

Agenda

OXFORDSHIRE

G R O W T H B O A R D

Oxfordshire Growth Board

Tuesday 4 June 2019 at 2.00 pm

Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot, OX11 7JN

From 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020, the Oxfordshire Growth Board meetings are managed by South Oxfordshire District Council.

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Voting members 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council (which holds the chairmanship)	Councillor Sue Cooper
Leader of Vale of White Horse District Council (which holds the vice-chairmanship)	Councillor Emily Smith
Leader of Cherwell District Council	Councillor Barry Wood
Leader of Oxford City Council	Councillor Susan Brown
Leader of Oxfordshire County Council	Councillor Ian Hudspeth
Leader of West Oxfordshire District Council	Councillor James Mills

Non-voting members 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

Chairman of OxLEP	Jeremy Long
Vice-Chairman and Skills Board representative	Adrian Lockwood
Universities representative	Professor Alistair Fitt
OxLEP business representative - Bicester	Phil Shadbolt
OxLEP business representative – Oxford City	Peter Nolan
OxLEP business representative – Science Vale	Angus Horner
Homes England representative	Catherine Turner/Kevin Bourner
Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group representative	Louise Patten
Environment Agency representative	Lesley Tims

Note: Members of the Board may be accompanied at the table by senior officers from their organisation.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record the meeting please let the contact officer know in advance of this meeting.

AGENDA

PART ONE – PUBLIC BUSINESS

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
- 3 **Minutes** (Pages 7 - 18)

To adopt as a correct record the minutes of the Oxfordshire Growth Board meeting held on 26 March 2019.

- 4 **Chairman's announcements**
- 5 **Public participation**

Members of the public may ask questions of the Chairman of the Growth Board, or address the Growth Board on any substantive item at a meeting, subject to the restrictions set out in the public participation scheme.

The total amount of time allowed for public participation at a meeting shall not exceed 30 minutes, unless the Chairman consents to extend that time in the interests of the proper conduct of the business of the Growth Board.

A person speaking to the Growth Board may speak for up to three minutes. Board members may ask questions for clarification.

Asking a question

Questions (in full and in writing) must be received by 5pm on **three working days before the Growth Board meeting**. A written or verbal answer will be provided by the Chairman at the meeting. The questioner may ask a supplementary question directly related to either the original question or the reply received.

Addressing the Board

Notice of a wish to address the Growth Board by making a statement must be received by 12 noon on **the working day before the Growth Board meeting**.

Petitions

Petitions on matters directly relevant to matters in which the Growth Board has powers and duties must be received by 5pm on **three working days before the Growth Board meeting**. The representative of the petitioners may speak. Petitions are referred without discussion to the next meeting.

Questions, petitions and notice of addresses must be submitted to democratic.services@oxfordshiregrowthboard.org or delivered/posted to Democratic Services, South Oxfordshire District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, OX14 4SB.

6 Oxford to Cambridge Arc Update

To consider a presentation from Bev Hindle, Growth Board Director on the Oxford to Cambridge Arc.

7 Housing and Growth Deal delivery Annual Review Report

To update the Board on progress with the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.
(Report to follow)

Recommendation: to note the progress towards the Housing and Growth Deal milestones as set out in the delivery plan.

8 Infrastructure sub-group update (Pages 19 - 20)

To receive an update from the Infrastructure Sub-Group.

9 Housing sub-group update

To receive an update from the Housing Sub-Group.

10 Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (JSSP) sub-group update (Pages 21 - 24)

To receive an update from the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (JSSP) sub group.

11 Scrutiny panel update

To receive any feedback from the Growth Board Scrutiny Panel.

12 Oxfordshire local plans progress

To consider the progress report on the adoption of Oxfordshire's local plans.

13 Updates on matters relevant to the Growth Board

Growth Board members and officers may verbally update the Board on progress on matters previously before the Board for consideration, listed in the forward plan, or relevant to the Board's future decisions. This is for the sharing of information and no decisions will be taken.

14 Dates of next meetings

The dates of future Growth Board meetings are below. These will be held on Tuesdays at 2pm in Didcot Civic Hall.

- 4 June
- 30 July
- 24 September
- 26 November
- 28 January
- 31 March
- 2 June

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 her or himself but also those of the member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.

Minutes

OF A MEETING OF THE

Oxfordshire Growth Board

HELD ON TUESDAY 26 MARCH 2019 AT 2.00 PM
 DIDCOT CIVIC HALL, BRITWELL ROAD, DIDCOT, OX11 7JN

Present:

Voting members: Councillors Jane Murphy (Chairman), Roger Cox, Susan Brown, Ian Hudspeth, James Mills and Barry Wood

Non-voting members: Professor Alistair Fitt (Universities' Representative), Adrian Lockwood (OxLEP Vice-Chairman and Skills Board Representative), Catherine Turner (Homes England), Angus Horner (OxLEP business representative - Science Vale), Jo Cogswell, (Oxfordshire CCG) and Joe Cuthbertson, (Environment Agency).

Officers: Kevin Jacob, (Oxfordshire Growth Board), Andrew Down (South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils), Caroline Green (Oxford City Council), Bev Hindle (Oxfordshire County Council), Giles Hughes (West Oxfordshire District Council), Yvonne Rees (Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council Chief Executive), Paul Staines, (Oxfordshire Growth Board), Mark Stone (South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils Chief Executive), and Nigel Tipple (OxLEP Chief Executive).

Other councillors: Councillor Andrew Gant, (Oxford City Council and Chair of the Oxfordshire Growth Board Scrutiny Panel) and Bill Service (South Oxfordshire District Council)

31 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted from Jeremy Long, (Chairman of OxLEP), Louise Patten, (Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group) who was substituted by Jo Cogswell, Philip Shadbolt (OxLEP business representative for Bicester) and Lesley Tims, (Environment Agency Representative) who was substituted by Joe Cuthbertson.

32 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

33 Minutes

RESOLVED: To adopt the minutes of the Oxfordshire Growth Board meeting held on 29 January 2019 and agree that the Chairman signs them as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

- Inclusion of Angus Horner, Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership Science Vale representative, as present.
- Minute 19 - Correction of questioner for Question 5 – replace ‘Helen Marshall’ with ‘Sue Haywood’ on behalf of Need not Greed.
- Minute 26 – Replacement of ‘Chairman of the Housing Affordable Sub-Group’ with ‘Chair of the Housing Affordable Sub-Group’.

34 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman referred to the provision of written answers to public questions asked at the previous meeting. Written responses had been sent to the questioners and would be added to the website in due course. In future, these will be attached to the minutes of Growth Board meetings.

The Chairman also indicated that the order of the agenda would be amended so that Item 10 – Verbal update on the Oxfordshire to Cambridgeshire Arc – could be considered prior to Item 8 – Statement on the appointment of a Growth Board Director.

35 Public participation

The Growth Board received two public questions and one statement from members of the public:

1. **Question from by Jo Allen, Chair of Upper Heyford Parish Council.** (In her absence the question was deemed to have been put).

We are strongly of the view that the Growth Board, in administering the production of the Oxfordshire 2050 Plan, must take into account the impacts that a huge increase in the growth of housing and businesses in Oxfordshire will have on the following:

- growth in energy use
- growth in water use
- growth in waste created (rubbish, sewage etc)
- growth in traffic and pollution
- growth in noise and light pollution
- decrease in green space, diminished rural environment and displacement of wildlife.

It is also essential to include the impacts of major growth on local public services, for example:

- NHS services: hospitals, GP surgeries, ambulance services, etc
- Schools
- Police services

These important community services are not being enabled to grow in parallel with all the extra growth in housing and increased population that is proposed. This problem needs to be addressed by the Growth Board before decisions about more housing are made. Local people should not have to pay the price for increased housing by seeing their public services further diminished, while traffic and pollution increase.

It is time to look holistically, and to consider our existing communities in Oxfordshire. We are not Nimbys but insist that we should be valued, and our views taken into proper consideration. It is not enough to give money to 'mitigate' outcomes that are not capable of being mitigated.

Frontline services (such as Thames Water, police, GPs, schools etc.) are very important sources of information in the planning process because they are already having to try to accommodate an increased population on decreasing budgets and are struggling to deliver decent services. It is essential that their first-hand experience is made available to fully inform the Growth Board when such huge decisions are being made. Representatives of frontline public services must, therefore, be included on the Growth Board together with representatives from community organisations and Parish Councils and representatives for the environment and wildlife.

Oxfordshire Growth Board should be leading the way forward towards genuine sustainability and enhancing Oxfordshire - economically, socially and environmentally, all equally valued together, for present and future generations.

We would like to know how the Growth Board is going to ensure the issues raised above are addressed fully and how it will reassure existing communities that they have been listened to and the issues acted upon.

In response, the Chairman indicated that a full written answer would be provided to Councillor Allen, but that in summary that the issues raised were all fundamental concerns of good planning which the Oxfordshire Plan would strive for.

2. Question from Sue Haywood on behalf of the coalition Planning for Real NEED not Speculator GREED in Oxfordshire.

Given that the Growth Board has made a commitment to enshrine sustainability into the process of the Oxfordshire Plan, in line with a request made by DEFRA at the September 2018 meeting, does the Board consider that it ought to be able to provide an explanation of how this will be achieved in practice and, if so, could it now explain in detail:

- How people with the appropriate skills for this complex and technical concept will be incorporated into the decision-making process (in the way that health place-shaping is being visibly embedded)? For example, who is the sustainability expert on the JSSP Sub-Committee? In the Project team? In the Executive Officers' group?
- It is welcome that the Growth Board and project teams for the Plan are engaging specialists for various technical work. But who will set the scope for any specialists engaged, and who will assess and balance the information received, from responses to consultations as well as from expert reports, all of which requires a fundamental understanding of sustainability principles?
- And most importantly, how will issues such as social cohesion, the value of ecosystem services, and what scale of growth can be accommodated by various natural resources without depletion or harm over time, be championed and recognised in the decision-making structures as central to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, rather than simply regarded as things on which any damage must be "reduced" as much as possible, or mitigated?

The Chairman responded that a full written answer would be provided, but that in summary 1) the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (JSSP) was being developed in conjunction with the

Sustainability Appraisal process and the Habitat Assessment process. 2) A range of pieces of technical work were included in the Oxfordshire Plan project and the output from this work would be feedback into the Oxfordshire Plan Team. 3) The issues of social cohesion, the value of ecosystem services and the scale of growth which could be accommodated were all fundamental concerns of good planning that the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 would aim for.

Sue Haywood asked a supplementary question to the Chairman. To me you have not provided an answer to the question. With regard to the commissioning of specialist technical works, unless there is an officer with an ecological/sustainability understanding as part of the project team they would not be able to provide the technical specification for the works which needed to be done in conjunction with the plan.

The Chairman agreed to provide a written answer but commented that the points were taken on board.

3. Mark Beddow addressed the Growth Board on the lack of reference in agenda items to global warming, and the necessity to consider CO₂ emissions from housing developments with particular reference to car use – despite the prominence of reports detailing the accelerating rate and consequences of warming. He commented that no one could expect that compounded growth was sustainable or possible in the 21st century. Given this, it was necessary to focus on the efficiency of development, in particular the Oxford road transport network (with particular reference to the A34) and the related congestion, time lost, fuel burned, and appointments missed. The Board was informed that East Hendred Parish Council planning sub-committee had two proposals:

- An accurate real-time traffic flow website for the A34 which would colour code traffic flow – in particular sections below 5 mph – with flow rate dial readings for all junctions from the M4 to the M40.
- Congestion charging of HGVs using the A34 section from the M4 to the M40 between 7 and 9am, and between 5 and 7pm in both directions. Proceeds to be distributed between Berkshire and Oxfordshire pro-rata on the A34 sections.

Something had to be done.

The Chairman thanked Mr Beddow for his statement.

36 Appointment of chairman and vice-chairman for 2019/20

It was proposed by Councillor Cox, and seconded by Councillor Hudspeth, that the Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council continue as Chairman of the Oxfordshire Growth Board for 2019/20 (commencing 1 July 2019) and that the Vice-Chairman be the Leader of Vale of White Horse District Council.

Councillor Cox commented that under the rotating process for the election of the Chairman of the Growth Board, the position was due to pass to the Leader of Vale of White Horse District Council for 2019/20. He, however, indicated that he would be standing down as a councillor and, consequently, Leader at the end of the current municipal year.

As the Growth Board was at a very important stage of its development, it was vital that there was a certainty and continuity of knowledge. Councillor Cox did not believe that the new leader of Vale of White Horse would be able to provide this, in addition to the

everyday challenges of taking on the role of heading their authority. As the current Chairman of the Board was experienced and knowledgeable in the role, he felt that she should continue in post for a further year.

Councillor Brown commented that the process of rotating chairmanship amongst the authorities had worked well providing for a variety of different views to be reflected and should continue. She paid tribute to Councillor Murphy as the current Chairman but wished to place on record her formal objection to the proposal. Councillor Brown felt that it was not in the spirit of partnership working and was a political decision.

Professor Fitt commented that as a non-voting member of the Board he felt that the process for rotation of the chair should continue, but that an alternative might be for West Oxfordshire to take on the role.

Upon being put to a vote it was:

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council be appointed as Chairman of the Oxfordshire Growth Board for the 2019/2020 year commencing on 1 July 2019.
- 2) That the new Leader of Vale of White District Council be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Oxfordshire Growth Board for the 2019/2020 year commencing 1 July 2019.

37 Appointment of a representative to the Oxford to Cambridge Arc executive committee

It was proposed by Councillor Hudspeth and duly seconded that Councillor James Mills be appointed as a representative to the Oxford to Cambridge Arc Executive Committee.

Bev Hindle, Strategic Director for Communities Oxfordshire County Council, updated the Board that the detailed formal governance structures for the Oxford to Cambridge Arc – which covered some 33 partners including local authorities, local enterprise partnerships and universities – were still evolving. It was, nevertheless, the intention of the Arc to establish a leader's group to help with the effective convening of its partners. It was, therefore, deemed prudent to take a view on the appointment of a Growth Board representative so that they could be in place once these arrangements had been formalised.

The Growth Board, while recognising that the current governance arrangements were evolving, confirmed that it was appropriate to appoint a representative to the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Arc Executive Committee.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mills be appointed as the Growth Board's representative to the Oxford to Cambridge Arc Executive Committee.

38 Statement on the appointment of a Growth Board Director

The Chairman made the following statement:

'On behalf of Oxfordshire Leaders and the Growth Board, I would like to welcome, as of April 1, Bev Hindle as our 'Growth Board Director'. Local Authority leaders recognised that while our officers have done an excellent job defining and delivering our workplan in the

first year of the Housing & Growth Deal, we need more dedicated senior resource to help take this forward, and to support our Chief Executives in this key area.

Bev will be accountable to the Growth Board, Oxfordshire Leaders and their Chief Executives to support the Growth Board with a particular focus on delivery of our commitments under the Housing & Growth Deal and our collective role in securing and delivering against other relevant major funding streams. Bev will also be chairing the Growth Board's Executive Officer Group and reporting their progress to Chief Executives, Leaders and the Growth Board.

At this time, I would also like to thank all the officers who have contributed to delivery of the Growth Deal to date, with particular appreciation to Caroline Green for stepping into the Deal Director role over the last 6 months or so.

Bev will also be playing a role to support Councillor Wood and Yvonne Rees, Leader and Chief Executive of Cherwell District Council, in their roles heading the Oxford to Cambridge Arc Leaders Group. As a director for the Arc Bev will work closely with HM Government's Arc team in helping to define the nature of our emerging Arc collaboration, and to seek to meet the agreed joint declaration between Local Authorities, LEPs and HM Government as announced in the Spring Statement'.

39 Update on Housing Infrastructure Bids

Councillor Hudspeth updated the Growth Board on the positive outcome of the £218 million Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) bid which was announced as part of the Chancellor's Spring Statement. This had been led by Oxfordshire County Council to support the Didcot Garden Town and associated projects including:

- A4130 widening from the A34 Milton interchange towards Didcot
- A new "science bridge" over the A4130, Great Western Railway Line and the Milton Road to the former Didcot A power station.
- A new Culham to Didcot river crossing between the A415 and A4130
- A Clifton Hampden Bypass.

He also wished to place on record his thanks to the various council officers who had worked very hard to submit the bid.

It was emphasised to the Board that the bid had not been limited to road infrastructure and included good cycle links.

A separate HIF bid for £102 million was currently being considered by HM Government which would deliver significant improvements to the A40 including dualling the road between Witney and the proposed Eynsham Park and Ride. While the bid had originally included a proposal for the B4044 Community Path, the difficult decision had been made to remove this aspect because of the technical requirements of the HIF process. Separate opportunities would, nevertheless, be explored for funding this.

The Growth Board strongly welcomed the positive outcome of the Didcot Garden Town Bid and expressed the wish that the A40 bid would also be successful. The importance of cycle lanes, bus lanes and other measures was also stressed as part a broad focus for infrastructure which was not simply focussed on car use but also offered other alternatives.

In respects of the A40 HIF bid, Councillor Mills commented that there had been a good level of engagement between West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council in the design of the proposals. He welcomed this given the big impact of the A40 on the economy of the district. Further, it was highlighted that these improvements were needed to accommodate housing as part of the Growth Deal.

RESOLVED: To note the report.

40 Oxfordshire to Cambridgeshire Arc Update

This item was considered prior to Item 8 – Statement on the appointment of a Growth Board Director.

The Growth Board received a verbal update from Bev Hindle, Strategic Director for Communities at Oxfordshire County Council, on developments with regard to the Oxford to Cambridge Arc. He commented that a full written report would be produced for the Growth Board at its next meeting, but summarised the key points as follows:

- Through the Chancellor's Spring Statement and the agreement of a joint declaration, HM Government had made clear its commitment to the Oxford to Cambridge Arc as a priority in achieving economic growth – work was underway to assess the impact of these announcements on the Oxfordshire Growth Deal.
- Work to assess the impact on the announcements on the Oxfordshire Growth Deal was in process.
- The geographical area covered by the Arc included the ceremonial county areas of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire.
- The joint declaration, which was available on the HM Treasury website, also provided an initial, Arc-wide, long-term economic analysis. Its foreword indicated that this assessment, together with the Local Industrial Strategies currently being developed, would provide an up-to-date picture of the economic opportunities and challenges facing the Arc.
- The declaration also committed HM Government to embedding the principle of 'natural capacity' thinking throughout its approach to the Arc. This is intended to ensure that sustainable places for the future are created alongside growth and development.
- An assurance had also been given to the continued importance of collaborative and partnership working in achieving the objectives of the Arc – the Growth Board would need to play its part in meeting the challenges ahead.

As Chair of the Arc Leaders Group, Councillor Wood added that officers had started the process of work planning in light of the announcements from HM Government – it was anticipated that this would be a significant piece of work. It was felt that the Arc would have a positive impact.

The Growth Board welcomed the update, including the recognition within the joint declaration of long-term 25-year strategic timeline with an emphasis placed on natural capacity thinking.

41 Housing and Growth Deal delivery update Q3

The Growth Board considered a report on progress with the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal agreed with HM Government, the status of the programme of delivery for the deal and the agreement of the target for the Year 1 affordable housing programme. The following points were highlighted:

- The commitment in the deal to confirm with Homes England the Years 2-5 Infrastructure Programme had been agreed and incorporated into Oxfordshire County Council's infrastructure programme.
- Work was on-going to develop the delivery plan for the Year 2-5 programme with network management to provide assurance of delivery of infrastructure to meet targets.
- Work was focussed on both the housing targets within local plans which made up the 100,000-commitment agreed as part of the wider Deal, but also other priorities, such as strategic infrastructure, which would be helpful. Discussions would take place with Homes England and HM Government in April.
- It was expected that the target for affordable homes to be built would be achieved for Year 1, but that it was fully recognised that the target for Years 2-3 represented a much bigger challenge
- The Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy, (LIS) was key element of the productivity workstream of the Deal. This had been submitted to HM Government in December and ministerial sign-off was now expected late May/beginning of June 2019.

In discussion, members of the Growth Board underlined the importance of doing as much as possible to deliver affordable housing.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

42 One Public Estate

The Growth Board considered a report that provided details of the One Public Estate programme. This asked the Board to note recent successes in attracting further funding from HM Government for new partnership projects.

The Growth Board was pleased to note the successful progress of the bids for funding. It was felt that this was an example of genuine joint working between a range of public sector partners, and an important mechanism to maximise the delivery of affordable housing in support of the Oxfordshire Growth Deal.

Councillor Mills referred to issues around empty MOD accommodation in Carterton and the challenges of securing capital funding to redevelop this type of housing.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the report be noted
- 2) That the Growth support the progress of the One Public Estate programme
- 3) That update reports on the work of the Oxfordshire One Public Estate be brought back to the Growth Board as appropriate.

43 Scrutiny panel update

The Growth Board welcomed to the meeting Councillor Andrew Gant, Chair of the Growth Board Scrutiny Panel. Councillor Gant reported on the outcome of the Growth Board's Scrutiny Panel held on 21 March. The Scrutiny Panel had made eight recommendations. The Chairman set out the following replies via a written response which was summarised at the meeting:

Scrutiny Panel's recommendation	Growth Board Chairman's reply
1: That the Chair of the Growth Board be invited to attend the 30 May 2019 meeting of the Scrutiny Panel.	Agreed in principle subject to the Chair's other diary commitments.
2: That the Growth Board reflect on the inability of the Consultation on Issues (Scale of growth and broad locations - Reg 18 Part 2) to be effective as it precedes HM government's decision on Oxford – Cambridge Expressway route.	Agree. The Growth Board shares the views of the Scrutiny Panel that there could be added value from the alignment of the consultation on the Oxford – Cambridge Expressway route and the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. However, the timetable for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is fixed in the housing and growth deal delivery plan, while the Expressway is a matter for Highways England. Officers have raised this issue with civil servants.
3: That the Growth Board emphasise the continued protection of not only the Green Belt but also AONB and Rural Oxfordshire by adding it to the principles of the Oxon Plan 2050 Vision and by including it as a part of the Green Belt review reinforcing the existing policies in the NPPF. In addition, the existing allocation of development sites within the Green Belt by local authorities is factored in to the Oxon Plan 2050 Green Belt review.	Agree. The Board is clear that it does not support growth at any cost. We want good growth that's planned and managed at a sustainable level and that protects and enhances the environment, including areas of outstanding natural beauty and other designations. The City and District Councils, as the Local Planning Authorities who are responsible for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, intend that it will provide such a framework to protect and enhance the environment and ensure that it reflects the NPPF policies on Green Belt, and the need to protect the AONB and the wider countryside.
4: That the Growth Board take a holistic view in mitigating climate change and preservation of the	Agree. The Growth Board recognises that the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 will also provide an

<p>Green Belt by adding carbon sequestration, zero carbon strategies and reforestation as part of the environmental infrastructure in local plans and the Oxon Plan 2050.</p>	<p>appropriate framework to plan for both resilience to climate change and help us move to an ultra-low-carbon economy. The City and District Councils, as the Local Planning Authorities, intend that climate change issues will be considered as part of responses to the consultation on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.</p>
<p>5: That the Growth Board have a clear work programme. In addition, items on the Growth Board agenda should be concise, substantial and be supported by reports/information on all items – these should be published alongside the agenda. This includes update notes from the three advisory Sub-Groups ensuring that the reports are produced well in advance of the Scrutiny Panel meeting and that the Growth Board minutes including any written responses to public questions.</p>	<p>Agree. The Scrutiny Panel will have noted from previous agendas that the Growth Board has a Forward Plan that sets out the key considerations and decisions of future meetings. The Board does agree, however, that this could be further developed into a more comprehensive work programme and will ask officers to produce a report for consideration.</p> <p>The Panel's comments on the format of the agenda are noted and broadly agreed. Presentations and verbal updates will sometimes be appropriate, but the Board will seek to provide more information about the item on the agenda papers where it can and notes from the sub groups will be produced in advance of the Scrutiny Panel wherever possible.</p>
<p>6: That the Growth Board outline the rationale of the process/protocol being followed for the appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman to the Growth Board for 2019/2020</p>	<p>Agree. The Board anticipates that the information being sought by the Scrutiny Panel will emerge as part of the discussions at the meeting.</p>
<p>7: That the Growth Board provide background information on Ox-Cam Arc Executive Committee and the role of the representative, including the basis of the appointment.</p>	<p>Agree. The Board anticipates that the information being sought by the Scrutiny Panel will be clarified before an appointment is made.</p>
<p>8: That the Growth Board revisit the recommendation on structured communication between the Growth Board and council's members considering member reports of having received incorrect and incomplete information.</p>	<p>Unable to agree. This is a matter for each leader within their own authority.</p>

44 Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (JSSP) sub-group update

The sub group had received a presentation on the review of the Local Transport Plan, (LTP) about to be undertaken by Oxfordshire County Council, an update on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (JSSP) issues consultation and an update on the call for ideas consultation.

The sub-group had noted that many of the objectives set out in the LTP4 had been delivered, but in looking at new and ongoing objectives there was a need to align the LTP with the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 timeline.

With regards to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 issues consultation, the Board noted that overall the consultation had gone well with support shown for what the process was trying to achieve. It was accepted that it could be hard to engage with the public at a preliminary stage of the process, but an encouraging number of people had submitted comments or signed up for updates. An increase in the number of people visiting the Growth Board website had also been detected around the public participation event.

45 Affordable Housing sub-group update

The Chair of the Housing Advisory Sub-Group updated the Growth on its work as set out in the note of the meeting which had included a presentation on an alternative finance model for affordable housing and an update report on affordable housing delivery. The work programme for the sub-group would focus on the need to ensure the delivery of affordable housing and that unfulfilled planning applications were implemented.

46 Infrastructure sub-group update

The Growth Board received an update from the Chairman of the Infrastructure Sub-Group on its most recent meeting. This had focussed upon the successful outcome of the HIF bid, and the need to reprioritise and reprofile the infrastructure programme to take account of the approval of the bid.

47 Role of Oxford Brookes University in supporting economic development in the county

The Growth Board received a presentation from Professor Alistair Fitt, Vice-Chancellor Oxford Brookes University, on the contribution of Oxford Brookes University to the growth agenda both locally and further afield. The presentation reported on:

- The contribution of the University's 18,000 students to the regional economy.
- the success of the University in providing new and updated student accommodation, the moving of activity from the Wheatley to Headington campus through provision of new buildings
- sustainable transport initiatives and contribution to supporting collaborations to unlock growth opportunities the through involvement in the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership
- support for the programmes such as the Strategic Economic Plan, City Deal and Local Growth Fund.

48 Oxfordshire local plans progress

The Growth Board received a report on progress towards the adoption of local plans across Oxfordshire's districts. The Growth Board welcomed the news that South Oxfordshire District Council was due to submit its local plan by 29 March and that Oxford City Council's had been submitted during the week commencing 22 March. This meant that progress was on track to meet the targets in the Housing and Growth Deal programme.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

49 Updates on matters relevant to the Growth Board

No matters were reported.

50 Dates of next meetings

The dates of future Growth Board meetings are below. These will be held on Tuesdays at 2pm in Didcot Civic Hall.

- 4 June 2019
- 30 July 2019
- 24 September 2019 (provisional)
- 26 November 2019 (provisional)
- 28 January 2020 (provisional)
- 31 March 2020 (provisional)
- 2 June 2020 (provisional)

The meeting closed at 3.40 pm

Chairman

Date

Infrastructure Advisory Sub-Group

Monday 18 March 2019, 2pm

Members Board Room, County Hall, Oxfordshire County Council

Present:

Cllr Ian Hudspeth	Oxfordshire Growth Board (Chair of Sub-Group)
Cllr Yvonne Constance	Oxfordshire County Council
Cllr Lyn Pratt	Cherwell District Council
Cllr Mike Badcock	Vale of the White Horse District Council
Cllr Jeff Haine	West Oxfordshire District Council

In attendance:

Sue Halliwell	Oxfordshire County Council
Simon McEneny	Oxfordshire County Council
Aaron Rosser	Oxford Growth Deal Partnership

Apologies:

Cllr David Nimmo-Smith	South Oxfordshire District Council
Cllr Linda Smith	Oxford City Council
Caroline Green	Oxford City Council

1. Declarations of Interest

None raised.

2. Agree notes of last meeting

Agreed

Update on Thames Water Meeting – meeting to be re-arranged at the request of Thames Water. SH to update at future meeting.

3.

a. Q4 2018/19 Infrastructure Delivery Programme – progress update

Report presented and noted. Current forecast is £28.9m with a £1.1m underspend against the £30m but not all invoices have been received so spend may come in higher.

Issues raised:-

- £28.9m spend should improve to over £29m by the end of March 2019
- Members questioned number of homes delivered and if original target of 6,500 should be used rather than other possible higher figure
ACTION: SH and AR to discuss with Growth Deal Officers Group
- Housing delivery programme currently being developed by district/city councils
- HIF developments are not included in the housing numbers

b. Year 2- 5 Programme Development

Growth Deal Programme Board are requesting ratification of the Y2-5 programme from Homes England by 1st April 2019.

c. Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) Bid Update

Verbal update on progress with HIF bids currently in preparation.

Didcot Garden Town – Bid for £218m submitted and approved in the Government's Spring Statement – awaiting formal notification

A40 Smart Corridor – deadline for submission moved back to 22nd March 2019. Total cost of scheme likely to be £102m as have removed the community path (Eynsham to Botley).

Science Transit element of the scheme will be delivered via the LGF funding bid to be submitted in April, aiming for both bids (HIF A40 and LGF) will be assessed alongside each other.

d. Oxford Rail Connectivity Study

Verbal update on progress.

Noted that work has commenced on the study and a report will be prepared for September.

There are two elements to the study:-

- A strategic study of the whole of Oxfordshire Rail Network and Growth, which fits in the Oxfordshire Plan 2050
- Detailed study for the Cowley Branch Line

4. AOB

Communications – fact sheets being developed and information flows being looked into.

Homes England templates per area to be issued to OCC locality meetings.

5. Date of next meeting

28th May 2019 at 1pm in the Members Board Room, County Hall

Minutes

OF A MEETING OF THE

Oxfordshire Growth Board Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Sub-Group

HELD ON THURSDAY 18 APRIL 2019 AT 10.00 AM
COMMITTEE ROOM 1, WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL,
WOODGREEN, WITNEY, OX28 1NB

Present:

Voting members: Councillors James Mills (Chair), Jeff Haine, Anthony Hayward, Alex Hollingsworth, Jeannette Matelot, Ian Snowdon and Barry Wood

Officers: Kevin Jacob, Peter Truman and Rachel Williams

1 Notes of meeting held on 21 March 2019

The sub-group **AGREED** the notes of the previous meeting subject to the correction reference to the A4020 to the A420.

2 Apologies for absence

Councillor Colin Clarke (CC), Cherwell District Council substituted by Councillor Barry Wood.

Councillor Mike Fox-Davis (MF-D), Oxfordshire County Council

3 Feedback from the Regulation 18, part 1 consultation

Peter Truman, (PT) Communications and Engagement Advisor for Oxfordshire Plan 2050 presented initial feedback from the Regulation 18, part 1 consultation which focussed on:

- A recap of the consultation
- Analysis of those who signed-up/responded
- Headline of issues raised
- Feedback from Members

There were the following key messages:

- More than 100 delegates had attended the launch event for the consultation and the session had produced positive feedback and important early input into the initial consultation document.

- Bus Roadshow had worked well and had also presented an opportunity to distribute flyers about the consultation to boost awareness.
- Drop in events had also worked well, but although sessions had been timetabled to take place between 3 pm and 8 pm to enable people to visit after work attendance had dropped after working hours.
- A short video explaining the Oxfordshire 2050 Plan process on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 website had been viewed over 500 times to date.
- Between the 1 January 2019 and 25 March 2019, the website had been visited nearly 10,000 times. Most users were 45-54 (24%) or 35-44 (22%)
- A shortened version of the video had been displayed on 82 screens on 41 Oxford Bus Company buses for a four-week period starting February 11. It was estimated that 1 million passengers would have had opportunity to view the advert.
- Five second animated advert displayed for a four-week period at Oxford, Didcot Parkway, Bicester, Banbury and Oxford Parkway stations on electronic display board with an estimated 945,000 impressions over that period
- 1,115 individuals and organisations had registered on the consultation data base. 540 individuals and organisations had participated in the part 1 consultation leading to 1,222 comments being made. The majority of consultation responses were from people aged 45-64 and 65 years plus.
- A summary of the issues by respondents included procedural issues around the plan and need for transparency in decision making, scale of growth, built and natural environment, transport and movement and various other issues.

A summary issues raised in discussion by Members included:

It was felt that in general attendance at the various events needed to be taken in the context of the pressures on people's time and that many people were more motivated to take part and become actively involved in consultations if they were concerned about something rather than those who had no strong view or were content. It was a continuing challenge for any consultation to reflect this.

A discussion took place regarding the effectiveness and value for money of the various communication channels used and how engagement could be further increased particularly amongst people aged under 35, noting that although there had been an encouraging level of website visits from under 35's these had not necessarily converted into formal consultation responses. However, an increase in on-line responses for those aged 65 appeared to indicate this age group was becoming more active on-line.

Several suggestions made for new methods and channels in the future including screens located in Post Office and use of other bus companies. PT and RW explained the rationale for each of the channels used commenting that it was a challenge to balance potential impact against the finite resources available and hard choices had been made. They were open to new suggestions and would consider the learnings from the consultation so far. Radio in particular had been considered but had not been felt to represent value for money at the time but could be considered suitable in the future.

RW set out the requirements of the formal consultation stages and the importance of complying with that process in terms of mitigating the risk of challenge later.

With regard to the locations of those who had responded by postcode it was noted that the majority were in or close to Oxford, but also appeared to reflect areas where there had been or were controversial planning issues.

A discussion followed on how the issues raised from the consultation could be responded to appropriately and it was noted that there would not be further publicity until the next stage of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 consultation.

4 Outline future engagement plans for discussion

Discussion took place around the headings of engagement with young people, business, stakeholders and online channels.

Young People

PT provided an update on planned engagement with universities including Oxford Brookes and the University of Oxford and which included forums for university students to discuss the plan and inclusion as part of lectures. The potential of involving Oxford Brookes University students and staff in the development of the plan was also being explored given the university's specialisms in areas such as augmented reality and planning.

It was accepted that to date there had been a disappointing level of success in engaging schools, but alternative means were being explored and the help of members sub-group was sought in terms of local knowledge and contact with head teachers. It was intended to make contact with a number of schools 6th forms including schools in Oxford, Abingdon and Witney to seek engagement with student forums within these bodies.

Business

Discussions had been undertaken with the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, (OxLEP) and feedback on the most effective engagement techniques with business taken on board. The idea of a network event was being explored.

The Plan team was also contacting the economic development teams within each of the district and town councils and local Rotary organisation on the most effective way to seek engagement with business and to exploit existing networks given the resources available.

Stakeholders

The idea of engaging with business colleges, local chambers of commerce, district council parish liaison meetings and of holding a new event modelled on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 launch event was discussed.

On-line Channels

An online quiz was shortly to be launched which was intended to be an informal myth buster regarding the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and as a mechanism to raise the profile of the plan whilst encouraging people to get involved. Members of the sub-group who had trialled the quiz provided positive feedback.

Discussion took place on the use of social media platforms and the potential to use social media influencers and paid for social media to boost the profile of the plan and raise engagement considering the need that any form of engagement needed to reflect value for money.

5 Update on evidence base progress

RW provided an updated table which set out the work required to develop the emerging evidence/evidence needed in support of the Plan.

It was queried whether there ought to be recognition in the streams of work around the Oxford to Cambridge Arc to which RW advised that there had not yet been any contact on the issue. However, now the Growth Board Director was in place, part of whose role covered the Arc, his input could be sought.

Also discussed was timing of any consultation arising from the development of the LTP5 and relationship with the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 consultation process. RW responded that initial discussions had taken place with colleagues at Oxfordshire County Council and a project plan developed. However, it was important to understand that the LTP consultation process did not have the same scale of statutory requirements as required for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. It was also necessary to commission a transport assessment of the spatial options that will be tested at the next stage of consultation and to submit some transport modelling work as part of the evidence base for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

With regard to Housing Needs Assessment workstream a discussion took place on the need to avoid any conflict between that workstream and existing Local Plans which covered the period up to the mid-2030s. RW advised that potential risks had been taken into consideration. It was requested that this be a discussion item on the next agenda.

6 Future meetings

Agreed that the next scheduled meeting would be 30th May and that the list of current dates for 2019 would be recirculated.

KJ reported that unfortunately, several of the scheduled sub-group dates for 2019 also fell on dates of the Growth Board Scrutiny Panel. A discussion took place on the possibility of rescheduling these dates, but unfortunately this could not be agreed at the present time because of conflicts with other contributory meetings and it was agreed that the dates would remain as scheduled for the current calendar year.