

Tuesday, 9 December 2025

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EXECUTIVE

You are summoned to a meeting of the Executive which will be held in Council Chamber, Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 1NB on **Wednesday, 17 December 2025 at 2.00 pm.**



Giles Hughes
Chief Executive

To: Members of the Executive

Councillors: Andy Graham, Duncan Enright, Lidia Arciszewska, Hugo Ashton, Rachel Crouch, Andrew Prosser, Geoff Saul, Alaric Smith and Tim Sumner

Recording of Proceedings – The law allows the public proceedings of Council, Executive, 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. **Apologies for Absence**
To receive any apologies for absence from Members of the Executive. The quorum for the Executive is 3 Members.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest from members of the Executive on any items to be considered at the meeting.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 7 - 16)**
To approve the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 13 November 2025.
4. **Receipt of Announcements**
To receive any announcements from the Leader of the Council, Members of the Executive or the Chief Executive.
5. **Participation of the Public**
Anyone who lives, works, or studies in West Oxfordshire is eligible to ask one question at the meeting, for up to three minutes, directed at the Leader of the Council or any Executive Member on any agenda item or on any issue that affects the district or its people.

All questions must be no longer than three minutes long.

Members of the public wishing to speak at a meeting must notify democratic.services@westoxon.gov.uk, or call Customer Services on 01993 861000 including their name and the agenda item or topic they wish to speak on, by 2.00pm two clear working days before the meeting (e.g. for a Wednesday meeting, the deadline would be 2.00pm on the Friday before).

If the topic of the question is not within the remit of the Council, advice will be provided on where best to direct the question.

The Leader or relevant Executive Member will either respond to a question verbally at the meeting or provide a written response which will be included in the minutes of the meeting.
6. **Reports from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
To consider any reports or recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which meets on 10 December 2025.
7. **Matters raised by Audit and Governance Committee**
To consider any matters arising from the Audit and Governance Meeting on 27 November 2025.

8. **Proposals for Devolution to a Mayoral Strategic Authority (Pages 17 - 30)**

Purpose:

For the Executive to consider and present views on the proposed Expression of Interest (EOI) to Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) who will submit an EOI to Government. This is in response to the Government's devolution policy and seeks to position our region in the next round of devolution for the purpose of creating a Mayoral Strategic Authority (MSA).

Recommendation(s):

That the Executive resolves to:

1. Note the benefits from the proposed devolution of powers and functions, and agree to continue building on the collaborative approach across the region to date;
2. Consider and present views on the proposed Expression of Interest (EOI) to Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) as the upper-tier authority to Government, noting that the EOI is designed to proactively position our region for early consideration in the next wave of the Devolution Programme;
3. Acknowledge the EOI as an initial invitation to Government, opening further dialogue and engagement, and not a decision to establish a Strategic Authority;
4. Agree that a further report will be brought to Executive prior to any final decision on the creation of a Strategic Authority;
5. Note the informal Devolution Board will oversee discussions with Government, ensuring robust governance and stakeholder engagement by elected members throughout this process; and
6. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to propose any final amendments to the EOI prior to submission to Government by OCC.

9. **Waste and Environmental Services Programme (Pages 31 - 48)**

Purpose:

To seek Executive approval for West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC) to invest and participate in the Oxfordshire Waste and Environmental Services Partnership (WESP)

Recommendations:

That the Executive resolves to:

1. Approve WESP participation in principle for an initial five-year term.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environmental Services, the Executive Member for Finance and the Director of Finance to:
 - i. Approve the WESP business case.
 - ii. Oversee programme implementation.
 - iii. Ensure governance, risk management, and benefits tracking are in place.

10. **Draft Budget 2026/27 version I (Pages 49 - 70)**

Purpose:

This report provides an update on the developing budget for 2026/27.

Recommendation(s):

That the Executive resolves to:

- I. Note the update on the developing budget for 2026/27.

11. **Quarterly Finance Review Q2 (Pages 71 - 94)**

Purpose

To detail the Council's financial performance for Quarter Two 2025-2026

Recommendation

That the Executive resolves to:

- I. Note the Council's Financial Performance for Quarter Two 2025-2026

12. **Quarterly Service Review Q2 (Pages 95 - 158)**

Purpose:

To provide details of the Council's operational performance at the end of 2025-26 Quarter Two (Q2).

Recommendation:

That the Executive Resolves to:

- I. Note the 2025/26 Q2 service performance report.

13. **Local Plan Annual Monitoring 2024/25 (Pages 159 - 220)**

Purpose:

To consider the Council's Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

Recommendation:

That the Executive Resolves to:

- I. Note the content of the report.

14. **Westhive - future hosting options (Pages 221 - 230)**

Purpose:

To provide an update on the progress of the Westhive scheme to date and to set out the options for future delivery.

Recommendation(s):

That the Executive resolves to:

1. Enter into an agreement with Crowdfunder UK for a 3-year period to provide a funding platform.
2. Consider as part of the 2026/27 budget setting process making provision for platform hosting fees of £27,600 per year for a 3-year period.
3. Delegate the responsibility of working through the procurement of a new multi-year contract to the Director of Place in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and the Executive Member for Stronger Healthy Communities.

15. **Asbestos Management Policy (Pages 231 - 258)**

Purpose:

Submit the Asbestos Management Policy to the Executive for approval.

Recommendation:

That the Executive resolves to:

- I. Approve the implementation of the attached Asbestos Management Policy.

16. **Public Spaces Protection Order; A40 between Witney and Burford (Pages 259 - 280)**

Purpose:

To approve the proposed Public Spaces Protection Order.

Recommendation:

That the Executive resolves to:

- I. Approve the Public Spaces Protection Order, Annex A, which prohibits the use of pony and trap carriage(s) for racing and time trials, as delineated on the plan of the Order in Annex A.

17. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

If the Executive wishes to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the exempt from publication part of the agenda, it will be necessary for the Executive to pass a resolution in accordance with the provisions of the Paragraph 4(2)(b) of the Local Authorities ((Executive Arrangements) Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 on the grounds that their presence could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

18. **Exempt Annex A for Item 9 - Waste and Environmental Services Programme (Pages 281 - 292)**

Exempt Annex A for Item 9 - Waste and Environmental Services Programme.

(END)