

# Council



Listening Learning Leading

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## Summons to attend a meeting of Council

to be held on

**THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 6.00 PM**

at

**135 EASTERN AVENUE, MILTON PARK, OX14 4SB**

To watch this meeting, follow this link to the council's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTj2pCic8vzucpzlaSWE3UQ>

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Patrick Arran  
Head of Legal and Democratic

# Agenda

## 1 Apologies for absence

To record apologies for absence.

## 2 Minutes (Pages 6 - 19)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Council minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2021.

## 3 Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and any conflicts of interest in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

## 4 Urgent business and chair's announcements

To receive notification of any matters which the chair determines should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the chair.

## 5 Public participation

To receive any questions or statements from members of the public that have registered to speak.

## 6 Petitions

To receive any petitions from the public.

## 7 Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2022/23 (Pages 20 - 59)

Cabinet, at its meeting on 3 February 2022, considered the attached report of the head of finance on the council's treasury management and investment strategy for 2022/23.

The Joint Audit and Governance Committee considered the report at its meeting on 25 January 2022 and had not recommended any adjustments to the strategy.

### **RECOMMENDATION:** to

1. approve the treasury management strategy 2022/23, as set out in appendix A to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 3 February 2022;
2. approve the prudential indicators and limits for 2022/23 to 2024/25, as set out in appendix A to the report;
3. approve the annual investment strategy 2022/23 set out in appendix A to the report, and the lending criteria detailed in table 6.

## **8 Capital Strategy 2022/23-2031/32** (Pages 60 - 80)

Cabinet, at its meeting on 3 February 2022, considered the attached report of the head of finance on the capital strategy for 2022/23 to 2031/32.

### **RECOMMENDATION:** to

1. approve the capital strategy 2022/23 to 2031/32, contained in the appendix to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 3 February 2022; and
2. agree the strategy for flexible use of capital receipts, which is contained as annex 1 of the capital strategy.

## **9 Revenue budget 2022/23 and capital programme 2022/23 - 2026/27** (Pages 81 - 119)

Cabinet, at its meeting on 3 February 2022, considered the attached report of the head of finance on the the draft revenue budget 2022/23, and the capital programme to 2026/27.

The Scrutiny Committee considered the report at its meeting on 7 February 2022 and made no recommendations to Cabinet.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:** to

1. set the revenue budget for 2022/23, as set out in appendix A.1 to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 3 February 2022;
2. approve the capital programme for 2022/23 to 2026/27, as set out in appendix D.1 to the report, together with the capital programme changes as set out in appendix D.2 and appendix D.3 to the report;
3. set the council's prudential limits, as listed in appendix E to the report;
4. approve the medium-term financial plan to 2026/27, as set out in appendix F to the report;
5. allocate £500,000 to fund the Communities Capital and Revenue grant scheme;
6. ask officers to review the Medium-Term Financial Strategy following the announcement by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities of changes to the council's future funding streams.

## **10 Future provision of external audit services** (Pages 120 - 126)

Cabinet, at its meeting on 3 February 2022, considered the attached report of the head of finance on proposals for appointing the external auditor to the council for the accounts for the five-year period from 2023/24.

**RECOMMENDATION:** to

1. accept Public Sector Audit Appointments' invitation to opt into the sector-led option for the appointment of external auditors to principal local government and police bodies for five financial years from 1 April 2023; and
2. authorise the head of finance to opt into the national scheme for auditor appointments for the provision of external audit services starting with the audit of the 2023/24 accounts.

## **11 Council tax 2022/23**

To consider the report of the head of finance on the setting of the council tax for the 2022/23 financial year - report to follow.

## **12 Pay policy statement 2022/23** (Pages 127 - 131)

To consider the report of the deputy chief executive on the adoption of a pay policy statement to meet the requirements of the Localism Act - attached.

## **13 Report of the leader of the council**

1. To receive the report of the leader of the council.
2. Urgent cabinet decision

In accordance with the Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules, a Cabinet or Cabinet member decision can be taken as a matter of urgency, if any delay by the call in process would seriously prejudice the council's or the public's interest or that the decision cannot reasonably be deferred. Treating the decision as a matter of urgency must be agreed by the chair of the Scrutiny Committee and must be reported to Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

Council is requested to note the details of the following urgent decision.

### **Additional Restriction Grant Defrayal Omicron Update**

On 1 February 2022, Councillor Robin Bennett, Cabinet member for Development and Corporate Landlord, took a decision to approve amendments to the South Oxfordshire District Council Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) scheme – Winter 2021 to account for Omicron updates and to authorise the head of development and corporate landlord, in consultation with the head of finance, to award grants.

The chair of the Scrutiny Committee agreed to waive call in to allow the funds to be awarded immediately to meet Government conditions for the scheme or risk losing available business support funds.

## **14 Questions on notice**

To receive questions from councillors in accordance with Council procedure rule 33.

### **Question from Councillor Anna Badcock to Councillor Leigh Rawlins, Cabinet Member for finance and property assets**

What would it take politically and monetarily to have a swimming pool built in Watlington, considering the options currently and in the future and mindful of the development at Berinsfield where a current facility, in need of update, resides, and the anticipated planning applications for Chalgrove?

## **15 Motions on notice**

No motions have been submitted from councillors in accordance with Council procedure rule 38.

Patrick Arran  
Head of Legal and Democratic

