### | FUTURE | OXFORDSHIRE | PARTNERSHIP

### The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel

#### Tuesday 20 September 2022 at 6.30 pm Virtual meeting viewable by weblink

Contact: Kevin Jacob, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Senior Democratic Services Officer E-mail: <u>futureoxfordshirepartnership@southandvale.gov.uk</u> Telephone: 07917 088356 Website: <u>www.futureoxfordshirepartnership.org</u>

#### Members:

**Councillor Tiago Corais** Oxford City Council Councillor Katherine Miles (Chair) Councillor Emily Kerr Councillor John Broad **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 Andv Cooke** Vale of White Horse District Council Councillor Nathan Boyd Councillor Samantha Bowring Councillor Richard Langridge West Oxfordshire District Council **Councillor Julian Cooper Councillor Charlie Maynard** 

- 1. The quorum is six members, one from each council. Substitutes are allowed and should be notified to the contact above.
- To watch this meeting, follow this link to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's YouTube channel at <u>https://youtu.be/DL72XAIZIq0</u> Arrangements are subject to change at short notice so please refer to the agenda page at <u>http://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=636&Mld=3104</u>

#### AGENDA

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

#### 2. Election of Vice-Chairman for the 2022/2023 year

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

#### 3. Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 6 - 14)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June.

#### 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 Thursday 15 September 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

Note: This meeting may be recorded for live broadcast via the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's <u>YouTube Channel</u> - 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. Update on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Programme (To Follow)

To provide an update to the Partnership following the announcement of the cessation of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 programme and the transition to a process focused on Local Plans.

# 6. Future Oxfordshire Partnership response to Scrutiny Panel recommendations (Pages 15 - 20)

To consider the Future Oxfordshire Partnership's response to the recommendations from the Scrutiny Panel meeting held on **7 June 2022**.

#### 7. Work programme for the Scrutiny Panel and action log -September 2022 (Pages 21 - 25)

To discuss the draft work programme for the Panel and status of actions from the previous meeting.

# 8. Update following the Joint Workshop between the Health & Wellbeing Board and the Future Oxfordshire Partnership (Pages 26 - 32)

To consider a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership setting out notes and any actions arising from a joint meeting between the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board.

#### 9. Housing and Growth Deal Reports

(a) Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Progress Report - Year 5, Quarter 1, 2022/23 (Pages 33 - 40)

To consider a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership setting out the Year 5, Quarter 1 progress report for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.

(b) Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Financial Report Year 5, Quarter 1, 2022/23 (Pages 41 - 49)

To consider a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership setting out a financial summary for Quarter 1, Year 5 for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.

(c) Infrastructure Advisory Group update (Pages 50 - 53)

To receive the summary notes from the Infrastructure Advisory Group held on 25 May 2022.

#### (d) Housing Advisory Group update (Pages 54 - 60)

To receive the summary notes from meetings of the Housing Advisory Group held on 19 April 2022 and 5 July 2022.

#### (e) Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group update (Pages 61 - 64)

To receive the summary draft notes from the meeting of the Oxfordshire Plan Advisory Group 2050 held on 16 June 2022.

#### (f) Environment Advisory Group update (Pages 65 - 70)

To receive the summary notes of the meeting of the Environment Advisory Group held on 21 June 2022.

#### 10. Dates of next meetings

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

- 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.

Agenda Item 3

### Minutes

OF A MEETING OF THE



### The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel

#### HELD ON TUESDAY 7 JUNE 2022 AT 6.30 PM VIRTUAL MEETING VIEWABLE BY WEBLINK

#### **Present:**

Councillor Katherine Miles (Chair), Councillor Brad Baines, Councillor Samantha Bowring, Councillor Nathan Boyd, Councillor John Broad, Councillor Andy Cooke, Councillor Julian Cooper, Councillor Tiago Corais, Councillor Sandy Dallimore, Councillor Victoria Haval, Councillor Emily Kerr, Councillor Richard Langridge, Councillor Jo Robb, Councillor David Turner, Councillor Liam Walker, Councillor Richard Webber and Councillor Sean Woodcock

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

Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director
Asst. Democratic Services Officer, Future Oxfordshire
Partnership
Strategic Partnerships Manager – South and Vale District Councils
Democratic Services Officer – Future Oxfordshire Partnership
Principal Regeneration Officer, Oxford City Council
Head of Service, Infrastructure Programme Office – Oxfordshire County Council
Asst. Democratic Services Officer, Future Oxfordshire Partnership
Interim Head of Programme - Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal
Chief Executive – Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

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

Councillor Andy Cooke proposed and Councillor David Turner seconded Councillor Katherine Miles as Chair of the Panel. There being no other nominations, the nomination was agreed after being put to a vote.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Katherine Miles be elected as Chair of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel for the 2022/2023 year.

There being no nominations for position of Vice-Chair, it was noted that this item would be carried forward to the next Agenda.

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

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Peter Dragonetti, South Oxfordshire District Council, (substituted by Councillor Jo Robb).

Councillor Katherine Mills declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6a: Review of Homes from Infrastructure Programme on the grounds that her ward included the Banbury Road and Woodstock Road Corridor, Oxford.

It was noted the meeting was being live streamed and that a recording of the meeting could be found <u>here.</u>

#### 3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2022 were approved as a correct record.

#### 4. Public participation

The Scrutiny Panel considered two public questions.

**Suzanne McIvor on behalf of the Cherwell Development Watch Alliance** referred to the view that the submitted question highlighted the imbalance in resources between those who would benefit financially from growth in Oxfordshire and the many residents who believed that continuing high levels of growth were not compatible with wider objectives including the achievement of Net Zero Carbon emissions and the reversal of bio-diversity decline. Responding to statutory consultations on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 was not a level playing field. There were too many documents and documents were too technical for the majority of the public to respond to. There had been only 422 individual responses to the Regulation 18 Part 2 consultation. A response of a community group representing the views of all its members was treated in the same manner as a single response irrespective of the number of people it represented. The Panel was asked for its support in finding a mechanism whereby responses from community groups could be given more weight. Whilst this was recognised to be unconventional and challenging it was felt to be possible.

In the Panel's discussion of the question, a range of views were expressed for and against the principle that Oxfordshire Plan 2050 public consultations responses from resident and community groups on behalf of their members, could and should, be given additional weighting based related to the size of their membership and not be counted or considered as a single response.

The Panel in acknowledging the requirements to follow appropriate legislation and guidance (including the NPPF), in the analysis of consultation responses, was concerned that the analysis of Oxfordshire Plan 2050 responses fully take account of both quantitative and qualitative factors and that the contributions of community groups, individuals or developers and others all be considered equally on their merits.

In addition, whilst acknowledging the need for the use of technical and legal language within plan consultation documents, Panel members also highlighted the need for documents to also be available that were aimed at the general public, such as abridged or plain English version and as well as being accessible on-line, documents should also be available in hard copy.

#### **RESOLVED** to recommend:

- That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership in its presentation of consultation responses include both qualitative and quantitative data as 'not everything that matters can be measured'. This includes:
  - a. The total number of responses to a particular question.
  - b. The number of members an organization represents.
  - c. Verbatim quotes extracted from consultation feedback received.
  - d. A summary of the analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data.
  - e. Acknowledgement in the analysis that there may be variations of opinion within groups, and that points made by small numbers of respondents are not of lower value.
- 2. That in order to make Oxfordshire Plan 2050 formal consultation documents more accessible to the general public, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership also ensure the provision of documents in formats which are abridged and/or expressed in as much non-technical terms as possible.
- 3. That in order to reach as wide a cross section of society, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership also ensure the availability of non online mechanism for the public to engage with and respond to future Oxfordshire Plan 2050 consultations.

**David Young on behalf of Need Not Greed Oxfordshire, (NNGO)** referred to the view of the NNGO that the Future Oxfordshire Scrutiny Panel should have a vital role in making the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 as good as it could be, but that the Future Oxfordshire Partnership was hindering the Panel's work by avoiding or ignoring reasonable recommendations from it. The response given by the Partnership to the Panel's first recommendation from its March 2022 meeting was considered to be a good example of this as in the view of NNGO, it ignored the overarching function of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 in the Local Plan making process across Oxfordshire and seemed to imply that the Partnership itself was not an appropriate Forum for asking about the progress of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

Whilst NNGO wished to engage constructively, much work was being undertaken behind closed doors and greater transparency was needed, not least with regard to decisions relating to housing numbers, the outcomes of meetings between the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group and Leaders of Councils and the 'six step process' for securing consensus referred to in the notes of the advisory group. The Panel was asked to make clear to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership that the responses given to the Panel's Recommendation 1 from the last meeting were unsatisfactory, ask for more detailed responses and ask for more details regarding the nature and output of the joint workshops referred to in the notes of the Oxfordshire Plan Advisory Group.

After seeking Member and Officer views on the remarks, the Chair commented that the Panel noted the specific points made by NNGO in their question, and that it was also noted that as the Oxfordshire Plan progressed, consultation responses would be

incorporated into and help shape the final document. The role of the Panel in asking for an appropriate level of information of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership in relation to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 was also acknowledged.

(The full text of the submitted questions can be found here)

# 5. Future Oxfordshire Partnership response to Scrutiny Panel recommendations

The Chair referred to the formal written responses of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership to the recommendations made by the Panel at its previous meeting as set out in the Agenda.

Councillor John Broad referred to the response of the Partnership in relation to Recommendation 1.c that requested a peer review of the Oxfordshire Growth Needs Assessment, (OGNA) which in part stated that formal decisions on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 would be taken openly in meetings of the City and District Councils. He expressed the view that this had not been successful at Cherwell when there had been an attempt to do so. In response the Chair comment that it was fully acknowledged that the Panel would need to continue to monitor the development of the Plan including the OGNA closely.

#### 6. Housing and Growth Deal Reports

#### (a) Review of Homes from Infrastructure (Hfl) Programme

The Panel considered a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership which set out the results of a review of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, (OHGD) Homes from Infrastructure Programme, (HfI). The report also proposed that the Partnership endorse the removal of the Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor schemes from the HfI Programme and reallocation of their funding to other schemes within the programme that were facing cost pressures.

John McLauchlan, Head of Service, Infrastructure Programme Office, Oxfordshire County Council presented the report to the Panel and answered members' questions. He highlighted that:

- The Hfl Programme was entering its key delivery phase within the five year programme period.
- A number of schemes were scheduled to enter construction imminently, but since the formulation of the programme and budget allocation circumstances had changed significantly including the impacts of issues such the Covid-19 pandemic and Brexit.
- Latest estimates indicated that a number of Hfl schemes faced significant cost pressures if they were to be fully deliverable. As the total budget for the Hfl was fixed it had been necessary to investigate options to reallocate funding and as a result of this exercise it was proposed to reallocate funding from the Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor to other schemes as set out in the report.
- In considering which schemes to reallocate funding from the rationale had been to select schemes where removal of funding would have the least impact on the acceleration of the delivery of housing and the least impact on the delivery of infrastructure by March 2023.
- It was important from a reputational perspective to demonstrate to HM Government that Oxfordshire continued to be a reliable deliver partner for accelerated housing and infrastructure.

In discussion, the Panel whilst acknowledging the need to review the Hfl Programme within the limited confines of the terms of the Housing and Growth Deal, was extremely concerned with the proposals to remove funding from the creation of segregated cycling infrastructure on the Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Schemes. This was on the basis that reallocation of funding away from these schemes to those schemes that are focused on improving road infrastructure for cars would be contrary to the Oxfordshire County Council's strategic priorities to address the climate emergency and promote active travel. The Panel felt that reallocating the funding away from these schemes would negatively impact the councils' reputation as a delivery partner for future transportation infrastructure funding in the context of climate change. It was noted that the Woodstock Road cycling infrastructure was an essential to nearby proposed major developments in Oxford North.

A number of members also referred to the need to promote modular housing and it was agreed that Officers would recirculate an information paper on Modern Methods of Construction.

#### **RESOLVED** to recommend:

- That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership be strongly requested not to endorse the proposal to the Oxfordshire County Council Cabinet for the removal of further funding from two schemes currently within the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Homes from Infrastructure programme – Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor.
- 2. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership be requested not to endorse the proposal to Oxfordshire County Council for the re-allocation of the remaining funding from Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor across a number of carorientated infrastructure schemes in the Housing from Infrastructure programme which are projecting cost pressures.
- 3. That the Future Oxford Partnership acknowledge that BSIP funding does not change the urgent demand and need for segregated cycling infrastructure on the Woodstock and Banbury road corridors.
- 4. That if the proposed changes are regrettably agreed by Oxfordshire County Council, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership support accelerated efforts to identify and secure alternative funding for the Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor schemes.
- 5. That if the proposed changes are regrettably agreed by Oxfordshire County Council, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership urgently support the provision of temporary segregated cycle lanes on the Woodstock Road e.g., through an e-Traffic Regulation Orders.
- 6. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership lobby HM Government to increase funding for the Homes from Infrastructure Programme given the unprecedented impact of inflationary cost pressures on all capital projects.

### (b) Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, Homes from Infrastructure (Hfl) Programme- Lessons Learned

The Panel considered a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership of the findings of a recent lessons learnt review of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Homes from Infrastructure programme which had been a request of the Panel.

In presenting the report, Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme highlighted that:

- The final findings of the report had been consistent with expectations in that the feedback provided had not been a surprise reflecting as it did, the view of partners.
- The findings of the review represented the first part of a lessons learnt review as the findings were inevitably focussed on narrative around what might have been done differently and that if there were to be a new Housing and Growth Deal with HM Government, how it could be improved upon.
- The current Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal had been negotiated successfully over a period of only a few months and it was important to cognisant of that, acknowledging the Partnership's achievement. Whilst there were things which on reflection, might have been done differently, it had been a success and Oxfordshire as a county was delivering the Deal in accordance with the set targets.
- The Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal was the only Deal negotiated at the time that was still active.

In discussion, members of the Panel queried whether the issues that had been identified with the Deal were essentially a consequence of the terms negotiated with HM Government and therefore not of partner councils' choosing. Paul Staines responded that in many respects the limitations of the Deal had been established at the outset by HM Government, for example, the Deal was always limited to a five year programme, when generally the view of infrastructure providers was that such programmes take longer than this to deliver, and the selection of accelerated housing as the key criteria of measurable benefit from the infrastructure schemes was another. However, notwithstanding those limited parameters, Oxfordshire local authorities at the time had still seen the value in the Deal, which was felt to be the correct decision.

In response to another question, the Pane was informed that under the current Deal the circumstances of the short mobilisation period faced by those involved had meant that there had been a need to learn and adapt as the programme developed, but it was felt that Oxfordshire County Council as the delivery partner for the Hfl programme and the other partners had risen successfully and quickly to the scale of the challenge of delivering it. Members of the Panel commented that Officers should be congratulated for all their hard work in delivering the programme.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

#### (c) Infrastructure Advisory Group update

The Panel noted the substantive matters in this item had been discussed earlier in the agenda and noted the summary notes of the advisory group.

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

The Panel noted the substantive matters in this item had been discussed earlier in the agenda and noted the summary notes of the advisory group.

#### (e) Environment Advisory Group update

The Panel noted the summary notes of the advisory group.

#### 7. Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan

The Panel considered a report and supporting monitoring plan to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership which provided an update on the progress of the Oxfordshire Economic Recovery Plan and the headline performance of the Oxfordshire economy as it recovered from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. It also proposed an Oxfordshire 'system wide' approach to HM Government's 'Levelling Up' and 'UK Shared Prosperity' programmes. Nigel Tipple, Chief Executive, Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, (OxLEP) presented the report to the Panel.

In discussion, it was noted and welcomed that Oxfordshire's level of unemployment was below the national average. However, it was acknowledged that a significant proportion of jobs were based in the visitor economy which was felt to be still struggling. The question was raised whether the visitor economy had rebounded to pre-pandemic levels of employment or whether different forms of employment taken over for former visitor economy workers. Nigel Tipple responded that a combination of factors was at play, but that a key factor was that much of the visitor economy was seasonal and many of that workforce cohort were from outside the UK and had not returned to the UK following the opening up of the visitor economy post pandemic. In addition, many workers employed within the hospitality sector had moved to other forms of retail opportunities and had not returned to it post pandemic. The labour market was very tight with more vacancies than those seeking employment, with jobs outside of the visitor economy being perceived to offer higher levels of job security and terms and conditions. In addition, jobs in technical areas were difficult to fill and it was felt that it was necessary to explore opportunities to restructure the Oxfordshire economy by a combination of helping school leavers to understand better the potential career paths open to them, to look at the balance between vocational training and support for young people and to also support older people returning to the workforce. This was set out in more detail within the Oxfordshire Social Contract.

**RESOLVED:** The Panel noted the report and acknowledged the work undertaken through the Economic Recovery Plan.

#### 8. Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership Update

The Panel considered a report to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership which set out an update on progress of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership, (OIEP) in the year up to May 2022 and attached draft OIEP Charter. In presenting the report and draft Charter, Clayton Lavallin, Principal Regeneration and Economic Development Officer, Oxford City Council, commented that the OIEP brough together key stakeholders from across the county and from within various sectors including the public sector, private and voluntary/community sectors. As the OIEP reported to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership, the report before the Pane; represented the first of what would be regular updates. It was highlighted to the Panel that the OIEP had enjoyed a successful year which had included a launch event held at the Ashmolean Museum and that working groups focussed on the headings of Education, Employers, Social Value and Procurement and Place were shortly to be established. Each strand was designed to counter specific areas of inequality within the county as detailed in the report.

The Panel strongly welcomed the establishment of the OIEP and proposed Inclusive Economy Charter, but asked that in the finalisation of the draft Charter, the following matters be considered for inclusion by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership:

#### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. The need to ensure due emphasis within the opening statement of the Charter relate to inequalities within the whole county of Oxfordshire and not only within the city of Oxford.
- 2. The importance of the development of technical skills through apprenticeships, including in manufacturing and engineering.
- 3. Recognition within the text of the Charter of the contribution of all employer types to addressing inequality, including a specific mention of:
  - a. the positive contribution of social enterprise and co-operative employers.
  - b. Women and minority owned businesses.

#### 9. 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 discussions were currently taking place between local authorities along the Arc as to whether to establish a locally led collaboration such as a pan regional partnership rather than a centrally imposed top-down form of governance.

Members requested a summary briefing covering the history and current position with regard to the Oxford to Cambridge Arc given the turnover in members of the Panel. Andrew Down responded that it was expected to be appropriate to produce a written report on the Arc later in June once the position was clearer.

#### 10. Work programme for the Scrutiny Panel

The Panel considered its work programme as set out in the Agenda.

Councillor Cooper suggested a potential future item related to the future of the Oxford Green Belt. Andrew Down updated the Panel that it was his understanding that the work to develop the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 had identified the possibility of a review of the Oxford Green Belt. It was stressed that no formal commitment to undertake a review had been given, but it was a matter being considered by the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Team of officers and further clarity was expected on the issue in the near future. Members were reminded that even if a commitment was subsequently made to undertake a Green Belt review, this did not necessarily imply that any changes to the current Green Belt would be proposed and appropriate due process would be followed.

The Chair encouraged members to consider the submission of future potential work programme items.

Councillor Dalmore asked for an update on the previous decision of the Panel to delegate authority to Cllr Nell and Cllr Hicks to engage with OxLEP and the University of Oxford to identify and communicate specific innovations that local authorities should be aware of that specifically linked to the remit of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership. It was agreed that this should be brought to the next meeting.

#### 11. Dates of next meetings

The dates of future meetings were noted.

It was suggested that a later meeting start time might be more convenient for members, particularly those with childcare responsibilities and officers agreed to canvass members on this outside of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Chairman

Date



## Future Oxfordshire Partnership response to recommendations of the Partnership Scrutiny Panel made on 7 June 2022

The Future Oxfordshire Partnership is requested to provide a response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel for decision at its meeting on 13 June 2022.

Recommendation	Comment
Consideration of Oxfordshire Plan 2050 consultation responses	
The Panel in acknowledging the requirements to follow appropriate legislation and guidance (including the NPPF), in the analysis of consultation responses, was concerned that the analysis of Oxfordshire Plan 2050 responses fully take account of both quantitative and qualitative factors and that the contributions of community groups, individuals or developers and others all be considered equally on their merits. Moreover, that the Partnership is made aware of the risk of 'regulatory capture' in the consultation process.	<ul> <li>Whilst not a decision of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership (FOP), we nonetheless welcome the intention of the Oxfordshire LPAs to carry out a Regulation 18 (Part 3) consultation for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (the Plan).</li> <li>The analysis of the responses- whether they be quantitative or qualitative- to the consultation will be comprehensive. All comments received will be logged, analysed, considered carefully, and carry equal weight regardless of their origin. This ensures that all opinions are given equal weight in the consultation. A summary of the consultation responses will also be published, so interested parties can have sight of the full range of views received.</li> </ul>
1. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership in its presentation of consultation responses include both qualitative and quantitative data as 'not everything that matters can be measured'. This includes:	In response to the points raised:

a. The total number of responses to a particular question.	a) Consideration will be given to providing detail on the total number of responses received under each policy or theme of the Plan in the consultation report.
<ul> <li>b. The number of members an organization represents.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>b) In the consultation report, an explanation of different types of consultees will be provided together with a brief description e.g., government bodies, community groups (and explain they made up of members and representative of etc). We will also set out in the consultation report how community groups have responded to the consultation.</li> </ul>
c. Verbatim quotes extracted from consultation feedback received.	<ul> <li>c) The selective use of verbatim quotes is not perceived as best practice or proper because it can suggest perceived bias.</li> </ul>
d. A summary of the analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data.	d) The analysis of the consultation responses must be both legally compliant and proportionate. The consultation report will include pie charts and tables summarising the number of responses by age, respondent type, geographic spread and degree of support or objection to the emerging policy approaches set out in the Regulation 18 (Part 3) version of the Plan. However, it will not provide any other detailed breakdown of the consultation results, as this goes beyond what is required and does not in our view add value. Instead, we believe it better to provide clear explanations as to how representations have shaped the Plan.
e. Acknowledgement in the analysis that there may be variations of opinion within groups, and that points made by small numbers of respondents are not of lower value.	e) We do not agree that because a point or comment is made by a small number of respondents, that it is necessarily of lesser value than wider made points. The value of the comment is intrinsic to the point made, not the number of people making it. Nevertheless, by carefully noting and analysing all responses equally and then showing how such responses shape our thinking it will be clear how we have responded to the various views offered by respondents
2. That in order to make Oxfordshire Plan 2050 formal consultation documents more accessible to the general public, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership also ensure the provision of documents in	We recognise that both the number and range of responses we receive to the Oxfordshire Plan Regulation 18 (Part 3) consultation will be crucial to its success and we are committed to ensuring its accessibility to all sections of our community. So, whilst we believe that the on-line platform for consultation that worked well for the Regulation 18 (Part 1 and 2) consultations was a successful tool for ensuring that
formats which are abridged and/or	accessibility, we will also be considering how we can offer other consultation routes that complement and maximise this accessibility. We also recognise that the use of non-

<ul> <li>expressed in as much non-technical terms as possible.</li> <li>3. That in order to reach as wide a cross section of society, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership also ensure the availability of non online mechanism for the public to engage with and respond to future Oxfordshire Plan 2050 consultations.</li> </ul>	technical language, minimising the use of acronyms etc. will be a part of this ambition and will for example be ensuring that both the Plan and the supporting evidence base technical documents that support it will include non-technical summaries at the beginning explaining what they cover.
Review of Homes from Infrastructure (HfI) Programme	
The Panel whilst acknowledging the need to review the Hfl Programme within the limited confines of the terms of the Housing and Growth Deal, was extremely concerned with the proposals to remove funding from the creation of segregated cycling infrastructure on the Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Schemes. This is on the basis that reallocation of funding away from these schemes is to those schemes that are focused on improving road infrastructure for cars contrary to the County Council's strategic priorities to address the climate emergency and promote active travel. The panel felt that reallocating the funding away from these schemes will negatively impact the councils' reputation as a delivery partner for future transportation infrastructure funding in the context of climate change. It was noted that the Woodstock Road cycling infrastructure is essential to nearby proposed major developments in Oxford North.	FOP do not agree that the difficult decision to remove the Housing and Growth Deal (the Deal) funding from the active travel schemes at Woodstock and Banbury Road should be seen as the councils moving away from their commitments to active and/or low carbon travel or addressing the climate change emergency. As was made clear at the last FOP meeting in June, active travel options stay at the core of our thinking for the future travel in and around Oxford and will be embedded in the developing Central Oxfordshire Transport Strategy that will set out a holistic plan for travel in the centre of the county. The decisions to reallocate the Deal funding from these schemes instead reflects the constrained criteria for scheme funding that the Housing and Growth Deal requires, and that Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) have to consider when making such decisions, these being accelerated housing and scheme deliverability within the relatively short time window that the Deal applies. Sadly, when examined against these criteria the schemes could not demonstrate a continued case for funding. Nevertheless, the schemes remain central to our thinking for travel into and around Oxford and OCC and partners will continue to seek alternative funding arrangements to bring them forward.

4.	That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership be strongly requested not to endorse the proposal to the Oxfordshire County Council Cabinet for the removal of further funding from two schemes currently within the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Homes from Infrastructure programme – Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor.	FOP endorsed the recommended changes to the Homes from Infrastructure programme at its June 2022 meeting.
5.	That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership be requested not to endorse the proposal to Oxfordshire County Council for the re-allocation of the remaining funding from Woodstock Road Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor across a number of car-orientated infrastructure schemes in the Housing from Infrastructure programme which are projecting cost pressures.	FOP do not agree that the difficult decisions to reallocate Deal funds to alternative projects are to car-oriented schemes. As highlighted earlier the criteria for funding from the Deal is accelerating already planned housing to address the housing crisis, together with deliverability within the agreed Deal period. These are the only criteria alongside value for money that govern reallocation decisions. It should be noted however that, of the schemes recommended to receive additional Deal funding, the Banbury Tramway Improvements, NOC Cassington and NOC Kidlington schemes are all active travel and modal shifting supporting schemes.
6.	That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership acknowledge that BSIP funding does not change the urgent demand and need for segregated cycling infrastructure on the Woodstock and Banbury road corridors.	FOP supports the need for safe cycling provision in the Woodstock Road and Banbury Road corridors.
7.	That if the proposed changes are regrettably agreed by Oxfordshire County Council, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership support accelerated efforts to identify and secure alternative funding for the Woodstock Road	FOP will of course continue to support all efforts to secure necessary investment in Oxfordshire's infrastructure

Corridor and Banbury Road Corridor schemes.	
8. That if the proposed changes are regrettably agreed by Oxfordshire County Council, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership urgently support the provision of temporary segregated cycle lanes on the Woodstock Road e.g., through an e-Traffic Regulation Orders.	OCC, as the transport and infrastructure authority alongside Oxford Council and other partners will consider this as part of the developing Central Oxfordshire Travel Strategy
<ol> <li>That the Future Oxfordshire Partnersh lobby HM Government to increase funding for the Homes from Infrastructure Programme given the unprecedented impact of inflationary cost pressures on all capital projects.</li> </ol>	P Unfortunately, it has been confirmed by government that no additional funding is available for this programme.
Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership Update	
The Panel strongly welcomed the establishment of the OIEP and proposed Inclusive Economy Charter, but asked that in the finalisation of the draft Charter, the following matters be considered for inclusion by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership:	
10. The need to ensure due emphasis within the opening statement of the Charter relate to inequalities within the whole county of Oxfordshire and not only within the city of Oxford.	The Future Oxfordshire Partnership notes and supports the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership's decision to incorporate Countywide examples of inequalities as well as City examples in the opening statement of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership Charter.

11. The importance of the development of technical skills through apprenticeships, including in manufacturing and engineering.	The Future Oxfordshire Partnership notes and supports the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership's decision to refer this recommendation to its Employers and Educational Attainment Working Groups for their consideration in proposal development and also as potential examples of the Pledges as part of the Charter.
12. Recognition within the text of the Charter of the contribution of all employer types to addressing inequality, including a specific mention of:	The Future Oxfordshire Partnership notes that the Charter recognises the contribution of all employer types and the work of the Social Value and Procurement Working Group and its activity, pledge examples make direct links to community wealth building, cooperative models and social value/enterprise.
<ul><li>a. the positive contribution of social enterprise and co-operative employers.</li><li>b. Women and minority owned businesses.</li></ul>	The Charter also recognises barriers to inclusion for all groups and does not seek to highlight some protected characteristics over others in order not to seem exclusive, however the emphasis on support to women entrepreneurs and minority owned businesses is referred to the working group leads of the Inclusive Employers Working Group and subgroups for consideration in proposal development and also as potential examples of the Pledges as part of the Charter.



#### 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
20 September 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
Q1 Housing and Growth Deal Progress Report		To receive the Quarter 1 Year 5 (2022/2023) 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
	Q1 Housing and Growth Deal Financial Report	To receive the financial summary for Quarter 1 Year 5 (2022/2023) for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.	Lorna Baxter, Oxfordshire County Council
	Review of Homes from Infrastructure Programme Part 2	TBC - To consider further recommended changes to the Homes from Infrastructure Programme because of a further review of the programme's current cost pressures and an assessment of any additional schemes identified as being suitable for inclusion in the programme.	John McLauchlan, 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
Reports of Advisory Group Chairs	To receive updates from the Chairs of the advisory groups and summary notes from these meetings if available	Chairs of the Advisory Groups

Meeting date	Item	Description and rationale	Lead Officer
22 November	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
	Q2 Housing and Growth Deal Progress Report	To receive the Quarter 1 Year 5 (2022/2023) 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
	Q2 Housing and Growth Deal Financial Report	To receive the financial summary for Quarter 1 Year 5 (2022/2023) for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.	Lorna Baxter, Oxfordshire County Council
	Reports of Advisory Group Chairs	To receive updates from the Chairs of the advisory groups and summary notes from these meetings if available	Chairs of the Advisory Groups



#### **Action Log**

This action log sets out requests for information and actions required by the Scrutiny Panel. Any requests for information that do not relate to a specific agenda item will be published on the Future Oxfordshire Partnership website alongside the next available Scrutiny Panel Agenda, except where that information requires the disclosure of exempt information, as set out in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Date raised by the Panel	Action	Lead Member / Officer	Panel Updated/ Discussed on	Progress Notes
15/03/22	Breakdown of new build private house sales to show if residents are moving from within Oxfordshire or outside the county.	Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme	20/09/22	Completed – see Appendix 1 attached to this document.
15/03/22	Delegated authority for Cllr Miles, Neil and Hicks to engage and liaise with OxLEP and the University of Oxford re gated authority to further engage with Prof Bountra, Dr Clare and Richard Byard to seek to identify and communicate specific innovations that local	Cllr Miles/Kevin Jacob	20/09/22	Response by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership, (FOP) on 22 March 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. This work is still evolving and it is not recommended that any further be undertaken at this time by the Panel. However, initial enquiries are taking place with OxLEP to see if it would be possible to draft a list or map setting out the different departments/colleges of both universities and their

	authorities should be aware of that specifically linked to the remit of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership		specialisms where it could be appropriate for the universities and local authorities to collaborate regarding innovation.
07/06/22	Production of a summary briefing note covering the history and current position of the Oxford to Cambridge Arc	Andrew Down, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director	Ongoing

#### **Question for Scrutiny Panel from Cllr David Turner 15 March 2022**

'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 belief 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 help in the strategic planning of future housing'.

A series of discussions with planning policy managers from across Oxfordshire confirmed that no councils collect such data.

For affordable housing, all councils or Registered Providers hold such data on the occupants, as having a local connection is invariably one of the criteria on councils' housing register that applicants must meet to secure an allocation.

For private sales of new-build properties, there is no publicly available data which the Councils can access. Private developers might hold such information related to their schemes, but councils have not asked that question and are sceptical about whether it would be available to us if it was indeed sought.

Instead, some councils have used other routes to get a sense of the place of origin of new build housing occupants.

One council confirmed that historically they did attempt to capture information about the origins of occupants of new housing via a small survey of developments, but the practice has been ceased as its statistical accuracy was never that high and in the light of the budgetary need to make service reductions.

Other sources would be census data or that collected through the Office for National statistics (ONS). ONS monitors movements of people between local authorities on an annual basis, using data principally derived from when people re-register with a different doctor and some data on student moves. This data informs our housing needs assessments. However, it doesn't split out new-build from moves to existing housing stock.

It may that in due course the latest Census 2021 results could show households' moving trends, although once again that would probably encompass existing stock as well as new builds.



То:	Future Oxfordshire Partnership
Title of Report:	Update following the Joint Workshop between the Health & Wellbeing Board and the Future Oxfordshire Partnership
Date:	27 September 2022
Report of:	Rosie Rowe, Healthy Place Shaping Lead, Oxfordshire County Council
Status:	Open

#### **Executive Summary and Purpose:**

The purpose of this paper is to provide an update on action to address common areas of concern identified at the 9 March 2022 joint workshop between the Future Oxfordshire Board and the Health & Wellbeing Board. These common areas of concern comprise the following:

- obesity
- access to green space
- active travel
- air quality
- retrofit in housing and ongoing involvement of health partners in climate action
- promoting sustained behaviour change in support of climate action
- engagement with the ICS
- the Inclusive Economy Partnership
- Social prescribing

How this report contributes to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision Outcomes: These areas contribute towards the development of healthy communities.

#### **Recommendations:**

- 1. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and Oxfordshire's Health & Wellbeing Board note the action being taken to address common areas of concern.
- 2. That the Boards note that they will continue to discuss common issues of concern either through specific joint workshops or through potential future Integrated Care System structures established to support place working in Oxfordshire.

#### 1. Introduction

The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Board met with Oxfordshire's Health & Wellbeing Board on 9 March 2022 to discuss two key challenges for the county: climate action and obesity.

At the meeting, members identified a number of additional common areas of concern:

- Reducing obesity and promoting healthy weight
- access to green space
- active travel
- air quality
- retrofit in housing and ongoing involvement of health partners in climate action
- promoting sustained behaviour change in support of climate action
- engagement with the ICS
- the Inclusive Economy Partnership
- Social prescribing

The Board chairs requested that a report be presented to both Boards providing an update on action to address these challenges. The purpose of this paper is to provide that update and request that the Boards indicate which of these topics they would like to prioritise for discussion at their next workshop in autumn 2022.

#### 2. Update on Reducing Obesity and Promoting Healthy Weight

Since the workshop in March the draft action plan for WSA Obesity has been finalised with actions focussed on prevention, support, healthy weight environment and system leadership. A clear focus needs to be on the healthy weight environment. A Health Needs Assessment (HNA) is underway which will provide a quantitative and qualitative description of the health needs and determinants relating to excess weight for the Oxfordshire population and make evidence based recommendations. This will enable us prioritise resources and actions. The HNA will be used to inform development of our local strategy and action plan for supporting healthy weight, reducing excess weight and reducing associated health inequalities. In addition, promoting healthy weight will be the focus of the 2022 Annual Report by the Director for Public Health.

#### 3. Update on Access to Green Spaces

In January 2022 OCC published its report Making the Case for Investment in Green Infrastructure in Oxfordshire, providing robust evidence on the significant contribution Green Infrastructure can make to nature recovery, economic development, sustainable housing provision, and social wellbeing. It is currently working to test Natural England's new Green Infrastructure standards to (re)assess access to green spaces in Oxfordshire.

In May 2022 the Health Improvement Board approved a public health programme aiming to improve equity in access to greenspace and nature in

Oxfordshire. Although this is a relatively new area of focus for public health, it will build on multiple examples of 'on the ground' of organisations working with communities to improve health and wellbeing through nature. The programme has five key priorities:

- Raise the profile of 'nature for health' across relevant sectors and advocate for equitable access as a key health and sustainability goal
- Ensure that local planning policy reflects national guidance and best practice in relation to green infrastructure standards
- Collaborate with all districts, the NHS and other partners to support delivery of targeted nature-based activities or interventions to address health inequalities, including through green social prescribing
- Work with a range of stakeholders to raise public awareness of opportunities to participate in nature-based activities, including facilitated sessions and 'self-care' through nature
- Identify and address local and national gaps in data, evidence and insight

At a strategic level the Local Nature Partnership has agreed to establish a Nature and Health subgroup which will support partnership working to progress this work as well as providing expert input into the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. It is hoped that health and care organisations will be well represented on this sub group.

#### 4. Update on Active Travel

Progress has been made in terms of both policy and infrastructure delivery to increase active travel across the County. Oxfordshire County Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan 2022-2050 (LTCP) outlines a clear vision to deliver a net-zero Oxfordshire transport and travel system that enables the county to thrive whilst protecting the environment and making Oxfordshire a better place to live for all residents. It aims to achieve this by including policies that seek to reduce the need to travel, discourage unnecessary individual private vehicle journeys and make walking, cycling, public and shared transport the natural first choice. Following public consultation, further detail has been provided within policies as to how they provide for disabled residents' transport needs and it now includes a 'Vision zero' road safety policy to increase safety for cyclists. An active travel strategy with action plan has also been prepared which will go with the LTCP for approval in July.

An additional £10.4M has been secured from the Department for Transport to deliver five schemes that will enable active travel in Oxford, Bicester and Witney and to design or assess the feasibility of seven schemes in Abingdon, Eynsham, Oxford, Bicester and Berinsfield.

In 2022/2 the County's Cycling & Walking Activation Programme is taking forward a number of interventions to enable residents to walk and cycle more, with a particular focus on addressing the barriers to active travel experienced by people living in areas of greater deprivation. These seek to promote active travel to school and work and to promote behaviour change when people move into a new development.

#### 5. Update on Air Quality

District Council Air Quality leads are now meeting on a regular basis with public health and transport colleagues in Oxfordshire County Council. Current priorities are to complete the Annual Status Reports which provide an overview of air quality in each district; updating Air Quality Management Area action plans; and developing a new air quality website for Oxfordshire. The development of the website is funded by a DEFRA grant; it will provide publicly accessible information about air quality across the County, including an alert system on days when air quality is poor, and it will promote action to prevent poor air quality – linked to initiatives such as Clean Air Day.

#### 6. Update on retrofit in housing and PAZCO

OCC has now employed a domestic retrofit lead to coordinate and convene work taking place with multiple stakeholders in county and regionally on retrofit.

In its follow up to the publication of the Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire (PAZCO) report, scoping work is currently taking place on themes for joint workshops to be held with system partners including organisations in the health and care system.

### 7. Update on countywide communications and marketing strategy for climate action.

A joint project team is in place, which is led by OCC and which comprises representatives from all six local authorities and OxLEP. The team has developed a co-ordinated plan to encourage and support climate-actionrelated behaviour change among local residents and businesses, with activity being delivered from the start of May 2022. This activity stands independently of the individual messages and initiatives being developed by each organisation around climate action.

A simple-to-use online tool is being developed which will allow people to select, like and engage with climate action initiatives that interest them and explore and decide what they can do to reduce their carbon emissions. This provides a practical call to action for people to use.

A content calendar for social media campaigns has been developed, with monthly themes identified so that all partners can promote similar messages using similar graphics during the same period. The first campaign launched at the start of May with a biodiversity theme to tie in with No Mow May and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee (with its tree planting message). A wide range of partners are being engaged to promote these communications and encourage individual climate action including partners in the health and care system.

### 8. Update on the work of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership (OIEP)

The OIEP launched in March 2021 and is a formal strand of the wider Future Oxfordshire Partnership. It brings together over a hundred organisations - employers, business, education, community groups and local government - to tackle inequality in terms of income, housing affordability and life expectancy.

#### Its Mission is as follows:

'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 aim of the OIEP is to create an environment and communities that can adapt to change, a region that is resilient in the face of shocks to the economy and a workforce that responds to different needs and different kinds of work in the future.

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; from June 2022 this will be funded by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership. The OIEP has set up four subgroups to address the following areas:

- Social Value and Procurement
- Inclusive Employers
- Educational attainment and
- Place-based interventions.

It is also developing 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. System partners across health, care and local government will be encouraged to sign up to the Charter when it is formally launched later this year.

#### 9. Update on Social Prescribing

OCCG are currently Social Prescribing working across Health and Social Care to map the range of social prescribing initiatives; define the vision for social prescribing and develop a social prescribing strategy for Oxfordshire. This work will continue with the transition to the ICS.

#### 10. Engagement with the ICS

A meeting is scheduled for 22 June 2022 with the ICS Interim Director Strategic Delivery & Partnerships to discuss representation from the local authorities on the ICS sustainability steering group. In line with the transfer of responsibilities from OCCG to BOB ICS, it has been proposed that the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Board Terms of Reference are amended to include a representative from the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board to replace the CCG representative as a non-voting member of the Board.

#### 11. Recommendations

- That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and Oxfordshire's Health & Wellbeing Board note the action being taken to address common areas of concern.
- That the Boards note that they will continue to discuss common issues of concern either through specific joint workshops or through potential future Integrated Care System structures established to support place working in Oxfordshire.

#### **Background Papers**

None

Report Author:Rosie Rowe, Healthy Place Shaping Lead, OxfordshireContact information:rosie.rowe@oxfordshire.gov.uk



То:	Future Oxfordshire Partnership
Title of Report:	Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Progress Report – Year 5, Quarter 1, 2022/23
Date:	27 September 2022
Report of	Paul Staines: Interim Head of Programme
Status:	Open

#### **Executive Summary and Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to update the Future Oxfordshire Partnership (FOP) on progress, at the end of the first quarter of the fifth and final year (2022/23) with the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal (the Deal). The report also incorporates the position at the end of 2021/22

The report provides a summary of the following three strands of the Deal:

- Housing from Infrastructure Programme.
- The residual Oxfordshire Affordable Housing Programme.
- The Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS)

The fourth strand of the Deal- Productivity- is reported separately to the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) Board

The report also updates on governance of the Deal, whilst Oxfordshire County Council, as the Accountable Body, supply a separate report and assurance statement, detailing the financial position of the Deal elsewhere on this agenda. Finally, there is also a separate report on the Oxfordshire Plan on the agenda following the recent decision to conclude this element of the Deal

#### 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 <u>here.</u>

#### **Recommendation:**

That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership notes the progress as at the end of the first quarter of the fifth year, June 2022 of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, incorporating the update as at the end of quarter 1 2022/23.

#### Housing from Infrastructure Programme

- 1) The Housing from Infrastructure Programme (HfI) is a £150m investment in strategic infrastructure to support the acceleration of already planned housing in Oxfordshire.
- 2) The Hfl programme has two aspects.
  - Firstly, the commitment to spend £30m per annum over 5 years on named strategic infrastructure projects, identified as accelerators for planned housing growth in Oxfordshire.
  - Secondly that this infrastructure expenditure will then accelerate 6,549 planned homes that might not otherwise have come forward at this pace. This is because either the completed infrastructure allows developers to build housing earlier than otherwise planned or the investment provides developers with confidence to build out sites faster than they otherwise might.
- 3) The Hfl timeline originally agreed in the Deal was a five-year period from 2018/19 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022/23. Government then offered the ability-by exception- to extend the Hfl for up to two years to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, for specific named projects and subject to the approval of individual infrastructure business cases, to allow both the completion of infrastructure schemes and the associated accelerated housing.

#### Infrastructure

- 4) Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) are the lead delivery partner for the infrastructure element of HfI which they deliver through their capital projects governance framework.
- 5) The infrastructure element of the Hfl programme is a mix of infrastructure projects that include road, rail, cycle routes and footpaths, as well as social infrastructure such as schools. There are currently 29 schemes in total, listed in the appendix.
- 6) Since the last report OCC have decided to undertake a comprehensive review of their entire infrastructure programme, in response to emerging cost pressures across several programmes including those in the Hfl programme. The review looks to ensure that the overall capital programme is returned to balance and within that the Hfl schemes included are both deliverable within the relevant timeframe, that costs are controlled and that the outcomes of the programme- accelerated housing- are both timely and proportionate to the investment.
- 7) OCC will complete the review in the autumn and the conclusions on the Hfl programme brought to FOP for consideration before OCC cabinet make any required decisions. This is covered in more detail in a separate report on this agenda

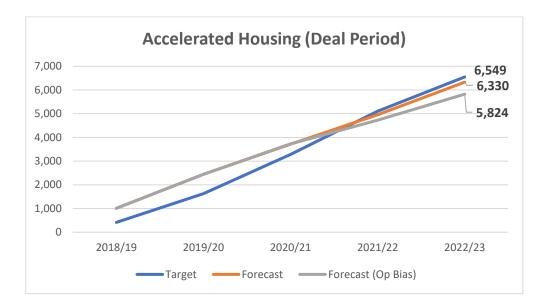
8) The Growth Deal finance report, also on this meeting's agenda reminds us that the Hfl grant funding is being paid to Oxfordshire County Council in five equal annual instalments of £30.0m. 2022/23 is the fifth and final year for the receipt of funding towards the Infrastructure Fund Programme. We have received £120m so far. Following the decision to end the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities are reviewing the implications for both the agreement to extend the programme and the final £30m instalment of the grant funding.

#### **Risk Management**

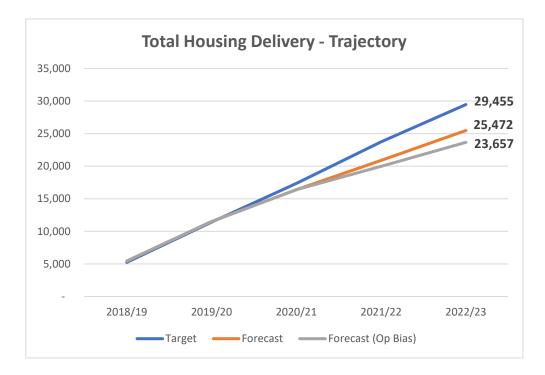
- 9) The OCC manages each infrastructure project, in conjunction with relevant partners, and all risks and issues are identified and mitigated. Officers have, as part of their performance management of the programme, named all relevant risks to each project and supplied a RAG (Red/Amber/Green) rating for each scheme.
- 10) The Growth Deal Programme Board receive monthly reports of these risks alongside any mitigations to ensure that we continue to manage risks appropriately.
- 11)At a strategic level, the Hfl programme also has a Risk Register updated quarterly and reported to the Programme Board. This Register holds the following risks to the Hfl programme together with actions proposed to mitigate:
  - Rising costs of both labour and materials. This continues to be a growing risk to the programme and is a recognised national phenomenon. FOP received a report- on part one of the infrastructure review- at its June meeting that highlighted the growing inflationary pressures and their impact upon the Deal.
  - Managing the impact of the Hfl programme upon the Oxfordshire road network- recognising that there are other significant infrastructure investment programmes in the same timeframe.
  - Potential project delays due to the need for some schemes to secure land through adversarial routes such as compulsory purchase.
  - Reliance on third parties (developers / Network Rail, etc) for delivery.

#### **Delivering Housing from Infrastructure**

- 12)As referenced in paragraph 2, the 'benefit' of the Hfl programme is the acceleration of at least 6549 planned homes that can be brought forward by developers faster than originally timetabled, thanks to the investment in required infrastructure.
- 13) The Growth Deal Core Team supply data on accelerated housing quarterly to Homes England. The data is developed by council partners who compile it as part of their ongoing monitoring of housing delivery in their districts. The method partners use to collect this information is to carry out a full annual review of all relevant housing sites, including site visits and developer discussions after the financial year end, and then supplement and amended this data with desktop reviews for the remaining quarters.
- 14) The graphs below show the position as at 31/3/22 and are the results of a full review of housing trajectories by the partners.



15) The graph above shows that the partners have revised their projections for accelerated housing delivery downwards since the last review and that we now believe that the accelerated housing trajectory, over the original five years of the Hfl programme will be below the target of 6549 homes at 6330 homes, or 5824 homes when applying the 20% optimism bias.



- 16)A similar downward trend is also clear for the overall 5-year trajectory, demonstrated in the graph above which shows that, for the original 5 years of the Hfl programme overall, against the target of 29,455 homes, completions will be 25,472 homes or 23,657 when we apply the optimism bias.
- 17)Considering this overall completion trajectory, the current data suggests that Oxfordshire may not meet the agreed delivery targets within the original 5 years of the Growth Deal and may need to take advantage of the two-year extension granted by DLUHC. The calculation of the housing implications will first require the permission for certain infrastructure schemes to be

granted the extension referred to in paragraph 9, as it is the housing accelerated by these schemes that will be allowed to be included in our totals.

#### **Risk Management**

- 18) The risk management of the housing element of the Hfl programme has two elements. Firstly, there is the impact of the related infrastructure programme described in the earlier section but there are also non-infrastructure related risks to housing delivery.
- 19) The Partnership has developed a two-tier risk assessment process that allows for consideration of both sets of risks and issues, reported monthly to the Programme Board and then to Homes England.
- 20) The Partnership has also developed an overarching Strategic Risk Register or RAID (Risks, Assumptions, Issues and Dependencies) Log that names and addresses the following programme wide risks and issues.
  - The pace of infrastructure delivery, particularly the influence of the pandemic and supply side issues that has slowed the pace of infrastructure schemes identified as crucial to the acceleration of homes and the consequent impact on the pace of the related housing. Government recognised this issue and have extended the programme for a further two years to enable partners to attribute the homes accelerated to the programme.
  - Shortages of both labour and materials causing delays to projects. This is a growing risk to the programme and is a recognised national phenomenon.
  - Increasing costs of raw materials, again a recognised national phenomenon.
  - Potential impact of external market factors and the health of the economy.

### Affordable Housing Programme (OAHP)

21) The OAHP funding stream concluded on 31st March 2022.

- 22)During the four years of the OAHP partners delivered or enabled 936 units of affordable housing and drew down £35.6 million of grant. This included the full agreed draw down of £10 million in the final year of the OAHP. These homes are a delivery of 71% of the original target and a drawdown of 59% of the grant, proving that the units achieved were good value to the public purse.
- 23) This achievement complements the successful mainstream delivery of affordable housing targets across the councils of Oxfordshire. Typically, the OAHP has added about 10% to the level of affordable housing delivery in the county each year.
- 24) As reported in March, as we approached the final stages of the OAHP it became clear that several of the schemes that partners had invested significant time and resources into completing by the 31/3/22 deadline would Page 37

not make this end date because, for example schemes had yet to secure planning permission or have other deliverability challenges.

- 25) Following analysis of the current delivery plan, we agree a bespoke approach with DLUHC to maximise the number of affordable homes deliverable through the OAHP in the remaining period of the Deal and into the future. This approach provided flexibility and support to the delivery of schemes this year, and as necessary, into the future and offers welcome flexibility on start dates for construction, reduces the risk associated with the timing of planning decisions, and will help to deliver much needed affordable homes
- 26)Utilising the above model, partners hope that the OAHP will enable us to achieve the target of 1,322 units, subject to the usual assessment and due diligence of proposals. Partners will continue to manage the delivery of the identified remaining schemes to enable their delivery.

#### **Risk Management**

27) The key risks to delivery of those individual schemes enabled by the OAHP are primarily from delays in scheme development, planning, and tender processes, together with financial challenges to schemes viability. The partners manage these risks at district/city level.

### Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS)

- 28) The refreshed Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS) was a commitment by Oxfordshire in the growth Deal.
- 29) The project is in two parts and the first of these was considered and endorsed by FOP at its January 2022 meeting. Subsequently, Oxfordshire County Council approved OxIS at its cabinet meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February and further work is underway to embed the principles of OxIS in a toolkit for infrastructure assessment.
- 30) The second phase of the OxIS project was related to the Oxfordshire Plan. Now that this project has ceased officers are discussing how best to reorient the OxIS project to reflect the new landscape. Once a proposition has been developed officers will discuss with the appointed consultant a revised tender process and timeline for the project as appropriate.

#### **Deal Governance**

- 31)The Growth Deal Capacity Fund continues to be checked by the Programme Office with monthly financial statements reported to the Growth Deal Programme Board and to the Accountable Body.
- 32)Monthly Programme Highlight Reports, which report on the latest financial and business metrics of the key programmes of the Growth Deal, continue to be presented to the Growth Deal Programme Board for review, challenge and noting.

33) The Strategic RAID (Risks, Assumptions, Issues and Dependencies) Log continues to be monitored and reported to the Programme Board on a monthly/quarterly basis. Further detailed work with the risk and issue owners on the specific actions to lessen the impact and probability of key risks and issues will continue.

#### Legal Implications

34)None arising from this report.

#### **Other Implications**

35)None arising from this report.

#### Conclusion

36) This report outlines progress against the agreed Growth Deal milestones.

- 37) The report highlights that, as we draw towards the conclusion of the Deal that we continue to make progress towards meeting our commitments and that, as risks and issues arise there are continually evolving partnership and management arrangements, both within each council and across the partnership to address these.
- 38) The report asks the Future Oxfordshire Partnership to note progress with the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal both at the end of March and June 2022 and the continued achievement against the milestones committed to.

#### Background Papers

None

Report Author: Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme

Contact information: paul.staines@oxfordshire.gov.uk

# Appendix One – Growth Deal Infrastructure Schemes

Project
Tramway Road
A4095 Realignment - NW Bicester
A361 Road Safety Improvements
A4095 Underbridge and Underpass NW Bicester
Access to Banbury (North) (Hennef Way)
Former RAF Upper Heyford phase 2 (M40-J10 Improvements)
Shrivenham New School <sup>1</sup>
Woodstock Road Corridor
Banbury Road Corridor
North Oxford Corridor - A44 Loop Farm to Cassington Road
North Oxford Corridor - Kidlington Roundabout
Access to Headington
Botley Road Corridor
Connecting Oxford
Oxpens to Osney Mead Bridge
Oxford City wide cycle and pedestrian schemes
Cowley Branch Line
Benson Relief Road
Watlington Relief Road
A4074 Golden Balls
Didcot Central Corridor
A34 Lodge Hill
Milton Heights Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge
Frilford Junction Improvements and Relief to Marcham
Relief to Rowstock (Featherbed Lane & Steventon Lights)
Wantage Eastern Link Road
A40 Access to Witney
A40 Science Transit Phase 2
A40/Minster Lovell West Facing Slips/Access to Carterton



То:	The Future Oxfordshire Partnership
Title of Report:	Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Financial Report: Position at the end of Quarter 1 2022/23
Date:	27 September 2022
Report of:	Director of Finance, Oxfordshire County Council
	(Accountable Body)
Status:	Open

#### **Executive Summary and Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to update the Future Oxfordshire Partnership on the financial position for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal. The report provides updates on the following funding streams as at the end of Quarter 1 2022/23 and also incorporates the position at the end of 2021/22:

- Housing from Infrastructure (HfI) programme
- Oxfordshire Affordable Housing Programme
- Growth Deal Capacity Fund

The report is prepared by the Director of Finance for Oxfordshire County Council in the capacity of Section 151 Officer of the Accountable Body for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal and gives assurance over the grant funding and expenditure.

How this report contributes to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision Outcomes: The Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal has a key role to play in delivering welldesigned 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

#### **Recommendation:**

The Future Oxfordshire Partnership are asked to note the financial position as at the end of June 2022 incorporating the position as at the end of 2021/22.

#### Appendices:

Vision here.

Annex 1: Housing from Infrastructure Programme Annex 2: Oxfordshire Affordable Housing Programme Annex 3: Capacity Fund

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the financial position for the three strands of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal as at the end of June 2022 and also incorporates the position at the end of 2021/22.
  - Housing from Infrastructure (Hfl) Programme.
  - Oxfordshire Affordable Housing Programme (OAHP)
  - Growth Deal Capacity Fund.
- 1.3 The report is prepared by the Director of Finance for Oxfordshire County Council (the County Council) in the capacity of Section 151 Officer of the Accountable Body for the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal and gives assurance over the grant funding and expenditure.
- 1.4 Funding for the fourth strand of the deal, the Productivity Programme is managed by the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) and financial performance is reported independently to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership.

#### 2.0 Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Fund Financial Governance

- 2.1 In accordance with the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Delivery Plan, the County Council is the accountable body for the financial management of the three key financial streams. A quarterly report is provided to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership. Responsibility for the management of each financial stream is held by the programme lead.
- 2.2 As the accountable body, the County Council is responsible for ensuring that:
  - Funding is received from Government.
  - Recommendations to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership on schemes to be funded are in accordance with the grant conditions.
  - Regular monitoring reports are provided to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership.
- 2.3 The County Council also holds the risk should Government require funding to be repaid if it is unspent or deemed to have been misused.

#### 3.0 Financial Summary as at the end of Quarter 1 2022/23

#### 3.1 Housing from Infrastructure Programme

- 3.1.1 Grant funding supporting the Housing from Infrastructure Programme was expected to total £150.0m. The investment in infrastructure was expected to accelerate at least 6,549 planned homes that might not otherwise have come forward at this pace. The programme comprises schemes covering road, rail, cycle routes and footpaths, as well as a school. Schemes may be either fully or part funded via the programme.
- 3.1.2 The grant funding is being paid to Oxfordshire County Council in five equal annual instalments of £30.0m. 2022/23 is the fifth and final year for the receipt of funding

towards the Infrastructure Fund Programme. £120m has been received so far and the remaining £30m was expected to be received in 2022/23. On that basis the overall funding has been allocated as £142.7m capital and £7.3m revenue.

- 3.1.3 As shown in Annex 1 total expenditure up to 31 March 2022 was £110.5m. The North West Bicester A4095 scheme (the construction of an underbridge and underpass through the embankment supporting the twin train track Marylebone to Aynho line) was completed during 2021/22.
- 3.1.4 On the basis of the current programme forecast spend is £46.6m in 2022/23 with actual spend of £5.5m in Quarter 1. This includes a prepayment of £4.1m to National Highways in respect of the A34 Lodge Hill scheme.
- 3.1.5 A revised programme was considered and supported by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership in June 2022 with proposals for individual scheme budget allocations adjusted to remain within the overall parameters of the programme and within the anticipated funding.
- 3.1.6 There are a number of inflationary and supply side factors increasing the risk to the future deliverability and cost of capital schemes that are included in Oxfordshire County Council's capital programme. To help address this, a fundamental review of all the schemes in the programme is being undertaken. In July 2022 the council's Cabinet agreed that ahead of this review it was prudent to only re-allocate additional funds to the North Oxford Corridor Cassington Loop Road (£5.0m) as that was the only scheme with a full business case that was projecting cost pressures and entering the construction phase. Subsequently Cabinet have also agreed to re-allocate additional funds to the Benson Relief Road (£1.5m) so that scheme can also enter the construction phase.
- 3.1.7 Following the decision to end the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities are reviewing the implications along with the final £30m instalment of the grant funding.
- 3.1.8 The short term pressure arising from the reallocations noted in paragraph 3.1.6 and options to manage within the available grant funding will be considered as part of the review of the capital programme and the outcome will be shared with partners and in future updates to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership.

#### 3.2 Oxfordshire Affordable Housing Programme

- 3.2.1 The Oxfordshire Affordable Housing Programme (OAHP) is expected to provide funding to support the delivery of up to 1,322 units of affordable housing. The programme commenced in 2018/19 and was expected to run for a period of three years ending on 31 March 2021. The programme was subsequently extended to 31 March 2022. The original grant funding was expected to be £60m over the life of the programme. This was reduced to £35.6m during 2021/22.
- 3.2.2 Funding of £25.6m was claimed in the first three years of the programme and supported 876 units of affordable housing. 213 units were planned and claimed for in 2021/22 with a combined grant requirement of £10m funded by the Department for Levelling Up Homes & Communities. The overall list of unit types, and spend

totalling £35.6m met from grant funding payable to Oxfordshire County Council is set out in Annex 2.

- 3.2.3 The Future Oxfordshire Partnership will continue to enable the remaining deliverable schemes in the programme through Homes England's Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) and other government funding streams where they meet the parameters of those programmes.
- 3.2.4 Utilising the above model, we expect that the OAHP will enable the delivery the target of 1,322 units, subject to the usual assessment and due diligence of proposals. Partners continue to manage the delivery of the identified remaining schemes to enable their delivery and will report on progress to the FOP as appropriate.

#### 3.3 Growth Deal Capacity Fund

- 3.3.1 The Growth Deal Capacity Fund totals £5.0m. The first instalment of £0.5m was paid in 2017/18, followed by £2.5m in 2018/19 and £2.0m in 2019/20.
- 3.3.2 The ringfenced funding was expected to be used over the life of the programme which was originally planned to run from 2017/18 to 2022/23. At each year end, funding that has not been spent has been carried forward through the County Council's earmarked reserves. Costs expected to be met from the Capacity Fund are:
  - Housing Delivery: Staff costs for the core Housing and Growth Deal team.
  - Delivery of the Oxfordshire Joint Statutory Spatial Plan including staff costs.
  - Feasibility: costs of feasibility works including Rail Connectivity Study (part funding) and Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS) refresh.
- 3.3.3 £1.8m of the fund remained available as at the end of 2021/22 and Annex 2 shows the planned use of the remaining funding as anticipated at the end of Quarter 1 2022/23. Actual spend for Quarter 1 of 2022/23 was £0.1m.
- 3.3.4 Following the decision to end the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 work programme, a transition plan is being developed. An update on the availability and use of the remaining funding to meet the costs arising from that plan will be provided in the next update.

#### 4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The report sets out the Quarter 1 financial update for the three strands of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal as well as the position at the end of 2021/22. Based on the on-going spend and funding position action will need to be agreed as appropriate to ensure that each of the programmes continue to be managed within the funding available.
- 4.2 As noted above the County Council will continue to use its freedoms and flexibilities as the Accountable Body to ensure that funding for the Housing from Infrastructure Programme is carried forward and is available to support the delivery profile of the programme beyond the original end date of 2022/23.

#### 5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 In accordance with the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Delivery Plan, the County Council is the accountable body for the financial management of the three key financial streams.
- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

#### 6.0 Risk Management

- 6.1 The financial performance of these funding streams is closely monitored by the Growth Deal Programme Board. This ensures that forecast spend for the Growth Deal period is accurate, based on the knowledge of the programme plans, and actual spend is reported, based on a monthly review of all transactional activity and balanced to the County Council financial systems.
- 6.2 The availability of workforce and materials and inflationary increases in contract prices are increasing the risk to the deliverability and cost of capital schemes. The combined impact of these factors previously reported for 2021/22 will have a more significant impact in 2022/23 and future years. Since a significant number of schemes are still to enter contract let, the overall financial risk to the programme remains high but this is being monitored and further changes to manage the overall programme will be considered as necessary.
- 6.3 Any risk identified to the programme will be reported to the Growth Deal Programme Board for review and appropriate mitigation action will be agreed. Any strategic risk to the overall programme will be reported to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership.

#### 7.0 Conclusion

- 7.1 This report sets out an update on the actual and forecast spend against the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal funding streams at the end of Quarter 1 2022/23 and also incorporates the position at the end of 2021/22.
- 7.2 The Future Oxfordshire Partnership is asked to note the financial update set out in the report.

Report Author:	Lorna Baxter, Director of Finance
Contact information:	Kathy Wilcox, Head of Financial Strategy
	Tel: 07788 302163

#### Housing from Infrastructure Programme

	Report	Yr 1 - Yr	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		Total	Capital	Revenue
Growth Deal Schemes		3 £m	£m	£m	£m	+ £m	£m	Allocation £m	Allocation £m
GROWTH DEAL SCHEMES		8.111	~	~	~	~	~		5.111
NW Bicester A4095 Howes Lane / Lords Lane u/bridge	MIBAB	4.837	-	-	-	2.963	7.800	7.800	0.020
NW Bicester A4095 Howes Lane / Lords LaneRoad Realignment	MIBAB	0.343	1.009	0.001	-		1.353	1.353	-
M40 J10 Improvements	MIBAB	16.563	0.091	-	-	2.146	18.800	18.800	0.140
A422 Hennef Way, Banbury	MIBAB	0.170	0.030	-	-	-	0.200	0.200	0.030
Tramway Road Banbury	MIBAB	0.163	0.633	0.500	4.821	-	6.117	6.117	0.280
A361 Bloxham Rd to A4260 Oxford Rd Link Rd	MIBAB	0.300	-	-	-	-	0.300	0.300	-
Access to Headington	MIOX	3.500	-	-	-	-	3.500	3.500	-
Botley Road Corridor	MIOX	3.250	-	-	-	-	3.250	3.250	-
Oxpens to Osney Mead Cycling and Pedestrian Bridge	MIOX	5.903	0.017	0.080	-	-	6.000	6.000	-
Oxford Citywide Cycle and Pedestrian Routes	MIOX	1.479	0.019	0.725	0.895	-	3.118	3.118	0.470
Banbury Rd Improvements (Banbury Road Corridor)	MIOX	0.108	0.461	0.194	-	-	0.763	0.763	0.030
Woodstock Rd Improvement (Woodstock Road Corridor)	MIOX	0.112	0.620	0.268	-	-	1.000	1.000	-
SE Corridors / Connecting Oxford	MIOX	0.210	0.317	0.900	0.175	-	1.602	1.602	0.440
A4260 and A44 Corridor Improvements	MIOX	0.894	1.626	11.800	5.210	-	19.530	19.530	1.470
North Oxford Corridors - Kidlington	MIOX	0.040	0.419	5.150	1.891	-	7.500	7.500	-
Active Travel P2 - City	MIOX	-	0.479	0.140	-	-	0.619	0.619	-
Botley Road Bridge	MIOX	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.500
Cowley Branch Line	Reserves	-	-	-	-	0.250	0.250	0.250	-
Watlington Edge Road	MICW	0.255	0.328	2.350	4.000	0.167	7.100	7.100	0.010
Benson Relief Road	MICW	0.486	0.298	2.511	-	-	3.295	3.295	-
Milton Enterprise Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge	MICW	0.087	0.098	0.650	3.500	1.103	5.438	5.438	0.420
Frilford Junction	MICW	0.077	0.201	0.375	0.600	0.247	1.500	1.500	-
Relief to Rowstock	MICW	0.245	0.229	0.650	-	3.676	4.800	4.800	-
Jubilee Way Roundabout & Didcot Central Corridor	MICW	-	0.091	0.750	0.159	-	1.000	1.000	-
Golden Balls Roundabout Junction (A4074/B4015)	MICW	-	0.009	0.400	0.591	-	1.000	1.000	-
A40/Minster Lovell West Facing Slips/Access to Carterton	MICW	-	-	-	0.710	-	0.710	0.710	0.120
Oxford Science Transit	MIHIF2	1.476	3.086	7.438	-	-	12.000	12.000	-
Access to Witney at Shores Green	MIHIF2	-	1.696	5.100	1.886	-	8.682	8.682	0.020
Thame to Haddenham Cycle Route	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.010
Shrivenham New School	Pupil Places	-	0.501	1.999	-	-	2.500	2.500	-
Ploughley Road / A41 Bicester	MIBAB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.010
Wantage Eastern Link Road	MICW	-	1.000	-	-	-	1.000	1.000	-
A34 Lodge Hill	MICW		0.462	4.594	6.944	-	12.000	12.000	-
Featherbed Lane Capacity Improvements	n/a			-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Scheme Spend		40.498	13.720	46.575	31.382	10.552	142.727	142.727	3.970
Staffing		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.303
Programme Contingency/earmarked reserves		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Send		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.303
TOTAL GROWTH DEAL SCHEMES		40.498	13.720	46.575	31.382	10.552	142.727	142.727	7.273
New Schools and Other Transport Schemes - Capital Switches		41.039	7.983	-	-	-	49.022		
Revenue		7.273	-	-	-	-	7.273		
UTILISATION OF GROWTH DEAL FUNDING		88.810	21.703	46.575	31.382	10.552	199.022		
Accounting Adjustments: Prepayments		- 16.500	0.107	5.800	10.000	0.593	-		
Accounting Adjustments: Prepayments		-	-	-	-	-	_		
Control Total		72.310	21.810	52.375	41.382	11.145	199.022		

#### Housing from Infrastructure Programme

	Yr 1 - Yr	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Funding	3					
Capital	75.000	30.000	30.000	-	-	135.000
Revenue	15.000	-	-	-		15.000
Total Growth Deal Grant Funding	90.000	30.000	30.000	0.000	0.000	150.000
Funding Switches	41.039	7.983	-	-	-	49.022
Total Funding	131.039	37.983	30.000	0.000	0.000	199.022
Revenue C/Fwd	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Capital C/Fwd	58.729	16.173	-22.375	-41.382	-11.145	0.000
Cummulative Capital C/Fwd	58.729	74.902	52.527	11.145	0.000	

21/22 Outturn of £21.703m does not include the £4.1m funding agreement for the A34 Lodge Hill Scheme paid on 4 April 2022

Affordable Housing Programme										Annex 2
				ctual		le Housing				
	2018/19	- 2020/21	20	21/22	Prog	ramme	Futur	e Delivery		
	Units	Grant claimed	Units	Grant Available	Units	Total Grant Funding	Estimated Units	Estimated Costs to be met by HE and other funding sources	Estimated Total Units	Estimated Total Costs
Unit Type										
	No.	£m	No.	£m	No.	£m	No.	£m	No.	£m
Social Rented	207	11.330	55	3.864	262	15.194	186	11.360	448	26.554
Affordable Rented	188	7.332	12	0.787	200	8.119	94	4.170	294	12.289
Shared Ownership	268	6.915	146	5.349	414	12.264	235	6.729	649	18.993
Total Units & Spend	663	25.577	213	10.000	876	35.577	515	22.259	1,391	57.836
Original Units & Grant Funding									1,322	60.000
Difference									69	-2.164
Grant Funding		25.577		10.000		35.577				

\* includes 5 additional units in Y3 Social Rented count, as joint funded by Homes England.

### **Capacity Fund**

	2017/18 Actual Spend £'m	2018/19 Actual Spend £'m	2019/20 Actual Spend £'m	2020/21 Actual Spend £'m	2021/22 Actual Spend £'m	2022/23 Forecast Spend £'m	2023/24 Forecast Spend £'m	TOTAL £'m
Housing Delivery (Programme Team) Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Feasibility Provisional forecast submitted	0.044	0.340 0.207 0.000	0.480 1.347 0.042	0.390 (0.253) 0.000	0.267 0.254 0.073	1.418 0.057	0.334 0.000	3.273 1.555 0.172 0.000
Total Spend Grant Received Grant Carried Forward (-) / Drawn down (+)	<b>0.044</b> (0.500) (0.456)	<b>0.547</b> (2.500) (1.953)	1.869 (2.000) (0.131)	0.137 0.137	<b>0.594</b> 0.594	<b>1.475</b> 1.475	<b>0.334</b> 0.334	5.000 (5.000) (0.334)
Year End Reserve Balance	0.456	2.409	2.540	2.403	1.809	0.334	0.000	<i>'</i>

Agenda Item 9c

**Notes** OF A MEETING OF THE



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Infrastructure Advisory Group

# HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 MAY 2022 AT 2.30 PM VIRTUAL VIA MS TEAM

#### Present:

**Members**: Councillor Liz Leffman (Chair), Councillor Pieter-Paul Barker, Councillor Ian Corkin, Councillor Judy Roberts Councillor Louise Upton, Councillor Liz Brighouse and Phil Southall

**Officers**: John Disley (Oxfordshire County Council), John McLauchlan (Oxfordshire County Council) and Babatunde Ogundele (Future Oxfordshire Partnership)

# 34 Apologies for absence and notification of substitutions; declaration of interests; Chair's announcements

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Alex Hollingsworth, Oxford City Council and Councillor Duncan Enright, Oxfordshire County Council.

Councillor Louise Upton substituted for Councillor Alex Hollingsworth and Councillor Liz Brighouse substituted for Councillor Duncan Enright.

The Chair confirmed she would also be representing West Oxfordshire District Council in the meeting.

There were no declaration of interests.

### 35 Notes of the previous meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 28 February 2022 were agreed to be an accurate record of matters discussed.

# 36 Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Infrastructure Programme Update

Infrastructure Advisory Group Notes - 25 May 2022 Page 50

The Advisory Group was provided with a report by John McLauchlan, Head of Service Infrastructure Programme Office on the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Infrastructure Programme Update.

John McLauchlan confirmed the report focused on schemes that are due for full construction within year 5 of the Homes from Infrastructure programme and the need to offset some existing budget pressures and some inflationary budget pressures.

John McLauchlan highlighted that the recommendation put forward was to remove the current funding allocated to Woodstock and 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. It was confirmed that if approved by the Oxfordshire County Council Cabinet the reallocation of funding will be used in several schemes like North Oxford Corridor – Kidlington Roundabout, North Oxford Corridor – Cassington to Loop Farm, Banbury Tramway, Benson Relief Road and Access to Witney.

John McLauchlan confirmed that there is a second stage to this report, however this report focuses on schemes that need funding more urgently.

Members expressed concerns with the reallocation of funding from the Woodstock and Banbury Road corridors, but commented they were reassured that consideration was being given to the inclusion of the schemes into the COTS. Members also expressed the need for Stage 2 of this funding to cover for shortfalls.

Members queried if funding is also going into COTS and where funding for this will come from in terms of budget.

Members queried the increase in costs in Tramway Improvements, North Oxford Corridor – A44 Cassington to Loop Farm, North Oxford Corridor – Kidlington Roundabout and Access to Witney by more than a third in cost. It was however pointed out that there has been a significant spike in the cost of material, there are also several complexities that were not factored in previously and the initial budget was put together 4 years ago.

It was confirmed the report will go forward to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Meeting on 13 June 2022 for consideration.

# Action: John McLauchlan and John Disley to make amendment to report for clarity on what is being proposed on Woodstock and Banbury Road Corridor.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked John McLauchlan for his report presented to the Advisory Group.

#### 37 Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal infrastructure Lessons Learnt

The Advisory group was provided with a report by John McLauchlan on behalf of Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme

John McLauchlan confirmed the purpose of this report was to inform the Future Oxfordshire Partnership of the findings of a recent lessons learnt review of the Growth Deal Homes from Infrastructure Programme and how things can be done better going forward.

Members pointed out the need for future deals to be scrutinised thoroughly before any deal is agreed upon.

Members highlighted the need to retain some of the clear benefits derived from the Councils working together as a result of the Housing and Growth Deal.

Members pointed out the need for revenue to support staff teams who support projects to be factored in when putting in bids for items.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked John McLauchlan for presenting the report on behalf of Paul Staines.

### 38 Strategic Bus Planning

The Advisory Group was provided with a report by John Disley, Infrastructure Strategy and Policy Manager, Oxfordshire County Council.

John Disley confirmed the purpose of this report was to:

- 1. Set out the updated proposals for Enhanced Partnership (EP) governance, including consideration of how District/City Councils (at officer) level are proposed to be represented on the partnership board.
- 2. Update the Advisory Group on the proposed measures to be prioritised for BSIP funding, following the confirmation of Oxfordshire's indicative funding allocation, for inclusion in the Enhanced Partnership Scheme

In conclusion the EP proposals, including Governance and BSIP funding priorities, put together represented the next stage in taking forward a new approach to secure a much better future for buses in Oxfordshire. Continued involvement of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and its constituent authorities will be essential in finalising the EP proposals and making the partnership work.

### 39 Enhanced Partnership

The Advisory Group was provided with a paper by John Disley on the Enhanced Partnership.

John Disley pointed out that a new Enhanced Partnership Board will be created with 10 voting members – 5 officers from the public sector and 5 from the private sector.

Members commented that a problem with having a single representative for all the Districts was that each District had a very different circumstance and ask with regards to the bus services.

Members pointed out the fact that Oxford City and the Districts both jointly have 2 votes on the Board will allow for flexibility in management.

Members agreed for this to go forward to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Meeting.

# 40 Bus Service Improvement Plan

The Advisory Group was provided with a paper by John Disley on the Bus Service Improvement Plan, (BSIP).

John Disley pointed out that the purpose of the paper was to provide high-level summary of Oxfordshire County Council's plan for investing in buses, being funded through BSIP.

Members queried the Hollow Way traffic filter for it has been opposed by people in the local area as they have not been consulted on that bus filter. It was also highlighted that this may affect some people especially the elderly from getting to their GP surgery that is on Hollow Way.

Members pointed out that real rail time information needs to be upgraded and highlighted the need for disability to be touched upon in the Bus Strategy as it has not been currently taken into consideration.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked John Disley for his report presented to the Advisory Group.

# 41 Dates of Future Meetings and Forward Programme

- 4/07/2022
- 5/09/2022
- 31/10/2022
- 9/01/2023
- 27/02/2023
- 17/04/2023
- 3/07/2023

The meeting closed at 4.10 pm

Agenda Item 9d

**Notes** OF A MEETING OF THE



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Housing Advisory Group

# HELD ON TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2022 AT 6.30 PM VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

#### Present:

**Members**: Councillors Susan Brown (Chair), Jeff Haine, Judy Roberts, Pete Sudbury, Robin Bennett, and Lucinda Wing

**Officers**: Paul Staines (Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Team) Babatunde Ogundele (Future Oxfordshire Partnership)

# 23 Apologies for absence and notification of substitutions; declaration of interests; Chair's announcements

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Diko Walcott, Oxford City Council.

There were no substitutes.

The were no declaration of interests.

The Chair welcomed Members and Officers present at the meeting.

### 24 Notes of the previous meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 2 November 2021 were agreed to be an accurate record of matters discussed

It was confirmed that the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Affordable Housing and Planning Workshop has been held and another one would be scheduled in the future with dates to follow in due course.

### 25 Housing advisory sub-group year-end review

The Advisory Group was provided with a presentation by Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme on the year-end review. The presentation focused on Homes from Infrastructure Programme and the Affordable Housing Programme.

Key achievements of the Oxfordshire Affordable Housing Programme highlighted in the presentation include:

- OAHP delivered in full against reduced budget of £10 million in 4<sup>th</sup> year
- Delivered 66 per cent of target units with only 60 per cent of budget achieved 70% of target overall
- Additional £35.6m of spending on affordable housing in Oxfordshire plus circa £2.5 million of another grant levered in.
- Established robust systems and procedures to identify, assess and approve funding applications.
- Strong partnership work has allowed positive examples of information sharing and collaborative working. e.g., Heylo Schemes.

Paul Staines highlighted the latest performance figures for the Hfl programme and noted that the last reported data showed the partners above target for accelerated housing and also for the overall trajectory, the latter when the agreed two-year extension was factored in.

Paul Staines confirmed there is a review of the Infrastructure Programme by OCC as the delivery body. This would be reported to the Infrastructure Advisory Group and then to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2022.

Paul Staines confirmed that 'Lessons Learnt' report from the Housing from Infrastructure Programme requested by the Scrutiny Panel would also be reported to them on the 7<sup>th</sup> June and then the Future Oxfordshire Partnership meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>June 2022.

# Action: Paul Staines to circulate the Lessons Learnt Report by email to Members of the Housing Advisory Group

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chair thanked Paul Staines for his presentation and thanked officers from all authorities for all the work put in to deliver these schemes.

The Chair also commended the fact that there are almost 900 additional affordable homes in Oxfordshire because of the Growth Deal.

# 26 Update on First Homes

Paul Staines circulated notes to Members prior to the Advisory Group Meeting.

Paul Staines confirmed the idea of the note was to give an update on the standing of each of the Councils with the delivery of First Homes and it was confirmed that all councils have now put planning guidance in place.

It was confirmed the National criteria for First Homes has been set by Government, however councils can depart from that in a few places but require a detailed viability assessment to do that. It was pointed out that Oxford have done a viability assessment meaning only Oxford are able to depart from the National Criteria. It was pointed out that after First Homes was introduced there was a Ministerial note which made mention of prioritising the need for social rented housing.

Members queried if any Councils elsewhere have challenged the First Homes guidance. It was confirmed this has not happened yet, however if a Council believe their Housing need was so severe that it could not deliver First Homes then this was likely to happen.

PS advised that some Oxfordshire authorities were having trouble in the delivery of First Homes, as the level of discount required to bring the homes under the required cost cap was so significant as to affect the viability of the schemes. Members asked to be kept updated on progress across the councils

# 27 Update on Community Led Housing

Paul Staines provided the Advisory Group with a verbal update.

It was confirmed that the Future Oxfordshire Partnership commissioned a Community Led Housing report in 2021 which had several recommendations which include:

- Land Allocation
- Technical Support for Community Led Housing Groups
- Finance

It was confirmed that the Land Allocation have been moved forward by Councils through their Local Plan across Oxfordshire.

It was highlighted that there were some discussions with officers in the Oxfordshire County Council about the legality and feasibility of the County Council potentially leading some sort of financial assistance package for CLH groups PS confirmed that OCC had agreed to consider an in-principle business case and officers would be working on that over the summer and would report on progress

It was confirmed that the CoHo housing hubs and others are starting to gear up and think about how they can offer that enhanced advise to Community Led Housing as they start to develop

# 28 Modern Methods of Construction Update

The Chair confirmed the notes provided have been seen before and have also been circulated.

Members pointed out that the Springfield Meadows development in the last bullet point under South Oxfordshire District Council is in Vale of White Horse District Council.

#### Action: Paul Staines to correct this

# 29 Dates of future meetings

- 05/07/2022
- 06/09/2022
- 01/11/2022
- 10/01/2022
- 28/02/2023
- 18/04/2023
- 04/07/2023

With respect to future agenda items it was agreed to add an item on Lessons from Graven-Hill around the Custom Build Housing

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Housing Advisory Group

# HELD ON TUESDAY 5 JULY 2022 AT 6.30 PM VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

#### Present:

**Members**: Councillors Susan Brown (Chair), Robin Bennett, Nick Mawer, Judy Roberts, Geoff Saul and Linda Smith

**Officers**: Babatunde Ogundele (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Dave Scholes (Oxford City Council) and Paul Staines (Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Team)

# 30 Apologies for absence and notification of substitutes; declaration of interests; Chair's announcements

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Pete Sudbury, Oxfordshire County Council.

Councillor Liz Brighouse substituted for Councillor Pete Sudbury.

There were no declaration of interests.

The Chair welcomed Members and Officers present at the meeting.

### 31 Notes of the previous meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 19 April 2022 were agreed to be an accurate record of matters discussed.

The Chair informed members to get in touch with Paul Staines directly if there were any questions about the Lessons Learnt Report circulated.

# 32 Update on Community Led Housing

The Advisory Group was provided with a briefing note by Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme, on Community Led Housing (CLH). The briefing note pointed out that the promotion of CLH was one of the specific ambitions highlighted in the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal and after that, the then Growth Board had commissioned a report on invigorating CLH that had several recommendations endorsed by the Board

One key recommendation was for partners to consider if they could enable Community Led Housing groups to access finance to bring their projects forward, particularly Early-Stage Finance. The report proposed that councils could as one example describe a business model in their budgets to access borrowing that is then lent on to CLH groups on commercial terms

Paul Staines confirmed he was in touch with Oxfordshire County Council in the first instance to enquire if there was any appetite for considering a county wide finance model for Community Led Housing on behalf of the partnership for the year 2023 and beyond. It was pointed out that Members representing Oxfordshire County Council have been briefed on this proposal and have indicated they would wish to understand the proposal in more detail, more detailed work was being completed with the hope that this could form a business case and budget bid later in the year.

Paul Staines confirmed he would be developing this business case in collaboration with officers from Oxford City.

Councillor Robin Bennett confirmed that South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils Officers have shown interest to help with developing this business case.

Councillor Nick Mawer pointed out that to his knowledge there was not a huge demand for Community Led Housing in Cherwell District Council other than Hook Norton. It was also pointed out that officers are concerned with the amount of time and resources from the various departments that this programme might lead to for this work. It was confirmed that a financial model that seeks to 'wash its own face' including any necessary admin costs would be the starting point for any business case.

Members queried if Housing projects would consider disabled accessibility and parking. It was confirmed that Oxfordshire County Council have made it clear that for projects to be considered they will need to align with the priorities of the council e.g., Environmental Sustainability

Members pointed out the need to look at the core issue of young people leaving care as this is an important issue due to the cost of housing making it difficult to achieve this.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked Paul Staines for providing the Advisory Group with the briefing note.

# 33 Growth Deal Update

The Advisory Group was provided with a presentation by Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme on an update on the Growth Deal. The presentation focused on the Homes from Infrastructure Programme and the Affordable Housing Programme.

Paul Staines highlighted the need to deliver targets within the 5 years of the hfl programme and only take up the two-year extension if required.

Paul Staines pointed out that due to national issues there is a slowdown in schemes as several tenders are coming back with highly inflated cost from builders reflecting the inflationary increase in labour and materials.

Members expressed concerned with increase in costs and pointed out that this should be monitored and the highlighted the need for cabinet members to be kept informed by Officers in the respective councils.

Councillors expressed the need for a framework agreement for councils to save money suggesting West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxford City to investigate any joint commissioning work that can be done to bring costs down.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair thanked Paul Staines for his presentation.

### 34 Dates of future meetings

- 06/09/2022
- 01/11/2022
- 10/01/2023
- 28/02/2023
- 18/04/2023
- 04/07/2023

With respect to future agenda items, it was agreed to add an item that investigates support that can be provided to the District Councils in Oxfordshire in setting up a Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm

# Draft Notes

OF A MEETING OF THE



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group

# HELD ON THURSDAY 16 JUNE 2022 AT 10.00 AM VIRTUAL VIA MS TEAMS

### Present:

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

**Officers**: Giles Hughes (West Oxfordshire District Council), Kevin Jacob, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Paul Staines, (Housing and Growth Deal Team), Andrew Thompson (Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Team) and Philip Wadsworth (Oxfordshire Plan Team)

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

Apologies for late arrival were submitted by Councillor Duncan Enright, Oxfordshire County Council because of an existing commitment.

There were no declarations of interest.

The Chair welcomed Councillor Carl Rylett to the advisory group as the new representative of West Oxfordshire District Council.

# 2 Notes of previous meetings

The notes of the meeting held on 29 April 2022 were agreed as a correct summary.

As a matter arising, a number of members expressed concern that a number of the papers mentioned within the notes as items for the current meeting had not been included in the agenda and that the advisory group meeting planned for May had been cancelled. Giles Hughes, Chief Executive of West Oxfordshire District Council and Senior Responsible Officer for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 responded that since the previous meeting, the Oxfordshire 2050 Plan Team had been working intensely at a fine level of detail with Planning Policy Managers from across the councils. This arrangement was proving to be successful, but he accepted that this work and work to commission additional evidence had taken longer than had been hoped for even though resources remained focussed on the development of the Plan. In response, members stressed the importance of reaching a

political agreement and approach on numbers first and questioned why additional evidence was required as political agreement on numbers had not yet been reached.

Giles Hughes continued that the decision had been taken to bring as many items and information as possible to the current meeting, recognising that this might mean the papers would be in early draft form. However, it was considered highly important to provide as early an opportunity for members of the advisory group to feedback on the papers being developed.

Members were referred to the draft revised Plan timetable included for discussion as an Agenda item and the first indicative draft of Regulation 18 Part 3 consultation document.

# 3 Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Timetable and work programme

The advisory group considered a paper that set out different options around a revised timetable for the Oxfordshire Plan.

It was noted that the officer recommended revised timetable was to undertake a further Regulation 18 (Part 3) public consultation commencing in late October 2022 before the Regulation 19 stage could be undertaken. A further joint workshop between Leaders and the Oxfordshire Plan Advisory Group was expected to take place on the 14 July 2022.

A number of members stressed the importance of the work around future housing need and numbers having been completed and a consensus position reached between the authorities before another Reg 18 consultation. However, it was also pointed out by members that the political agreement on numbers and approach should come first and inform the work in time for such a consultation to be undertaken. The scale of the practical challenges that would need to be overcome in the context of the difficulty of meeting previous commitments was also highlighted.

It was also stressed that there was a risk of significant adverse knock on implications for the review of individual Local Plans in several of the Districts if a Part 3 consultation were to commence later than October 2022. Officers responded that although challenging an October timescale was achievable.

The importance of communication at all levels of any changes to the programme was emphasised by members and concurred with by officers who agreed it would be important to develop an appropriate statement which could be shared with members outside of the meeting.

A general point made was that in developing a revised programme due consideration needed to be given to any potential timetable impact arising from the local government pre-election period leading into the local government elections in 2023. Officers agreed to undertake further investigations and seek appropriate advice.

Members discussed the first three options set out in the paper and a range of views were expressed and clarification provided by officers around each option. After further discussion, the consensus of the advisory group was in support of a further Regulation 18 public consultation (Part 3) prior to the Regulation 19 stage.

# 4 Revised "6 Steps" process update

The advisory group was informed that further discussion was to take place with the Planning Policy Managers in each partner council later that day and therefore the update would be presented to a future meeting.

### 5 1st draft of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 consultation documentation

The advisory group considered an early draft Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (Regulation 18 Part 3) consultation document. In presenting the document, Phil Wadsworth, Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Lead explained that although what was presented was in early draft form, officers had wanted to engage the advisory group members at the earliest opportunity around the overall direction of travel and style of the document.

As well as comments in the meeting, it was suggested that in addition to feeding back via Planning Policy Managers and other appropriate officers, members could consider submitting additional detailed individual comments direct to the Plan Team if they wished to. The Chair commented that it was important that all members should engage fully with their Planning Policy Managers and other members regarding the Plan. This was because final decisions around the Plan would ultimately be made by elected members as political decisions.

Members were informed that the draft plan document had been discussed with partner council Planning Policy Managers and so reflected their input. There had been an effort to condense the Plan and to reduce the number of proposed policies to reflect the nature of the document as a spatial level plan and the balance between it and Local Plans. The document would also seek to address how feedback from the Regulation 18 Part 2 consultation had been addressed. In addition to the full consultation document, it was also intended to provide a more accessible summary version.

A number of points were raised by various members of the advisory group regarding the draft:

- It was very important for readers to be able to understand how the latest version of the consultation document related and linked back to previous versions in terms of common threads.
- The reader needed to be able to see how responses to previous consultations had been considered and reflected. Officers responded that as the document was refined further, it would set out how previous feedback had been addressed in greater detail.
- It was imperative that the welcome acknowledgement and emphasis within previous versions towards climate change and the holistic, good growth principles of the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision were retained., A number of members insisted that the revisions to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision, Good Growth Principals and Objectives be undone and it was pointed out by them that the Vision and good growth principles had received strong support in the consultation responses. It was felt to be a regressive move to change them.
- Policies needed to be kept as concise as possible and the order reflect the overall focus on climate change.

Officers commented that these points were acknowledged and that it was also important to reflect the requirements of the NPPF and to have a view to future consideration by the Planning Inspectorate.

It was agreed that:

- 1) for the next meeting Officers prepare a list of changes between the previously consulted Oxfordshire Plan 2050 consultation document and the current draft setting out the rationale for any changes.
- 2) members of the advisory group give feedback on the current draft through their relevant partner council Planning Policy Manager and in addition individually if they wished to.

### 6 Update on mapping and spatial options work

Andrew Thompson, Principal Planner, Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Team provided a presentation that set out an update on spatial options identification and assessment using a data layering approach. This included:

- Details of an updated methodology for identification of broad locations for future change.
- High level details of sites suggested through the 'Call for Ideas'
- Site filtering processes, (including use of Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessments HELAA)
- Long list of site clusters

The advisory group was informed that it was intended to present further mapping information to the July meeting on potential housing numbers and scale.

In discussion, members raised a number of detailed technical questions and highlighted the issue of the inclusion of employment sites to provide an employment insight as well as dwelling information. The view was also expressed by a member that it was important in hierarchical terms that the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 provided a steer to Local Plans as a spatial level strategy.

The update was noted.

### 7 Dates of future meetings

The date of future meetings as set out in the Agenda was noted.

The meeting closed at 12.10 pm

# **Notes** OF A MEETING OF THE



# The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Environment Advisory Group

# HELD ON TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2022 AT 10.00 AM VIRTUAL VIA MS TEAMS

### Present:

**Councillors:** David Rouane (Chair), Sally Povolotsky, Andrea Powell, Andrew Prosser, Pete Sudbury, and Imogen Thomas

**Officers**: Sarah Gilbert, (Climate Action Team Leader, Oxfordshire County Council), Susan Harbour, (Strategic Partnership Manager, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils), Alex Jeffery, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Suzanne Malcolm, (Senior Responsible Officer) and Mish Tullar, (Head of Corporate Strategy, Oxford City Council)

Guests: Laurence Oakes-Ash (City Science) and Fiona Steel (Good Food Oxfordshire).

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

Apologies were received from Councillor Pete Sudbury, Oxfordshire County Council, for the first half of the meeting. Councillor Sudbury joined the meeting before agenda item 5.

There were no declarations from Members.

The following announcements were made by the Chair:

• The Chair introduced himself, followed by introductions from the other members of the Environment Advisory Group for the benefit of new members.

# 44 Notes of the previous meeting

The notes of the previous meeting held on 24 March 2022 were agreed to be an accurate record of matters discussed.

Councillor Powell commented that an item on the solar panel strategy was noted as being brought to this meeting but as it is not on the agenda, queried where this might be on the work programme.

Councillor Rouane responded that this was included in agenda item 6 and that correspondence has also been received from Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and the item had also been raised at FOP. Councillor Rouane commented that it needs to be discussed at what forum this item would be appropriate and perhaps it would be a joint discussion with the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group.

Councillor Rouane also noted that a speaker on climate adaptation from a mainstream organisation has not yet been organised. Councillor Povolotsky recommended Ocado as an organisation to be considered.

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

The Advisory Group considered a report and 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 also provided a verbal introduction of PaZCO for the benefit of new members to the advisory group and provided a summary of EAGs involvement with PaZCO to date.

The report recommended that the advisory group note the appointment of City Science and their proposed approach to developing a net zero route map and action plan for Oxfordshire. Laurence Oakes-Ash was at the meeting representing City Science.

To date, City Science have consolidated the evidence in the carbon baseline for Oxfordshire and their task now is to convert that evidence into meaningful and tangible outcomes. Part of their work to date has been completing a literature review and 1:1 meetings with stakeholders to help establish best practice and to test and align with previous and emerging work in the county which aligns with the original PaZCO and the local transport and connectivity plan among others.

The next stage of the work is five thematic workshops which have emerged from discussions with Officers and partners about the most beneficial areas to focus on -

- 1. Rural travel
- 2. Freight
- 3. Domestic retrofit
- 4. Finance and Local Models of Finance
- 5. SME support to decarbonise and the role of FOP partners

The workshops will focus on prioritising the actions that are taken forwards and prioritising what is going to work best for Oxfordshire which will feed into quantitative prioritisation. From the ideas that emerge from the workshops, City Science will calculate how much carbon they expect those projects to save which will then be prioritised to feed into focus groups to follow later in the summer.

The Chair then opened the item for discussion. Comments and questions were received from members of the group.

Councillors noted that circular economy and food (consumption and diet) were absent from the themed workshops. Laurence responded that circular economy would be thematic across all areas and is something that is being pursued. On food, Sarah responded that their approach is that because the food strategy has been developed and has quite a lot of traction within the County, it would be most appropriate for the actions and issues from that strategy to be reflected in the PaZCO work rather than create another area of work, although a piece on consumption has been accelerated through to a focus group.

Councillors expressed a preference to ensure this work integrates with the existing landscape of various strategies and action plans and that the work should take a sciencebased approach with targets that are clearly communicated by utilising the already established communications strategy. Laurence responded on integration saying that there has been an existing policy review and tangible targets and objectives should be aligned to existing documents but also asked for suggestions of other existing strategies that might align with the route map.

The Councillors discussed behavioural change and it was suggested that this could be raised in each of the workshops because each of those areas has behavioural change as one of the contributing factors. Laurence responded that movement towards action is at the heart of their approach and City Science has action on their minds and this is more than just a report. In addressing behaviour change, Laurence commented that the Council's sphere of influence needs to be considered and how the capacity already within the system is harnessed.

Councillor Powell queried how members will be involved in the consultation. Sarah responded that they are aware members will have an appetite to be engaged and as such there is intention to open the groups to Councillor attendance and in addition, there would be a member consultation following the workshops to provide an update to Councillors.

Responding to a comment in the meeting chat, Councillor Rouane stated that the OxPlan 2050 sub-group is looking at the carbon impact of housing strategies, therefore it was not worth EAG repeating this work.

The advisory group members indicated that they were happy with the approach set out in the report.

# 46 Presentation on the work of Good Food Oxfordshire by Fiona Steel

Fiona Steel, from Good Food Oxfordshire (abbreviated to GFO) provided a presentation around the work that GFO are undertaking around the Oxfordshire Food Strategy. A draft strategy and the presentation were circulated to group members ahead of the meeting.

GFO is a network of over 150 local organisations committed to a better food system for Oxfordshire. GFO has been operating in Oxford City since 2014 and over the last two years expanded county wide. GFO were asked by the Councils to work to build a multi-stakeholder food strategy which was started in September 2021.

There is a genuine challenge around food which can be summarised into four areas that are putting pressure on the system: food poverty, climate emergency, food supply and health crisis. A coherent food strategy should tackle all four of these factors in six key areas and ambitions: food justice, food for the planet, sustainable food economy, good

food movement, governance and strategy and sustainable supply chain. Within these, GFO has identified the following priority areas for action:

- 1. Tackle food poverty and diet-related ill health
- 2. Build vibrant food communities
- 3. Grow our local food economy
- 4. Strengthen short, transparent local food supply chains
- 5. Improve the health and sustainability of institutional catering

The approach that GFO are taking in delivering this programme is realising that there a lot of programmes that touch on food, but GFO are trying to work within the public health agenda around health inequality, the healthy place shaping agenda, climate action framework and the corporate and local plans and acknowledging that food happens within each of those areas, but this strategy needs to be embedded within each of those plans.

Part 1 of developing the strategy has been completed, step 2 concerns implementation and this involves developing food action plans within each district to engage stake holders at a grass roots level to build a plan for each district in line with their district plan.

Fiona concluded the presentation by noting several foundational projects where GFO are building understanding around supply chains, school food and community wealth building.

Questions were then received from members of the advisory group.

Councillor Thomas commended the inclusion of community wealth building but also noted the omission of meat and dairy reduction from the presentation & strategy. Fiona responded that the messaging is 'less and better meat and dairy', and the strategy would highlight the importance of sustainable agriculture.

Councillors raised the importance of elements such as micro-agriculture and the need to educate people about where their food comes from, and a question was raised about how schools would be engaged in the strategy. Fiona responded that micro-agriculture must be part of the model and that engaging with schools was central to the strategy but as a foundational project due to the pressures already being experienced by schools. On micro-agriculture, Councillor Rouane suggested feedback to the OxPlan 2050 sub-group with reference to local plans and challenges with planning issues on this topic.

In terms of what the group could do and what members could take to their Councils to have the greatest influence, identifying pockets of land for community growing but also establishing and supporting community gardens by commitment of resources were recommended by Fiona. Growing initiatives can be supported in community centres by resourcing and supporting cooking tutors by means of recruitment and compensation. Finally, encouraging local institutions such as schools and hospitals and social care institutions to buy from local farmers.

Councillor Rouane thanked Fiona for her presentation and recommended a follow up in 6 months to receive an update on the progress of the strategy should be added to the forward programme.

# 47 Presentation on climate adaptation by Councillor Pete Sudbury

The group received a presentation from Councillor Sudbury on Climate Adaptation and Climate Change Risk Assessment 3 (CCRA3). The presentation is for the information of members only and has no official status.

Following the presentation, the item was opened for discussion.

Councillors raised the lack of resilience planning as a concern and noted issues such as the Tree Policy not discussing climate-ready trees or planting guides being included in design guides. The messaging on climate adaptation was also discussed by Councillors who noted that there should be a forum where climate adaptation can be discussed without people being scared, that should give people confidence that they can do something about climate change and that the messaging on climate adaptation needs to be around people's lives within their lifetime. Councillor Prosser noted that the phrase climate urgency was more favourable over climate emergency.

Councillor Rouane asked Councillors whether the group should adopt a different tone regarding their messaging on climate adaptation and whether the group should write to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and ask that the other advisory groups should continue to give significant weighting to climate change in their discussion and recommendations?

Councillors noted that the communications piece was an evolving scheme that should be a positive and engaging strategy that makes clear the seriousness of the situation but also discusses actions are tangible for 'normal' people. It was suggested having a lexicon or framework guide of words to use to convey the climate emergency. Councillors added that there should be a focus on planning for the future with a psychology of messaging that allows people to envision a future as it is going to be, by scaling things down to a domestic level and then up again to connect with the global impact.

Councillors noted that people are aware of climate change and The Councils cannot afford to lose people's interest on the matter as keeping citizens, communities, and businesses safe is a comforting message for people of Oxfordshire.

Officer's present at the meeting commented that it could be challenging to change the tone of messaging but perhaps the wider communications piece can be looked at and was a point to be discussed at the Officer group. Officers noted that consistency of messaging is crucial and perhaps the Thames Valley resilience forum could also be looked at in this regard.

Councillor Rouane made two suggestions that were supported by the group

- 1. The Councils should consider a more urgent approach towards messaging on climate change.
- 2. That as Chair of the advisory group he should write to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and ask that the other work groups continue to give significant weighting to climate change in their discussions/recommendations.

# 48 Work Programme

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

- Update from OxLEP on their Clean Growth Sub-Group. Suzanne noted that OxLEP are doing a review of their sub-groups and looking at how OxLEP and those involved in that group could work closer with EAG.
- To receive a presentation from a mainstream business in Oxfordshire on the work they are undertaking to implement Pathways to Zero Carbon. Suzanne noted that we had pushed back for some other, more mainstream, businesses but Ocado could also be a good option and Councillor Povolotsky would pick this up with Suzanne. Two presentations from companies in contrasting markets would was preferred.
- To receive a significant update on PaZCO following the conclusion of their workshops.

Agenda items suggested for future meetings:

• An update from Good Food Oxfordshire on their Food Strategy – a 6-month timeframe was suggested.

#### 49 Future meetings

The date of the next meeting was originally scheduled to be on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 however to ensure that a significant update on the PaZCO work can be delivered to the Environment Advisory Group, this meeting will be delayed until 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022.