

Monday 15, November 2021

Tel: 01993 861522
e-mail - democratic.services@westoxon.gov.uk

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

You are summoned to a meeting of the Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee which will be held in the Council Chamber, Woodgreen, Witney OX28 1NB on **Thursday, 25 November 2021 at 6.30 pm.**



Giles Hughes
Chief Executive

To: Members of the Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors: Councillor Andrew Beaney (Chairman), Councillor Andy Graham (Vice-Chair), Councillor Jake Acock, Councillor Jill Bull, Councillor Laetisia Carter, Councillor Owen Collins, Councillor Maxine Crossland, Councillor Jeff Haine, Councillor Mark Johnson, Councillor Nick Leverton, Councillor Lysette Nicholls, Councillor Mathew Parkinson, Councillor Elizabeth Poskitt, Councillor Andrew Prosser and Councillor Alex Wilson

Recording of Proceedings – The law allows the public proceedings of Council, Cabinet, and Committee Meetings to be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted. By participating in this meeting, you are consenting to be filmed.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings please let the Democratic Services officers know prior to the start of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 10)**
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2021.
2. **Apologies for Absence**
To receive any apologies for absence.
3. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations from Members of the Committee on any items to be considered at the meeting.
4. **Participation of the Public**
To receive any submissions from members of the public, in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure.
5. **Chairman's Announcements**
To receive any announcements from the Chairman of the Committee.
6. **Long Term Empty Homes Report (Pages 11 - 16)**
Purpose
To inform Members about the current status of Long Term Empty Homes in the District.
Recommendation
That the report be noted.
7. **Re-use of IT Equipment (Pages 17 - 22)**
Purpose
To further consider the Notice of Motion regarding re-use of IT equipment referred to the Committee by the Council.
Recommendation
That the Committee recommends to Council that they donate their 'end of life' laptops to Oxford IT Bank as this is a local organisation that supports charities and individuals in Oxfordshire and continue to use the existing arrangements for all other ICT Hardware.
8. **Our House and Housing First Project Updates and Funding Extension Options (Pages 23 - 36)**
Purpose
To update members on the 'Our House' and Housing First projects since their inception, to recommend the continuation of the projects and outline future opportunities over the next two years.
Recommendations
That the Committee sends any comments on the report to Cabinet and recommends that Cabinet:
 - a) Agrees the recommendation to continue the projects for a further 18 months from April 2022
 - b) That Cabinet agrees to outsource the Support element of both projects via waiver
 - c) That the Council agrees to the exploration of external funding sources including

bidding for Government and/or community grant funds in order to continue the projects

- d) That the Council agrees to use Housing Reserve / Housing Grant Underspend as set out in 2.35 to guarantee the continuation of the projects whilst alternative funding options are explored
- e) Approves the delegation of any amendments to these allocations to the Housing Manager in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness subject to compliance with funding allocation conditions

9. **Committee Work Programme (Pages 37 - 42)**

Purpose:

To provide the Committee with an updated Work Programme for 2021/2022.

Recommendation:

That the Committee notes the work programme and provides comment where needed.

10. **Cabinet Work Programme (Pages 43 - 50)**

Purpose:

To give the Committee the opportunity to comment on the Cabinet Work Programme published on 12 October 2021.

Recommendation:

That the Committee decides whether to express a view to the Cabinet on relevant issues in its Work Programme.

11. **Members Questions**

Purpose

To receive any questions from Members of the Committee.

(END)