

Motion ID	Date	Motion	Substantive Action Required	Progress	Relevant Lead Officer	Yes	Actions Completed	Status
South M1	18th July 2019	Council notes the economic and environmental importance of rail transport in this area and asks the leader of the council to write to the Secretary of State for Transport to request the acceleration of the delivery of rail projects of importance to South Oxfordshire. These include: Improvements necessary to Oxford City Station Reopening of Grove Station Upgrading of the route between Didcot and Oxford Reopening of the Cowley Branch line And any other initiatives which come forward in the current Oxfordshire Rail Connectivity Study	Council notes the economic and environmental importance of rail transport in this area and asks the leader of the council to write to the Secretary of State for Transport to request the acceleration of the delivery of rail projects of importance to South Oxfordshire. These include: Improvements necessary to Oxford City Station Reopening of Grove Station Upgrading of the route between Didcot and Oxford Reopening of the Cowley Branch line	Letter sent	Head of Planning	Yes		Closed
South M2	18th July 2019	Other initiatives that, increasingly, the only type of housing in our area that is genuinely affordable to young families, key workers, and the under-40s in general is social rent housing Council asks officers to prepare a report for Cabinet on ways to use council powers and resources to deliver more high-quality, environmentally sustainable, and genuinely affordable housing at social rent or similar cost. This should include ways to keep such properties genuinely affordable in the long term and ways to release and access low-cost suitable land for projects such as – but not limited to – self-build and community land trusts, as well as projects owned, let or operated by the council itself.	Council notes that, increasingly, the only type of housing in our area that is genuinely affordable to young families, key workers, and the under-40s in general is social rent housing Council asks officers to prepare a report for Cabinet on ways to use council powers and resources to deliver more high-quality, environmentally sustainable, and genuinely affordable housing at social rent or similar cost. This should include ways to keep such properties genuinely affordable in the long term and ways to release and access low-cost suitable land for projects such as – but not limited to – self-build and community land trusts, as well as projects owned, let or operated by the council itself.	Report to Cabinet 25th October 2019	Head of Development & Corporate Landlord	Yes		Closed
South M3	18th July 2019	Council notes that the UK Government, in tandem with the National Infrastructure Commission, has proposed the construction of a motorway-style expressway between Oxford and Cambridge. This new road will have significant adverse impacts on Oxfordshire: it will create a major source of air and noise pollution, destroy farmland and habitats, increase CO2 emissions - incompatible with the recent Climate Emergency declared by this Council in April 2019 - and bring more traffic onto the county's existing roads. Actual and proposed consultation on the Expressway, and indeed on the Ox-Cam Arc proposal and associated major housing growth across the region, has been wholly inadequate and a proper Strategic Environmental Assessment should have taken place before this project left the drawing board. Instead, it has become the basis for regional planning with little democratic legitimacy. Whilst this council supports partnership working and strategic planning and practical links with authorities across the region, it does not support the addition of a major road such as the Expressway in a time of climate emergency – as declared by this council on 11 April 2019. Highways England's own analysis of the Expressway shows a benefit-cost ratio (BCR) in the range of 1.1 – 1.3, far lower than most other road schemes analysed by the Department for Transport in 2015, (2.1). The Oxford 2050 plan process has thus far welcomed the perceived benefits of the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. It is also mentioned as a factor in a wide range of council documents and plans, including LP2034. This council asks that its new position on the Expressway is taken into account in all council documents that refer to it. The Expressway would cause major harm to the quality of life of residents if it passes through the district: this council wishes to withdraw any assumed consent, including any possibility that roads such as the HF-funded Thames crossing, or the Stamburton or Watlington bypasses, could later be used or expanded to form part of the Expressway or act as feeder roads for it. This council fully supports an upgrade in the East West rail route, with full electrification, as part of the Ox-Cam arc discussions. Such an upgrade must include inter-modal centres, along it and at both ends, to enable maximum use of rail for freight. Any road upgrades necessary to support the East-West rail route should connect to that route and be proportionate to the primacy of rail freight. Council therefore resolves to: Oppose the Expressway project in all forms, including expansion of existing or new roads in the district to form part of it. Support fully electrified East-West Rail, including freight capacity and connections, and better public transport and active travel connections. Update all council documents to reflect this new position on the Expressway and related Arc development proposals. Continue to support partnership working, especially with regard to landscape-scale conservation and nature recovery networks. Communicate its opposition to Government, MPs and Highways England	Council notes that the UK Government, in tandem with the National Infrastructure Commission, has proposed the construction of a motorway-style expressway between Oxford and Cambridge. This new road will have significant adverse impacts on Oxfordshire: it will create a major source of air and noise pollution, destroy farmland and habitats, increase CO2 emissions - incompatible with the recent Climate Emergency declared by this Council in April 2019 - and bring more traffic onto the county's existing roads. 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Council therefore resolves to: Oppose the Expressway project in all forms, including expansion of existing or new roads in the district to form part of it. Support fully electrified East-West Rail, including freight capacity and connections, and better public transport and active travel connections. Update all council documents to reflect this new position on the Expressway and related Arc development proposals. Continue to support partnership working, especially with regard to landscape-scale conservation and nature recovery networks. Communicate its opposition to Government, MPs and Highways England	Letters sent and relevant officers advised and updated via team meetings and one to one, to ensure that engagement with partners reflects this position.	Deputy Chief Executive - Partnerships	Yes		Closed
South M4	18th July 2019	Council notes that the Oxfordshire Pension Fund, of which it is an employer, has more than £132m of workers' money – around 6% of its portfolio funds – invested in fossil fuel companies. These companies – which the London Stock Exchange now terms “non-renewables”, are the primary drivers of the climate crisis threatening our planet. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change last year warned that to avoid the most catastrophic consequences of warming, carbon emissions must fall to zero by 2050. Last month, the UK Parliament imposed a binding target of net zero by 2050 and in April, this Council declared a Climate Emergency. Lloyds of London and Bank of England Governor Mark Carney have both warned that legislation necessary to limit warming combined with the development of renewables would likely result in the rapid “stranding” of fossil fuel assets, requiring large-scale asset write-downs. Fossil fuel companies face the additional peril of a potential wave of third-party liability claims brought by the victims of climate change including sovereign states. A growing number of pension and investment funds have already announced plans to fully or partially divest from fossil fuels. Southwark Council, Islington Council, SOAS, the United Reform Church, The Church of England and the National Trust have already made significant divestment moves. Globally, the divestment movement has seen more than £9.3bn leave the fossil fuel industry. As a result, the fossil fuel industry is facing unprecedented financial, legal and regulatory headwinds. The Oxfordshire Pension Fund has defended its continued investment in fossil fuels, arguing that to divest would mean being too influenced. This position is untenable. The very reason d'etre of fossil fuel companies is the extraction and sale of carbon intensive energy. To the extent these companies are being steered towards renewable energy, this transition is happening too slowly. Research by Transition Pathway Initiative, an industry body, found that none of the ten largest publicly listed oil and gas producers are on track to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. None are on track to be aligned with 2 degrees or less of warming by 2050. The message of divestment is not that fossil fuel companies are evil. But their business threatens our planet and its most vulnerable inhabitants through droughts, heat waves, crop failures, floods, and rising sea levels. As one of the Oxfordshire LGPS employers, South Oxfordshire District Council calls on the Oxfordshire Pension Fund Committee to act in line with South Oxfordshire and the UK's declaration of Climate Emergency and to prudent exercise of its fiduciary duties by divesting its investment in an industry whose long term risk profile in the current political and environmental climate is unacceptably high. Council: 1) calls on the Oxfordshire Pension Fund to follow the lead of Councils, sovereign wealth funds and other pension and investment funds around the world to divest from non-renewable energy companies whose main purpose is the exploration and/or extraction of fossil fuels; 2) calls on the Oxfordshire Pension Fund to explore reinvestment of its funds into appropriate renewable energy companies at the earliest opportunity; 3) asks the Oxfordshire Pension Fund to acknowledge that shareholder engagement has failed to bring about the pace of change required to limit catastrophic global warming.	Council notes that the Oxfordshire Pension Fund, of which it is an employer, has more than £132m of workers' money – around 6% of its portfolio funds – invested in fossil fuel companies. These companies – which the London Stock Exchange now terms “non-renewables”, are the primary drivers of the climate crisis threatening our planet. 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None are on track to be aligned with 2 degrees or less of warming by 2050. The message of divestment is not that fossil fuel companies are evil. But their business threatens our planet and its most vulnerable inhabitants through droughts, heat waves, crop failures, floods, and rising sea levels. As one of the Oxfordshire LGPS employers, South Oxfordshire District Council calls on the Oxfordshire Pension Fund Committee to act in line with South Oxfordshire and the UK's declaration of Climate Emergency and to prudent exercise of its fiduciary duties by divesting its investment in an industry whose long term risk profile in the current political and environmental climate is unacceptably high. 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South M5	10th October 2019	Council notes that EU nationals are part of our shared communities. They are our husbands, wives, parents, friends and colleagues. They are an integral part of a vibrant and thriving South Oxfordshire. Since 2016 EU nationals were promised again and again that “there will be no change for EU citizens already lawfully resident in the UK and [...] will be treated no less favourably as they are at present”. After nine years of promises, their homes and livelihoods are in danger of being threatened by the further uncertainty brought about by the prospect of an even more chaotic no-deal Brexit. According to the Home Office's July statistics, only a third of EU nationals have applied for the Settled Status and 42% of them have been granted the inferior Pre-Settled Status, leaving them to reapply for the Settled Status later on. There is no possibility of knowing how many EU nationals left at risk of becoming unlawful residents the mercy of the Home Office's “Hostile Environment”. Lack of clarity regarding differentiating between EU citizens arriving before and after the UK's exit from the EU could lead to discrimination in the labour market and may prevent many from accessing the services that they are entitled to. Another Windrush-like scandal could be unfolding right before the eyes of this Council and we must be passive observers to it. Therefore, the Council asks that: 1. Officers report to how the Council can mitigate adverse impacts on the rights of EU nationals (including but not limited to advising what the Council can do to help landlords and employers to be better informed about immigration status and therefore avoid potential discrimination against EU nationals) 2. The Leader of the Council writes to EU citizens resident in the district giving advice on applying for Settled Status (within the constraints of GDPR). This advice shall direct EU citizens to resources, including the Council's website, providing up-to-date information on the application process and the potential risks of not applying to the EU Settlement Scheme. 3. The Leader of the Council writes to the Home Secretary seeking clarification and suggesting improvements for the European Settlement scheme, which include: - Providing physical proof of Settled Status that can be used to access services - Confirming that there will be no changes to the rights of settled EU citizens that they currently have by ratifying the Immigration Bill as primary legislation before the exit day - Replacing the current European Settlement scheme with a registration scheme without a deadline where EU citizens are considered lawful by default and can request a proof of immigration status only when they are asked to demonstrate it.	Council notes that EU nationals are part of our shared communities. They are our husbands, wives, parents, friends and colleagues. They are an integral part of a vibrant and thriving South Oxfordshire. Since 2016 EU nationals were promised again and again that “there will be no change for EU citizens already lawfully resident in the UK and [...] will be treated no less favourably as they are at present”. After nine years of promises, their homes and livelihoods are in danger of being threatened by the further uncertainty brought about by the prospect of an even more chaotic no-deal Brexit. According to the Home Office's July statistics, only a third of EU nationals have applied for the Settled Status and 42% of them have been granted the inferior Pre-Settled Status, leaving them to reapply for the Settled Status later on. There is no possibility of knowing how many EU nationals left at risk of becoming unlawful residents the mercy of the Home Office's “Hostile Environment”. Lack of clarity regarding differentiating between EU citizens arriving before and after the UK's exit from the EU could lead to discrimination in the labour market and may prevent many from accessing the services that they are entitled to. Another Windrush-like scandal could be unfolding right before the eyes of this Council and we must be passive observers to it. Therefore, the Council asks that: 1. Officers report to how the Council can mitigate adverse impacts on the rights of EU nationals (including but not limited to advising what the Council can do to help landlords and employers to be better informed about immigration status and therefore avoid potential discrimination against EU nationals) 2. The Leader of the Council writes to EU citizens resident in the district giving advice on applying for Settled Status (within the constraints of GDPR). 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An open letter from the Leader of the Council to EU residents was published on the South Oxfordshire website and sent to all EU citizens in the district giving them advice on how to apply for settled status. There were 2678 letters sent. An officer group is in place to monitor Brexit activity and discuss any additional mitigating actions that may arise from service area risk registers. There is a dedicated website page for the EU Settlement Scheme - <a href="http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/europeanadvicecommunity-advice-and-support/brexit-advice-eurational">http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/europeanadvicecommunity-advice-and-support/brexit-advice-eurational</a> Promotional materials were displayed within reception areas, signposting to local ID verification services and national guidance for EU citizens. A briefing note was circulated to members in January 2020 to provide an overview of both national, Oxfordshire and council Brexit activity.	Head of Policy & Programmes	Yes		Closed
South M6	10th October 2019	Reading Borough Council is proposing to build a vast new bridge over the Thames at Caversham to alleviate Reading's traffic problems. It is included in their Draft Local Plan as a top transport priority. The bridge would take off at the Thames Valley business park near Reading and land near the Playhatch roundabout in Oxfordshire. The only onwards option for traffic would be through the congested streets of Henley or along the narrow B481 country road through Oxfordshire villages. To date, Reading and other Berkshire councils that are supporting the scheme have focused almost entirely on the costs of building the bridge and the benefits it will bring to Reading. While they recognise that the bridge would have a substantial impact on the Oxfordshire road network, the Berkshire councils largely state these will be dealt with by unspecified and uncosted mitigation measures. This council calls on the Leader to write to the leaders of Reading Borough Council, Wokingham Borough Council and Bracknell Forest Council, together with MPs John Howell, John Redwood, Matt Rodda and Theresa May, stating that: a) In the context of the Climate Emergency a car-based solution to a car-based problem that would pour thousands of cars and HGVs into Oxfordshire is totally inappropriate and should a new bridge be built it should be restricted to public transport, cyclists and pedestrians; b) Notwithstanding the above, if a car-based solution is pursued, the proposed bridge and necessary mitigation measures (i.e. improvements to the Oxfordshire road network) are not considered as two separate projects, but as one single project in order that the benefits, disadvantages and costs of the complete scheme can be holistically assessed.	Reading Borough Council is proposing to build a vast new bridge over the Thames at Caversham to alleviate Reading's traffic problems. It is included in their Draft Local Plan as a top transport priority. The bridge would take off at the Thames Valley business park near Reading and land near the Playhatch roundabout in Oxfordshire. The only onwards option for traffic would be through the congested streets of Henley or along the narrow B481 country road through Oxfordshire villages. To date, Reading and other Berkshire councils that are supporting the scheme have focused almost entirely on the costs of building the bridge and the benefits it will bring to Reading. While they recognise that the bridge would have a substantial impact on the Oxfordshire road network, the Berkshire councils largely state these will be dealt with by unspecified and uncosted mitigation measures. This council calls on the Leader to write to the leaders of Reading Borough Council, Wokingham Borough Council and Bracknell Forest Council, together with MPs John Howell, John Redwood, Matt Rodda and Theresa May, stating that: a) In the context of the Climate Emergency a car-based solution to a car-based problem that would pour thousands of cars and HGVs into Oxfordshire is totally inappropriate and should a new bridge be built it should be restricted to public transport, cyclists and pedestrians. b) Notwithstanding the above, if a car-based solution is pursued, the proposed bridge and necessary mitigation measures (i.e. improvements to the Oxfordshire road network) are not considered as two separate projects, but as one single project in order that the benefits, disadvantages and costs of the complete scheme can be holistically assessed.	Letters sent	Head of Planning	Yes		Closed
South M7	10th October 2019	On 11 April 2019, South Oxfordshire District Council declared a Climate Emergency, noting that the 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report states that we had just 12 years to act. Council resolved that it needs to commit to aggressive reduction targets and carbon neutrality as quickly as possible. Since then, there has been a continual onslaught of extreme weather events that further highlight the climate emergency. In July, the European heat wave killed 868 in France, and set a new temperature high for the UK of 38.9°C. There were unprecedented wildfires in the Arctic. In September, Hurricane Dorian killed 90 in the Bahamas and left 70,000 homeless. More generally, we have severe ice melting at the poles, and sea level rise at the upper end of forecasts. In September, Professor Sir David King, former Chief Scientist for the UK, said the world had changed faster than predicted by the IPCC. Whereas mean global temperature rises have matched predictions, individual extreme weather events have accelerated in intensity and frequency. In this grave situation, he says, the UK should aim to cut greenhouse gas emissions to almost zero, by 2040 rather than 2050. South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) has set up a Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC). At its first official meeting on the 19th September, it recommended the very challenging targets proposed here. It should be noted that other councils have set targets for their districts and cities to reach net-zero carbon by 2030, some even earlier. The Labour Party at its recent conference has also set a 2030 net-zero carbon target for the country. Officers prepared options for CEAC to consider, including a focus only on Council operations, extending this to taking action on net-zero carbon over district-activities where Council has responsibilities, whilst responding reactively wherever possible to new initiatives for the district, and finally, for full net-zero carbon for the whole district. The cross-party committee unanimously agreed to a fully net-zero carbon target by 2030, with Council, in its own operations, to be net-zero carbon by 2025. These targets are premised on the fact that SODC should be in a new building by 2025, and that it can influence outsourced contractors to provide us with a net-zero carbon supply chain. The aim for a net-zero carbon total district is to ensure that Council has a true target in the sense that it knows what it is aiming to get to zero-carbon, and to ensure that its actions are more than purely reactive. Council resolves to: Agree the unanimous recommendations of its cross-party Climate Emergency Advisory Committee to: - Aim to reach net-zero carbon emissions across all of the operations of South Oxfordshire District Council by the target year of 2025 - Aim to reach net-zero carbon emissions for the whole District of South Oxfordshire by 2030	On 11 April 2019, South Oxfordshire District Council declared a Climate Emergency, noting that the 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report states that we had just 12 years to act. Council resolved that it needs to commit to aggressive reduction targets and carbon neutrality as quickly as possible. Since then, there has been a continual onslaught of extreme weather events that further highlight the climate emergency. In July, the European heat wave killed 868 in France, and set a new temperature high for the UK of 38.9°C. There were unprecedented wildfires in the Arctic. In September, Hurricane Dorian killed 90 in the Bahamas and left 70,000 homeless. More generally, we have severe ice melting at the poles, and sea level rise at the upper end of forecasts. In September, Professor Sir David King, former Chief Scientist for the UK, said the world had changed faster than predicted by the IPCC. Whereas mean global temperature rises have matched predictions, individual extreme weather events have accelerated in intensity and frequency. In this grave situation, he says, the UK should aim to cut greenhouse gas emissions to almost zero, by 2040 rather than 2050. South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) has set up a Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC). At its first official meeting on the 19th September, it recommended the very challenging targets proposed here. It should be noted that other councils have set targets for their districts and cities to reach net-zero carbon by 2030, some even earlier. The Labour Party at its recent conference has also set a 2030 net-zero carbon target for the country. Officers prepared options for CEAC to consider, including a focus only on Council operations, extending this to taking action on net-zero carbon over district-activities where Council has responsibilities, whilst responding reactively wherever possible to new initiatives for the district, and finally, for full net-zero carbon for the whole district. The cross-party committee unanimously agreed to a fully net-zero carbon target by 2030, with Council, in its own operations, to be net-zero carbon by 2025.	CEAC in progress. A Climate Action Plan has been developed and approved for 2022-24. Progress against the measures within it are reported on a quarterly basis.	Head of Policy & Programmes	No	Some of the actions contained within this register are the ongoing targets measure the climate emergency	Open





South M28	25th March 2021	<p>That Council recognises the importance of a high-quality, beautiful natural environment for current and future residents of our rural District, and the negative impact that high voltage power lines can have on visual amenity. Council also acknowledges the importance of landscape beauty to the setting of the historic city of Oxford.</p> <p>Council identifies that the economic benefit of providing beautiful environments for housing development provides a long lasting benefit that enhances the long term value of a location, attracting the workforce needed to sustain the growth of the local economy.</p> <p>Three of the strategic sites allocated in South Oxfordshire's Local Plan 2035 are overlain by high voltage power lines. Grenoble Road, Culham and Northfield.</p> <p>This Council will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with partners including National Grid, electricity providers, developers, landowners, and other local authorities, to explore all options including financing options for the undergrounding of all high voltage overhead powerlines over the strategic sites in the Local Plan 2035.</li> <li>2. Have, as a long term ambition by 2050, the undergrounding of the existing 400kv line that bisects the Ladygrove Estates in Didcot.</li> </ol>	<p>That Council recognises the importance of a high-quality, beautiful natural environment for current and future residents of our rural District, and the negative impact that high voltage power lines can have on visual amenity.</p> <p>Council also acknowledges the importance of landscape beauty to the setting of the historic city of Oxford.</p> <p>Council identifies that the economic benefit of providing beautiful environments for housing development provides a long lasting benefit that enhances the long term value of a location, attracting the workforce needed to sustain the growth of the local economy.</p> <p>Three of the strategic sites allocated in South Oxfordshire's Local Plan 2035 are overlain by high voltage power lines. Grenoble Road, Culham and Northfield.</p> <p>This Council will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with partners including National Grid, electricity providers, developers, landowners, and other local authorities, to explore all options including financing options for the undergrounding of all high voltage overhead powerlines over the strategic sites in the Local Plan 2035.</li> <li>2. Have, as a long term ambition by 2050, the undergrounding of the existing 400kv line that bisects the Ladygrove Estates in Didcot.</li> </ol>	<p>Relevant officers advised</p>	<p>Head of Planning/Head of Policy &amp; Programmes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Some of the actions contained within this motion are ongoing. Further, it contains one long term target.</p>	Open
South M29	25th March 2021	<p>That Council notes the growing body of evidence demonstrating the harmful impacts of light pollution on human health and sleep, biodiversity and carbon emissions. A literature review from Nature magazine in 2018 concludes that, 'light at night is exerting pervasive, long term stress on ecosystems, from coasts to farmland to urban waterways, many of which are already suffering from other, more well-known forms of pollution'</p> <p>Light pollution is not only damaging our physical and mental health, it is also harming plants, insects and nocturnal animals and is eroding the most primal of connections: the deep sense of awe and wonder we experience at the sight of a starry sky.</p> <p>Council acknowledges the work of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Dark Skies and welcomes its recommendations. www.sppgdarkskies.co.uk</p> <p>Council recognises that Oxfordshire County Council controls lighting schemes on adopted highways.</p> <p>This Council will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure that limiting light pollution and preserving dark skies are key priorities for planning policies and design guides, including master planning of sites.</li> <li>2. Work with Neighbourhood Planning groups to encourage the implementation of dark sky friendly lighting policies in Neighbourhood Plans.</li> <li>3. Encourage the incorporation of dark sky friendly lighting schemes and avoid unnecessary lighting for all new development.</li> <li>4. Write to MPs and government calling for the APPG's ten recommendations on dark skies to be implemented through new legislation and reform of the planning system. These recommendations include reform of the NPPF to make extensive and specific reference to control of obtrusive light and to introduce strict regulation of exterior lighting, setting standards for brightness, colour and temperature of all lighting and empowering local authorities to stop nuisance lighting.</li> <li>5. Work proactively with partners, Oxfordshire County Council as Highway Authority and others, to highlight the importance of dark skies, the need to limit the impact of lighting and to encourage policies to reflect best practice in lighting design.</li> <li>6. Use our communications channels to increase understanding among residents and businesses of the importance of dark skies and limiting light pollution.</li> </ol>	<p>That Council notes the growing body of evidence demonstrating the harmful impacts of light pollution on human health and sleep, biodiversity and carbon emissions. A literature review from Nature magazine in 2018 concludes that, 'light at night is exerting pervasive, long term stress on ecosystems, from coasts to farmland to urban waterways, many of which are already suffering from other, more well-known forms of pollution'</p> <p>Light pollution is not only damaging our physical and mental health, it is also harming plants, insects and nocturnal animals and is eroding the most primal of connections: the deep sense of awe and wonder we experience at the sight of a starry sky.</p> <p>Council acknowledges the work of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Dark Skies and welcomes its recommendations. www.sppgdarkskies.co.uk</p> <p>Council recognises that Oxfordshire County Council controls lighting schemes on adopted highways.</p> <p>This Council will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure that limiting light pollution and preserving dark skies are key priorities for planning policies and design guides, including master planning of sites.</li> <li>2. Work with Neighbourhood Planning groups to encourage the implementation of dark sky friendly lighting policies in Neighbourhood Plans.</li> <li>3. Encourage the incorporation of dark sky friendly lighting schemes and avoid unnecessary lighting for all new development.</li> <li>4. Write to MPs and government calling for the APPG's ten recommendations on dark skies to be implemented through new legislation and reform of the planning system. These recommendations include reform of the NPPF to make extensive and specific reference to control of obtrusive light and to introduce strict regulation of exterior lighting, setting standards for brightness, colour and temperature of all lighting and empowering local authorities to stop nuisance lighting.</li> <li>5. Work proactively with partners, Oxfordshire County Council as Highway Authority and others, to highlight the importance of dark skies, the need to limit the impact of lighting and to encourage policies to reflect best practice in lighting design.</li> <li>6. Use our communications channels to increase understanding among residents and businesses of the importance of dark skies and limiting light pollution.</li> </ol>	<p>Relevant officers advised and letters sent.</p>	<p>Head of Policy &amp; Programmes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Work to address some of the actions within this motion remain ongoing.</p>	Open
South M30	25th March 2021	<p>That this council supports the local network of pubs in the district, and will use its powers to ensure that pubs continue to be able to provide for the local community, in accordance with Local Plan Policy CF1, which notes that the council will support communities in protecting, enhancing and delivering community and recreation facilities in their towns and villages.</p> <p>With pubs under continual threat of closure and conversion, where there is strong community support evidenced by submission of a nomination as an Asset of Community Value or opposition to a planning application for change of use, the council will use all its available powers, where appropriate, to support communities in their efforts to retain pubs for the benefit of both local community and the whole district.</p>	<p>That this council supports the local network of pubs in the district, and will use its powers to ensure that pubs continue to be able to provide for the local community, in accordance with Local Plan Policy CF1, which notes that the council will support communities in protecting, enhancing and delivering community and recreation facilities in their towns and villages.</p> <p>With pubs under continual threat of closure and conversion, where there is strong community support evidenced by submission of a nomination as an Asset of Community Value or opposition to a planning application for change of use, the council will use all its available powers, where appropriate, to support communities in their efforts to retain pubs for the benefit of both local community and the whole district.</p>	<p>Relevant officers advised.</p>	<p>Head of Development &amp; Corporate Landlord</p> <p>No</p> <p>Actions within this motion remain ongoing.</p>	Open
South M31	25th March 2021	<p>That Council notes that:</p> <p>The pandemic has had profound effects on our district's economic, social and physical wellbeing.</p> <p>Building on the themes in the adapted Corporate Plan, there is an opportunity for Council to support a green recovery and benefit our residents and businesses in a holistic way.</p> <p>Community wealth building is an approach being used in the public sector across the UK, with the Preston model perhaps being the most well-known example.</p> <p>The five core principles of community wealth building are considered to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural ownership of the economy.</li> <li>• Making financial power work for local places.</li> <li>• Fair employment practices and just labour markets.</li> <li>• Progressive procurement of goods and services.</li> <li>• Socially productive use of land and property.</li> </ul> <p>Council asks officers to explore how the concept of 'community wealth building' can be applied to the South Oxfordshire context, with particular reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The role procurement by anchor institutions could play in local economic recovery</li> <li>- The council's land, investment and property policies</li> <li>- Place-specific actions to enhance community resilience</li> </ul>	<p>That Council notes that:</p> <p>The pandemic has had profound effects on our district's economic, social and physical wellbeing.</p> <p>Building on the themes in the adapted Corporate Plan, there is an opportunity for Council to support a green recovery and benefit our residents and businesses in a holistic way.</p> <p>Community wealth building is an approach being used in the public sector across the UK, with the Preston model perhaps being the most well-known example.</p> <p>The five core principles of community wealth building are considered to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural ownership of the economy.</li> <li>• Making financial power work for local places.</li> <li>• Fair employment practices and just labour markets.</li> <li>• Progressive procurement of goods and services.</li> <li>• Socially productive use of land and property.</li> </ul> <p>Council asks officers to explore how the concepts of 'community wealth building' can be applied to the South Oxfordshire context, with particular reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The role procurement by anchor institutions could play in local economic recovery</li> <li>- The council's land, investment and property policies</li> <li>- Place-specific actions to enhance community resilience</li> </ul>	<p>Relevant officers advised.</p> <p>South Oxfordshire agreed a Procurement Strategy for 2021/22 to 2025/26 during September 2021. This set out that council's intention is to procure goods, services and works that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) ensure sustainable procurement is embedded in the councils where the need for goods, services, works, and utilities are procured in such a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the councils but also to the local community and the economy, whilst minimising damage to the local environment and reducing carbon emissions.</li> <li>2) ensure ethical procurement is embedded in the councils by respecting fundamental international standards against child labour, slavery, corruption and human rights whilst also ensuring that the council's procurement is socially responsible and contributes to the local economy.</li> <li>3) are accessible (through work with economic development colleagues) to local businesses, especially SMEs who may be unable to bid for certain opportunities, keeping the money in the local economy and reducing the supply chain.</li> <li>4) will support South Oxfordshire District Council's delivery of its Climate Action Plan and the council's commitment to becoming carbon neutral within its own operations by 2025.</li> </ol> <p>The Strategic Property Review (SPR) as part of its considerations identified surplus land which could be utilised to meet a range of climate change measures (dry forests, wildflower meadows etc). The SPR also mentions the opportunity of working with the district's anchor employers and key stakeholders.</p> <p>The Council has supported the work of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economic Partnership (OIEP) Steering Group. The OIEP Steering Group seeks to drive business and community engagement through educational attainment, inclusive recruitment and social value in procurement. The overall mission of the OIEP is to create a more equal and sustainable county that provides opportunities and benefits for all. Its Charter will be launched in January 2023. This will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mobilise support for Oxfordshire inclusive economy and raise awareness of it.</li> <li>- Publicly share commitments to inclusivity by individuals, businesses and organisations.</li> <li>- Set and raise standards around inclusive economy.</li> <li>- Encourage residents and businesses to work together to help protect Oxfordshire's economy with the aim to prevent money leaving the county.</li> </ul>	<p>Head of Development &amp; Corporate Landlord</p> <p>No</p> <p>Actions within this motion remain ongoing.</p>	Open
South M32	25th March 2021	<p>That Council notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As specified in the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 the district council has planned for 30,056 new homes in the period 2011-2035, of which 16,360 have already been built.</li> <li>• Clinical Commissioning Groups are responsible for ensuring health provision for our growing population is provided.</li> <li>• Section 106 contributions from developers agreed by the District Council are not used by the CCGs within a set time, the money can be paid back to the developer, which would result in an under-provision of health care to our communities.</li> <li>• Despite significant effort by council officers and local health professionals, the current system is preventing us from providing the health services that local people need and deserve.</li> <li>• Our planning service and planning committee are therefore under pressure to approve new housing without plans for healthcare in place.</li> </ul> <p>Council believes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This council has an important role in improving the health and wellbeing of our residents.</li> <li>• Primary health provision should be planned based on population growth and vision for health care provision in the district.</li> <li>• That sufficient infrastructure such as transport, health and education should be provided alongside, and preferably ahead of, new housing development.</li> <li>• The current national system for ensuring health infrastructure is provided, through Clinical Commissioning Groups, is not working.</li> </ul> <p>Council requests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Officers continue to work with Clinical Commissioning Groups to ensure sufficient provision is made for primary care services for growth areas such as Didcot, Wallingford, Thame and Chinnor and other locations under pressure.</li> <li>2. The council leader, recognising that there are a number of CCGs involved in the provision of health care services, write to the CCGs to arrange meetings to discuss:</li> </ol> <p>Developing better working relationships between the CCGs and the District Council.</p> <p>Ensuring CCGs take a more pro-active approach to our planning process and respond to planning application consultations in a timely and ongoing basis to support the work of our planning department and our Infrastructure and development team.</p> <p>How the CCGs can engage more proactively with the planning authority to better plan healthcare for strategic sites housing sites in South Oxfordshire linked to the council's corporate plan theme of 'improved economic and community well-being'.</p> <p>To understand how CCGs use population forecasts to plan primary healthcare.</p> <p>To discuss the particular cases of Wallingford, Didcot, Thame and Chinnor and other locations under pressure.</p> <p>3. The Council Leader write to the Ministers for Health and MHCLG to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. explain the difficulties local planning authorities have to obtain information and commitment to deliver health services from CCGs</li> <li>2. press the need for wherever structure replaces Clinical Commissioning groups as part of the health reform has working with local planning authorities and its heart (recognising that this may be difficult if they are being reorganised),</li> <li>3. ask what government are doing to increase the number of GPs and other health staff and funding to keep up with number of homes.</li> </ol>	<p>That Council notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As specified in the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 the district council has planned for 30,056 new homes in the period 2011-2035, of which 16,360 have already been built.</li> <li>• Clinical Commissioning Groups are responsible for ensuring health provision for our growing population is provided.</li> <li>• Section 106 contributions from developers agreed by the District Council are not used by the CCGs within a set time, the money can be paid back to the developer, which would result in an under-provision of health care to our communities.</li> <li>• Despite significant effort by council officers and local health professionals, the current system is preventing us from providing the health services that local people need and deserve.</li> <li>• Our planning service and planning committee are therefore under pressure to approve new housing without plans for healthcare in place.</li> </ul> <p>Council believes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This council has an important role in improving the health and wellbeing of our residents.</li> <li>• Primary health provision should be planned based on population growth and vision for health care provision in the district.</li> <li>• That sufficient infrastructure such as transport, health and education should be provided alongside, and preferably ahead of, new housing development.</li> <li>• The current national system for ensuring health infrastructure is provided, through Clinical Commissioning Groups, is not working.</li> </ul> <p>Council requests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Officers continue to work with Clinical Commissioning Groups to ensure sufficient provision is made for primary care services for growth areas such as Didcot, Wallingford, Thame and Chinnor and other locations under pressure.</li> <li>2. The council leader, recognising that there are a number of CCGs involved in the provision of health care services, write to the CCGs to arrange meetings to discuss:</li> </ol> <p>Developing better working relationships between the CCGs and the District Council.</p> <p>Ensuring CCGs take a more pro-active approach to our planning process and respond to planning application consultations in a timely and ongoing basis to support the work of our planning department and our Infrastructure and development team.</p> <p>How the CCGs can engage more proactively with the planning authority to better plan healthcare for strategic sites housing sites in South Oxfordshire linked to the council's corporate plan theme of 'improved economic and community well-being'.</p> <p>To understand how CCGs use population forecasts to plan primary healthcare.</p> <p>To discuss the particular cases of Wallingford, Didcot, Thame and Chinnor and other locations under pressure.</p>	<p>Relevant officers informed. Letters will be sent after the relevant meetings between the CCGs and the Council leaders.</p> <p>The Leader, supported by officers, met with Directors for the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) on 24 May 2021 which has led to a useful ongoing officer liaison. We were also seeking additional meetings with other surrounding CCGs, Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group and Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group to better support and facilitate collaboration in delivering local health services and infrastructure.</p> <p>The discussion with OCCG included information on how population forecasts are used to plan healthcare requirements in the district and how the council can improve working with the CCG to ensure healthcare needs are included in S106 agreements and ensuring the associated monies are spent in a timely manner.</p> <p>Officers arranged a presentation for all councillors by all councillors by the OCCG to explain how they operate and discuss future reforms. An all-CCG briefing was held in September 2021.</p>	<p>Deputy Chief Executive Place</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Closed</p>	Closed
South M33	25th March 2021	<p>That the Council recognises that financial security is critical to a stable and thriving society. Yet, too many people are without enough money to meet their basic needs. Universal Basic Income (UBI) is an opportunity to revolutionise a welfare system that is no longer fit for purpose.</p> <p>UBI would provide every adult (regardless of employment status, wealth, or marital status) with a fixed, regular and unconditional income to relieve some of the financial pressures facing households. It is a monthly grant sufficient to contribute to the basic needs of food, shelter and education. It is a fair way of eliminating poverty, guaranteeing a minimum standard of living, and improving well-being. It helps the local economy by providing stability and security, allowing people to thrive rather than just survive.</p> <p>There have been several trials of basic income internationally and most recently in Finland. Results have been encouraging. Spain is rolling it out as part of their COVID-19 response measures.</p> <p>Council requests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The leader of the council writes to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, South Oxfordshire Members of Parliament and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions requesting the UK Government undertake pilot studies for the Universal Basic Income, and that South Oxfordshire be included in any pilot.</li> <li>2. That such pilot studies gather evidence of the effectiveness of a Universal Basic Income on reducing inequality, disadvantage and poverty.</li> <li>3. That the Leader sends a copy of any responses from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, South Oxfordshire Members of Parliament and the Secretary of State for Work and Pension to all councillors as and when replies are received.</li> </ol>	<p>That the Council recognises that financial security is critical to a stable and thriving society. Yet, too many people are without enough money to meet their basic needs. Universal Basic Income (UBI) is an opportunity to revolutionise a welfare system that is no longer fit for purpose.</p> <p>UBI would provide every adult (regardless of employment status, wealth, or marital status) with a fixed, regular and unconditional income to relieve some of the financial pressures facing households. It is a monthly grant sufficient to contribute to the basic needs of food, shelter and education. It is a fair way of eliminating poverty, guaranteeing a minimum standard of living, and improving well-being. It helps the local economy by providing stability and security, allowing people to thrive rather than just survive.</p> <p>There have been several trials of basic income internationally and most recently in Finland. Results have been encouraging. Spain is rolling it out as part of their COVID-19 response measures.</p> <p>Council requests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The leader of the council writes to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, South Oxfordshire Members of Parliament and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions requesting the UK Government undertake pilot studies for the Universal Basic Income, and that South Oxfordshire be included in any pilot.</li> <li>2. That such pilot studies gather evidence of the effectiveness of a Universal Basic Income on reducing inequality, disadvantage and poverty.</li> <li>3. That the Leader sends a copy of any responses from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, South Oxfordshire Members of Parliament and the Secretary of State for Work and Pension to all councillors as and when replies are received.</li> </ol>	<p>Letters drafted</p>	<p>Head of Finance</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Closed</p>	Closed
South M34	25th March 2021	<p>That Council agrees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That Council is committed, through its Equality and Diversity policies and procedures, and its Corporate Plan to delivering in a fair and inclusive way. This Council notes that it is already certificated as a Disability Confident Employer, and is further committed to continuing its positive work in this area</li> <li>- To explore developing an Action Plan on Neurodiversity which sits within the Inclusion and Diversity Strategy and includes:</li> <li>- Using best practice from Autism charities and Neurodiversity partnerships, recruitment and HR practices for supporting neurodivergent candidates and employees</li> <li>- Developing a needs assessment process specific to neurodivergence so reasonable adjustments can be made</li> <li>- Putting in place coaching/mentorship buddy system for staff who are neurodivergent</li> <li>- Undertaking a review of our services to ensure they are accessible to neurodivergent individuals and making adaptations where necessary</li> <li>- Making the action plan (booklet) publicly available as a resource for other local employers (via South and Vale business support newsletter)</li> <li>- Collaborating with partners across Oxfordshire to share best practice on issues pertaining to neurodiversity</li> <li>- Setting up learning and awareness events and using communication channels including social media</li> <li>- Consultation on a draft action plan with people with lived experience</li> </ul>	<p>That Council agrees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That Council is committed, through its Equality and Diversity policies and procedures, and its Corporate Plan to delivering in a fair and inclusive way. This Council notes that it is already certificated as a Disability Confident Employer, and is further committed to continuing its positive work in this area</li> <li>- To explore developing an Action Plan on Neurodiversity which sits within the Inclusion and Diversity Strategy and includes:</li> <li>- Using best practice from Autism charities and Neurodiversity partnerships, recruitment and HR practices for supporting neurodivergent candidates and employees</li> <li>- Developing a needs assessment process specific to neurodivergence so reasonable adjustments can be made</li> <li>- Putting in place coaching/mentorship buddy system for staff who are neurodivergent</li> <li>- Undertaking a review of our services to ensure they are accessible to neurodivergent individuals and making adaptations where necessary</li> <li>- Making the action plan (booklet) publicly available as a resource for other local employers (via South and Vale business support newsletter)</li> <li>- Continuing to work with partners across Oxfordshire to share best practice on issues pertaining to neurodiversity</li> <li>- Setting up learning and awareness events and using communication channels including social media</li> <li>- Consultation on a draft action plan with people with lived experience</li> </ul>	<p>Relevant officers informed.</p> <p>A Joint Diversity and Inclusion Strategy has been developed by South and Vale. It was adopted by the Cabinet in December 2022. The Strategy sets out the council's approach and vision to equality, diversity, and inclusion by proactively engaging with internal teams, community groups and residents to understand current challenges to inform decisions and work towards ensuring services are truly inclusive and meet the needs of everyone.</p>	<p>Head of Corporate Services</p> <p>No</p> <p>Actions within this motion remain ongoing.</p>	Open
South M35	25th March 2021	<p>That this council should seek to encourage developers to work closely with the local council (parish/town) to develop appropriate leisure facilities for that area.</p>	<p>That this council should seek to encourage developers to work closely with the local council (parish/town) to develop appropriate leisure facilities for that area.</p>	<p>Relevant officers informed.</p>	<p>Head of Development &amp; Corporate Landlord</p> <p>No</p> <p>Actions within this motion remain ongoing.</p>	Open

South M06	15th July 2021	<p>Council recognises that after four years of delays to the long-awaited environment bill we are still without crucial laws to restore nature and tackle climate change. We are alarmed by the 68% decline in global wildlife populations since 1970 and feel we must take measures to act in the face of Conservative high population growth aspirations for the Oxford/Cambridge Arc. We welcome plans to extend the Chilterns AONB but recognise that all our residents deserve access to nature. With this in mind the Council agrees to support, in principle, the creation of new protected areas in Oxfordshire. Some outline plans have already been devised by local groups. We plan for a 36 sq mile park comprising Otmoor and the Royal Forests of Berwood and Stowood, which have the widespread support of local people and parish councils. These kinds of plans fit with the government's stated 25 Year Environment Plan commitments and its pledge to protect 30% of the UK's land by 2030. To ensure we are 'spade ready' for any expressions of interest, Council asks the Leader to bring a paper to Cabinet on: How the Council can take a lead in developing and promoting regional parks including at the landscape scale as part of Oxfordshire's nature recovery network through its partnerships, and with government agencies, investigating the most appropriate protections and designations to seek which are likely to attract funding.</p>	<p>Council recognises that after four years of delays to the long-awaited environment bill we are still without crucial laws to restore nature and tackle climate change. We are alarmed by the 68% decline in global wildlife populations since 1970 and feel we must take measures to act in the face of Conservative high population growth aspirations for the Oxford/Cambridge Arc. We welcome plans to extend the Chilterns AONB but recognise that all our residents deserve access to nature. With this in mind the Council agrees to support, in principle, the creation of new protected areas in Oxfordshire. Some outline plans have already been devised by local groups. We plan for a 36 sq mile park comprising Otmoor and the Royal Forests of Berwood and Stowood, which have the widespread support of local people and parish councils. These kinds of plans fit with the government's stated 25 Year Environment Plan commitments and its pledge to protect 30% of the UK's land by 2030. To ensure we are 'spade ready' for any expressions of interest, Council asks the Leader to bring a paper to Cabinet on: How the Council can take a lead in developing and promoting regional parks including at the landscape scale as part of Oxfordshire's nature recovery network through its partnerships, and with government agencies, investigating the most appropriate protections and designations to seek which are likely to attract funding.</p>	<p>Relevant officers informed.</p>	<p>Head of Policy &amp; Programmes</p>	<p>No Actions within this motion remain ongoing</p>	<p>Open</p>
South M07	15th July 2021	<p>That Council notes: Councils are responsible for organising all elections in England. The recent Queen's Speech contained government proposals to require people to show identification including a photograph in order to vote in a General Election. Allegations of electoral registration or voter fraud are very rare in South Oxfordshire. Council believes: Voting at elections is the cornerstone of democracy at both local and national level. Participation in elections should be encouraged in all those who are qualified regardless of age, ethnicity or income. Unnecessary barriers to voting are likely to reduce voter participation in elections, proper representation of all parts of the community and so legitimacy of those elected to office. Voter ID is a solution without a problem and as such insinuates barriers to voting which should be of great concern to anyone who supports an open and effective democratic system of government. Council Resolves: To oppose the introduction of photo ID as a requirement to vote at polling stations. To request the Leader to write to the relevant minister indicating this opposition and the reasons why and requesting this measure is not included in any forthcoming Bill. That should mandatory photo ID be passed into law, this council will investigate low-cost options for residents, bearing in mind the barriers outlined and focus efforts to promote the ID to those who are most likely to need it.</p>	<p>That Council notes: Councils are responsible for organising all elections in England. The recent Queen's Speech contained government proposals to require people to show identification including a photograph in order to vote in a General Election. Allegations of electoral registration or voter fraud are very rare in South Oxfordshire. Council believes: Voting at elections is the cornerstone of democracy at both local and national level. Participation in elections should be encouraged in all those who are qualified regardless of age, ethnicity or income. Unnecessary barriers to voting are likely to reduce voter participation in elections, proper representation of all parts of the community and so legitimacy of those elected to office. Voter ID is a solution without a problem and as such insinuates barriers to voting which should be of great concern to anyone who supports an open and effective democratic system of government. Council Resolves: To oppose the introduction of photo ID as a requirement to vote at polling stations. To request the Leader to write to the relevant minister indicating this opposition and the reasons why and requesting this measure is not included in any forthcoming Bill. That should mandatory photo ID be passed into law, this council will investigate low-cost options for residents, bearing in mind the barriers outlined and focus efforts to promote the ID to those who are most likely to need it.</p>	<p>Relevant officers informed and letter drafted</p>	<p>Head of Legal &amp; Democratic Services</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Closed</p>
South M08	15th July 2021	<p>That Council notes our CEO is an LGA Peer and has previously asked group leaders to support our Council being peer challenged. Council supports him in this and recognises the contribution that our officers have made to national best practice.</p>	<p>That Council notes our CEO is an LGA Peer and has previously asked group leaders to support our Council being peer challenged. Council supports him in this and recognises the contribution that our officers have made to national best practice.</p>	<p>Relevant officers informed</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>No Actions within this motion remain ongoing</p>	<p>Open</p>
South M09	7th October 2021	<p>Council notes that the Government is currently running its public consultation on the Vision for "the Oxford to Cambridge Arc". It appears that Government has made economic growth its priority for the Arc, without asking residents whether that is the right priority, considering natural limits and resource constraints, or even whether the Arc project is necessary. The Diagnostics review, published earlier this year<sup>1</sup>, found that the UK's traditional approach to growth is unsustainable. Local authority leaders, including from this council, have tried to prioritise nature and climate action by proposing Arc Environmental Principles, but the Government's current consultation ignores them, as noted by BBOWITZ, RSPB and others. Council notes these concerns and asks the Leader to write to the new Minister for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, asking him to: - Pause the Arc project to reflect on whether the creation of an arbitrary geographic construct driving excessive growth in the South East will make a positive contribution to the government's stated aim of 'levelling up' the UK. - If the project is to continue, set out clearly what the Government's aims for it are, including expected costs, projected housing and growth expectations, and how it will fit into a wider regional structure within the UK. - Give local authorities within the Arc area the powers and funding needed to enable landscape-scale nature restoration and world-leading environmental standards. - Ensure proper local democratic control, with constituent local planning authorities able to set their own housing requirements based on local need. <sup>1</sup> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-economics-of-livability-the-diagnostics-review">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-economics-of-livability-the-diagnostics-review</a> <sup>2</sup> <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-58161616">https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-58161616</a> <sup>3</sup> <a href="https://community.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/brp-england/posts/time-to-rethink-the-arc">https://community.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/brp-england/posts/time-to-rethink-the-arc</a></p>	<p>Council notes that the Government is currently running its public consultation on the Vision for "the Oxford to Cambridge Arc". It appears that Government has made economic growth its priority for the Arc, without asking residents whether that is the right priority, considering natural limits and resource constraints, or even whether the Arc project is necessary. The Diagnostics review, published earlier this year<sup>1</sup>, found that the UK's traditional approach to growth is unsustainable. Local authority leaders, including from this council, have tried to prioritise nature and climate action by proposing Arc Environmental Principles, but the Government's current consultation ignores them, as noted by BBOWITZ, RSPB and others. Council notes these concerns and asks the Leader to write to the new Minister for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, asking him to: - Pause the Arc project to reflect on whether the creation of an arbitrary geographic construct driving excessive growth in the South East will make a positive contribution to the government's stated aim of 'levelling up' the UK. - If the project is to continue, set out clearly what the Government's aims for it are, including expected costs, projected housing and growth expectations, and how it will fit into a wider regional structure within the UK. - Give local authorities within the Arc area the powers and funding needed to enable landscape-scale nature restoration and world-leading environmental standards. - Ensure proper local democratic control, with constituent local planning authorities able to set their own housing requirements based on local need. <sup>1</sup> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-economics-of-livability-the-diagnostics-review">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-economics-of-livability-the-diagnostics-review</a> <sup>2</sup> <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-58161616">https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-58161616</a> <sup>3</sup> <a href="https://community.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/brp-england/posts/time-to-rethink-the-arc">https://community.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/brp-england/posts/time-to-rethink-the-arc</a></p>	<p>Letter sent and relevant officers informed. This position was incorporated into the Council's response to the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework consultation in October 2021.</p>	<p>Deputy Chief Executive Partnerships</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Closed</p>
South M10	7th October 2021	<p>Council acknowledges the appointment of a new Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. It welcomes the fact that he is reconsidering HM Government's proposed planning reforms and hopes he makes use of this opportunity to prioritise ambitions to address the climate emergency, protect and enhance the natural environment and increase biodiversity – all of which will help to improve the health and wellbeing of the nation. It is only by putting sustainability at the heart of these matters that the UK will be able to deliver on its environmental ambitions. The Council notes: - The appointment of Michael Gove as Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. - The upcoming United Nations COP26 climate summit gives government all levels the opportunity to galvanise action on reducing emissions. - HM Government's stated ambitions to Build Back Better, achieve Net Zero and to leave the natural environment in a better state than found it. Council calls for HM Government to: - scrap the current proposals for planning reform and maintain the right of local residents to engage and comment on individual planning applications - transform the local planning process into one that assesses the climate fitness of a district and plans for growth within the environmental capacity of the area, looking at carbon emissions, water availability and the pressing need for nature recovery at scale - maintain the right of local people, through robust Neighbourhood and Local Plan processes, to decide how their communities develop sustainably - reverse the recently introduced permitted development rights which bypass local decision-making - support councils in adopting strong local and strategic planning policies (including through plans like the Oxfordshire Plan 2050) to maximise protection for the environment, decarbonise, recycle urban land, revitalize existing places and plan for new development within the limits of climate and environmental capacity, to create strong, healthy, sustainable communities where people want, and can afford, to live - in the process of decarbonising and protecting the environment, perform a thorough review of both Building Regulations and NPPF, require property developments to be built to net carbon zero standards in manufacture and in use, or justify any shortfall. and asks the Leader to write to the Secretary of State and our local Members of Parliament to this effect and to reiterate this Council's belief that the 5 Year Housing Land Supply measure is flawed and inappropriate, as Councils should not be held to account for the actions – or indeed lack of action – of developers, with regard to the delivery of housing on allocated or approved development sites.</p>	<p>Council acknowledges the appointment of a new Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. It welcomes the fact that he is reconsidering HM Government's proposed planning reforms and hopes he makes use of this opportunity to prioritise ambitions to address the climate emergency, protect and enhance the natural environment and increase biodiversity – all of which will help to improve the health and wellbeing of the nation. It is only by putting sustainability at the heart of these matters that the UK will be able to deliver on its environmental ambitions. The Council notes: - The appointment of Michael Gove as Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. - The upcoming United Nations COP26 climate summit gives government all levels the opportunity to galvanise action on reducing emissions. - HM Government's stated ambitions to Build Back Better, achieve Net Zero and to leave the natural environment in a better state than found it. Council calls for HM Government to: - scrap the current proposals for planning reform and maintain the right of local residents to engage and comment on individual planning applications - transform the local planning process into one that assesses the climate fitness of a district and plans for growth within the environmental capacity of the area, looking at carbon emissions, water availability and the pressing need for nature recovery at scale - maintain the right of local people, through robust Neighbourhood and Local Plan processes, to decide how their communities develop sustainably - reverse the recently introduced permitted development rights which bypass local decision-making - support councils in adopting strong local and strategic planning policies (including through plans like the Oxfordshire Plan 2050) to maximise protection for the environment, decarbonise, recycle urban land, revitalize existing places and plan for new development within the limits of climate and environmental capacity, to create strong, healthy, sustainable communities where people want, and can afford, to live - in the process of decarbonising and protecting the environment, perform a thorough review of both Building Regulations and NPPF, require property developments to be built to net carbon zero standards in manufacture and in use, or justify any shortfall. and asks the Leader to write to the Secretary of State and our local Members of Parliament to this effect and to reiterate this Council's belief that the 5 Year Housing Land Supply measure is flawed and inappropriate, as Councils should not be held to account for the actions – or indeed lack of action – of developers, with regard to the delivery of housing on allocated or approved development sites.</p>	<p>Letters sent and relevant officers informed.</p>	<p>Head of Policy &amp; Programmes</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Closed</p>
South M11	7th October 2021	<p>In March 2020, as we were faced with the economic fallout from the pandemic, the Government did the right thing and increased Universal Credit and Working Tax Credit by £20 a week. Council notes that this £20 a week is now to be cut, coming into effect for families on Universal Credit from 6 October. This cut will mean the biggest overnight cut to the basic rate of social security since the modern welfare state began, more than 70 years ago. According to analysis by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2.1% of all working-age families will experience a £1,040-a-year cut to their incomes from this week. Many of the same families will be seeing an increase in National Insurance costs. Lower income households spend more of their income on basic essentials such as food and utilities, and the cost of these is currently rising fast. The Government says it wants to support people back into work as we emerge from the crisis. But working families make up around 60% of families who will be affected. Council reiterates our corporate plan commitment to support vulnerable members of our community through improved economic and community wellbeing. Council acknowledges the concerns raised by local and national charities (including as Emore, Citizens Advice Bureau and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation) about the significantly negative impact this cut will have on the financial security and well-being of those affected in our district. Council deplores the decision of the Government to remove the 'temporary' uplift in Universal Credit which will directly impact at least 5,024 families in the South Oxfordshire district. Council therefore resolves to ask the Leader to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (copied to our local MPs) expressing our grave concern about the impact on families within the district and to request that the decision to cut the Universal Credit uplift be reversed, and that the uplift be incorporated permanently into Universal Credit. *The total number of households on Universal Credit as of May 2021 is 6,060, of which 5,024 are in payment. (Gov.uk)</p>	<p>In March 2020, as we were faced with the economic fallout from the pandemic, the Government did the right thing and increased Universal Credit and Working Tax Credit by £20 a week. Council notes that this £20 a week is now to be cut, coming into effect for families on Universal Credit from 6 October. This cut will mean the biggest overnight cut to the basic rate of social security since the modern welfare state began, more than 70 years ago. According to analysis by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2.1% of all working-age families will experience a £1,040-a-year cut to their incomes from this week. Many of the same families will be seeing an increase in National Insurance costs. Lower income households spend more of their income on basic essentials such as food and utilities, and the cost of these is currently rising fast. The Government says it wants to support people back into work as we emerge from the crisis. But working families make up around 60% of families who will be affected. Council reiterates our corporate plan commitment to support vulnerable members of our community through improved economic and community wellbeing. Council acknowledges the concerns raised by local and national charities (including as Emore, Citizens Advice Bureau and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation) about the significantly negative impact this cut will have on the financial security and well-being of those affected in our district. Council deplores the decision of the Government to remove the 'temporary' uplift in Universal Credit which will directly impact at least 5,024 families in the South Oxfordshire district. Council therefore resolves to ask the Leader to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (copied to our local MPs) expressing our grave concern about the impact on families within the district and to request that the decision to cut the Universal Credit uplift be reversed, and that the uplift be incorporated permanently into Universal Credit. *The total number of households on Universal Credit as of May 2021 is 6,060, of which 5,024 are in payment. (Gov.uk)</p>	<p>Letters sent and response received.</p>	<p>Head of Finance</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Closed</p>
South M12	7th October 2021	<p>Council notes: - The recent report by Swim England which warns that almost 2,000 pools could be lost in England by the end of the decade. - The Council's annual greenhouse gas emissions report (<a href="https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Greenhouse-gas-emissions-report-South-2019-20.docx">https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Greenhouse-gas-emissions-report-South-2019-20.docx</a>) in respect to our aging leisure centres, coupled with the need to decarbonise wet site facilities to achieve the council's carbon reduction targets, rightly requires a focus on heat decarbonisation and whole building approach. - That phase one and two of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund were oversubscribed within weeks of opening, highlighting the need to move away from stop-start releases of ringfenced pots of money with competitive bidding processes – and, instead, resource local areas to deliver their own decarbonisation strategies. - That competitive bidding for funds can put significant resource pressure on lean councils without guarantee of award. - That the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund's eligibility criteria make the fund particularly inaccessible to councils whose leisure centres are operated by third party providers. - Long-term funding, delivered through local authorities would deliver positive outcomes in terms of enhancing the future of public swimming pools, potentially decrease the long-term cost of operating pools, and contribute to the reduction of carbon emissions. - Long-term funding, invested through local authorities and other public sector organisations, will also provide local suppliers with the confidence to invest in staff, skills and the technology. Council resolves to: - Continue work on evaluation of the best ways to decarbonise our leisure centres at a pace, so that applications for phase 3 or any subsequent rounds of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund can be utilised, noting the constraints above and that the criteria for these funding routes are set nationally. - Agree that the leader writes to BEIS highlighting both the barriers in the existing schemes, as well as the urgent need for the Government to set out a long-term funding for safeguarding and decarbonising leisure centres and move away from competitive bidding in order to support local authorities to lead the way in the delivery of a net zero future for leisure.</p>	<p>Council notes: - The recent report by Swim England which warns that almost 2,000 pools could be lost in England by the end of the decade. - The Council's annual greenhouse gas emissions report (<a href="https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Greenhouse-gas-emissions-report-South-2019-20.docx">https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Greenhouse-gas-emissions-report-South-2019-20.docx</a>) in respect to our aging leisure centres, coupled with the need to decarbonise wet site facilities to achieve the council's carbon reduction targets, rightly requires a focus on heat decarbonisation and whole building approach. - That phase one and two of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund were oversubscribed within weeks of opening, highlighting the need to move away from stop-start releases of ringfenced pots of money with competitive bidding processes – and, instead, resource local areas to deliver their own decarbonisation strategies. - That competitive bidding for funds can put significant resource pressure on lean councils without guarantee of award. - That the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund's eligibility criteria make the fund particularly inaccessible to councils whose leisure centres are operated by third party providers. - Long-term funding, delivered through local authorities would deliver positive outcomes in terms of enhancing the future of public swimming pools, potentially decrease the long-term cost of operating pools, and contribute to the reduction of carbon emissions. - Long-term funding, invested through local authorities and other public sector organisations, will also provide local suppliers with the confidence to invest in staff, skills and the technology. Council resolves to: - Continue work on evaluation of the best ways to decarbonise our leisure centres at a pace, so that applications for phase 3 or any subsequent rounds of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund can be utilised, noting the constraints above and that the criteria for these funding routes are set nationally. - Agree that the leader writes to BEIS highlighting both the barriers in the existing schemes, as well as the urgent need for the Government to set out a long-term funding for safeguarding and decarbonising leisure centres and move away from competitive bidding in order to support local authorities to lead the way in the delivery of a net zero future for leisure.</p>	<p>Letters sent and relevant officers informed. Site assessments continue to be conducted at our leisure centres and a "road" bid has been drafted with external support, so we know what good looks like to improve opportunities of future success in the scheme. The External Funding Lead is now embedded within the organisation. They have made progress on introducing the necessary governance structures and documentation to ensure that future funding bids are deliverable and align with South Oxfordshire's goals. The pipeline of external funding opportunities continues to be maintained and assessed.</p>	<p>Head of Development &amp; Corporate Landlord</p>	<p>No Actions within this motion remain ongoing</p>	<p>Open</p>



South MS3	14th July 2022	<p>That Council notes:</p> <p>Residents and councillors remain deeply concerned about water quality and the impact on human health and wildlife, of sewage discharges into the River Thames and its tributaries.</p> <p>Sewage discharges are happening with increasing frequency. Thames Water dumped raw sewage into the River Thames and its tributaries 5,029 times in 2021.</p> <p>Data obtained from Thames Water and compiled by the Oxford Rivers Improvement Campaign (ORIC) shows that in 2020, treatment works in South Oxfordshire were operating significantly short of the capacity required to cope with existing populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Oxford has 61% of the capacity required</li> <li>-Oxford Sewage Treatment Works (in Oxford), has 62% of the capacity required</li> <li>-Chinnor has 69% of the capacity required</li> <li>-Reading has 68% of the capacity required</li> <li>-Chalgrove has 71% of the capacity required</li> </ul> <p>South Oxfordshire has plans for almost 30,000 new homes to be delivered between 2011 and 2035. The district has already seen a significant increase in its population of 14,800 from 134,300 (2011) to 149,100 (2021).</p> <p>Legislation establishes the right to connect to the foul water system. Where Thames Water identifies infrastructure capacity issues and the developer indicates that it intends to connect to the public sewer, South Oxfordshire District Council makes permission conditional on Thames Water taking necessary steps to ensure the public sewer can cope with the increased load ("Grimplan-style" conditions).</p> <p>But the Council is not informed of the specifics of sewage treatment capacity and is not told whether development is likely to lead to an increase in sewage discharges into the Thames or its tributaries.</p> <p>This Council resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure that an evidence base is compiled that assesses the cumulative impact of sewage discharge so that this is factored into decisions on the new Joint Local Plan.</li> <li>2. Request that Thames Water submit to Council and make public by the end of 2022, detailed and up to date information on sewage treatment work capacity at all treatment works in South Oxfordshire, make clear plans for infrastructure improvements and detail how these will work to reduce and ultimately eliminate sewage discharges.</li> <li>3. Ask Thames Water, as part of its response to major planning applications, to provide detailed and up to date information on capacity at the treatment works that will be handling the waste from the new development, and information on the likely impact of additional development on sewage discharges into the River Thames and its tributaries, in order that this information can be considered in the decision-making process.</li> <li>4. Request that planning officers include in all reports relating to major development, a summary response from Thames Water to our consultation and, where information/data is provided, include a specific section on the impact on the wastewater network and watercourses, including the potential for the development to affect sewage discharges.</li> <li>5. Noting Thames Water's plans to make information from electronic duration monitors public by the end of 2022, ask Thames Water to measure and make public, information on the volume of sewage discharged, not just the number of hours.</li> <li>6. Request that Thames Water provide detailed costings and timescales to achieve a progressive reduction and ultimately an end to sewage discharges in South Oxfordshire.</li> <li>7. Ask the Leader to write to OFWAT and the Secretary of State to request that work take place to align water company investment strategies and timetables with strategic local planning so that planned infrastructure investment better relates to planned housing development.</li> <li>8. Ask the Leader to write to the Secretary of State, OFWAT and the Environment Agency to request that sewage undertakers be required to make public, up to date information on sewage treatment work capacity and volume of sewage discharges for all sewage treatment works by the end of 2023.</li> </ol>	<p>This Council resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure that an evidence base is compiled that assesses the cumulative impact of sewage discharge so that this is factored into decisions on the new Joint Local Plan.</li> <li>2. Request that Thames Water submit to Council and make public by the end of 2022, detailed and up to date information on sewage treatment work capacity at all treatment works in South Oxfordshire, make clear plans for infrastructure improvements and detail how these will work to reduce and ultimately eliminate sewage discharges.</li> <li>3. Ask Thames Water, as part of its response to major planning applications, to provide detailed and up to date information on capacity at the treatment works that will be handling the waste from the new development, and information on the likely impact of additional development on sewage discharges into the River Thames and its tributaries, in order that this information can be considered in the decision-making process.</li> <li>4. Request that planning officers include in all reports relating to major development, a summary response from Thames Water to our consultation and, where information/data is provided, include a specific section on the impact on the wastewater network and watercourses, including the potential for the development to affect sewage discharges.</li> <li>5. Noting Thames Water's plans to make information from electronic duration monitors public by the end of 2022, ask Thames Water to measure and make public, information on the volume of sewage discharged, not just the number of hours.</li> <li>6. Request that Thames Water provide detailed costings and timescales to achieve a progressive reduction and ultimately an end to sewage discharges in South Oxfordshire.</li> <li>7. Ask the Leader to write to OFWAT and the Secretary of State to request that work take place to align water company investment strategies and timetables with strategic local planning so that planned infrastructure investment better relates to planned housing development.</li> <li>8. Ask the Leader to write to the Secretary of State, OFWAT and the Environment Agency to request that sewage undertakers be required to make public, up to date information on sewage treatment work capacity and volume of sewage discharges for all sewage treatment works by the end of 2023.</li> </ol>	<p>Letters sent - responses received from the Environment Agency (9 August) and from Defra (10 November)</p> <p>During 2023, the council will be commissioning a Water Cycle Study to inform the Joint Local Plan. This will include an assessment of sewage discharges and their cumulative impacts.</p> <p>The council has made a change to its validation requirements. This modification puts the onus on the applicant/developer to provide detailed and up-to-date information on the capacity at treatment works that will be handling the waste from new developments (and data on the likely impact of additional development on sewage discharges into the Thames and its tributaries). In order to provide these details, the applicant/developer is, therefore, obliged to base with Thames Water. South have also more clearly set out the level of information that they require in order to assess major planning applications when it comes to drainage.</p> <p>In addition, officers are including a summary response from Thames Water to the council's consultation on major applications. Where information/data is provided, officers are including a specific section in their reports on the wastewater network and watercourses - including the potential effects on sewage discharges. <b>(Please note that the council is dependent on Thames Water and their data if it is going to provide more information.)</b></p>	Head of Policy & Programmes Head of Planning	No Actions within this motion remain ongoing	Open
South MS4	13th October 2022	<p>That Council supports in principle that the community of Great Western Park should reside in one parish within one district council area.</p> <p>Council notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 that the community of Great Western Park is currently split between those living in Didcot parish within South Oxfordshire District Council and those living in Harwell parish within Vale of White Horse District Council;</li> <li>2 that a request to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England for a review of the boundaries of principal council areas, by means of Principal Area Boundary Review (PABR), must be made by all the principal councils concerned, in this case South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils;</li> <li>3 that any final decision on such a request would require consideration of a report from the chief executive covering the benefits of the proposal, the financial implications and evidence of support from the local community.</li> </ol> <p>Council resolves to request the chief executive to ask the Leader of Vale of White Horse if an item can be included on the next Council agenda for Vale of White Horse District Council to seek views on whether it would support, in principle, a request to the LGBCE for a PABR of the boundary between South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils to address the current geographical division of the community within Great Western Park.</p>	<p>Council resolves to request the chief executive to ask the Leader of Vale of White Horse if an item can be included on the next Council agenda for Vale of White Horse District Council to seek views on whether it would support, in principle, a request to the LGBCE for a PABR of the boundary between South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils to address the current geographical division of the community within Great Western Park.</p>	<p>Letter sent from the Chief Executive to the Leader of Vale of White Horse District Council - response received 5 December</p>	Chief Executive	Yes	Closed
South MS5	13th October 2022	<p>That Council considers that the UK government's so-called 'investment zones', proposed by the Chancellor in his recent 'mini-budget', are a disaster in the making, for the environment, local communities, democracy and public finances.</p> <p>Council notes that the similar 'enterprise zones' introduced in 2011 only generated about one quarter of the forecast jobs and that a significant part of those were from existing companies moving into the zones.</p> <p>Under the proposals, local consultations and environmental regulations have been presented as 'burdensome requirements'. Development which 'responds to the market' in these zones is required to be additional to the sites already set out in Local Plans, which are carefully planned to respond to local needs and to respect the local environment. Investment zones will be able to 'violate' well-evidenced policy requirements that have been consulted on and approved by local councillors. Those policies are there for a reason.</p> <p>It appears that EU-based environmental regulations such as Habitat Regulation Assessments will be scrapped in these zones, with no clarity as to how they will be replaced.</p> <p>Instead of treating nature protection as something that is in the way of growth, the environment should be at the heart of decision-making, given that it is the foundation of all economic prosperity.</p> <p>Oxfordshire's 6 councils have already agreed a Strategic Vision for long-term sustainable development, adopting a get rich quick scheme devised by Right-wings that banks is not in keeping with that vision.</p> <p>Council asks the Leader to write to DLUHC and Oxfordshire County Council to say that South Oxfordshire is already a key contributor to the wider UK economy and that democratic local plans remain the best vehicle to continue to deliver that contribution. Responding to the market alone is not enough: South Oxfordshire's residents need to be heard, not sidelined, and our environment respected.</p>	<p>Council asks the Leader to write to DLUHC and Oxfordshire County Council to say that South Oxfordshire is already a key contributor to the wider UK economy and that democratic local plans remain the best vehicle to continue to deliver that contribution. Responding to the market alone is not enough: South Oxfordshire's residents need to be heard, not sidelined, and our environment respected.</p>	<p>Letters drafted.</p> <p>Concept of Investment Zones as originally intended abandoned by HM Government at the Autumn Statement.</p>	Head of Policy & Programmes	Yes	Closed