



Cherwell

DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting
of the Executive held on Tuesday 3 February 2026**

1. Date of publication of this summary: 4 February 2026
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 Tuesday 10 February 2026
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) 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 five non-executive members of the Council.
 - (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.

**Shiraz Sheikh
Monitoring Officer**

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options	Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service
<p>Agenda Item 7 Budget Setting and Corporate Plan for 2026/2027 and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy up to 2030/2031</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive resolves to:</p> <p>1.1 Recommend this budget proposal to Council, and in doing so note the summary of consultation responses in Appendix 10.</p> <p>1.2 Delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer (S151), following consultation with the</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the budget proposal be recommended to Council, and the summary of consultation responses be noted.</p> <p>(2) That authority be delegated to the Section 151 Officer (S151), following consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Regeneration and Property to complete the legal Council Tax calculations once all the information required has been received and submit</p>	<p>This report provides information around the various building blocks that make up the proposed budget for 2026/27 and beyond, allowing members to consider and scrutinise the elements of the budget and provide advice and guidance to council to help further shape both budget setting for 2026/27 and the MTFS up to 2030/31.</p>	<p>It is a legal requirement to set a balanced budget and the recommendations as outlined set out a way to achieve this. The following alternative option has been identified and rejected for the reasons set out below.</p> <p>Option 1: To reject the current proposals and make alternative recommendations. Members will not be aware of the medium-term financial forecast or implications of alternatives if they choose to take this option.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>as appendices to the budget report to Council.</p> <p>(3) That authority be delegated to the S151, following consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Regeneration and Property to make appropriate changes to the proposed budget to Council including policies and plans.</p> <p>(4) That Council be recommended to approve the proposed Fees and Charges schedule for 2026/27 (Appendix 7 to the report) and statutory notices be placed</p>			

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<p>The Executive resolves to recommend to Council as follows:</p> <p>1.4 Approve the proposed Fees and Charges schedule for 2026/27 (Appendix 7) and statutory notices be placed where required.</p> <p>1.5 Consider and note the Equality Impact Assessments of the Budget (Appendix 8)</p> <p>1.6 In relation to the Corporate Plan (Section 4.1) to:</p> <p>1.6.1 Note the Corporate Plan Vision and Strategy set out in Appendix 1.</p> <p>1.6.2 Approve the</p>	<p>where required.</p> <p>(5) That Council be recommended to consider and note the Equality Impact Assessments of the Budget (Appendix 8 to the report).</p> <p>(6) That Council be recommended to note the Corporate Plan Vision and Strategy (Appendix 1 to the report).</p> <p>(7) That Council be recommended to approve the Annual Delivery Plan (Appendix 2 to the report).</p> <p>(8) That, in relation to the Revenue Budget</p>			

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<p style="text-align: center;">Annual Delivery Plan set out in Appendix 2.</p> <p>1.7 In relation to the Revenue Budget Strategy (Section 4.2) and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (Section 4.6) to approve:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.7.2 The MTFS and Revenue Budget 2026/27</p>	<p>Strategy (Section 4.2 of the report) and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (Section 4.6 of the report), Council be recommended to approve:</p> <p>i. The net revenue budget for the financial year commencing on 1 April 2026 (Table 4.2.1 of the report) and further analysed in the Budget Book (Appendix 12 to the report).</p> <p>ii. The MTFS and Revenue Budget 2026/27 (Sections 4.6 and 4.2 respectively of the report),</p>			

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<p>(Sections 4.6 and 4.2 respectively), including the Savings Proposals and Investments included at Appendices 4 and 5 respectively.</p> <p>1.8 In relation to Council Tax (Section 4.2.49) to approve:</p> <p>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</p>	<p>including the Savings Proposals and Investments included at Appendices 4 and 5 respectively.</p> <p>(9) That, in relation to Council Tax (Section 4.2.49 of the report), Council be recommended to approve:</p> <p>i. 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</p>			

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<p>of £163.50 per annum.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.8.3 That the</p>	<p>£163.50 per annum.</p> <p>ii. 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.</p> <p>iii. That the mandatory notice of 12 months to</p>			

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<p>mandatory notice of 12 months to all owners of second homes that a premium will commence from 1 April 2027 be issued.</p> <p>1.8.4 That relevant exceptions be applied as set out by Government guidance (Appendix 22).</p> <p>1.9 In relation to the Capital Programme and related strategies (Section 4.3) to approve:</p> <p>1.9.1 The Capital Bid(s) and Capital Programme at Appendices 17</p>	<p>iv. That relevant exceptions be applied as set out by Government guidance (Appendix 22 to the report).</p> <p>(10) That, in relation to the Capital Programme and related strategies (Section 4.3 of the report), Council be recommended to approve:</p> <p>i. The Capital Bid(s) and Capital Programme at</p>			

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<p>and 18 respectively.</p> <p>1.9.2 The Capital and Investment Strategy 2026/27 (Appendix 19), including the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy.</p> <p>1.9.3 The Treasury Management Strategy, including the Prudential Indicators, and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2026/27 (Appendix 21).</p> <p>1.10 In relation to reserves (Section 4.4), to</p>	<p>Appendices 17 and 18 of the report respectively.</p> <p>ii. The Capital and Investment Strategy 2026/27 (Appendix 19 to the report), including the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy.</p> <p>iii. The Treasury Management Strategy, including the Prudential Indicators, and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2026/27 (Appendix 21 the report).</p>			

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<p>approve: 1.10.1 A minimum level of General Balances of £8.011m as supported by Appendix 15.</p> <p>1.10.2 The Reserves Policy (Appendix 14).</p> <p>1.10.3 The medium-term reserves plan described in Appendix 16.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>(11) That, in relation to reserves (Section 4.4 of the report), Council be recommended to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A minimum level of General Balances of £8.011m as supported by Appendix 15 of the report. ii. The Reserves Policy (Appendix 14 of the report). iii. The medium-term reserves plan described in Appendix 16 of the report. <p>(12) That Council be recommended to approve The Pay Policy Statement, as</p>			

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<p>1.12 In relation to the Pension Fund (Section 4.5) to:</p> <p>1.12.1 Approve a pension fund prepayment for the years 2026/27 – 2028/29 of £5.028m.</p>	<p>required by the Localism Act 2010, detailed in Appendix 9 to the report.</p> <p>(13) That, in relation to the Pension Fund (Section 4.5 of the report), Council be recommended to approve a pension fund prepayment for the years 2026/27 – 2028/29 of £5.028m.</p>			
<p>Agenda Item 8 Finance, Performance & Risk Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2025-2026</p> <p>Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Interim Head of Chief Executive's Office</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the council's finance, performance, and risk management report as at Quarter 3 be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the approval of</p>	<p>The report updates the Committee on the projected year-end financial position of the council for 2025/26, Quarter 3 performance position and updated Leadership Risk Register. Regular reporting is key to good governance and</p>	<p>Option 1: This report summarises the council's forecast financial position up to the end of End of Year 2026, and a snapshot of our Performance and Risk position for Quarter 3 2025-26, therefore there are no alternative options</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive resolves:</p> <p>1.1 To consider and note the contents of the council's finance, performance, and risk management report as at Quarter 3.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.3 To approve the reprofiling of projects in the capital programme as per Appendix 1.</p> <p>1.4 To note the budgets</p>	<p>£0.010m from Policy Contingency for the Climate Change Action Plan for 2025/26, approved within S151 delegations be noted.</p> <p>(3) That the reprofiling of projects in the capital programme, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.</p> <p>(4) That the budgets approved under S151 delegations within in the capital programme as set out in Table 7 of the report be noted.</p>	<p>demonstrates that the council is actively managing its financial resources sustainably.</p>	<p>to consider.</p>	

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<p>approved under S151 delegations within in the capital programme held within Table 7 of the report.</p>				
<p>Agenda Item 9 Air Quality Update</p> <p>Report of Head of Regulatory Services and Community Safety</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive resolves:</p> <p>1.1 To revoke Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) No.4 (Kings End/Queens Avenue, Bicester)</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) No.4 (Kings End/Queens Avenue, Bicester) be revoked.</p>	<p>In AQMA No.4 (Kings End/Queens Avenue, Bicester) the measured levels of nitrogen dioxide have been below the air quality objective of 40µg/m³ for the last five years. The guidance from DEFRA is that revocation of an AQMA should be considered following three consecutive years of compliance with the relevant objective, and where there have been no exceedances for the past five years, the AQMA must be revoked. The Executive is therefore recommended to approve the revocation of this AQMA.</p>	<p>Option 1: To not revoke AQMA No.4 (Kings End/Queens Avenue, Bicester). This option was rejected because local authorities are required to revoke AQMAs where there have been no exceedances of the relevant objective for the past five years.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>Agenda Item 11 Approval to Appoint a Contract for the Provision of Temporary Accommodation for Homeless Households</p> <p>Exempt report of Interim Executive Director Neighbourhood Services</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Agenda Item 12 Adoption of an Agency Model for the Leisure Centre Service Delivery</p> <p>Exempt report of Interim Executive Director Neighbourhood Services</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(2) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(3) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>Agenda Item 13 Proposed New Lease to Banbury Young Homeless Project (BYHP)</p> <p>Exempt report Assistant Director Property</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(2) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(3) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(4) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(5) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Agenda Item 14 Sale of Bodicote House Site, White Post Road, Bodicote, OX15 4AA</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	<p>None</p>

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Exempt report of Assistant Director Property	<p>(2) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(3) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(4) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(5) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>			
<p>Agenda Item 15 Approval to Appoint a Contract for the Provision of the Council's Revenues and Benefits Software</p> <p>Exempt report of Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(2) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	None