

Notes

OF A MEETING OF THE

Oxfordshire Growth Board Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Sub-Group

HELD ON THURSDAY 16 JULY 2020 AT 10.00 AM

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA MS TEAMS

Present:

Councillors James Mills (Chair), Colin Clarke, Jeff Haine, Alex Hollingsworth, Jeannette Matelot, Anne-Marie Simpson and Catherine Webber

Officers: Inga Doherty, (Oxfordshire County Council, Giles Hughes (West Oxfordshire District Council), Kevin Jacob, (Oxfordshire Growth Board), Vanessa Scott, (West Oxfordshire District Council), Sam Thomas, (Cherwell District Council) and Rachel Williams (Oxfordshire Plan 2050)

1 Apologies for absence and notifications of substitutes; declarations of interest; Chair's announcements

No apologies for absence were received. Councillor Clarke indicated he had to leave the meeting at 11:00 due to another urgent meeting commitment.

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Notes of the previous meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 18 June 2020 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

3 Oxfordshire Strategic Vision - update

The subgroup received a report setting out an update on a Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire. This followed on from the subgroup's discussion at its June meeting of an initial proposal by the Growth Board Director to develop a spatial planning framework for Oxfordshire and incorporated comments made by members of the sub-group.

It was noted that it was intended to bring a further paper to the subgroup in August and continue a more in-depth discussion there. Members were encouraged to review the document further and submit questions to Rachel Williams in advance of the next meeting.

4 Climate Change Workshop

The subgroup undertook a workshop style discussion around Climate Change and its links to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, building on previous discussions and presentations on a range of climate change related issues.

Rachel Williams, Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Lead provided a presentation that focussed discussion around the following themes and topics. Discussion was facilitated by number of specialist officers from across Oxfordshire:

- Transport emissions and sustainable travel
- Energy use and carbon from buildings
- Low carbon and renewable energy and heat
- Use of resources
- Natural environment
- Other topic areas

Members were asked to consider each topic area in respect of the following questions:

- What are the priorities?
- What should the Oxfordshire Plan be seeking to do about this?
- What needs to be done elsewhere, (outside of the remit of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050)/by others?

Several general themes arose from the workshop for further work and subsequent consideration:

- The challenges and opportunities around balancing desires to increase active travel, increase public transport, (particularly in rural locations and directly between market towns) and reducing transport emissions within the context of an ageing population, economic recovery and the scope of a strategic spatial plan like the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.
- Domestic and non-domestic building energy emissions through construction and operations, the role of national and local regulation including opportunities to learn from practice in other areas and the challenge of retrofitting existing property stock.
- The potential role of the Oxfordshire Plan in encouraging low carbon local energy generation and challenges to this.
- The importance of planning for future water and sewerage provision and environmental protections of rivers as part of ideas around use of resources in meeting Oxfordshire population's needs.
- Zones and corridors in connecting natural environments and protecting biodiversity which also had links to agricultural practice.
- The importance of the links between the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and other strategic documents such as OxlS, but also other plans affecting the future such as minerals and waste policy, whilst remaining cognitive of the remit of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

Following the discussion, Rachel Williams informed the subgroup that officers would reflect on the points made and that work would continue to connect them as smoothly as possible in terms of the development of the Oxfordshire Plan moving forward.

5 Draft skeleton for the Reg 18 (part 2) Consultation Document

The subgroup was reminded that at its previous meeting it had been presented with an initial draft of the skeleton framework for the Regulation 18 (Part 2) Consultation document. This had been updated considering member comments given at the time and given the time available councillors were further encouraged to submit any additional comments outside of the meeting.

A discussion took place regarding next steps, together with the outputs of the climate change workshop item and an additional document on the Plan guiding principles submitted by Cllr Webber. It was felt by several subgroup councillors that there should be a continued discussion about the Plan guiding principles and the submitted document. The subgroup was informed that this was felt to link to, and be supportive of, a discussion about the Strategic Vision. The additional document on the Plan guiding principles could form part of the pack for the next agenda with Officers cross-checking the available documentation and information. This was supported.

6 Future meetings

Thursday 13 August 2020 to include a workshop on the Strategic Vision and presentation on the OxIS review.

The meeting closed at 11.55 am