Cherwell DISTRICT COUNCIL NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive held on Monday 13 July 2026

1. Date of publication of this summary: Tuesday 14 July 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 Monday 20 July 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
Agenda Item 7 **Purchase of Housing Accommodation** Report of Assistant Director Wellbeing and Housing **Recommendations** The Executive resolves: 1.1 To authorise the Head of Housing to determine the requirements of the additional housing (including location and specification), tenancy and rent setting and manage the acquired housing in accordance with obligations of the Council as a Registered Provider of Social Housing.	**Resolved** (1) That the Head of Housing be authorised to determine the requirements of the additional housing (including location and specification), tenancy and rent setting and manage the acquired housing in accordance with obligations of the Council as a Registered Provider of Social Housing. (2) That the Executive Director Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with Assistant Director Finance and the Portfolio Holder for	The report is necessary to assist in the delivery of the project aims and funding agreed within the budget.	Option 1: Do not grant the authorisations This is the status quo option. This would lead to delays and would likely mean that the Council would be delayed in closing deals and entering negotiations, which could prove counterproductive to the purpose of the agreed funding.	None

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1.2 To authorise the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods, in consultation with Assistant Director – Finance and the Portfolio Holder for Housing, to make initial offers and begin the appropriate due diligence, once appropriate freehold or leasehold properties have been identified. A separate report to seek final approval for the exchange of contracts to purchase property will be submitted to the Executive. This will then enable the purchase of property above financial thresholds.	Housing, be authorised to make initial offers and begin the appropriate due diligence, once appropriate freehold or leasehold properties have been identified and it be noted that a separate report to seek final approval for the exchange of contracts to purchase property will be submitted to the Executive, this will then enable the purchase of property above financial thresholds.			
Agenda Item 8 **Local Authority Housing**	**Resolved**	The report will enable more affordable housing within the	Option 1: Not to transfer the grant to SOHA and use	

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Fund Round 4 Report of Assistant Director Wellbeing and Housing **Recommendations** The Executive resolves: 1.1 To approve a capital grant to South Oxfordshire Housing Association (SOHA) of £342,100 for the delivery of new social housing within Cherwell from the grant received from MHCLG; Local Authority Housing Fund Round 4. 1.2 To approve that the remaining £319,900 grant be used to provide temporary accommodation units	(1) That a capital grant to South Oxfordshire Housing Association (SOHA) of £342,100 for the delivery of new social housing within Cherwell from the grant received from MHCLG; Local Authority Housing Fund Round 4 be approved. (2) That it be approved that the remaining £319,900 grant be used to provide temporary accommodation units enabled by the Council, in accordance with grant criteria. (3) That the increase to the Council's capital programme of	district, which is required to address demand pressures. It will not directly enable the planned self-contained temporary accommodation purchase to take place, but will reduce the amount of its own capital that the Council has to use when doing so.	another provider. All Registered Providers operating locally were given the opportunity to work with the Council and SOHA were the only ones to submit a compliant expression of interest. This is therefore rejected. Option 2: The Council deliver all units. The Council is under time pressure to deliver units in accordance with the conditions of the grant and SOHA have an established reputation for delivery. The Council does have funds within the Capital Programme to purchase and develop temporary accommodation. Due to this, the report proposes to retain some of the grant to offset potential borrowing.	

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enabled by the Council, in accordance with grant criteria. 1.3 To approve the increase to the Council's capital programme of £342,100 that arises from the report.	£342,100 that arises from the report be approved.		However, the Council does not have capital within the capital programme for general property purchases (for resettlement households in this instance) and housing development that the grant could assist with. This is a requirement of the grant. This is therefore rejected. Option 3: Not deliver any units. This would lead to the return of the grant to MHCLG. This would lead to the inability to offset any potential capital usage for temporary accommodation that is within the capital programme through grant usage. This is therefore rejected.	
Agenda Item 9	**Resolved**	Completing an SDS for the	The Executive could	None

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Thames Valley Spatial Development Strategy (SDS) Development and Governance Report of Executive Director Place and Regeneration **Recommendations** The Executive resolves: 1.1 To note the interim governance arrangements for the Thames Valley Spatial Development Strategy explained in this report and at Appendix 1. 1.2 To instruct officers to request that the Council be formally co-opted as a 'partner authority' with Leader representation on the Spatial	(1) That the interim governance arrangements for the Thames Valley Spatial Development Strategy be noted. (2) That officers be instructed to request that the Council be formally co-opted as a 'partner authority' with Leader representation on the Spatial Development Strategy Partnership Board until such time that a 'Strategic Planning Board' is formally established. (3) That it be noted that the Executor Director Place and Regeneration will	Thames Valley by mid-2029 will be challenging. Progressing early preparatory and informative work ahead of secondary legislation is sensible and the governance and working arrangements proposed in the County Council's report will support the process. However, there remains some uncertainty about the co-opting of district councils and whether the Leader will have a seat on the Partnership Board. It is therefore recommended that the Council seeks confirmation of its co-opted partnership status and representation.	decide not to seek formal co-opting as a 'partner authority' ahead of the establishment of a statutory Strategic Planning Board. However, it is considered to be in the best interests of Cherwell's communities to be as embedded as possible in the SDS process.	

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Development Strategy Partnership Board until such time that a 'Strategic Planning Board' is formally established. 1.3 To note that Executor Director Place and Regeneration will advise the Executive if the Council is not confirmed as a co-opted 'Partner Authority'. 1.4 To delegate to the Executive Director Place and Regeneration the authority to agree detailed working arrangements for the pre-inception development of the Spatial Development	advise the Executive if the Council is not confirmed as a co-opted 'Partner Authority'. (4) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director Place and Regeneration to agree detailed working arrangements for the pre-inception development of the Spatial Development Strategy in consultation with the Assistant Director Law and Governance.			

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Strategy in consultation with the Assistant Director Law and Governance.				
Agenda Item 10 **Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS) Final Report** Report of Executive Director Place and Regeneration **Purpose of report** This report introduces the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS) and seeks the Executive's endorsement following the Oxfordshire Leaders Joint Committee endorsing the OxIS on 24 April 2026. **Recommendations**	**Resolved** (1) That the final Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy be endorsed.	The final Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy is a comprehensive countywide assessment of the strategic infrastructure needs to support sustainable development to 2050. It was endorsed by the Oxfordshire Leaders Joint Committee on 24 April 2026 following a proactive approach to the Strategy's development with other Oxfordshire local authorities. It provides a potential tool for the prioritisation and funding of infrastructure projects and evidence for promoting the infrastructure needs to a wider range of audiences.	Option 1: Do not endorse the OxIS – by not endorsing the Strategy, the Council would not benefit from the use of the data, and outputs it provides, in informing future plans and strategies. Option 2: Endorse the Strategy – this is the recommended option. Option 3: Endorse the Strategy with amendments. Officers have actively engaged in the preparation of the OxIS as part of the project working group from	None

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The Executive resolves: 1.1 To note and endorse the final Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy.		Engagement included technical stakeholders has contributed to the final. Further collaboration with stakeholders will be required Oxfordshire local authorities progress the delivery of infrastructure to support growth.	procurement to the final outputs and deliverable. The final reports meet the requirements of the project brief, and no further amendments are required.	
Agenda Item 11 **Local Area Development Funds - Proposal for Allocation** Report of Executive Director Place and Regeneration **Recommendations** The Executive resolves: 1.1 To agree to allocate £21.5k of Local Area Development Funds to	**Resolved** (1) That it be agreed to allocate £21.5k of Local Area Development Funds to progress the following projects for the 2026/27 financial year as discussed and recommended at the respective Area Oversight Group: Figure 1: Project Summary	This report seeks to agree an allocation of £21.5k of Local Area Development Funds for delivery of specific projects in Bicester, Banbury and Kidlington. The proposed projects are supported by the respective AOG and support the council's priorities around delivering economic prosperity and community leadership.	Option 1: Do not proceed with projects proposed **-** Funds have already been allocated as set out in Section 4 and priorities have been agreed by Area Oversight Groups. This report is intended to utilise some of this funding for enhancements identified by ward councillors as representatives of our communities. Doing nothing means that identified priorities will not	None

<table>
<tr><th>Agenda Item and Recommendation</th><th>Decision</th><th>Reasons</th><th>Alternative Options</th><th>Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service</th></tr>
<tr>
<td>progress the following projects for the 2026/27 financial year as discussed and recommended at the respective Area Oversight Group:

Figure 1: Project Summary
<table>
<tr><th>Project</th><th>Est. Cost (£)</th><th>AOG</th></tr>
<tr><td>Banbury Town Centre Revitalisation - Look & Feel</td><td>26/27: £21.5k
*27/28: £38.5k</td><td>Banbury</td></tr>
<tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>Bicester</td></tr>
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<tr><td>Total Funding Requested</td><td>£21,500</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">* Figures for 27/28 full year are shown but not proposed for allocation at this stage.</td></tr>
</table>

1.2 To delegate authority to the Executive Director Place and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Regeneration, to</td>
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</table>

(2) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director Place and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Regeneration, to agree final cost plans for the above projects subject to the maximum cost envelope outlined in Figure 1.</td>
<td></td>
<td>be funded and commitments made to the district as part of the budget setting process will not be fulfilled.</td>
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agree final cost plans for the above projects subject to the maximum cost envelope outlined in Figure 1.				
Agenda Item 12 **Finance Monitoring Report May 2026** Report of Assistant Director of Finance (S151 Officer) **Recommendations** The Executive resolves: 1.1 To consider and note the contents of the council's financial management report as at the end of May 2026. 1.2 To approve the use of	**Resolved** (1) That the council's financial management report as at the end of May 2026 be noted. (2) That the use of reserves and grant funding detailed at appendix 4 to the report be approved. .	The report updates the Executive on the projected year-end financial position of the council for 2026/27. Regular reporting is key to good governance and demonstrates that the council is actively managing its financial resources sustainably.	Option 1: This report summarises the council's forecast revenue financial position up to the end of March 2027, therefore there are no alternative options to consider.	None

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reserves and grant funding held within appendix 4.				
Agenda Item 14 **A New Arts Centre for Banbury** Exempt report of Assistant Director Wellbeing and Housing	**Resolved** (1) As set out in the exempt decisions. (2) As set out in the exempt decisions. (3) As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	None
Agenda Item 15 **Cherwell Futures Customer Front Door Programme – Final Business Case** Exempt report of Executive Director Resources	**Resolved** (1) As set out in the exempt decisions. (2) As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	None

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	(3) As set out in the exempt decisions. (4) As set out in the exempt decisions. (5) As set out in the exempt decisions. (6) As set out in the exempt decisions.			
Agenda Item 16 **The Hill Youth and Community Centre - Lease to The Hill Banbury CIC** Exempt report of Assistant Director Property	**Resolved** (1) As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	None
Agenda Item 17 **Banbury Museum Utility Charges**	**Resolved** (1) As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	None

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options	Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service
Exempt report of Executive Director Neighbourhood Services	(2) As set out in the exempt decisions. (3) As set out in the exempt decisions. (4) As set out in the exempt decisions. (5) As set out in the exempt decisions. (6) As set out in the exempt decisions.			
Agenda Item 18 **Renewal of Lease at Castle Quay** Exempt report of Assistant Director Property	**Resolved** (1) As set out in the exempt decisions. (2) As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	As set out in the exempt decisions.	None