions which have been submitted with advance notice. In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.18, as the detail of both submitted motions falls within the remit of Executive, there will be no Council debate on the motions.</p> <p>The proposer of the motion will propose the motion, the seconder will confirm, the Leader of the Council response and the motions will stand referred to Executive for consideration.</p> <p>Motion: Free Parking on Remembrance Sunday</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the following motion be adopted:</p> <p>“Council notes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Oxfordshire County Council is currently considering proposals that merge Rewley Fire Station with Kidlington Fire Station into a single Fire Station.</li> <li>2. The proposals also include the loss of four full time Firefighters at Banbury Fire Station, and the implementation of 12 hour day shifts for firefighters at Bicester Fire Station.</li> </ol>

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	<p>Proposer: Councillor Donna Ford  Seconded: Councillor Ian Harwood</p> <p>Motion: Supporting our High Streets  Proposer: Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke  Seconded: Councillor Eddie Reeves</p> <p>To debate the following motion:</p> <p>Motion: Fire Services in Cherwell  Proposer: Councillor Andrew Crichton  Seconded: Councillor Rebecca Biegel</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Cherwell is a growing district which places greater demand on local emergency response capacity.</li> <li>4. The proposals could affect response times and lead to diminished fire cover for incidents across Cherwell and Oxfordshire. The FBU has said the implementation of 12 hour shifts is unsafe.</li> </ol> <p>Council believes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Closing and merging stations could increase average response times, when Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service's response times are already significantly longer than the national average.</li> <li>2. The loss of four full time Firefighter positions in Banbury and implementation of 12 hour shifts at Bicester could have a detrimental impact on public safety in Cherwell.</li> <li>3. That decisions on fire service changes must prioritise public safety above financial or administrative considerations.</li> </ol> <p>Council therefore resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support residents and Firefighters in Oxfordshire by making clear our opposition to the reduction in Firefighter numbers, implementation of 12 hour shifts, and the merger of Kidlington and Rewley Fire Stations."</li> </ol> <p>(For information, an amendment to the motion</p>

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		<p>was proposed, seconded and debated. On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost, and the motion was subsequently adopted as submitted).</p> <p>For information, having been proposed, seconded and responded to by the Leader, the motions “Free Parking on Remembrance Sunday” and “Supporting our High Streets” were referred to Executive.</p>