

# Agenda



## The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel

**Tuesday 7 June 2022 at 6.30 pm**  
**Virtual meeting viewable by weblink**

Contact: Kevin Jacob, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Senior Democratic Services Officer

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### Members:

Councillor Tiago Corais	Oxford City Council
Councillor Katherine Miles	
Councillor Emily Kerr	
Tbc	Cherwell District Council
Councillor Sandy Dallimore	
Councillor Sean Woodcock	
Councillor Richard Webber	Oxfordshire County Council
Councillor Brad Baines	
Councillor Liam Walker	
Councillor Peter Dragonetti	South Oxfordshire District Council
Councillor David Turner	
Councillor Victoria Haval	
Councillor Andy Cooke	Vale of White Horse District Council
Councillor Nathan Boyd	
Councillor Samantha Bowring	
Councillor Richard Langridge	West Oxfordshire District Council
Tbc	
Tbc	

- 1. The quorum is six members, one from each council. Substitutes are allowed and should be notified to the contact above.*
- 2. To watch this meeting, follow this link to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/r6UAKQxUzXE> Arrangements are subject to change at short notice so please refer to the agenda page at*

# AGENDA

## 1. **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Panel for 2022/2023**

To elect a Chair and Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Panel for 2022/2023.

## 2. **Apologies for absence, substitutes; declarations of interest, Chair's announcements**

## 3. **Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 6 - 13)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2022.

## 4. **Public participation (To Follow)**

Members of the public may submit an address or question in writing to the Scrutiny Panel, where full notice of the question or address is given to the secretariat no later than **17:00 on Tuesday 31 May 2022**. Questions and addresses submitted should be no longer than one side of A4 paper in Arial 12 font. The address or question will be circulated to the Panel and public speakers will be invited to speak at the virtual meeting. Written submissions may also be read out by the Chair or Democratic Services Officer where requested or if the person making the request for public speaking is not able to attend the meeting. A response may be given at the meeting or a written answer supplied. Questions and notice of addresses must be submitted to [futureoxfordshirepartnership@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:futureoxfordshirepartnership@southandvale.gov.uk)

Note: This meeting may be recorded for live broadcast via the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's [YouTube Channel](#) - at the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm the meeting is being filmed. By registering to speak you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those video and audio recordings for webcasting.

## 5. **Future Oxfordshire Partnership response to Scrutiny Panel recommendations (Pages 14 - 15)**

To consider the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's response to the recommendations from the Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 15 March 2022.

## 6. **Housing and Growth Deal Reports**

### (a) **Review of Homes from Infrastructure (Hfi) Programme (Pages 16 - 26)**

To consider a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership setting out proposed updates to the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Homes from Infrastructure Programme.

### (b) **Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, Homes from Infrastructure (Hfi) Programme- Lessons Learned (Pages 27 - 32)**

To consider a report setting out findings of the findings of a recent lessons learned review of the Growth Deal Homes from Infrastructure (Hfi) programme as requested by the Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 13 September 2021. The report will also be considered by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership.

**(c) Infrastructure Advisory Group update** (Pages 33 - 35)

To receive the summary notes from the meeting held on 28 February 2022.

**(d) Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group update** (Pages 36 - 43)

To receive the summary notes from the meetings held on 17 February 2022, 17 March 2022 and 29 April 2022.

**(e) Environment Advisory Group update** (Pages 44 - 48)

To receive the summary notes of the meeting of the Environment Advisory Group held on 24 March 2022.

**7. Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan** (Pages 49 - 62)

To consider a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership setting out an update on the progress of the Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan.

**8. Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership Update** (Pages 63 - 73)

To consider a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership setting out an update on the progress of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership (OIEP), for May 2022.

**9. Oxford to Cambridge Arc Update** (Verbal Report)

To receive any relevant update from the Director of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership concerning developments within the Oxford to Cambridge Arc.

**10. Work programme for the Scrutiny Panel** (Pages 74 - 75)

To discuss the draft work programme for the Panel.

**11. Dates of next meetings**

The dates of confirmed future Scrutiny Panel meetings are below. Please refer to <https://futureoxfordshirepartnership.org/meetings/> for the most up to date information on times and locations.

- Tuesday 19 July 2022
- Tuesday 20 September 2022
- Tuesday 22 November 2022
- Wednesday 18 January 2023
- Monday 13 March 2023
- Tuesday 6 June 2023
- Tuesday 18 July 2023

## **Councillors' duties on declaring interests**

### **General duty**

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

### **What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?**

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your\* employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the council's area; licences for land in the council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's register of interests which is publicly available on the council's website.

### **Declaring an interest**

Where any matter disclosed in your register of interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

### **Member's Code of Conduct and public perception**

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Councillors' Code of Conduct says that a member "must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself" and that "you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned". What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

\*Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member themselves, but also those of the member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.



# Minutes

## OF A MEETING OF THE



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership

## Scrutiny Panel

**HELD ON TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2022 AT 6.30 PM**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING VIEWABLE BY WEBLINK**

### **Present:**

Councillor Andrew Gant (Chair), Councillor Samantha Bowring, Councillor Andy Cooke, Councillor Peter Dragonetti, Councillor Andy Graham, Councillor Victoria Haval, Councillor Charlie Hicks, Councillor Katherine Miles, Councillor Jabu Nala-Hartley, Councillor Adam Nell, Councillor Lucy Pegg, Councillor David Turner and Councillor Liam Walker

### **Officers contributing to and supporting the Panel:**

Richard Byard	Director of Business Development, OxLEP
Andrew Down	Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director
Dave Harrison	Principal Public Transport Planner - Oxfordshire County Council
Susan Harbour	Strategic Partnerships Manager – South and Vale District Councils
Kevin Jacob	Democratic Services Officer – Future Oxfordshire Partnership
Babatunde Ogundele	Assistant Democratic Services Officer – Future Oxfordshire Partnership
Paul Staines	Interim Head of Programme - Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal

**Other councillors:** Councillor Liz Leffman, Leader Oxfordshire County Council

**Guests:** Professor Chas Bountra, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Innovation and Professor of Translational Medicine, University of Oxford and Dr Phil Clare, Director of Innovation & Engagement, Research Services at the University of Oxford.

### **60. Apologies for absence, substitutes; declarations of interest, Chair's announcements**

Apologies for absence were received by Councillor Brad Baines, Oxfordshire County Council, (substituted by Councillor Charlie Hicks), Derek Cotterill, West Oxfordshire District Council, Councillor David Hughes, Cherwell District Council, Councillor Dan Levy, West Oxfordshire District Council, (substituted by Councillor Andy Graham), Councillor Alex

Postan, West Oxfordshire District Council) and Councillor Sean Woodcock, Cherwell District Council.

There were no declarations of interest. The Chair noted that Stefan Robinson, had moved on from his position as Future Oxfordshire Partnership Manager to a position with another local authority and paid tribute to him for his support to the Panel, wishing him well for the future.

It was noted that the meeting was being livestreamed and that a recording of the meeting could be found by [clicking here](#).

## **61. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 January 2022 were approved as a correct record.

## **62. Public participation**

The Scrutiny Panel considered one public question.

**Suzanne McIvor on behalf of Need Not Greed Oxfordshire, (NNGO)** referred to the request made by NNGO along with the Oxford Civic Society and other high profile civic groups in November 2021 to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership that it commission an independent review of the Oxfordshire Growth Needs Assessment, (OGNA), commenting that no response had been received. In addition, it was the view of NNGO that it was not possible for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 to proceed to a Regulation 19 consultation at the current time. The Panel was requested to ask the Future Oxfordshire Partnership to provide:

- an explanation why in the view of NNGO, the Oxfordshire Plan appeared to have stalled.
- For a decision on a peer review of the OGNA
- How key decisions would be made, e.g. on the number of houses – NNGO wanted to see these decisions made by Councillors in an open and transparent way.
- For a detailed timetable.
- To support NNGO's call for a further Regulation 18 consultation.

(The full text of the question can be found [here](#))

In discussion, a range of views were expressed by Panel members on whether the requests made by NNGO should be supported. Some members felt that the request for support by the Panel did raise valid points which needed to be followed up, whilst others though sympathetic to the energy and effort behind the question and requests, felt that the question alluded to procedural concerns regarding the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 process which were misplaced. Concerns were also expressed regarding the impact of lengthening the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 timeline on the review of several of the district council's Local Plans.

In response to several questions of clarification, Andrew Down, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director commented that whilst it was possible that some of the specific suggestions made by NNGO could have merit, it also had to be recognised that they would

if implemented, have an impact on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 timeline that would be estimated to be a minimum of several months, possibly longer.

After further discussion and having been put to a vote, it was decided by majority that the requests made in the question should be supported as follows:

**RESOLVED:** That the Future Oxfordshire Scrutiny Panel recommends that the Future Oxfordshire Partnership:

1. undertake a further Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Regulation 18 consultation.
2. provide a detailed update on the timetable for the production of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.
3. initiate a peer review of the Oxfordshire Growth Needs Assessment.
4. set out how decisions relating to future housing numbers within the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 will be taken in an open and transparent way.

### **63. Oxfordshire's Innovation Ecosystem Update**

The Panel received a verbal presentation from Professor Chas Bountra, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Innovation and Professor of Translational Medicine, University of Oxford and Dr Phil Clare, Director of Innovation & Engagement, Research Services at the University of Oxford. concerning the opportunities presented by Oxfordshire's Innovation Ecosystem.

Prof Bountra and Dr Clare set out how the University of Oxford had worked with colleagues within industry, HM Government, regulators, and others to develop and bring to market a number of important innovations in recent years, including the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine. Oxfordshire as a county already has a strong innovation ecosystem, through the University of Oxford itself, but also Oxford Brookes University, its hospitals, local companies. The University of Oxford and other partners such as the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, (OxLEP) were looking to help meet the wider challenges faced by the world and society in general by engaging and working with both local, national, and international partners and stakeholders. As part of this innovation process, the contribution made by Oxfordshire's local authorities and other stakeholders to supporting innovation was valued and recognised, and the University of Oxford wished to further engage and work with local authorities to develop the opportunities offered.

Richard Byard, Director of Business Development, OxLEP referred to the work being undertaken around the innovation eco-system which linked into the direction of travel of the Oxfordshire economy and the objectives of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership around the global competitiveness of Oxfordshire and productivity.

Members of the Panel commented that they strongly supported the work being undertaken to support innovation within Oxfordshire by the University of Oxford and others. As representatives of local authorities, they felt that the links between the academic sector and local authorities could be strengthened as their perception was that there was currently not a great deal of direct engagement. It was suggested that a list of practical level asks where local authorities could assist the universities would be a useful step forward.

Other members of the Panel commented that it was important that engagement by the University of Oxford around innovation was undertaken in a way that was inclusive, taking account of the needs of women as well as men, for example through the use of disaggregated data, so as to encourage more women to contribute to the solutions. In response, Prof Bountra referred the Panel to the University of Oxford's Increasing Diversity in Enterprising Activities, (IDEA) programme which aimed to address inequalities in entrepreneurship.

Members of the Panel also referred to the need for innovation to have a wider context that included place-shaping and infrastructure. It was noted that as well as commercial innovation enterprises, the University of Oxford was also part of a number of social enterprises.

After further discussion it was suggested that it could be useful for a number of members of the Panel to be delegated authority to further engage with Prof Bountra, Dr Clare and Richard Byard to seek to identify and communicate specific innovations that local authorities should be aware of that specifically linked to the remit of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership.

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the Future Oxfordshire Scrutiny Panel recommends that the Future Oxfordshire Partnership:
  - a. liaise with Oxfordshire's universities to promote innovation.
  - b. support the need for gender inclusivity in innovation and STEM.
2. That Cllrs Neil, Miles and Hicks be delegated authority on behalf of the Scrutiny Panel to engage and liaise with OxLEP and the University of Oxford in order to report back to a future Scrutiny Panel meeting on how the engagement and communication between the university and local authorities can be facilitated.

#### **64. Enhanced partnership with local bus operators**

The Panel considered a presentation included within the agenda which set out an update to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership on the activities of the Oxfordshire Strategic Transport Forum, a partnership of private sector transport companies, local authorities, and national bodies. The presentation included areas on which the Forum wished to work with the Partnership and the Infrastructure Advisory Group on in the future and current strategic items currently under discussion by the Forum.

Dave Harrison, Principal Public Transport Planner, Oxfordshire County Council in presenting the slides referred to the Bus Service Improvement Plan, (BSIP) which had been developed by the County Council and submitted to HM Government for consideration in October 2021. The BSIP set out Oxfordshire's plans and asks of HM Government for a mixture of capital and revenue schemes aimed at improving bus services which as well as improvements in actual provision, also included proposals to improve operation of bus services, for instance through bus prioritisation schemes, bus ticketing and real time passenger information systems. The future approach of the County Council to the provision of bus services would be shaped by the outcome of HM Government's decision

on the proposed schemes within the Plan and the Plan also formed an important part of the wider Local Transport and Connectivity Plan. A decision from HM Government was expected soon. The Panel was also updated on plans to establish a bus Enhanced Partnership of local bus operators and the background to this.

In discussion, a number of members commented although real time passenger information tended to be provided in more urban locations, it was actually most needed by residents in more rural locations given the comparative infrequency of rural routes. Bus interchanges were also needed to help improve the convenience and attractiveness of bus travel for users switching between modes of transport. It was also felt that the majority of bus routes started and finished within the City of Oxford and that provision was significantly lower in the district areas. In these areas, 'bookable bus services' were being established as an alternative to traditional scheduled bus service provision and it was felt that consideration should be given to the representation from these operators on the bus Enhanced Partnership and a similar point was expressed with regard to providers of school bus services.

Concern was expressed with regard to the drop in bus passenger numbers post the Covid-19 pandemic which it was noted from the slides was averaging at 75% of pre-pandemic levels and which if not addressed had the potential to affect the commercial viability of many services. A discussion took place about the reasons for the drop in numbers which it was felt was linked to some continued concern regarding the Covid-19 safety of public transport and more long-term issues relating to potential shifts to home working. It was felt that more work needed to be done collectively to improve the attractiveness of bus travel to encourage modal shift away from the private car.

At the invitation of the Chair, Councillor Liz Leffman, Leader of Oxfordshire County Council and Chair of the Infrastructure Advisory Group addressed the Panel. Councillor Leffman stressed that HM Government's decision on what parts of the BSIP it would fund was still awaited and therefore it was uncertain which schemes could be progressed, but regardless of the outcome of the BSIP process consideration was being given to next steps and priorities. Oxfordshire County Council did want to ensure that there was involvement from all the districts, as well as Oxford City Council in discussions around bus infrastructure.

Councillor Leffman commented that the view of the Panel that bus travel needed to be made a more attractive option for travellers was fully recognised and amount of passenger traffic increased. There were challenges around funding and the commercial viability of some services given the expected termination of HM Government financial support for bus services put in place to support bus services through the pandemic. However, it was important to continue to encourage and sustain bus services and ways to do this were being looked at.

After further discussion it was,

**RESOLVED:** That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership be requested to:

1. support the planning and delivery of real time passenger information system on an Oxfordshire wide basis, taking into account the difference in needs between rural and urban bus users and bus frequency.

2. Investigate the potential of bus interchanges in encouraging greater use of buses, particularly off peak.
3. support the acknowledgement within the Bus Service Improvement Plan and Enhanced Partnership of the comparative lack of scheduled bus provision within the districts to the City of Oxford.
4. support the involvement of school bus providers within the Bus Service Improvement Plan and Enhanced Partnership.

## **65. Future Oxfordshire Partnership response to Scrutiny Panel recommendations**

The Chair summarised the responses of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership to the recommendations made by the Panel at its January meeting.

## **66. Housing and Growth Deal Reports**

### **(a) Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Progress Report - Year 4, Quarter 3**

The Panel considered a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership which reported on the progress of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal as of the end of Quarter Three, Year Four. The report and the accompanying financial monitoring report at Agenda item 7.b were divided into separate sections covering three strands of the Deal: Homes from Infrastructure Programme, the Affordable Housing Programme and the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. It was noted that Productivity, the four strand of the Deal was reported to the Board of OxLEP separately. The report was presented by Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme.

Councillor David Turner asked whether any research has been undertaken on where people moving into new build housing in Oxfordshire were originating from, for example existing locations within the county or from outside the county? Councillor Turner commented that the perception expressed to him was that that many people were moving into new build housing in areas like Thame from outside of the county, particularly the London area and who then commuted back to the capital. It was felt that this information might assist in the strategic planning of future housing. Paul Staines responded that for affordable housing, (including shared ownership/First Homes) this kind of data was collected. In respect of private house sales, it was possible that individual developers collected this type of data, but this was not an area that it was thought had been investigated previously by Oxfordshire local authorities. However, this line to enquiry could be pursued to see what information was available.

In response to a question from the Chair, Paul Staines and Andrew Down, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director informed the Panel that analysis of the responses to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Regulation 18 Part consultation was largely complete, but further work was in process to finalise and present the results in a public format. Reports had been presented previously to individual Oxfordshire local authority scrutiny committees giving a summary and detailed list of consultation responses. The next stage was processing the consultation responses into useful information that could be used to inform the next stage of the development of Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

The Chair referred to the Panel's previously expressed strong support for the involvement of the individual Oxfordshire overview and scrutiny committees in the shaping of the final text of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

**(b) Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Financial Report - Year 4, Quarter 3**

The Panel noted the report.

**(c) Infrastructure Advisory Group update**

The Panel noted that the substantive matters in this item were discussed earlier in the agenda and noted the report.

**(d) Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group update**

The Panel noted that the substantive matters in this item were discussed earlier in the agenda and noted the report.

**(e) Environment Advisory Group update**

The Panel noted the report.

## **67. Oxford to Cambridge Arc Update**

Andrew Down, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director, provided a verbal update on the Oxford to Cambridge Arc. The Panel was informed that formal clarity as to HM Government's intentions regarding the Arc was still expected from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities but the informal indications from civil servants were that HM Government still had an interest in the Arc's future. The Oxford to Cambridge Arc Leadership Group had agreed to continue working on the Arc for a further six months pending HM Government clarifying its position.

Members of Panel commented that it was their understanding from reports published by local authorities within the Arc that its future development would now be entirely limited to local initiative and funds that could be raised locally. It was confirmed to the Panel that it was expected that the future direction of the Arc would be set through local leadership rather than the implementation of a top down model from HM Government, in tune with the overall approach of the current Secretary of State. With regard to funding, the informal indications were that potentially there could continue to be central funding available in supporting work within the Arc, but that it was probably not realistic to expect significant funding, for instance on major capital projects in the current circumstances.

In response to a query regarding the future of East West Rail, the Panel was informed that it was understood there had been challenges raised to the project's business case, linked to the deletion of HM Government's target of house building for the Oxford to Cambridge Arc, but that the business case overall remained strong.

**RESOLVED:** The Panel noted the report.

## **68. Work programme for the Scrutiny Panel and action log - March 2022**

Kevin Jacob, Future Oxfordshire Democratic Services Officer, referred the Panel to the work programme as set out in the agenda. He also highlighted the attached briefing note

on Modern Methods of Construction which set out an update by district and city council area.

**RESOLVED:** The Panel noted the report.

## **69. Dates of next meetings**

The dates of future meetings were noted.

The Chair noted it was the last meeting in the current municipal year and thanked councillors, officers and guests for their attendance and contribution to the work of the Panel over the previous year.

The meeting closed at 8.28 pm

**Future Oxfordshire Partnership response to recommendations of the Partnership Scrutiny Panel made on 15 March 2022**

The Future Oxfordshire Partnership is requested to provide a response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel for decision at its meeting on 22 March.

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Recommendation	Comment
<p>1. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership be requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. undertake a further Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Regulation 18 consultation.</li> <li>b. provide a detailed update on the timetable for the production of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.</li> <li>c. initiate a peer review of the Oxfordshire Growth Needs Assessment.</li> <li>d. set out how decisions relating to future housing numbers within the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 will be taken in an open and transparent way.</li> </ul>	<p>As we have previously explained, these are matters for decision by the individual councils and not by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership itself.</p> <p>The local planning authorities are currently reviewing the evidence base, the programme and the timetable of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 in light of consultation responses and comments received.</p> <p>Formal decisions will be taken openly in meetings of the city and district councils.</p>

<p>2. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership be requested to liaise with Oxfordshire's universities to promote innovation.</p> <p>3. That the future Oxfordshire Partnership support the need for gender inclusivity in innovation and STEM.</p>	<p>OxLEP's Innovation Sub-Group draws together Oxfordshire's key innovation institutions, universities and stakeholders to enhance our innovation eco-system as part of our Local Industrial Strategy. The FOP therefore recommends that OxLEP (which has membership of this board) leads on this work and develops a strategy: engaging with the FOP, universities and local authorities, where appropriate. The FOP support gender inclusivity in innovation and STEM and ask OxLEP to embed this in this work.</p> <p>The FOP would be pleased to receive future updates that give a clear strategy and recommendations for collaboration.</p>
<p>4. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership be requested to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. support the planning and delivery of real time passenger information system on an Oxfordshire wide basis, taking into account the difference in needs between rural and urban bus users and bus frequency.</li> <li>b. Investigate the potential of bus interchanges in encouraging greater use of buses, particularly off peak.</li> <li>c. support the acknowledgement within the Bus Service Improvement Plan and Enhanced Partnership of the comparative lack of scheduled bus provision within the districts to the City of Oxford.</li> <li>d. support the involvement of school bus providers within the Bus Service Improvement Plan and Enhanced Partnership.</li> </ol>	<p>The Future Oxfordshire Partnership supports public transport and the essential role it plays in the reduction of carbon emissions and helping to tackle climate change. In particular, partners are keen to see enhancements to rural bus services, better connectivity and improvements for customers, where these can be practically achieved.</p> <p>The specific matters mentioned here will be for consideration by the Enhanced Partnership when it is established. The proposed Enhanced Partnership priorities and working areas specifically reference Real Time Information, in terms of both upgrading infrastructure (provision of RTI 'estate' and systems) the customer facing aspect.</p> <p>The importance of interchange for buses is also recognised, in the Bus Service Improvement Plan as well as more widely in the draft Oxfordshire Local Transport &amp; Connectivity Plan. This includes the development of proposed 'mobility hubs' and the opportunity to better integrate bus with other modes as well as interchange between services.</p> <p>Whilst a 'whole network' understanding and approach is needed, that includes consideration of school trips alongside others, it is important to be aware that dedicated / contracted school service provision is outside the scope of the Enhanced Partnership.</p>

**To:** Future Oxfordshire Partnership  
**Title of Report:** Review of Homes from Infrastructure (Hfi) Programme  
**Date:** 13 June 2022  
**Report of:** Owen Jenkins, Director & Senior Responsible Officer,  
Infrastructure Programme  
**Status:** Open

**Executive Summary and Purpose:**

Oxfordshire County Council, as the delivery partner of the Housing & Growth Deal (H&GD), review and recommend changes to the funding allocations within the Homes from Infrastructure (Hfi) programme.

These changes are in response to changing delivery circumstance and/or housing trajectories and attempt to ensure

- the spend profile – per year and overall – as to be agreed with Homes England as part of the overall agreement is met and we at all times have a balanced and fully committed programme
- the housing numbers identified as being accelerated by the delivery of the Infrastructure are maximised
- the Infrastructure schemes are deliverable as far as possible both in terms of
  - their budgets as currently allocated (whether that be solely from H&GD or from multiple funding sources)
  - their delivery timescales align with the H&GD period
  - their ability to spend H&GD monies by March 2023 where they are only part H&GD funded

**Recommendations:** That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership:

- a) Endorse the removal of further funding from two schemes currently within the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal programme – Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor
- b) Endorse the re-allocation of the remaining funding from Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor across a number of schemes in the programme which are projecting cost pressures – especially those entering their Construction phases
- c) Note the intended timescale for the formal consideration of these proposals at the Oxfordshire County Council Cabinet meeting on 19 July 2022.
- d) Note that a second change report will now also come forward – intended for meeting of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership on 26 July 2022 and then Oxfordshire County Council Cabinet on 20 September 2022 – allowing for a further review of the current programme’s pressures and also an assessment of any additional schemes identified as being suitable for inclusion in the programme.

## **The Homes from Infrastructure Programme (Hfi)**

1. The Homes from Infrastructure Programme (Hfi) is a £150m<sup>1</sup> investment in strategic infrastructure to support the acceleration of already planned housing within Oxfordshire.
2. Within the wider H&GD agreement, the Hfi programme has two key criteria
  - The investment in infrastructure will accelerate at least 6,549 planned homes that might not otherwise have come forward at this pace. This acceleration can be due to either the infrastructure directly allowing housing to be built earlier than otherwise planned or that the investment provides developers with the confidence to build out sites at a faster rate than they otherwise would do so
  - A commitment to an expenditure level of £30m per annum over the 5 years of the H&GD (FY 2018/19 – FY 2022/23)
3. Oxfordshire County Council are the delivery partner for the infrastructure elements of Hfi which are delivered through their Capital Programme.
4. The District and City Councils are responsible for ensuring the accelerated delivery of the housing, as far as it is within their control.
5. The current Hfi programme comprises projects covering road, rail, cycle routes and footpaths, as well as some social infrastructure such as schools. All schemes were identified at the outset of the Hfi programme as capable of accelerating housing. Schemes may be either fully or part funded via the Hfi programme.
6. The Hfi programme is subject to reviews in accordance with OCC's capital governance framework to ensure that it continues to demonstrate alignment to the objectives of the programme - accelerated housing - and that it continues to demonstrate both value for money in achieving these objectives and remains deliverable within budget and timescales.
7. As a result of these reviews, budget allocations have been adjusted within the existing programme, infrastructure schemes no longer meeting objectives have been removed from the programme and schemes have been added which contribute positively to the overall H&GD objectives.
8. The recommendations from the last review were endorsed by FOP in November 2021 and then formalised at OCC Cabinet in December 2021.
9. The original Hfi timeline was a five-year period to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023. Due to various exogenous factors<sup>2</sup>, government agreed a two-year extension to the programme to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025.

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<sup>1</sup> Infrastructure H&GD Funding is £142,758,560 (Capital) and £7,241,440 (Revenue)

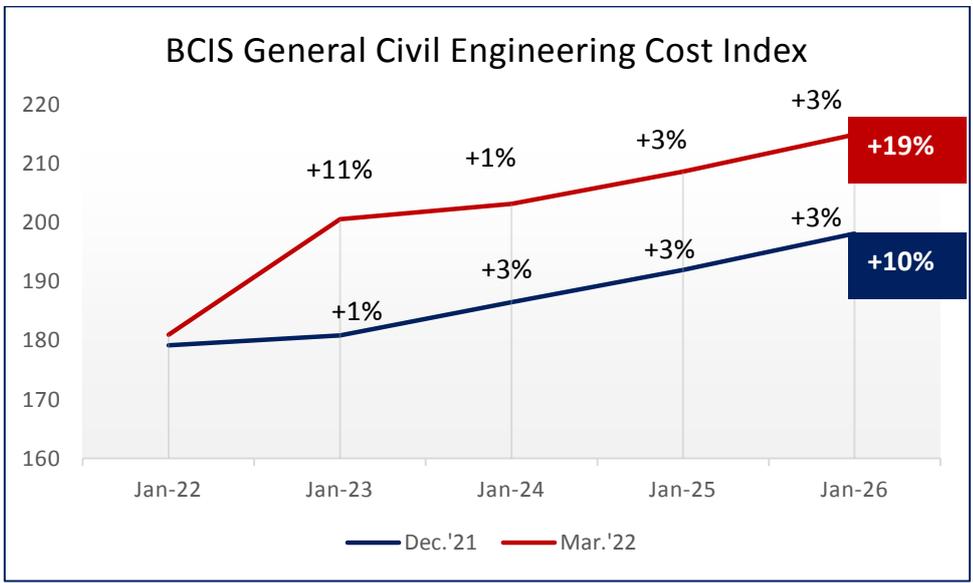
<sup>2</sup> Mainly COVID related impact on both Infrastructure and Housing delivery.

- 10. The extension applies to the Hfl programme and also the accelerated housing. Subject to the approval of a Business Case, infrastructure schemes can continue beyond March 2023, whilst all housing schemes that can demonstrate delays in the original delivery trajectory can continue to count completed housing up to March 2025.
- 11. However, where pressures have been identified, priority has been given to infrastructure able to be delivered within the original H&GD period (March 2023) and so without the need for and inherent risk of additional Business Case approval.

**Further background and context to Q1 22/23 Review.**

- 12. Across all of OCC’s Capital Programme - not simply those projects funded by H&GD - there are significant pressures against previous cost estimates and allocated budgets.
- 13. One of the major causes is Inflation. The latest published inflation forecast – March 2022 - has projected a significant increase in inflation for 2022. The index data below is published by BCIS (Building Cost Information Service) and shows a significant increase since the previous figures were produced in December 2021.

*Table 1: BCIS General Civil Engineering Cost Index*



*Table 2: BCIS All-In Tender Price Index (TPI)*

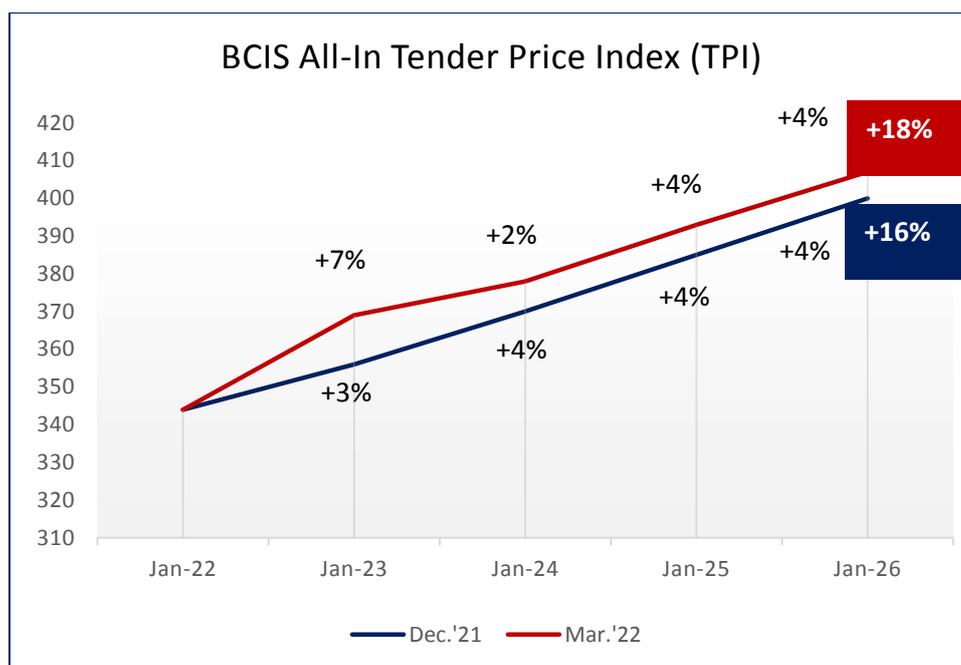


Table 3 – causes of Inflation

Reason	Description
Global Price of Energy	Increases in the price of gas and electricity affect all materials, especially those with high energy intensity involved in their manufacture ie cement, concrete, copper, plastic etc.
Covid-19	The legacy of Covid-19 remains as global demand increases, supply remains problematic leading to supply chain bottlenecks, slower delivery times, container shortages, port delays etc.
Brexit Trade Deals <sup>3</sup>	Steep rises in shipping costs, surcharges, increased administration at UK ports and slower delivery times have affected imports.
Resource Constraints	A shortage in the labour markets including construction and building trade supervisors, general labourers, civil engineers, bricklayers, carpenters, plant and machine operatives.
Red Diesel Rebate	The removal of the tax discount on diesel used in construction plant (Red Diesel) will have a significant effect on the cost of construction. From 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022, the tax will increase from 11.14p to 57.95p per litre for construction plant.

14. Partly as a result of the above, schemes programmed to begin and complete construction this FY will require additional funding. Given the Hfl Programme is a

<sup>3</sup> Approximately 25% of construction materials are obtained from outside of UK.

fixed sum of Capital this will necessitate funding being re-allocated from elsewhere within the existing programme.

15. As we are in the final year of the original 5yr programme, a number of schemes are due to enter their construction phases imminently. Therefore, without changes to the existing funding allocations, OCC will not be able to authorise these construction contracts.

16. To keep to the current programme for these schemes, changes will be required to be formalised by OCC Cabinet in July.

### **Projects with known cost pressures**

17. The latest review of the Hfl programme indicates 4 schemes with known cost pressures.

*Table 4 – Schemes with identified need for additional funding*

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Need for additional funding</b>
<b>Tramway Improvements</b>	About to enter construction phase
<b>North Oxford Corridor (NOC) – A44 Cassington to Loop Farm</b>	About to enter construction phase
<b>North Oxford Corridor (NOC) – Kidlington Roundabout</b>	About to enter construction phase
<b>Access to Witney</b>	About to authorise a CPO

18. Two of the schemes, Tramway Improvements and North Oxford Corridor – A44 Cassington to Loop Farm, are also part funded from developer s106 contributions<sup>4</sup>, but no additional s106 monies are available to offset the additional funding requirements.

19. Tramway Improvements, North Oxford Corridor – A44 Cassington to Loop Farm and North Oxford Corridor – Kidlington Roundabout<sup>5</sup> are currently programmed to begin Construction in Q2/Q3 of FY22/23.

20. A further, part H&GD funded scheme (Access to Witney) also requires additional funding to allow for a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to be made, as schemes must be fully underwritten before CPO can proceed. This CPO is due at OCC Cabinet in July 2023.

21. Therefore, to continue with these schemes as planned and programmed, additional funding is required to be identified and re-allocated.

<sup>4</sup> Tramway presently has a £780k s106 allocation and NOC A44 Cassington to Loop Farm presently has a £400k s106 allocation.

<sup>5</sup> At the time of this report, the planning for ‘Tramway Improvements’ has still to be determined – due in June 2022 - but consultation and stakeholder feedback to date has been positive.

## Housing Implications

22. Should the three schemes shown in Table 4 due to begin construction imminently not be delivered, the impact on the housing numbers attributed to the H&GD is as follows:

Table 5 - Impact of non-delivery of scheme(s)

Area where infrastructure is located		Housing numbers reduction by March 2023	Housing numbers reduction by March 2025	Area where housing is being accelerated
Cherwell	Tramway Improvements	126	223	Cherwell
Cherwell	North Oxford Corridor (NOC) – A44 Cassington to Loop Farm AND North Oxford Corridor (NOC) – Kidlington Roundabout	221	737	Cherwell, West Oxfordshire, Oxford City
		<b>347</b>	<b>960</b>	

23. The NOC scheme(s) accelerate housing in multiple areas – Cherwell, West Oxfordshire and Oxford City. Due to the methodology used to attribute housing the above is the aggregate impact of not delivering both NOC schemes.

## Deliverability Assessment

24. The high-level criteria used to assess 'deliverability' of Hfl schemes relate to

- Planning achieved (or not required)
- Land assembly complete (or not required)
- Part or fully H&GD funded
- Forecast ability to complete scheme / spend H&GD monies by March 23.

## Options considered

- a. stop the scheme(s) with cost pressures immediately and re-allocate their funding
- b. re-allocate funding from within the existing H&GD programme to fully fund the scheme(s) with identified cost pressures

**Option a) - stop the scheme(s) with cost pressures immediately and re-allocate their funding**

25. This option **is not being recommended** due to

- The impact on H&GD housing numbers
- The impact on the spending target of £30m per annum and £150m over the original 5yr H&GD period. Should any / all of these schemes not be delivered as planned in

FY22/23 then both the in-year and overall 5yr spend profile of the Hfl programme would also be significantly reduced.

**Option b) re-allocate funding from within the existing H&GD programme to fully fund the scheme(s) in Table 4**

26. The schemes within the Hfl programme with sufficient budget which if re-allocated would allow the schemes outlined in Table 4 to continue are:

*Table 6 – schemes with sufficient budget to cover shortfall*

Area where infrastructure is located	Scheme
West Oxfordshire	A40 Science Transit Phase 2
Cherwell	Former RAF Upper Heyford phase 2 (M40-J10)
Vale of White Horse	A34 Lodge Hill Interchange
Oxford	Woodstock Road Corridor

A40 Science Transit Phase 2

27. This was discounted as a viable option for consideration as the H&GD contribution is part of a wider funding package (totalling £50m+) and the construction of this infrastructure is also programmed to begin in Q2 of 22/23. The A40 Science Transit Phase 2 scheme is also a key interdependency with the wider Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) funded projects along the A40 corridor and so could not be paused or stopped without full corridor wide ramifications.

Former RAF Upper Heyford phase 2 (M40-J10)

28. In FY 20/21, Funding Agreements were entered into between OCC (Oxfordshire County Council) and National Highways (then Highways England) for the Design and Construction of this scheme. As the scheme is progressing to programme and the scheme objectives remain valid, it is not proposed to exit these agreements at this stage.

A34 Lodge Hill Interchange

29. The A34 Lodge Hill interchange supports the delivery of 1,673 homes with 350 being included within the H&GD's numbers (to March 2023) – so any funding swap would still result in a significant loss of housing for the deal. Additionally, a significant amount of the H&GD allocation has already been committed so there would likely not be sufficient residual funds to offset the requirements of the schemes with identified cost pressures.

Woodstock Road Corridor / Banbury Road Corridor

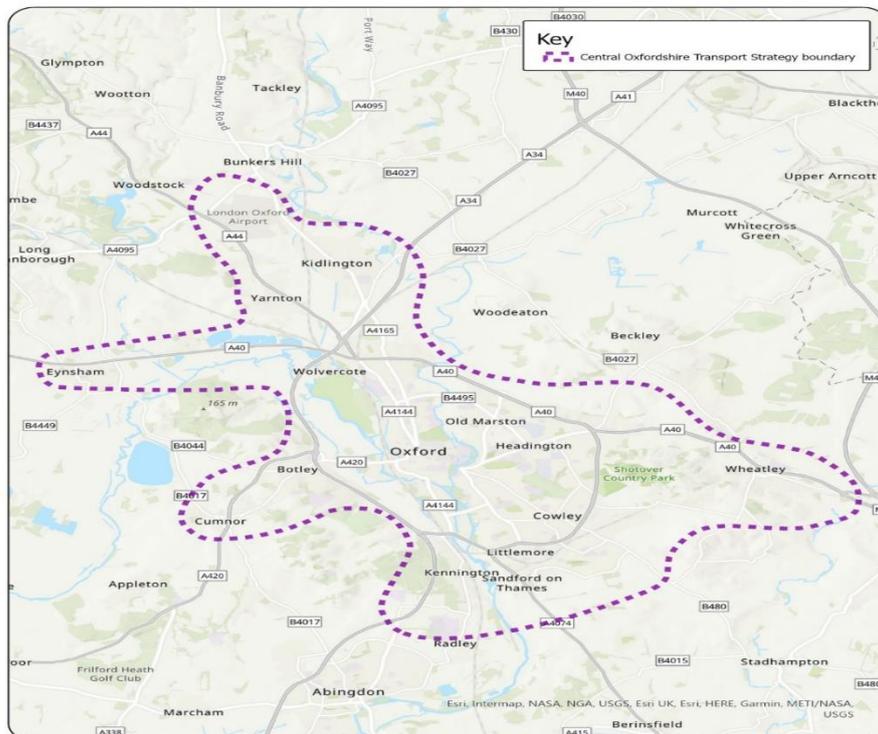
30. At present, only the Woodstock Road Corridor (full construction) and Banbury Road Corridor (design only) of the main arterial routes in/out of Oxford City are included in the Hfl programme.

- 31. The Woodstock Road Corridor, as per its latest programme, will not construct any physical infrastructure by March 2023, with completion now falling into FY 24/25. This also means there is limited forecast spend of H&GD monies prior to March 2023<sup>6</sup>.
- 32. The recent award of Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) monies may also lead to a revisiting of the design approach presently being taken on the corridor(s).

**Recommendation**

- 33. **The proposal is to re-allocate the residual funding away from the Woodstock Road Corridor and the Banbury Road Corridor** and move both projects to be considered as part of COTS (Central Oxfordshire Transport Strategy) a wider, more holistic review of transport in Oxford City.
- 34. The Central Oxfordshire Strategy is being developed during 2022 with a view to this undergoing public consultation later in the year. The current working areas of the Central Oxfordshire Strategy is shown below.
- 35. Eynsham, Kidlington, Wheatley, Kennington and Cumnor are within the Central Oxfordshire boundary as far as their connections to Oxford are concerned, but any local matters will be covered within the relevant district strategies

Figure 1 – Boundary of COTS



<sup>6</sup> Design contracts could be entered into for Woodstock Rd & Banbury Rd within the H&GD period, resulting in c£750k of additional spend

36. Allowing for the completion of currently commissioned work (surveys etc) on Woodstock Rd and Banbury Rd, this recommendation will release sufficient funds to progress with the other schemes to construction as planned.

37. It is proposed that this would be re-allocated as follows:

*Table 7 – reallocation of released funding*

Area where infrastructure is located	Scheme
Cherwell	Tramway Improvements
Cherwell	North Oxford Corridor (NOC) – A44 Cassington to Loop Farm
Cherwell	North Oxford Corridor (NOC) – Kidlington Roundabout
West Oxfordshire	Access to Witney
South Oxfordshire	Benson Relief Road

38. To maintain a fully balanced programme, any remaining funding would provisionally be allocated to Benson Relief Road which is currently undergoing a detailed re-evaluation of costs<sup>7</sup> in advance of entering full construction in Q3 2022.

### **Implications on Housing numbers of the recommendation**

39. The **overall**<sup>8</sup> impact on housing numbers of this recommendation is:

*Table 8 – Housing numbers reduction*

Housing numbers reduction by March 2023	Housing numbers reduction by March 2025
31	100

### **Further Changes**

40. Oxfordshire County Council are conducting further cost estimate re-assessment exercises on the overall programme, partly in light of the inflation pressures outlined above.

41. There will also now be a joint approach and on-going work between Oxford City and Oxfordshire County Councils to assess the cost pressures on a project within the Hfl programme – Oxpens to Osney Mead bridge – which is being delivered by Oxford City Council.

42. Discussions with District and City Officers have also indicated there may be schemes presently outside of the Hfl programme which would merit consideration for inclusion as they may closely align with the overall objectives - acceleration of already planned housing within Oxfordshire – and also with the delivery periods.

<sup>7</sup> Benson Relief Road experienced a prolongation of programme due to protracted land acquisition negotiations

<sup>8</sup> The overall impact is minimised since some of the schemes receiving re-allocated sums also contribute to the aggregated Oxford City Housing algorithm

43. It is, therefore, proposed that a further Change Report is brought forward in Summer 2022 (intended for FOP in July 2022) allowing identified in-programme pressures to be properly quantified and also for any new infrastructure proposals to be assessed against existing programme commitments.

44. Officers are in regular discussion with Homes England and DLUHC and will continue to work with them to agree the final programme

### **Financial Implications**

45. The proposal set out in the report will enable the Hfl programme to remain deliverable against the spend profile and allow significant infrastructure schemes to enter their construction schemes as planned, meeting the Yr5 and overall programme spend targets.

### **Legal Implications**

46. Movement in the Hfl allocations is necessary to meet spend obligations within the H&GD agreement.

### **Other Implications**

47. There are some significant reputational risks if the programme is not rebalanced. These proposals maximise the physical infrastructure being delivered by March 2023 which would further demonstrate Oxfordshire's suitability for additional funding should sources become available.

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**To:** Future Oxfordshire Partnership  
**Title of Report:** Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, Homes from Infrastructure (Hfi) Programme- Lessons Learned  
**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
**Report of** Paul Staines: Interim Head of Programme  
**Status:** Open

**Executive Summary and Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to inform the Future Oxfordshire Partnership (The Partnership) of the findings of a recent lessons learned review of the Growth Deal Homes from Infrastructure (Hfi) programme.

The review was a request of the Partnership Scrutiny Panel and the findings presented to their meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

**How this report contributes to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision Outcomes:**

The Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal has a key role to play in delivering well-designed infrastructure and homes, sufficient in numbers, location, type, size, tenure, and affordability to meet the needs of our county, as set out in the Strategic Vision [here](#).

**Recommendation:**

That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership notes the report.

**Appendices:** None

**Homes from Infrastructure Programme**

- 1) The Homes from Infrastructure Programme (Hfi) is a £150m investment in strategic infrastructure (as part of the overall, five year, £215m Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal) to support the acceleration of already planned housing in Oxfordshire.
- 2) The Hfi programme has two aspects.
  - Firstly, the commitment to spend £30m per annum over 5 years- to March 2023-on named strategic infrastructure projects, identified as accelerators for planned housing growth in Oxfordshire.

- Secondly that this infrastructure expenditure will then accelerate at least 6,549 planned homes that might not otherwise have come forward at this pace. This is because either the completed infrastructure allows housing to be built earlier than otherwise planned or the investment provides developers with confidence to build out sites faster than they otherwise might.
- 3) Whilst the original Hfl timeline in the Deal was a five-year period from 2018/19 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, government agreed a two-year extension to the programme to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, to reflect the impact of the COVID pandemic.
  - 4) The extension applies to both the programme and its benefits- accelerated housing. Infrastructure schemes can continue into the two-year extension, subject to the approval of a business case, whilst all housing schemes that can show delays in the original delivery trajectory can continue to count completed housing up to March 2025. However, where pressures have been identified, priority has been given to Infrastructure Schemes which are able to be delivered within the original programme period and so without the need for additional business case approval.
  - 5) Finally, within the agreed timeline for the programme it had an agreed spend trajectory of £30 million per annum, the final tranche of which has been recently received.
  - 6) Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) are the lead delivery partner for the infrastructure element of Hfl which they deliver through their capital projects governance framework, whilst the districts are responsible- as far as they are able- for ensuring the accelerated delivery of housing, recognising districts cannot significantly impact or manage housing delivery within their areas beyond having up to date local plans in place.
  - 7) The infrastructure element of the Hfl programme comprises 23 infrastructure projects that include road, rail, cycle routes and footpaths, as well as social infrastructure such as schools. All schemes were identified at the outset of the Hfl programme as capable of accelerating housing because of being funded either wholly or partly by the Growth Deal.
  - 8) All infrastructure schemes have also been subject to annual review using OCC's capital governance framework to ensure that they continue to show alignment to the required benefits of the programme- accelerated housing, that they continue to demonstrate value for money in achieving these benefits and finally that they are deliverable within the timeframe of the programme.

## **The Lessons Learned review**

- 9) The review was based upon OCC receiving stakeholder and partner feedback on the programme. A questionnaire was sent to all relevant partners, who were charged with socialising the questions within their organisations to ensure a collective corporate response from each.
- 10) The questionnaire was split into sections to better understand the views of partners, these were:

- The set-up of the Hfl programme
- The methods used to identify the infrastructure projects funded.
- The governance and management of the programme.
- How well the programme was delivered

### **How the Hfl Programme was set up**

- 11) Much of the feedback from partners on the set up of the programme can be traced back to the fact that the programme did not benefit from a period of mobilisation before it went live, for example
- It was not possible to set up the management and governance structures in advance of the programme's commencement.
  - There was limited opportunity to engage with wider partners, such as developers on our ambitions for the programme.
  - There was limited opportunity for OCC to upscale its infrastructure delivery programme management resource in advance to reflect the scale of the new programme.
  - There was equally limited opportunity before the programme began- and no added resources- for districts to upscale their capacity to meet the demands of the programme.
  - There was limited time to consider the choice of infrastructure projects in the programme, leading in the view of some districts that they may have missed opportunities.
- 12) The consequences of the lack of a mobilisation period demonstrates that any further arrangement should seek to include such a mobilisation period- probably at least 6 months- before going live with the programme to allow for partners to set up the relevant processes and structures and allow sufficient time to ensure collective agreement on the programmes benefits as the best way to maximise the programme's utility.

### **The methods used to identify the infrastructure projects funded.**

- 13) Partners commented upon the Hfl programme's sole focus being accelerated housing delivery and noted that this meant that we could not fund some schemes with wider benefits, for example the promotion of active travel options.
- 14) District partners also felt that they didn't have as much input into the choice of infrastructure schemes as they might have ideally liked, leading to some missed opportunities, specific comments included:
- Some of the projects appeared to be selected as they were 'quick wins' rather than those that added most value for the districts. Perhaps reflecting the fact that this was- for infrastructure projects- a short time limited programme that needed to deliver within the dates of the Growth Deal
  - There could have been value in linking the strands of the Growth Deal together more strongly at the outset and feeding that into the decision matrix that decided the choice of projects, for example the Hfl and Affordable Housing Programmes where perhaps it might have been possible to use the lever of Hfl funding to secure more, or different types of affordable housing.

- Could the Hfl programme have added value to other infrastructure programmes at the outset, for example links to the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) projects in Oxfordshire might have generated added value from both programmes, although it should be noted that such links were forged through subsequent programme reviews.
- 15) These illustrate the fact that the Hfl programme had restrictions of both time and benefit that with hindsight were a tighter constraint than was realised at the outset. This led to schemes that did not accelerate housing, but which had wider benefits to Oxfordshire not being promoted and the programme being inevitably restricted to schemes that were 'shovel ready' and could be delivered within the five year timeframe of the programme.

### **The Governance and Management Structures of the Programme**

- 16) Partners offered broadly positive feedback about the governance of the Hfl programme, albeit reflecting that this was another area that would have benefited from a period of mobilisation at the programme's outset.
- 17) Partners felt for example that the management meeting structure was logical and helpful and that the decision to appoint an SRO for the programme and similar in each partner council meant that there was a clear hierarchy of accountability and decision making.
- 18) Partners also fed back that the establishment of the Infrastructure Advisory Subgroup had been positive and enabled better engagement with members-across all councils- of the progress of the Hfl programme.
- 19) Partners did however comment that the resourcing of the governance arrangements had been a challenge as councils had to meet these resource requirements from within their existing officer base, and that the scale of this commitment had not really been accurately assessed at the outset of the programme.
- 20) This resourcing point then related to feedback from the centre that engagement of partners was on occasions a challenge- both in the identification of the correct points of contact and them being able to offer the necessary time to the programme.
- 21) Finally. the establishment of a central team was agreed to have been helpful as was acknowledgment of the engagement processes put in place to work with the partners to check both progress with infrastructure and accelerated housing. Partners noted the need for this level of engagement to be maintained as the programme concludes.

### **How well the Programme was delivered**

- 22) The key feedback on the delivery aspects of the programme related to:
- The challenge of the budget profile agreed for the programme.
  - The challenges posed by the annual reviews.

- The management of project risk
  - The ability of partners at both county and district to gear up for delivery – a point related to earlier points about the lack of a mobilisation period and resourcing.
- 23) Earlier progress reports on the Growth Deal have highlighted the challenges faced by the agreed spend profile of £30 million per annum and the fact that this does not reflect the reality of any infrastructure programme where spend is backloaded to the later construction stages.
  - 24) Fortunately, it has been possible to front fund schemes- which are then reimbursed- not originally included in the Hfl programme and this has allowed us to meet our spend profile commitments without impairing our delivery ambitions.
  - 25) Several partners did feedback on the process of annual reviews that have taken place each year of the programme. The key message was that the review process, whilst inclusive and transparent posed challenges for the partners, especially when it resulted in shifts of funding. This was especially the case where the project being deselected had positive attributes outside of the tight confines of the HFI programme- accelerated housing- and had strong local support.
  - 26) Partners also commented upon the management of the programme. There was general agreement that the direct link of named housing sites to named infrastructure projects was a more complex 'many to many' relationship that we showed in our programme. This led to challenges in accurately proving the positive effects of the programme that had to be worked through.
  - 27) This complexity also spilled over into the management of risk. Partners felt that the need to assess risk for both an infrastructure project and an associated risk for related housing projects led to a complexity that did not aid either its effective communication or management and that this was compounded by the limits of influence that districts have over the housing delivery trajectories on those sites accelerated.
  - 28) The final point made by partners concerned the ability of partners to deliver the programme. It is fair to say that all partners had to undergo a learning curve with a number of aspects of the Growth Deal and the Hfl programme was no exception.
  - 29) In hindsight we can see that capacity was not where it needed to be within the partnership at the outset of the Growth Deal and although funding was provided centrally and a team recruited, they were also new to the Growth Deal and had to get up to speed.
  - 30) Similarly, the feedback reminds us that the delivery of the Deal, indeed any partnership arrangement has a resource implication that needs to be identified both centrally and at individual council level and account made of that.
  - 31) Finally, this once again reminds us of the importance of a mobilisation period at the outset of any programme, to allow us to arrange ourselves correctly and to 'hit the ground running'.

## Conclusion

- 32) This report outlines partners views on the progress of the Hfl programme and sets out how, if any such arrangement were available in the future, we might adjust our approach to maximise its value to Oxfordshire.
- 33) There can be no doubt that the Hfl programme has been broadly effective, housing has been accelerated and still is on target. This shows that the Hfl programme did give confidence to developers to develop at a faster pace than they might otherwise. As this was the core benefit and target for the Hfl programme it should be counted as successful at this point
- 34) The feedback does however offer us valuable lessons about how we could as a partnership learn from the experience of the Growth Deal, particularly around Oxfordshire thinking about what it wants to achieve from such a programme and ensuring its utility is maximised, giving ourselves the time to properly prepare, the resources required in each partner to fulfil their roles and being clear about each partners governance and decision-making roles at the outset to help us set realistic expectations of each other.
- 35) The feedback also recognises however that many of these points emanate from the fact that the Deal was negotiated and implemented in a short timescale, and that the other side of this point is that the partners were in a place where we could take advantage of such an opportunity, mobilise at short notice, learn on the job and still deliver successfully.
- 36) Finally, it is important to note that this report solely reflects the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal - Homes from Infrastructure (Hfl) programme- as one programme to accelerate housing delivery in Oxfordshire. Overall housing delivery has been successful throughout Oxfordshire with several of the districts in the top 25 per cent of delivery nationally.
- 37) The FOP is asked to note the report

## Legal Implications

- 38) None arising from this report.

## Other Implications

- 39) None arising from this report.

## Background Papers

None

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## Notes

OF A MEETING OF THE



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Infrastructure Advisory Group

HELD ON MONDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 2.00 PM  
VIRTUAL VIA MS TEAMS

### Present:

**Members:** Councillors Liz Leffman (Chair), Councillor Pieter-Paul Barker, Councillor Neil Fawcett, Councillor Alex Hollingsworth, Councillor Lynn Pratt and Phil Southall

**Officers:** John Disley (Oxfordshire County Council), Susan Harbour (South and Vale District Councils), Kevin Jacob and Babatunde Ogundele (Future Oxfordshire Partnership)

### 29 Apologies for absence and notifications of substitutions; declarations of interests; Chair's announcements

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Judy Roberts, Vale of White Horse District Council, Councillor Jeff Haine, West Oxfordshire District Council and Councillor Duncan Enright, Oxfordshire District Council.

Councillor Neil Fawcett substituted for Councillor Judy Roberts and Councillor Pete Sudbury substituted for Councillor Duncan Enright.

There were no declaration of interests or Chair's announcements.

### 30 Notes of the previous meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 12 January 2022 were agreed to be an accurate record of matters discussed.

### 31 Infrastructure Programme, Quarter 3 Delivery and Housing Update

The Advisory group was provided with a chart presentation by Tom Parson, Project Manager Growth Deal Team on Housing Projections (Growth Deal + Extension), Accelerated Housing Projections (Growth Deal + Extension) and the Oxfordshire Housing Forecast to 2031.

Members queried whether the extension highlighted in the chart into 2024/2025 would have an impact on any potential new deal. Members also queried how the projections in the chart will be delivered and asked if it would carry on as previously.

Hannah Battye, Head of Infrastructure Delivery Growth Deal Capital Programme highlighted that several sites have been delayed due to Covid-19, hence pointing out the fact that this were existing sites linked to the housing and growth deal which were the previous local plan sites meaning this should not have an impact on the next local plan, however she confirmed this will be reviewed.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked Tom Parson for the chart presentation.

## **32 Bus Service Improvement Plan and Enhanced Partnership**

The Advisory Group was provided with a presentation by Phil Southall, Chair of the Oxfordshire Strategic Transport Forum on an update from the forum.

Phil Southall confirmed he had given the same presentation in more detail at the last Infrastructure Advisory Group meeting and confirmed there were a few updates which include:

- The Oxfordshire County Council was expecting feedback with regards to funding at the end of February, however this has not materialised due to delays.
- DFT has broadly split the 79 local transport authorities nationally into 4 broad categories
  - Transformational
  - Improvement
  - Additional Support
  - None
- Transformational areas have now had an initial interview with the DFT to discuss the deliverability of BSIP

The Advisory Group expressed concerns as to why Oxfordshire has not heard on funding and is not on the Transformational funding yet, for areas like Brighton and Hove and Nottingham that are regularly compared to Oxfordshire have received the Transformational Funding.

Councillors queried what the future would be for the Enhanced Partnership and the BSIP if funding was not received. It was however, confirmed that the Enhanced Partnership would carry on regardless of funding because the Government has made it clear that any future funding opportunities relied on the Enhanced Partnership being in place

Members queried the extent of the linkage between the BSIP and the Enhanced Partnership to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership, (FOP) as it was thought that they were the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council. It was however confirmed that the FOP provides more of an overseeing role in the process and strategic approach.

Members made mention of the current low usage of buses now. It was however confirmed that bus usage was at 75% of pre-covid levels with an upward forecast.

Members also queried whether the 75% pre-covid numbers were because of a quarter of journeys not being made due to factors like working from home or people using alternatives other than buses.

Members suggested the need to put together a bus summit that could be held with local businesses, health partners etc as this needed to be a joint effort.

Members suggested that all the good practice, (particularly regarding Covid prevention methods) by bus operators should be at the forefront of advertisements to give bus users more confidence

Members queried the proposed voting arrangements for the Enhance Partnership as it was felt that there needed to more than one representative from district councils.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked Phil Southall for his presentation and requested that the slides be circulated to members of the advisory group.

### **33 Dates of Future Meetings and Forward Programme**

- 25/04/2022
- 4/07/2022
- 5/09/2022
- 31/10/2022
- 9/01/2023
- 27/02/2023
- 17/04/2023 (10:00)
- 3/07/2023

The Advisory Group suggested that when plan items are brought forward there should be clarity on who should be executing them and its purpose.

The Advisory Group suggested the Gap Analysis for OxIS to be a future item.

The meeting closed at 3.22 pm

## Notes

OF A MEETING OF THE



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group

HELD ON THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 10.00 AM  
VIRTUAL VIA MS TEAMS

### Present:

**Members:** Councillors Emily Smith (Chair), Colin Clarke, Duncan Enright, Jeff Haine, Debby Hallett, Alex Hollingsworth and Anne-Marie Simpson

**Officer:** Giles Hughes (West Oxfordshire District Council), Kevin Jacob (Future Oxfordshire Partnership) and Andrew Thompson (Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Team)

### **56 Apologies for absence and notification of substitutions; declarations of interest; Chair's announcements**

There were no apologies for absence, declarations of interest or Chair's announcements.

### **57 Notes of the previous meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on 20 January 2022 were agreed as a correct summary.

### **58 Presentation on spatial options and housing requirement options**

Andrew Thompson, Principal Planner, Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Team provided a presentation, setting out at a high level, a representation of the different spatial options and housing requirement options arising from the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Regulation 18 Part 2 consultation. This included a summary of key issues raised within the consultation feedback in support of each potential option, but also key concerns raised. The presentation also included an example of how a data layering process could be used to work through the site options in order to facilitate discussion of spatial strategy issues.

In discussion of the presentation, advisory group members commented that, if possible, it would be helpful to have a breakdown of demographic information about responses (either supporting or expressing objections) to each of the options so as to help decision makers gain an insight into where the feedback was coming from and assist their consideration of it. Officers responded that this information was not immediately available and had not been explicitly asked of respondents within the consultation portal, but that this could be looked into.

Members commented on the importance of any potential option or housing requirement being legally and technically compliant and asked that available legal advice be shared with the advisory group at a future meeting. Officers agreed that this could be provided in due course.

## **59 Reflections on comments made at recent scrutiny committees**

Giles Hughes, Chief Executive, West Oxfordshire District Council provided an overview of the feedback received from the city and district council scrutiny committees following the consideration of scrutiny committees of a report setting out an update on the preparation of the Oxfordshire Plan, including a summary of the comments received during the recent consultation. The advisory group was informed that the feedback would be carefully considered and where necessary future reports amended to address the comments made.

## **60 Updates on the work programme**

The advisory group was informed that consideration of the work programme was ongoing, taking into account the options available and the preparation of evidence needed to support the Oxfordshire Plan, either standalone pieces of work or to sit alongside or complement evidence produced through the Local Plan processes of the individual planning authorities. It was noted that any adjustment to the timetable and work programme would primarily be driven by the need to have a robust evidence base as possible and would involve discussion with professional officers across the councils and where appropriate, HM Government.

In discussion, Members of the advisory group referred to the need to take account of any budgetary considerations as part of the work programme review process and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of any potential extension and additional consultation with a range of views being discussed.

## **61 Future meetings**

The dates of future advisory group meetings as set out in the agenda were noted and that consideration was being given to the holding of a joint workshop between members of the advisory group and council Leaders.

The meeting closed at 12.20 pm

# Notes

OF A MEETING OF THE



## The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group

HELD ON THURSDAY 17 MARCH 2022 AT 10.00 AM  
VIRTUAL VIA MS TEAMS

### Present:

**Members:** Councillors Emily Smith (Chair), Colin Clarke, Duncan Enright, Neil Fawcett, Alex Hollingsworth and Anne-Marie Simpson

**Officers:** James Gagg, (Oxfordshire County Council), Giles Hughes (West Oxfordshire District Council), Kevin Jacob (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Joe Kay, (Oxfordshire County Council) and Philip Wadsworth (Oxfordshire Plan Team)

### 62 Apologies for absence and notification of substitutions; declarations of interest; Chair's announcements

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Jeff Haine, West Oxfordshire District Council and Debby Hallett, Vale of White Horse District Council, (substituted by Councillor Neil Fawcett).

There were no declarations of interest or Chair's announcements.

### 63 Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Update

#### Local Transport and Connectivity Plan, (LTCP)

The advisory group received a presentation from James Gagg, Principal Infrastructure Planner and Joe Kay, Strategic Transport Lead, Oxfordshire County Council which provided an update on the development of the LTCP and the key linkages and relationships between the LTCP and the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. It was noted that public consultation on the LTCP has recently concluded. Areas highlighted included:

- The LTCP vision outlined a long term ambition for transport in Oxfordshire on the basis of zero-carbon and underpinned the policies in the document.
- Key themes of the LTCP included environment, health, place shaping, productivity, and connectivity and each of the themes were supported by headline targets in 2030, 2040 and 2050 to track and achieve delivery of a reduction of current car trips.
- LTCP policy areas included:
  - Walking and cycling

- Healthy place shaping
  - Road safety
  - Digital connectivity
  - Data
  - Regional connectivity
  - Public transport
  - Environment, carbon and air quality
  - Network, parking and congestion management
  - Innovation
  - Freight and logistics
  - Local connectivity
- The LTCP was supported by a set of detailed place based area and corridor strategies.
  - Areas of cross over between the LTCP, Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy, (OxIS) and Oxfordshire Plan 2050 as a suite of documents given the focus in the LTCP to reducing car use. The implications of the vision of reducing car use to spatial planning and future infrastructure provision:
    - LTCP – provision of high level transport framework
    - Area strategies – identified schemes for geographic areas using Local cycling and walking infrastructure plans, and LTCP policy framework
    - OxIS – assessment of schemes for broader alignment and prioritisation
    - Oxfordshire Plan 2050 – provision of the spatial planning framework
  - It was expected that the LTCP and supporting strategies would be adopted by Oxfordshire County Council in the Summer of 2022 with development of OxIS Part 2 supporting strategies in late 2022, spring 2023.

In discussion, support was expressed by members for the vision of reducing car journeys from the current base, but it was felt that it was also important to set out how the need to travel by car would be achieved, bearing in mind factors such as employment location. Officers referred to digital connectivity and planning for new developments that enhanced sustainable travel and location of neighbourhood services within walking distance. Members made the point that those on lower incomes tended to have roles that could not be performed by working from home, increasingly their reliance on public transport and locally accessible services.

Members stressed the importance of the relationship between the LTCP, OxIS and Oxfordshire Plan 2050 being omnidirectional in influence rather than one strategy setting the direction and content of the other pieces of work. It was important to focus on the delivery of the new LTCP given that there were schemes set out in the previous Oxfordshire Local Transport Plan that remained undelivered.

The view was expressed that to achieve the vision of significant reductions in car use, behavioural change would be required, necessitating effective communication with residents. It was also important to put in place policies that were pitched at the right level at an Oxfordshire level where appropriate and most effective, but which allowed for sufficient flexibility at a district and city level to meet different local circumstances. Parking standards was felt to be one such policy example.

#### Oxfordshire Plan 2050 update

Giles Hughes, Chief Executive, West Oxfordshire District Council provided an update on the development and preparation of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

Following the report to planning authority scrutiny committees on the feedback from the Regulation 18 Part 2 consultation, a report to planning authority Cabinets had been submitted which provided an update of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Statement of Community Involvement, (SCI) following the relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions. Cabinets had been asked to adopt a revised version of the SCI.

Plan Officers continued to look out for and assess the implications for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 of national policy, including the Levelling up White Paper and reforms to the planning system. Confirmation of Government's views on the Arc Spatial Framework was also awaited. Plan officers were also continuing to work closely with district, city and where appropriate county colleagues around the commissioning of further work to form part of the Plan's evidence base, taking due account of the National Planning Policy Framework. The advisory group was advised of the further pieces of evidence base work being considered.

Officers were also working closely with district and city colleagues around spatial options methodologies and potential approaches.

In discussion, members of the advisory group asked to be updated on the list of evidence already collated or planned and to be supplied with relevant legal advice relating to the Plan.

#### Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Joint Leaders and Oxfordshire Plan 2050 workshop

Discussion took place regarding planning for two workshops between council Leaders and members of the advisory group, preliminary scheduled for April and June.

## **64 Dates of future meetings**

The advisory group noted the dates of future meetings.

A discussion took place regarding future agenda items and specific requests for information for the 14 April meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.50 am

# Notes

OF A MEETING OF THE



## **The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group**

**HELD ON FRIDAY 29 APRIL 2022 AT 2.00 PM  
VIRTUAL VIA MS TEAMS**

### **Present:**

**Members:** Councillors Emily Smith (Chair), Colin Clarke, Jeff Haine, Debby Hallett, Alex Hollingsworth and Anne-Marie Simpson

**Officers:** Giles Hughes (West Oxfordshire District Council), Kevin Jacob, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership) and Philip Wadsworth (Oxfordshire Plan Team)

### **65 Apologies for absence and notifications of substitutions; declarations of interest; Chair's announcements**

Apologies were submitted by Councillor Duncan Enright, Oxfordshire County Council. Councillor Colin Clarke indicated that he would need to leave the meeting at around 15:00.

There were no declarations of interest or Chair's announcements.

### **66 Notes of the previous meetings**

The notes of the meetings held on 17 February 2022 and 17 March 2022 were agreed as a correct summary.

### **67 Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Update**

Giles Hughes, Chief Executive, West Oxfordshire District Council and Phil Wadsworth, Strategic Plan Lead, Oxfordshire Plan 2050 provided an update on the preparation of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 following the joint workshop between members of the advisory group and local authority leaders held on 6 April, preparations for the next joint workshop in June and discussions with the HM Government regarding the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 timeline.

The advisory group was informed in that in light of the six stage, step by step process to securing consensus supported at the April joint workshop, it was intended to follow this up with further professional officer and councillor level meetings, including further joint

workshops between the members of the advisory group and local authority leaders so that there could be through discussion of the options.

Drafts dates and the content of each step were outlined in detail and it was explained that the central Oxfordshire Plan 2050 team would be working closely with officer planning policy leads in each authority to co-ordinate activity and the preparation of plan related evidential documents.

The advisory group was provided with an update on discussions with civil servants at the Department for Levelling Up and Communities around a formal extension to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 timeline. Discussions had been positive and receipt of a formal written approval of an extension was awaited. In light of this, a revised timetable for the Plan was being worked up taking account of the step, by step process and consideration of the potential options around further consultation. Officers stated that this would be provide to the advisory group at its next meeting.

In discussion of these points, a number of members of the advisory group stressed the importance of there being continuing to be adequate opportunities for members of the advisory group to liaise with the professional planning officers within their individual councils so that there continued to be a member input and steer into the various officer discussions taking place. Officers stressed that no decisions would be taken by officers and the joint professional planning collaboration taking place between the central Oxfordshire Plan Team and local planning policy leads was only intended to improve and assist the technical preparation of the draft Plan and its evidence base, much of which would be a 'shared' between the councils and therefore both the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and Local Plans. This was intended to do everything possible to ensure the robustness of the Plan at the examination in public stage.

Members also highlighted the potential impact on Local Plan work within several of the partner councils of an extension of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 timeline and stressed the need for this to be taken into account which offices indicated it would be.

It was noted that external legal advice in connection to the Plans preparation would be on procured jointly via the Monitoring Officers of each council on the basis of a shared and common approach.

Phil Wadsworth provided a detailed update on the approach being taken to the development of the scope of the Plan and to the research of its evidence base, including its methodologies, plan options and high level viability. As a spatial plan, the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 had to be pitched at a strategic level, distinct from, but informing Local Plans and taking account of the National Planning Policy Framework and other statutory planning guidance. It was stressed in response to questions from members of the advisory group that the Plan had been, and would continue to be, strongly informed by the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision which all the councils had agreed. The delivery of the Strategic Vision also depended upon the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and therefore they were major parts of each other.

The advisory group was informed that as a general principle, if there was a desire to go over and above national HM Government standards in a particular area, this was permissible, but a strong evidence base would be required and this needed to be planned for within the overall scheme.

In discussion of the information needed for the next meeting of the advisory group members suggested that it would be helpful to be presented with the current emerging structure and scope of the Plan at a high level, mapping information on the various spatial options and a revised Plan timetable including where appropriate, Local Plan key dates.

Officers agreed to produce papers on the following matters for the next meeting of the advisory group on 26 May 2022:

1. Revised timetable for adoption of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 including reference to pertinent Local Plan dates.
2. Mapping information on each of the spatial plan options.
3. Revised Oxfordshire Plan 2050 skeleton (high level) framework document setting out the planned scope of the Oxfordshire Plan, (including key headings and descriptors)

## **68 Dates of future meetings**

The dates for future meetings were noted as set out in the Agenda and it was agreed that an additional meeting should be scheduled for 26 May 2022. If the date of the next joint workshop between members of the advisory group and Leaders was set for mid-June, it was agreed that it would not be necessary to hold the advisory group meeting planned for 16 June 2022.

The meeting closed at 3.33 pm

## Notes

### OF A MEETING OF THE



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Environment Advisory Group

HELD ON THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2022 AT 10.00 AM  
VIRTUAL VIA MS TEAMS

### Present:

**Councillors:** David Rouane (Chair), Andrea Powell, David Harvey, Dan Sames, Pete Sudbury and Catherine Webber

**Officers:** Michael Oatway, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Suzanne Malcolm, (Deputy Chief Executive - Place, South and Vale Councils), Mish Tullar, (Head of Corporate Strategy, Oxford City Council), Sarah Gilbert (Climate Action Team Leader, Oxfordshire County Council) Susannah Wintersgill, (Director: Communications, Strategy and Insight, Oxfordshire County Council) and Jamie Hartzell (Oxfordshire Treescape Project).

### 36 Apologies for absence and notification of substitutions; declarations of interest and Chair's announcements:

Apologies were submitted from Councillor Tom Hayes, Oxford City Council.

There were no declarations from Members.

The following announcements were made by the Chair:

- The Chair thanked Councillor Tom Hayes - Oxford City Council, for inviting him to Zero Carbon Oxford at BWM in Cowley. It was a highly informative talk about how a major manufacturing company is addressing Pathways to Zero. Cllr Rouane noted it would be good to reach out to another big business who are undertaking similar work in the county to address the Advisory Group.

The Chair provided an update on the work of the emerging Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership. The partnership is still at the formation stage and there is currently much work being undertaken around stakeholder mapping. An advert is about to go out for a chair for this partnership. They are also looking for a businessperson to come onto the board of this group; both positions are voluntary and un - remunerated.

### 37 Notes of the previous meeting

The notes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

### **38 Oxfordshire wide Climate action marketing and communications strategy and EAG communications - Update**

The Advisory Group considered a report updating the group on the Climate Action and Communications Strategy.

Susannah Wintersgill, Director: Communications, Strategy, and Insight at Oxfordshire County Council, noted there was a cross council team and a steering group in place to focus on the communications strategy.

The current strategy had three main elements. The first was the launch of an online tool which help people understand their own carbon footprint. Susannah had sent round examples of visuals which will be included in the online tool. This tool will be launched in May after the local elections. The second is a public consultation which will commence at the start of April. This consultation will aim to gauge the public's understanding of the work being undertaken on The Climate Emergency. The third aspect is the release of several explainer videos on the climate strategy which are also hoped will better inform members of the public about the key terms around the Climate Emergency. There is also work underway way to build measures of success, so that the public and Members can understand if the strategy is delivering its stated aims.

Councillor Powell commended the branding in the examples visuals but requested a spreadsheet version to share with officers who are working on the campaigns. Councillor Powell also noted that this work would likely take up resource amongst the districts which was already stretched due to other items of workload. Susannah noted that the County Council are taking the lead on the key aspects of the campaigns to assist the districts.

Councillor Webber also noted the impact this work could have on the capacity of council comms officers.

### **39 Implementation of the Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire Route Map work - Update**

The Advisory Group received an update from Sarah Gilbert, Climate Action Team Leader, Oxfordshire County Council, on the Progress of Delivering a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire Route Map and Action Plan.

Sarah noted that contributions had been received from all stakeholders on the route map. A steering group has been set up and a tender has been developed to recruit a consultant to move forward with the next phase of the work. The tender has now closed and we have had a good range of responses. The aim is to appoint a contractor by the end of May.

Sarah stated the timetable for the route map was approximately one month behind schedule. The aim is by the June Advisory Group meeting to present a revised timetable for the milestones.

Councillor Powell noted that Localis (a think tank) had approached the councils through the District Council Network looking for a case study from local authorities on work they were doing to reach Net Zero. Suzanne Malcolm – Deputy Chief Executive, Place, at South Oxfordshire District Council & Vale of White Horse District Council, raised concerns

that this could interfere with the wider work officers were undertaking on PAZCO. The Chair recommended that the officer group continue to focus on the PAZCO route map work for the time being.

## **40 Ideas and Innovation**

The Advisory Group considered the following items presented by Officers and guest speakers:

### 1. A presentation on the use of Solar Power:

A draft paper was circulated to group members ahead of the meeting. The advice from officers has been that this paper is not yet finalised and therefore it was recommended to add this to the agenda for the next Advisory Group meeting for further discussion. Further work will be done in respect of the planning policy elements.

### 2. Oxtrees presentation:

Jamie Hartzell, from the Oxfordshire Treescape Project (abbreviated to Oxtrees) provided a presentation around the work that Oxtrees are undertaking on the mapping of the nature recovery plan across Oxfordshire.

Oxtrees is a not-for-profit initiative, co-ordinated by Grow Green Carbon, and is a partnership supported by all six councils across Oxfordshire, OxLEP and several other external stakeholders. It aims to build a consensus on nature recovery across Oxfordshire and overcoming local challenges.

Jamie outlined how since World War Two, the primary aim of land use in the UK has been on maximising food production. This has resulted in 41% of species, 50% of hedgerows and 95% of grasslands having been lost. Considering the current trajectory of the Climate Emergency, a keyway of limiting the rise of global temperatures is nature recovery as trees play a big role in carbon reduction. Trees also have other benefits other than carbon reduction, as they can also improve farming systems as well as provide flood alleviation and help with air quality.

Oxfordshire currently has tree coverage of 9.1%, below the UK average of 13%. To comply with the targets set by the 2018 Climate Change Act, we should be aiming for 50,000 hectares of new trees per year. However, in 2020 - 2021, only 2,200 hectares were planted. It was recognised that there was clearly much work to do to reach the required numbers.

Oxtrees mapping work could help with this. Oxtrees currently have a website where several maps can be found which outline the best places to advance rewilding. Oxtrees have consulted widely on the current mapping work including with 50 parish councils and 30 landowners. Oxtrees can also produce a report on local areas where tree scaping could be effective and these are also being offered for free. Parish councils will produce their own nature recovery plans which will feed into their neighbourhood plans and therefore Parishes are good stakeholders to engage with.

However, landowners need to be brought on board with Oxtrees plans. Oxtrees have mapped the major landowners in the county and there are 250,000 landowners in total, most of which own very small areas. However, 172 landowners own

over half the county and 26 own over a quarter of the county. If all these landowners could be persuaded to engage with Oxtrees work, then there could be a lot of progress. It is also important to identify owners of land that are not widely known and local knowledge could help with this.

The next steps for Oxtrees include working with the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and Local Authorities to build nature recovery into their plans, strengthen partner networks, working with farmer clusters, encouraging parish councils and landowners to work together, and developing a treescape champion's network.

Councillor Sudbury noted that the County Council was reworked its Tree policy which is going to its cabinet, as well as its verges, vegetation and footpaths policy and its climate policy.

Councillor Harvey thanked Jamie for the presentation. Councillor Harvey further noted that West Oxfordshire have a biodiversity officer and are trying to instil sustainability into the planning system as well, however Councillor Harvey queried what the most effective thing district councils could be doing? Jamie suggested doing an audit of the land that that councils own and then determine what can be done with nature recovery on the land that the council owns. The Chair noted he believed Oxtrees reports could be useful in identifying land ownership and that the districts and city council could play a role in outreach work with private landowners.

Councillor Powell noted the co-ordination role of district councils (with developers, residents etc.) is important. One idea suggested is if councils could encourage residents to replace fences with hedgerows, as this would support the aims of rewilding across the county. Jamie reiterated engagement with Parishes would help with the nature recovery process.

Councillor Webber noted that the Vale have just implemented a tree policy and 420 trees have now been planted.

Mish Tullar noted that Oxford City Council's position was a bit different and that they were looking at how we can support this. Oxtrees reporting has focused on Ward level rather than Parish level for the city. The best opportunity might be to persuade residents to plant trees in their gardens, which could be more cost effective and lead to a higher number of trees being planted. A communications programme would be key to this.

Jamie noted developing more tree nurseries could also be a good option to increase the supply of trees.

## **41 Work Programme**

It was agreed the next meeting should include the following agenda items:

- A discussion around climate adaptation. Councillor Sudbury will ask officers at the County Council to do an initial piece of work on this
- To receive a presentation on the work of the OXLEP Clean Growth Sub – Group.
- A presentation on the work of Good Food Oxfordshire.
- A talk from a major business in Oxfordshire on work they are undertaking to implement Pathways to Zero carbon. The Chair agreed to speak to OXLEP on who a suitable speaker could be.

## **42 Future meetings**

The advisory group noted the date of the next meeting as 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022.

The meeting closed at 11.30 am



**To:** Future Oxfordshire Partnership (formerly the Oxfordshire Growth Board)

**Title of Report:** Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan Update

**Date:** 13 June 2022

**Report of:** Nigel Tipple, Chief Executive, OxLEP & Chair of the Economic Recovery Task Group

**Status:** Open

**Executive Summary and Purpose:**

This paper provides the Future Oxfordshire Partnership with an update on the progress of the Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan, overseen by the Economic Recovery Task Group, and the headline performance of Oxfordshire’s economy as it emerges from the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. It also identifies the need to continue to undertake a ‘system-wide’ approach to responding to the Levelling up and UK Shared Prosperity programmes recently published in order to maximise the resources available to support local communities and businesses as they move from recover to consolidation and growth.

**How this report contributes to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision Outcomes:**

The Economic Recovery Plan supports a number of the outcomes set out under the Strategic Vision including:

- Our local economy will be globally competitive, sustainable, diverse and inclusive
- Our county will be a more equal, fair and inclusive place for everyone

**Recommendations:**

1. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership notes the progress being made in delivering the Economic Recovery Plan and the key issues facing the economy
2. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership maintains its support for continued whole-system working, through the Economic Recovery Task Group, to address the economic challenges faced in Oxfordshire. In so doing ensure the co-ordination of resources across the “whole system” structures to support investment in businesses and local communities

**Appendices:**

Appendix One – Economic Recovery Plan - Monitoring Plan

## Introduction

1. The Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan (ERP) is part of an Oxfordshire 'whole-system' approach to tackling the impact of COVID-19 in the county. It sits alongside other plans and emergency response measures introduced by Oxfordshire partners to support residents, businesses and communities to recover, adapt to the pandemic and impacts arising from the EU exit.
2. The ERP is led by OxLEP on behalf of Oxfordshire partners and is overseen by an Economic Recovery Task Group comprising chief officers from each of Oxfordshire's local councils, alongside senior representatives from both Universities, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and the Government's Cities & Local Growth Unit. The Task Group also draws on specific knowledge of the county's Destination Management Organisations (DMOs), Experience Oxfordshire and Cotswold DMO, to provide insight on the visitor economy which supported over 40,000 jobs and contributes £2.4bn year to the Oxfordshire economy (pre-covid).
3. The ERP was prepared during 2020 in response to the pandemic and comprises a range of interventions to support the Oxfordshire economy. It includes projects where:
  - a. funding is already secured by partners and is being flexed, where possible and within the parameters of each project, to respond to the changing needs of the economy;
  - b. specific response funding is available and being drawn down from Government to support recovery activity or be accelerated to deliver economic support, in line with the priorities set out under the ERP; and
  - c. there is a clear economic need and has been highlighted by the baseline assessment as a priority but funding has yet to be secured
4. The ERP is informed by a comprehensive economic baseline assessment of the Oxfordshire economy prepared by Cambridge Econometrics and Steer Economics which includes district level analysis, business and sector trends and short, medium and long term forecasts for recovery. It was undertaken in autumn 2020, with a further update of economic trends published in April 2021. The data has been used across Oxfordshire partners to support local and countywide planning and has also informed work on both the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy refresh, to ensure a consistent approach and understanding of the county's economy. We will be considering a refresh of the data over the next 12 months as the economy adjusts to both the impacts of Covid, EU exit and world events.
5. Both the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and the OxLEP Board has received regular updates from the Task Group as the ERP was developed; there has been updates to the Scrutiny Panel too. In addition to this, member briefings have also been undertaken with individual Oxfordshire councils.
6. The ERP and supporting economic baseline documents can be accessed via the OxLEP website at [Publications | OxLEP \(oxfordshirelep.com\)](https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/publications)

## ERP – Key Developments

7. A range of projects across the ERP are in delivery and making a positive impact on the ground to help local businesses and communities recover from the impact of the pandemic, across each of the themes under the plan – *Reskilling People; Resilient Business; Reviving Places; and Rebuilding Connectivity*. Updates on the progress of projects identified will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis, as part of the Task Group’s work including evaluation and impact assessment of grants and support measures introduced at the start of the response phase.
8. Additionally, the group along with partners continues to seek to secure further investment from budgets and funds which have been released by Government in recent months, such as the Levelling Up 2 programme and UK Shared Prosperity Fund to support economic recovery across the County.
9. Additionally OxLEP has previously secured investment of c£750,000 to support skills development within small businesses focusing on increasing opportunities for promoting apprenticeship pathways and has invested in ‘Green Skills’. We have also developed and agreed programmes of support for our Visitor Economy and a comprehensive Social Contract programmes with a combined value of c£3.3m through the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) which is now being mobilised alongside c£1.35m dedicated OxLEP business support programmes and commissioned business support delivered in West Oxfordshire and Cherwell Districts.
10. Through our ERP Task Group we are now actively supporting the development of programme submissions for both LUF2 (competitive) [Levelling Up Fund Round 2: application guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) and UKSPF (allocated funds) [UK Shared Prosperity Fund: prospectus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) which will result in a co-ordinated a package of project submissions under each programme which will potentially include Infrastructure, public realm and business and skills support aligned to programme priorities. The submissions will be made against the government set deadlines- LUF 2 bids by 12 Noon 6<sup>th</sup> July and UKSPF Investment Plans submitted by July 2022.
11. Regardless of the outcome of the competitive LUF 2 bid, a number of key projects within the ERP have been developed, are ready for delivery, and align well with UKSPF particularly to support businesses, skills development and retraining for young people, town centre renaissance initiatives and support for rebuilding the visitor economy. A number of these have now been funded as pilots of structured programmes but a number remain unfunded despite the urgency of need for these initiatives hence the consideration of co-ordinated UKSPF investment. It is imperative that Oxfordshire partners continue to work collaboratively as a ‘whole-system’ to co-ordinate and maximise the deployment funds which have been secured within the county to move these areas forward at pace.

## Economic Recovery – Key Headlines

12. The updated baseline assessment highlighted that, whilst it will experience a short but focused contraction, the Oxfordshire economy has, on the whole, been

resilient to the challenges created by the pandemic. The county's diverse business base and technology sectors have adapted to the main shocks created. However, there are areas which have been exposed: most notably the visitor economy which has struggled to recapture market share.

#### *Unemployment*

13. The latest monthly out of work benefit claimant count data (for March 2022) shows that Oxfordshire's unemployment rate is 2.4% (10455) and remains lower than the national rate of 4.2%. Out of work benefits have fallen sharply from the peak of c18,000 at the peak of the pandemic but are still near double pre-pandemic levels. Job vacancies as measured by job postings (weighted to take account of multiple postings) are at a record high with many sectors reporting chronic labour shortages – including the visitor economy and logistics

#### *Job Retention Scheme (Furlough)*

14. The JRS was withdrawn in September 2021. At the close of the JRS there were 10,200 residents claiming JRS. Out of work benefits continued to fall post JRS closure.

#### *The Visitor Economy*

15. The Visitor Economy, comprising retail, tourism, leisure, arts, culture and heritage, is a vital component of our economy. It supports over 40,000 jobs and is the largest employer of women, provides vital employment and apprenticeship opportunities for young people, offer flexible employment which is critical for working families and also offers important routes back into work for people seeking to return to employment having had long term health matters.
16. The sector has been the hardest hit by the pandemic and is beginning the process of resetting itself and recovering with great caution, amid real concerns for the future. Intelligence from both the county's main DMOs report a mixed picture.
17. Considering the precariousness with which the sector still finds itself in, and the multi-faceted long-term nature of the challenges it faces, it is essential that support for the visitor economy sector is strategically sustained. Oxfordshire partners need to pursue a whole-system approach, working with the private sector, transport providers and other key strategic stakeholders to maximise resources to businesses where it is needed most, and avoid unnecessary duplication and confusion in the marketplace to help rebuild the sector and opportunities for local residents to secure long term employment.

#### **Financial Implications**

18. There are number of grants and funds which have been channelled into Oxfordshire to support the county respond and recover from the impacts of the pandemic. It is essential that Oxfordshire partners continue to adopt a system-wide approach to deploying resources and ensure that these are channelled to support agreed priorities , with investment at the appropriate scale to mitigate duplication and confusion for end beneficiaries whilst also addressing need on the ground.

## Legal Implications

19. None

## Conclusion

20. Recent economic data shows that there remain key areas within the economy where there is a need to continue to focus limited resources in a co-ordinated way, in order to maximise support where it is needed most. Progress is being made in the delivery of the ERP with a number of projects making a positive impact on the ground. However, a number of key areas within the plan, particularly to support skills, business support booster and supply chain matters, which are positioned to commence delivery but still require resourcing to move forward. Continued work at a system-level will be critical get these funded and mobilised.

## Background Papers

21. The ERP Monitoring Plan, covering progress updates for the period to the end of Q4 2022 at Appendix One to this paper.

Report Author: *Nigel Tipple, Chief Executive, OxLEP*

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RAG Status Key	Project is on track	Project has minor issues and/or delays	Project has significant issues and/or delays
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LGF – Local Growth Fund; ESF – European Social Fund; OC – Oxford City Council; GBF – Getting Building Fund; OCC – Oxfordshire County Council; UKG – UK Government; ERP Theme: 1 – Existing Activities; 2 – Response Measures; 3 – Early Wins; 4 – Target Proposals; Y/N – Funded or not; C/R – Capital / Revenue; Cells highlighted in **YELLOW** are project ready and are AWAITING funding investment to commence delivery. Cells highlighted in **BLUE** are recently funded projects.

**Economic Recovery Plan Revised Version for 2022 \_ Q4**

**Reskilling: People:**

Funded Y/N Cap / Rev	ERP Theme	Funding Stream Project Title Lead Partner	Recovery Impact / How is the project responding to ERP objectives	High level - Recovery milestones - Recovery outputs / outcomes	2021-2022 Progress report and achievements As at end of March 2022	RAG
Y/R	2	<b>OC Community Employment Support Programme,</b> Oxford City Council	This is a response/ recovery pilot measure aimed at providing community-based advice and guidance on employment and training opportunities in the City. In line with the ERP, it aimed to support those affected by recent or ongoing unemployment in target areas of Oxford. It meets the re-skilling and place-based measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 20 people helped to enrol on FE courses, access support services or gain employment</li> <li>- 15 community navigators completed Introduction to providing information, advice and guidance courses</li> <li>- Level 2 and in-house employability services training being developed</li> <li>- Impact monitoring ongoing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7-month pilot completed March 2021</li> <li>- Project extended to Sept 2021 with existing funds</li> <li>- Early post pilot project report produced</li> </ul>	
Y/C		<b>OC Community Employment Plan Delivery,</b> OxLEP	Re-skilling people themes under response and 'early wins', linking with place-based measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New Oxford North Plan agreed</li> <li>- Oxford North Working group established</li> <li>- Barton park plan refreshed for second half of the development phases</li> <li>- Barton Park Partnership/working group re-established</li> <li>- Agreement from West End Landowners on scope of CEP activity for their sites</li> <li>- Partner programme to seed new plans through planning and landowner engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TWO, OxLEP &amp; Oxford City Council has agreed a training, business and employment strategy for Oxford North</li> <li>- TWO and partners Hill now working with local partners to deliver the plan.</li> <li>- The Barton Park Community Employment Plan has been redrafted and is being delivered by the partnership working with the developer and housebuilders</li> <li>- Programme of landowner and planning officer engagement developed for delivery in 22-23</li> </ul>	
Y/C		<b>GBF Green Construction Skills Centre</b> Abingdon & Witney College	The Green Construction Skills Centre will provide a variety of training programmes including full time courses for 16 – 18-year olds (including T Levels), higher level programmes, apprenticeships, adult skills training programmes and short upskilling courses targeted at those already working in construction.	800sqm new learning/training floorspace in 2022  11.5 FTE jobs by March 2025  500 new learners assisted in courses leading to a full qualification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 by March 2022</li> <li>- 65 by March 2023</li> <li>- 160 by March 2024</li> <li>- 330 by March 2025</li> <li>- 500 by March 2026</li> </ul>	Planning permission received June 21  Construction of centre started September 21, due to be complete by June 2022.	

RAG Status Key	Project is on track	Project has minor issues and/or delays	Project has significant issues and/or delays
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Y/R	3	<p><b>Oxfordshire Social Contract - Helping to provide Inclusive career pathways for young people and adults</b> OxLEP</p> <p>(FKA - Careers Innovation Gateway)</p>	<p>Priority No 2 in the 2022 Oxfordshire Local Skills Report and Plan (LSR&amp;P) is to help provide clear, diverse and inclusive career pathways for young people and adults to ensure that they are aware of the Oxfordshire Labour Market and sectors: the current careers landscape is confusing, fragmented and unclear for many. We need to help young people and adults to better understand the modern workplace and develop the career management skills and attributes they need to compete in today's labour market.</p>	<p>YOUNG PEOPLE FUNDED via OxLEP's PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CAREERS AND ENTERPRISE COMPANY (CEC)</p> <p>ADULTS FUNDED VIA COMF SOCIAL CONTRACT PROGRAMME</p>	<p><b>Young People:</b> Work is continuing with 49 mainstream schools/colleges (including SEND and Pupil Referral Unit) through the Enterprise Advisor Network (EAN) and Careers Hub. The 'Find Your Future' virtual careers portal is being refreshed and expanded from 100 to 150 business/provider pods. Procurement is underway for the CEC's 'Ahead of the Game' funding to support Year 11 students at risk of becoming NEET this summer.</p> <p><b>Adults:</b> Early discussions are being had on the re-booted creation of an LMI webtool and work with the National Careers Service contract holders (Adviza) to ensure that adult careers advice is based on current LMI data.</p>
Y/R	3	<p><b>Oxfordshire Social Contract - Apprenticeships and Vocational Training Programme,</b> OxLEP</p> <p>(FKA – T-Level Apprenticeships Programme)</p>	<p>Priority No 1 in the 2022 Oxfordshire Local Skills Report and Plan (LSR&amp;P) is to '<i>Support the reform of the vocational and technical skills provision, which includes promoting Apprenticeships and T Levels offers to meet the areas skills as a priority echoed by the DfE's 'Skills for Jobs' white paper</i>'. This includes helping Oxfordshire's large levy paying businesses to transfer their unused levy c.£1m to benefit SME's who want to access the levy in order to pay for Apprenticeship training, particularly for sectors with skills and labour market shortages and innovation ecosystem.</p>	<p>Programme to be delivered in the COMF Social Contract Skills programme from Spring 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.</p>	<p>Early-stage programme planning of the Social Contract programme is currently underway. The recruitment for the new Social Contract team is almost complete with the programme being launched at the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards drinks reception on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022. Identifying Oxfordshire's large levy paying employers is being commissioned.</p>

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Y/R	3	<b>Oxfordshire Social Contract -OxLIFE</b> OxLEP	Priority No 3 in the 2022 Oxfordshire Local Skills Report and Plan (LSR&P) is <i>'managing Oxfordshire's consistently tight labour market'</i> which can create challenges for residents and potentially hinders economic prosperity. This aims to a create strategic response to help those furthest from the labour market, supporting an aging workforce (Over 50's), bridging the digital divide and enabling social mobility. This project also includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improving labour supply within and across sectors</li> <li>- Tackling Social Mobility &amp; Economic Hardship</li> </ul>	Programme to be delivered in the COMF Social Contract Skills programme from Spring 2022 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024.	Launched the Skills, Employment, enterprise of Oxfordshire's Ethnic Minority Communities report by Oxfordshire County Council's data team. Early-stage programme planning of the Social Contract programme is currently underway which includes the drafting of OxLEP's external procurement for the delivery of this priority.
N/R	3	<b>Inclusive Economy Commission</b> Oxford City Council, OxLEP	Whilst this commission has a broad, long-term focus on tackling social mobility and economic hardship, it will also help meet re-skilling objectives under the 'early wins' theme of the ERP. It should also be seen a source of longer term target proposals over the ERP Plan and beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Partnership established – complete</li> <li>- Working groups established – complete</li> <li>- Working group proposals agreed – ongoing</li> <li>- Secure wider resources to deliver – ongoing</li> <li>- Working group proposals complete – to start</li> </ul> First phase review – after previous milestones – to start <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft Inclusive Economy Charter Developed</li> </ul>	The Inclusive Economy Partnership has been established. Proposals include -Development of an Inclusive economy charter for organisations to sign-up to -Communication and engagement work-stream to understand resident aspirations and promote involvement -Inclusive Employers WG – now established -Procurement and social value working group for anchor organisations – now established -Place based initiatives WG – now established -Educational attainment working group – now established. -Proposal for Future Oxfordshire Partnership to fund the OIEP as a long-term work-stream being considered.

RAG Status Key	Project is on track	Project has minor issues and/or delays	Project has significant issues and/or delays
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LGf – Local Growth Fund; ESF – European Social Fund; OC – Oxford City Council; GBF – Getting Building Fund; OCC – Oxfordshire County Council; UKG – UK Government; ERP Theme: 1 – Existing Activities; 2 – Response Measures; 3 – Early Wins; 4 – Target Proposals; Y/N – Funded or not; C/R – Capital / Revenue; Cells highlighted in **YELLOW** are project ready and are Awaiting funding investment to commence delivery. Cells highlighted in **BLUE** are recently funded projects.

## Resilient: Businesses

Funded Y/N Cap / Rev	ERP Theme	Funding Stream Project Title Lead Partner	Recovery Impact / How is the project responding to ERP objectives	High level - Recovery milestones - Recovery outputs / outcomes	2021-2022 Progress report and achievements As at end of December 2021	RAG																		
Y/C	2	<b>GBF Business Investment Fund, OxLEP</b>	<p>The Business Investment Fund (BIF) will allocate up to £2.1M in capital grants of £25k - £100k (at 50% match funding co-investment) to support scalable businesses across Oxfordshire. Part of the national Government's £900 million 'Getting Building Fund' designed to deliver jobs, skills and infrastructure across the country. Created to support Oxfordshire's innovative business community to move into an effective renewal phase following the COVID-19 pandemic and potential effects of Brexit.</p> <p>A co-investment grant fund to support scalable SME businesses to move from response into economic renewal phase by co-investing grants of up to £100k, with business match funding.</p>	<p>High level outputs:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Public</th> <th>Private</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Co investment committed funds</b></td> <td>£2,097,620</td> <td>£2,279,656</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Target</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Businesses Assisted</b></td> <td>45</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Jobs Created</b></td> <td>27</td> <td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Jobs Safeguarded</b></td> <td>225</td> <td>215</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Public	Private	<b>Co investment committed funds</b>	£2,097,620	£2,279,656		Target	Actual	<b>Businesses Assisted</b>	45	38	<b>Jobs Created</b>	27	45	<b>Jobs Safeguarded</b>	225	215	<p>The final claim deadline was 31st Dec 2021. All claims were submitted on time. A small number reported marginal underspends and two submitted claims with significant underspends (£23k and £38k – both cited Covid impacts).</p> <p>Total grant funds claimed totalled £2,097,620 reflecting an underspend against budget (£2,277,865) of £180,245 (circa 8%). Private sector match funding totalled £2,279,656 (52% match).</p> <p>All claim payments were made to clients ahead of the scheduled target date of 30/1/2022. During January we focussed on reviewing and verifying claims validity, processing payments via OCC Finance, liaising with marketing and clients to create content, communicating asset register requirements, and collating programme-delivery end data. A press release has been issued and a series of case studies are being created.</p> <p>Case studies:  <a href="#">Jericho Coffee Traders</a>  <a href="#">ES Precision</a></p>	
	Public	Private																						
<b>Co investment committed funds</b>	£2,097,620	£2,279,656																						
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Y/C		<b>GBF The Energy Systems Accelerator Pilot, University of Oxford</b>	<p>TESA, will be a multi-disciplinary, multi stakeholder space on Osney Mead that will underpin UK innovation in net zero carbon systems, ensuring the UK meets legal targets and achieves global leadership. As a small-scale interim, Holywell House at Osney Mead will be transformed into a co-working space for up to 100 workstations, it will include an ideas-exchange hub where different disciplines and organisations can develop radical thinking.</p>	<p>827sqm commercial floorspace in 2021</p> <p>102 jobs created by March 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 by March 2022</li> <li>- 12 by March 2023</li> <li>- 32 by March 2024</li> <li>- 62 by March 2025</li> <li>- 102 by March 2026</li> </ul>	<p>The Mini TESA was completed on 18 November 2021 and staff began occupying the building before Christmas. Thus 827sqm commercial floorspace was delivered in 2021, the High level milestone. A formal launch for the Mini TESA is to be planned for 26 May 2022. In terms of outcomes, 9 new jobs have been created by end March 2022. These are posts in the new UoO investment (the ZERO Institute, which will be led from mini-TESA) and their recruitment is underway.</p>																			

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Y/C		<b>GBF Clinical BioManufacturing Hub</b> University of Oxford	This project is an enabling project of a larger project which ultimately aims to expand the Clinical Bio-Manufacturing Hub. The Clinical BioManufacturing Facility (CBF) is a UK leader in producing vaccine products (including the UOXF ChAdOx1 vaccine against COVID-19) to early phase trials, rapidly and cost effectively.	28 jobs safeguarded by April 2022  5 new learners assisted in courses leading to a full qualification by March 2025	Internal refurbishment work has been completed. Work ongoing for CBF expansion enabling work. The shed removal contractor to prepare the site has been Instructed.  Apprenticeship in place.	
N/R	3	<b>The Oxfordshire Internationalisation Plan</b> OxLEP	An integrated programme with the Department for International Trade to expand the Oxfordshire's global brand and attract trade and investment opportunities that support business growth, job creation, recovery and renewal and adapt to post-EU transition	Exporting success safeguarding and creating jobs (data to be provided by DIT if available at OxLEP level) Foreign Direct Investment success safeguarding and creating jobs – Target for 2021/22 set in Internationalisation Plan at 30 projects, £270m value and 550 jobs supported	Core activities and achievements: -Working with DIT to deliver grants through the Internationalisation Fund for export support. All funding for Oxfordshire has now been allocated. Discussions taking place with DIT and DLUHC about possible use of underspend from other areas. -Full FDI results for 2021/22 will be available and reported in June 2022 -Working with DIT we have developed High Potential Opportunities (HPO) in Fusion and Connected Autonomous Mobility and are developing a target list of companies for investment to be approached in into 2022/23 -As part of the Fusion HPO we are also developing a trade promotional brochure and activity to promote sector know how and excellence in the supply chain and enabling technologies to stimulate international trade. This is developing and expected to be completed by end of September 2022 -Working with DIT on current pipeline of investment enquiries (new investments and expansions) in sectors including life sciences and healthtec, quantum, fintech and space -Supporting one large scale FDI expansion in Oxfordshire that will safeguard and create c500 jobs over the next 10 years. -Supporting large scale capital investment projects at sites across Oxfordshire two of which are now included in the Government's UK Investment Atlas launched in October 2021 -Working in partnership with Arc partners and DIT to develop an Arc Internationalisation Plan and to build on the collaborative approach illustrated by the development of the three sector videos promoting capabilities in Life Sciences, Future of Mobility and Space (for use in presentations to potential investors and collateral for international posts)	
N/R	3	<b>COMF The Recovery and Investment of the Visitor Economy (THRIVE)</b> , OxLEP	A suite of deliverable projects to aid the economic recovery of the Visitor Economy. The four key areas of focus are supporting business recovery and survival; improving business competitiveness; strengthening the resilience and capacity of Oxfordshire's Destination Management Organisation (DMO); and providing leadership, support, and coordination to rebuild market share across international markets	Programme ready to start.	Many of the listed THRIVE projects have been included in the VERP which is financially supported thanks to COMF funding of £1.64 million to be delivered over the period April 22-March 24.	

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Page 59	N/R	4	<b>Business Support Booster</b> OxLEP	The target proposals will address personalised business support and activities for Oxfordshire businesses to adapt to economic challenges created by the pandemic and build back market share, innovate to create new products and services and support business productivity.	Parts of the programme already exist for example ISfB and eScalate however further design and development is required to ensure we have a business support programme fit for purpose, aligned with potential funding.  Targets to be agreed once funding mechanism is confirmed.	Further discussions have taken place with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local authority partners</li> <li>Two roundtable events have taken place. Attendees are helping to shape our offer was funding is confirmed. We hoping to continue with the enhanced support provided since July 2020 but flexed to take account of the changing needs of Oxfordshire businesses.</li> <li>Business Support Sub Group have contributed to these discussions as well as local authority partners</li> <li>Good progress is being made with Visitor Economy Renaissance Programme Innovation Fund (VERPIF) which has a planned pre-launch in July with a formal launch in October 2022.</li> </ul> <p>Roundtable attendees have requested more regular catch ups. This will take place once funding has been agreed.</p> <p>Current funding available is likely to exceed £800k.</p>
	N/R		<b>Supply Chain Matters</b> OxLEP	An integrated programme to strengthen the performance of small businesses within the supply chain to become more resilient to economic shocks, develop investment plans for technology adoption and support the transition to net zero by greening processes, machinery and operations to reduce carbon and energy costs	Programme ready to start – subject to funding being secured	N/A

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Y/R	2	<b>OC New Delivery and collection Solutions (Delivery and freight hubs),</b> Oxford City Council	Rebuilding connectivity outcomes	ZCOP convened a sprint group to look at freight consolidation (City, County, University)	Taken advice from Unipart and Royal mail on options in order to prepare a tender for a consultant to prepare a feasibility study and design of pilot scheme	
Y/C	2	<b>GBF Meanwhile in Oxfordshire</b> Oxford City Council	Town Centre Renaissance ‘Reviving Places’ Measure to support businesses to locate in new Meanwhile spaces and vacant premises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 112 occupiers housed</li> <li>- 1,935 sq. m of space under control</li> <li>- 300 occupier applications received for space and support</li> </ul> <p>Expected targets are 300 jobs supported, 112 organisations supported into spaces and over 1,935 sq. m. of space identified for Meanwhile Use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Makespace consortium appointed to deliver the project</li> <li>- Project Working group established</li> <li>- Project launched and identifying landlord and units, agreeing leases, commencing fit-outs and engaging with potential occupiers</li> <li>- Challenging timescales from the outset means this project remains at amber</li> <li>- Project likely to deliver on spend, space acquisitions and business supported targets</li> </ul> <p>Risks remain around inflation and construction supply chain. 26,000 square feet of space secured 19 organisations supported 72 jobs created</p>	
Y/C	2	<b>OCC1: Repurposed Physical/Digital signage,</b> Oxfordshire County Council / District Councils	Improve overall signage across Oxfordshire to improve communications between key centres, hubs and routes and improve visitor and customer experience including through increased use of immersive technologies and digitally interactive displays	Audit and scoping required.	Wayfinding infrastructure audit completed	

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Y/C	2	<b>GBF Rural Gigabit Voucher Programme</b> Oxfordshire County Council	A digital connectivity improvement project that will provide 400-600 rural premises to be connected with full fibre broadband. This will help to protect local employment, support remote working/learning, and create employment opportunities in predominantly rural areas.	400 new super/ultrafast broadband connections by September 2022  30 jobs created by March 2025  70 jobs safeguarded by March 2025  50 new learners assisted in courses leading to a full qualification by March 2025	5 schemes completed with 153 vouchers paid for a total of £451,907.00 in top-up funding – these premises are now live <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 4 Openreach schemes have a total of 1,115 THP covered by the schemes (so the 153 vouchers led to additional coverage of &gt;1000 premises)</li> <li>The 4th scheme is a Cerberus one, so just prem in total for each voucher (3 vouchers = 3 prems).</li> <li>There are a further 11 schemes in the BDUK pipeline as approved at that point in time, with 293 vouchers for a total of £387,429.00 of top-up funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 x Cerberus</li> <li>10 x Openreach</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>We won't get further details of total THP benefiting until the vouchers are claimed and ready to be paid.</p> <p>Delivery takes approx. 6 to 9 months from scheme start to finish depending on supplier.</p>	
Y/C	Page 61	<b>OC Visitor Coach Arrivals</b> Oxford City Council	Connectivity outcomes and visitor economy investment,	N/A	Some scoping funding identified Options explored for new drop off and layover locations Coach Industry Liaison needed when the industry ready to engage Need to align with Core Transport schemes across 2-22-23.	
N/C	4	<b>Town Centres' Renewal</b> , OxLEP & District Councils	A comprehensive package of measures aimed at boosting footfall and spend in city and town centres across Oxfordshire including improvements to public realm, support to return vacant property units back into use through extended 'meanwhile' uses and business start-up opportunities and better public experiences of spaces	Programme ready to start – subject to funding being secured	N/A	

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Y/C &R	4	<b>COMF Visitor Economy Renaissance, OxLEP</b>	A comprehensive package of measures to support the rebuilding of the Visitor Economy sector through an integrated promotions campaign, technology adoption programme to accelerate online products, services and customer engagement, use of new immersive technologies for the arts and creative sectors to reach new audiences and measures to support safe reopening of venues / attractions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Support the visitor economy economically whilst aiming to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission linked to the visitor economy</li> <li>-Achieve campaigns to re-attract visitors and ensure that Oxfordshire maintains its position as one of the UK's most desirable visitor destinations attracting value rather than volume whilst encouraging green and sustainable tourism practices</li> <li>-Delivery of VE Business innovation Fund and provide digital skills training</li> <li>-Deliver the Oxford Pass stage 2 or equivalent project</li> <li>- Support the return of the Business Visitor economy via a conference platform</li> <li>-Deliver a future Vision and Action plan for the Visitor Economy</li> </ul>	<p>The detail within the VERP has been worked on. Four work streams are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strategic Marketing Campaigns &amp; welcome (accreditation scheme)</li> <li>2. Digital Business diagnostic and skills training &amp; VE Innovation Fund</li> <li>3a. The Oxford Pass Project stage 2</li> <li>3b. Virtual Conference Desk to cover all of Oxfordshire</li> <li>4. Vision and Action Plan</li> </ol> <p>Work area 1 tender has gone to both EO and Costwolds DMO. Process is underway with a contract expected to be awarded at the end of April/early May 22.</p> <p>Work area 2 is under development, ascertaining the detail with regards the fund and planning a training programme linked to identified needs from the sector. All to be delivered through the Growth Hub.</p>	



**To:** Future Oxfordshire Partnership

**Title of Report:** Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership Update

**Date:** 13 June 2022

**Report of:** Clayton Lavallin, Principal Regeneration and Economic Development Officer, Oxford City Council/OIEP

**Status:** Open

**Executive Summary and Purpose:**

This report is an update on the progress of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership (OIEP), for May 2022. The OIEP welcomes the formal recognition of its activity as a strand of the wider Future Oxfordshire Partnership.

**How this report contributes to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision Outcomes:**

The work of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership contributes towards the outcomes of the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision in the following key areas:

**2050 Outcomes:**

- Our residents will be healthier and happier, and overall wellbeing will have improved
- Our local economy will be globally competitive, sustainable, diverse and inclusive
- Our county will be a more equal, fair and inclusive place for everyone
- Our diverse and vibrant communities will thrive with a strong sense of identity

**Recommendations:**

1. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership notes and comments on the update report
2. That members of Future Oxfordshire Partnership promote engagement of local businesses and partners with Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership (OIEP), including considering signing up to the Inclusive Economy Charter

**Appendix:**

OIEP draft charter

**1. a) Introduction:**

The OIEP launched in March 2021, building on the learning of the seminars series, and the recommendation and actions of the resulting Final Report. The creation of the partnership was endorsed by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership in May 2021

The Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership (OIEP) brings together over a hundred organisations - employers, business, education, community groups and local government.

Its Mission: 'The Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership is working together to create a more equal and sustainable region that creates opportunities and benefits for all people within the county. We are working to tackle some of our region's biggest problems to create a fairer environment where everyone can contribute and share in our success'

'The OIEP is working together in partnership to tackle inequality in terms of income, housing affordability and life expectancy. We are working to create opportunities for all people in Oxfordshire, making use of everyone's potential, so that we can all benefit from Oxfordshire's success. Our aim is to create an environment and communities that can adapt to change, a region that is resilient in the face of shocks in the economy and a workforce that responds to different needs and different kinds of work in the future'.

The aim of the OIEP is to bring partners across Oxfordshire together to work towards a more inclusive local economy, developing opportunities and skills to directly benefit local residents and employers.

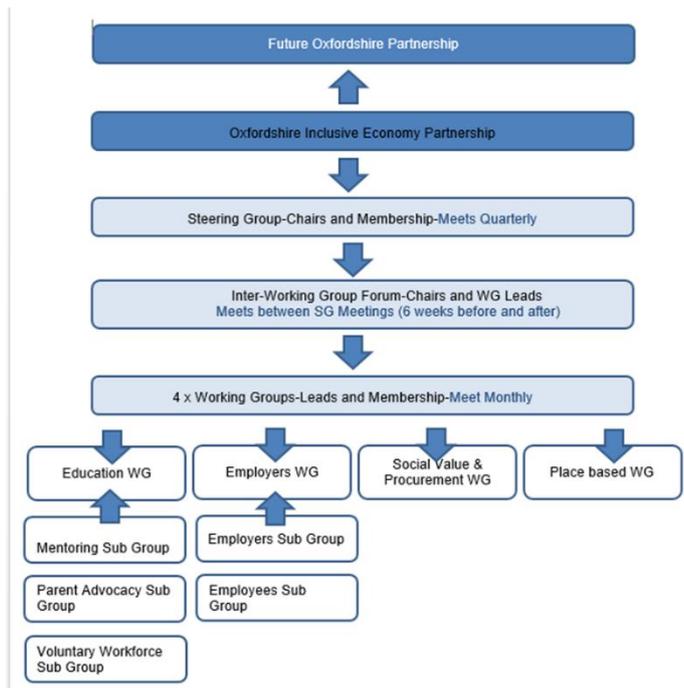
The partnership is co-chaired by Baroness Jan Royall (Somerville College) and Jeremy Long (OxLEP) with input from countywide partners from the private, public (including district, city and county authorities) education and Voluntary and Community Sectors. The City Council has been supporting the partnership, providing secretariat and programme support.

To date, the partnership has agreed Terms of Reference and established a number of Working Groups as well as a steering group of over 100 volunteer members, including representatives of:

- Oxford City Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire County Council (Public Health Rep), Cherwell District Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council
- OxLEP, Oxford Strategic Partnership (OSP), Oxfordshire Skills Board, Local Government Association Innovation Board (LGAIB), Blavatnik School of Governance, Somerville College, Brookes University,
- Oxfordshire Social Enterprise Partnership (OSEP), Activate College, Advanced Oxford, Economic Growth Steering Board (EGSB)
- Aspire Oxfordshire/Makespace, Oxfordshire Community Foundation (OCF), SOFEA, University of Oxford, Beard Construction/High Sherriff, Chamber of Commerce, Oxford Bus Company, RAW Workshop, Blake Morgan, Harwell, Oxford United FC, Unipart.

## **Governance**

The governance of the OIEP is set out below, with the Future Oxfordshire Partnership providing oversight to the work of the OIEP.



The OIEP is:

- **Action orientated**, with Charter and 4 Working groups:
  1. Social Value and Procurement
  2. Inclusive Employers
  3. Educational attainment and
  4. Place-based interventions.
- **Inclusive/representative** – The OIEP aims to be inclusive in its representation and to engage lived experience in each of the working groups.
- **Countywide** – aiming to engage with partners and employers throughout Oxfordshire

### 1 b) May Progress Update:

The following update is a report of progress to date as of May 2022.

#### Working Group Activity:

- **Educational Attainment Working group** established, along with 3 sub-groups, focusing on Voluntary workforce, parental advocacy and mentoring.
- **Social Value and Procurement Working group** established, linked to our community wealth building\* approach and the project 'Owned by Oxford' (For more information about this project please see: <https://ownedbyoxford.org.uk/>)  
\*Community wealth building is a people-centred approach to local economic development. It reorganises local economies to be fairer. It stops wealth flowing out of our communities, towns and cities.
- **Place based intervention Working group** established, with 5 work strands emerging including place selection criteria, resident engagement, community mapping, community needs analysis and systems behaviours.
- **Inclusive Employers Working group** established, with 2 subgroups looking at Inclusive Employers and barriers to employment for employees

#### Steering Group Activity:

- The Steering Group has met quarterly since March 2021 and had its most recent meeting in March 22.

- The Steering Group launched an Inter Working Group forum in November 21, which met again in Feb 22 to ensure Working Group activity aligns across the wider OIEP.
- The Steering Group has also provided direction to the development of the Inclusive Economy Charter, communications and engagement plan and the Inclusive Economy in Action Event on 4<sup>th</sup> May.
- The OIEP are in the process of appointing an OIEP Manager to provide administrative and communications support, to enable the launch the OIEP Charter in 2022 and the further development of the partnership engagement and membership.

#### **Charter/Communications Strategy:**

- The OIEP will be launching a digital platform and an 'Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Charter' and pledge scheme so that businesses and residents can pledge commitment and resource to the work.
- The OIEP with support from Advanced Oxford have drafted a Charter to be launched in 2022. The Charter is part of a wider Communications strategy for the OIEP. The draft Charter is attached for the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's comment and feedback.
- The Purpose of the Charter is to:
  - To mobilise support for an Oxfordshire inclusive economy and raise awareness and profile
  - To publicly state commitment with individuals, businesses and organisations signing of an online pledge
  - To set and raise standards around inclusive economy
  - To encourage residents and businesses to work together to help protect Oxfordshire's economy with an aim to prevent money leaving the county.
- The Priorities of the Charter are to promote action via pledges in the following key areas:
  - Increasing local spend and enhancing local businesses through procurement
  - Growing community control and ownership of the economy including businesses, land, and other assets of community value.
  - Place-based programmes/investment to targeted areas (e.g. high deprivation)
  - More targeted investment in better educational attainment, skills-based training, and access to jobs in the new economy
  - Linking social/community outcomes and benefits as part of infrastructure investments
  - Enhancing access to affordable commercial property and workspace
  - Addressing housing affordability in communities
  - Encourage more socially and environmentally responsible businesses

#### **Inclusive Economy in Action Event, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022:**

- The OIEP in partnership with Aspire Oxfordshire, Oxfordshire Social Enterprise Partnership, and OxLEP and with sponsorship from Bouygues held an event at the Ashmolean Museum on 4<sup>th</sup> May 22.
- The event raised profile and awareness of the OIEP while engaging larger employers in the work of the Partnership.
- A workshop was held as part of the event to gather employer feedback on the draft Charter, with the following key learning to inform the co-production of the Charter/Pledge scheme:

- Need for an annual event and awards to celebrate and share good practice case studies from pledges and partners who've signed up
- Need to provide support to employers/orgs to implement pledges and actions
- Need to monitor and hold those signing up to account and review progress/outcomes i.e. annually or bi-annually
- Need to promote widely, inclusively and across the county
- Need to promote and make visible partner that have signed up and ways to contact them in each area
- Need to capitalise on the power of human stories and case studies to demonstrate the benefits of participating and pledging
- Need to engage employers on the benefit to them and their workforce of participation i.e. recruitment, retention and diversity of workforce

**Community Engagement:**

- The OIEP hosted an Internship for 2 Economics students at Brookes University between November-December, compiling 3x reports in January 22 on community engagement to inform the OIEP's equality, diversity and inclusion work.

**2. Financial Implications**

For 2022/23 and 2023/24, a Programme Manager and communications support is provided through contribution from a shared Partnership budget. Recruitment to both posts is under way.

**3. Legal Implications**

N/A

**4. Other Implications**

N/A

**5. Conclusion**

The OIEP has in its first year has successfully established its structure, membership and governance as a partnership, launched its core working groups, formed an inter-working group forum to align its activity and developed its communications strategy and draft Charter. Following the event to raise profile for the partnership and the support and funding of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership the next phase of the development of the OIEP is to sign off its Working group initiatives in preparation for delivery and launch the charter in 2022.

**6. Background Papers**

None.

**Report Author:** Clayton Lavallin, Principal Regeneration & Economic Development Officer, Oxford City Council– on behalf of OIEP

**Contact information:** [clavallin@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:clavallin@oxford.gov.uk)

### About this Charter

The city of Oxford is the second most unequal place in the UK, in terms of income, housing affordability and life expectancy. Education attainment is below average affecting all generations. These problems extend beyond the city and exist across the whole of Oxfordshire.

Our mission is to create more opportunities for all people in Oxfordshire, making use of everyone's potential, so that we can all benefit from Oxfordshire's success.

The Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership<sup>1</sup> has created an 'inclusive economy charter' (The Charter). This allows organisations and individuals to pledge their support to this important work and to make commitments to actions they will take. The Charter is a statement of our shared commitment to creating a more inclusive local economy and reflects the ambitions of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership.

The Charter is aimed at both individual people and organisations. Everyone is welcome to join us.

#### Why sign the charter?

Actively supporting inclusion across Oxfordshire's economy will generate real benefits for your organisation. Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors are increasingly being considered by employees, customers, funders, investors, and partners. Participating in the work of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership, through the pledges you make within this Charter, provides a way of demonstrating your commitment to social issues -

- Promoting your role in Oxfordshire's inclusive economy work will help you to attract people to work with you.
- Accessing the widest pool of talent will support growth and productivity within your company or organisation.
- Purchasing from local suppliers and supporting your staff to undertake volunteering activities within the community will contribute to well-being and a

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<sup>1</sup> In March 2021, a range of partners from public, private, voluntary and community sectors across Oxfordshire came together to collaborate on launching an Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership. The partnership agreed that a Charter would be an effective tool to mobilise support for and secure commitment to further an inclusive economy countywide. The partnership was formed following a series of workshops and seminars in 2019/20 looking at the state of the inclusive economy, findings here: [https://www.oxford.gov.uk/oxsp/downloads/file/528/oxfordshire\\_inclusive\\_economy\\_seminar\\_series\\_report](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/oxsp/downloads/file/528/oxfordshire_inclusive_economy_seminar_series_report)

sense of loyalty among your employees, differentiating your organisation from competitors.

Joining the work of the Partnership is not only a good thing to do, but it will make a difference to your business too.

By signing this Charter, you are demonstrating your support for and commitment to making Oxfordshire a fairer and more inclusive place to live and work.

When you sign the charter, you are pledging to support the work of the Partnership for the next calendar year. After a year, we will ask you to renew/update your pledges.

### **About the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership**

The Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership brings together over a hundred organisations – including employers, business, education, community groups and local government.

We are working to create opportunities for all people in Oxfordshire, making use of everyone’s potential, so that we can all benefit from Oxfordshire’s success. Our aim is to create an environment and communities that can adapt to change, a region that is resilient in the face of shocks in the economy and a workforce that responds to different needs and different kinds of work in the future.

We are a county-wide group, working to share knowledge, expertise and resources to address some of our greatest challenges. This is not a short-term initiative, but a long-term endeavour. Our vision is an Oxfordshire that creates opportunities and benefits for all communities and people within our region.

We take good practice and are looking for ways to amplify or scale these activities so that they have the greatest level of impact. We are focusing on 4 areas - inclusive employment; educational attainment; social value and procurement; and place-based interventions – investing in places that need it most.

### **Pledge your support by signing the Charter**

I pledge my support to the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership:

Name of individual	
Name of Organisation (if relevant)	
Address of Organisation (if relevant)	

<p>I am signing on behalf of... (Please select one option only)</p>	<p>Myself <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>My Organisation <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Myself and My Organisation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Preferred E mail for contact</p>	
<p>I am happy to be contacted by Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership.</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I consent to information contained in this Charter being used by the Inclusive Economy Partnership in its communication activities <input type="checkbox"/></p>

## Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Pledges

There are many ways for you to support the work to create an inclusive economy in Oxfordshire. In this table, we provide the thematic areas of the work of the Partnership. Please consider including your own pledge and tell us what you will do to support/ show commitment in your organisation or as an individual to further an inclusive economy in Oxfordshire.

In developing your pledge, please refer to information from the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership working groups ([insert signposting to information](#)). Each group has created a set of recommendations and an action plan. We are keen to receive support and commitment to implement and deliver these action plans.

The pledges are a way to publicly share the commitment you have made to further an inclusive economy in Oxfordshire, and we will share these on the Future Oxfordshire Partnership website to raise awareness and inspire action from others. In no more than 50 words please include your own pledges as either an individual, organisation (or both).

Educational Attainment	Social Value & Procurement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an organisation we will...</li> </ul> <p><i>Example: pledge to provide work placements/apprenticeships for young people.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an individual I will...</li> </ul> <p><i>Example: pledge to support colleagues and/or those I manage to develop their skills in the workplace.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an organisation we will...</li> </ul> <p><i>Example: pledge to proactively procure from local sustainable, inclusive and socially purposeful businesses to increase social value.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an individual I will...</li> </ul> <p><i>Example: pledge to “buy local” wherever possible</i></p>
Inclusive Employment	Place based interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an organisation we will...</li> </ul> <p><i>Example: work on our recruitment practices to ensure they are inclusive and proactively support the recruitment of a diverse workforce.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an individual I will...</li> </ul> <p><i>Example: pledge to question and challenge unintended bias or prejudice when selecting/recruiting new members of staff.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an organisation we will...</li> </ul> <p><i>Example: pledge to work in partnership to deliver place-based interventions that help to foster a healthy place for all.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an individual I will...</li> </ul> <p><i>Example: pledge to reduce congestion and pollution by investing in an electric bike fleet for our workforce.</i></p>

## Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership - Data Protection Statement

As part of our support to you, Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership (Overseen by Future Oxfordshire Partnership) will collect and process personal data relating to you/your organisation in order to communicate with you about the work and activities of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership. We are committed to being transparent about how we collect and use that data and to meeting our data protection obligations. This statement is in compliance with current requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation 2018.

### **What information do we collect?**

We collect the following information about you:-

- Your name
- Name of your organisation (if applicable)
- Contact details
- Address/location

### **Data will be stored in the following location:**

Centrally on our main spreadsheet and saved on a secure, password protected drive

### **Why do we process personal data?**

We will process your data only where you have provided your consent for us to do so and only for the purposes of supporting you in relation to the Charter and the work/activities of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership.

### **Who has access to data?**

Your information may be shared internally for the purposes of support and administration of the Charter but will be accessible only by individuals providing administrative support to the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership..

### **How long will we keep your information?**

We will hold your data on file throughout the work of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership, in order to complete any evaluation/monitoring required.

### **Providing personal data, data protection and your rights**

As a data subject you have number of rights. Please refer to our main privacy notice for details of your rights and how we protect your data:

[https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20141/data\\_protection/560/data\\_protection\\_and\\_privacy](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20141/data_protection/560/data_protection_and_privacy)

### **Further information/Questions:**

For any further questions about you data as part of the Charter scheme please contact the data processor: Clayton Lavallin, Principal Regeneration and Economic Development Officer, Oxford City Council: [clavallin@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:clavallin@oxford.gov.uk)

I hereby consent to my data being processed as outlined above:

Yes

No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel Work Plan

The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel agrees its own Work Plan, which is reviewed at each meeting. The Panel is encouraged to be strict in prioritising key issues for review, in addition to the entirety of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership’s forthcoming agendas, which will feature as a standard item on the Work Plan. The Panel’s ongoing review of their work plan should be considered in conjunction with the Future Oxfordshire Partnership’s Forward Plan.

Meeting date	Item	Description and rationale	Lead Officer
7 June 2022	The Oxford to Cambridge Arc	To receive any updates in respect of regional developments within the Oxford to Cambridge Arc.	Andrew Down, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director
	Oxfordshire’s Economic Recovery Plan	To receive an update concerning the Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan.	Nigel Tipple, Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership
	Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Infrastructure Programme Update	To consider a report setting out proposed updates to the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Infrastructure Programme	John McLauchlan, Oxfordshire County Council
	Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Infrastructure Programme Lessons Learned	To consider a report concerning the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Infrastructure Programme reflecting on the potential lessons learnt from its delivery.	Paul Staines, Housing and Growth Deal Team

	Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership Update	To consider a report setting out an update on the establishment of an Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership	Clayton Lavallin, Principal Regeneration & Economic Development Officer, Oxford City Council
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Meeting date	Item	Description and rationale	Lead Officer
19 July 2022	The Oxford to Cambridge Arc	To receive any updates in respect of regional developments within the Oxford to Cambridge Arc.	Andrew Down, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director
	Q4 Housing and Growth Deal Progress Report	To receive the 2021/22 Quarter 4 Year 4 (2021/2022) progress report for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal and endorse any amendments to the programmes of work as necessary.	Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme
	Q4 Housing and Growth Deal Financial Report	To receive the financial summary for Quarter 4 Year 4 (2021/22) for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.	Lorna Baxter, Oxfordshire County Council
	Feedback from Joint meeting with the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board.	To receive feedback and note any actions arising from a joint meeting between the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board.	Rosie Rowe, Oxfordshire County Council