



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

**EXECUTIVE WORK PROGRAMME
INCORPORATING NOTICE OF DECISIONS PROPOSED TO BE TAKEN IN PRIVATE
SESSION AND NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE A KEY DECISION
1 FEBRUARY 2025 – 31 MAY 2025**

By virtue of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, local authorities are required to publish a notice setting out the key executive decisions that will be taken at least 28 days before such decisions are to be taken. The Regulations also require notice to be given of any matter where it is proposed that the public will be excluded during consideration of the matter.

This Forward Plan incorporates both of these requirements. In the interests of transparency, it also aims to include details of those items to be debated by the Executive that relate to either policy/budget formulation, matters which will be subject to a recommendation to the Council, and other matters due to be considered by the Executive. This programme covers a period of four months, and will be updated on a monthly basis. The timings of items may be subject to change.

It should be noted that although a date not less than 28 clear days after the date of this notice is given in each case, it is possible that matters may be rescheduled to a date which is different from that given provided, in the cases of key decisions and matters to be considered in private, that the 28 day notice has been given. In this regard, please note that agendas and reports for meetings of the Executive are made available on the Council's website at www.westoxon.gov.uk/meetings five working days in advance of the meeting in question. Please also note that the agendas for meetings of the Executive will also incorporate a necessary further notice which is required to be given in relation to matters likely to be considered with the public excluded.

There are circumstances where a key decision can be taken, or a matter may be considered in private, even though the 28 clear days' notice has not been given. If that happens, notice of the matter and the reasons will be published on the council's website, and available from the Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 1NB.

Key Decisions

The Regulations define a key decision as an executive decision which is likely –

- (a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or*
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the authority'.*

The Council has decided that a cost or saving of an amount greater than £150,000 is necessary to constitute expenditure or savings which are significant for the purposes of this definition.

Please note that if a matter is approved by the Council following a recommendation from the Executive, that decision will not be a key decision.

Matters To Be Considered in Private

The great majority of matters considered by the Council's Executive are considered in 'open session' when the public have the right to attend.

However, some matters are considered with the public excluded. The public may only be excluded if a resolution is passed to exclude them. The grounds for exclusion are limited to situations where confidential or exempt information may be disclosed to the public if present and, in most cases involving exempt information, where in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. The definitions of these are set out in the Council's Constitution.

Documents and Queries

Copies of, or extracts from, documents listed in the programme and any which subsequently become available are (subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure), obtainable from the following, and this contact information may also be used for any queries.

Democratic Services – Email: democratic.services@westoxon.gov.uk Tel: 01993 861000.

West Oxfordshire District Council: Executive Members 2024/25

Name of Councillor	Title and Areas of Responsibility
Andy Graham (Leader)	Leader of the Council: Overview of all Executive Portfolios; Policy Framework; Town and Parish Council Engagement; Council Plan; Strategic Partnerships (including Pan Regional Partnership, Future Oxfordshire, South East Councils and OXLEP); Oxfordshire Leaders; Publica and Partnerships Authorities and Ubico; Democratic Services; Communications; Legal Services; Emergency Planning; Assets of Community Value, Customer Services.
Duncan Enright (Deputy Leader)	Economic Development: Economic Development; Business Development; Visitor Economy; Town and Village Regeneration; Customer Services.
Alaric Smith	Finance: Finance & Management; Council Tax and Benefits; Asset Management; South West Audit Partnership; Performance Management; Capital Investment Strategy; Strategic Housing Investment; Financial Aspects of Major Projects; Customer Services; Counter Fraud.
Hugo Ashton	Planning: Local Plan; Government Planning Policies and Guidance; Development Management; Ensuring Planning Policies meet 2030 Requirements; Customer Services.
Tim Sumner	Leisure and Major Projects: ; Conservation and Historic Environment; Leisure Provision (including Swimming Pools); Culture and Heritage; Public Art; Agile Working; Car Parking; Customer Services.
Rachel Crouch	Stronger, Healthy Communities: Voluntary Sector Engagement; Health and Safety; Community and Public Health; Refugee Resettlement Programme; Young People; Equality and Diversity; Customer Services.
Geoff Saul	Housing and Social Care: Housing Allocations; Homelessness; Provision of Affordable Homes; Sheltered Housing Accommodation; Safeguarding – Community Safety Partnership; Crime and Disorder; Neighbourhood Policing; Scrutiny of Police and Crime Commissioner, Customer Services.
Lidia Arciszewska	Environment: •Flood Alleviation/Natural Flood Management and Sewage; Environmental Partnerships – WASP and Evenlode; North East Cotswold Cluster; Waste Collection and Recycling; Landscape and Biodiversity; Air Quality; Land Use, Food Production and Farming; Street Scene (Cleansing, Litter and Grounds Maintenance); Customer Services.
Andrew Prosser	Climate Action and Nature Recovery: Energy Advice; Renewable Energy and RetroFit Investment; Biodiversity (Across the District); Carbon Neutral by 2030; Fossil Fuel Dependence Reduction; Local, National and County Liaison on Climate Change; Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Rollout, Customer Services.

For further information about the above and all members of the Council please see www.westoxon.gov.uk/councillors

Item for Decision	Key Decision (Yes / No)	Open or Exempt	Decision – Maker	Date of Decision	Executive Member	Lead Officer
12 February 2025						
West Oxfordshire District Council response to the Regulation 18 pre-submission draft Cherwell Local Plan	No	Open	Executive	12 Feb 2025	Executive Member for Planning - Cllr Hugo Ashton	Chris Hargraves, Head of Planning chris.hargraves@westoxon.gov.uk
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Update 2025	No	Open	Executive	12 Feb 2025	Councillor Hugo Ashton, Executive Member for Planning.	Chris Hargraves, Head of Planning chris.hargraves@westoxon.gov.uk
Budget 2025 – 2026	Yes	Part exempt	Executive Council	12 Feb 2025 26 Feb 2025	Executive Member for Finance - Cllr Alaric Smith	Madhu Richards, Director of Finance madhu.richards@westoxon.gov.uk
Delegation on Purchase of Emergency Accommodation	Yes	Fully exempt	Executive	12 Feb 2025	Executive Member for Finance - Cllr Alaric Smith	Jon Dearing, Interim Executive Director jon.dearing@publicagroup.uk
12 March 2025						
Car Parking Strategy	Yes	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Leisure and Major Projects - Cllr Tim Sumner	Susan Hughes, Business Manager for Support and Advice Susan.Hughes@publicagroup.uk

Oxfordshire Leaders' Joint Committee Terms of Reference To adopt the terms of reference and memorandum of understanding of the joint committee to replace the Future Oxfordshire Partnership.	No	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Giles Hughes, Chief Executive Officer giles.hughes@westoxon.gov.uk
Community Grants - Westhive Review	No	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Stronger, Healthy Communities - Cllr Rachel Crouch	Heather McCulloch, Community Wellbeing Manager heather.mcculloch@westoxon.gov.uk
West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2041 – Preferred Options Consultation	No	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Planning - Cllr Hugo Ashton	Chris Hargraves, Head of Planning chris.hargraves@westoxon.gov.uk
Service Performance Report 2024-25 Quarter Three	No	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Alison Borrett, Senior Performance Analyst Alison.Borrett@publicagroup.uk
Financial Performance Report 2024-25 Quarter Three	No	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Finance - Cllr Alaric Smith	Madhu Richards, Director of Finance madhu.richards@westoxon.gov.uk

Provision of an Empty Property Lending Scheme	Yes	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Finance - Cllr Alaric Smith	Mandy Fathers, Business Manager - Environmental, Welfare & Revenue Service mandy.fathers@publicagroup.uk
Planned Expenditure of Homeless Prevention Grant	Yes	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Housing and Social Care - Cllr Geoff Saul	Caroline Clissold, Housing Manager caroline.clissold@publicagroup.uk
Homeless Prevention Strategy 2024-2027	No	Open	Executive	12 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Housing and Social Care - Cllr Geoff Saul	Caroline Clissold, Housing Manager caroline.clissold@publicagroup.uk
Publica Phase two transition plan	Yes	Open	Executive Council	12 Mar 2025 26 Mar 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Giles Hughes, Chief Executive Officer giles.hughes@westoxon.gov.uk
23 April 2025						
Witney Community Insight Profile	No	Open	Executive	23 Apr 2025	Executive Member for Stronger, Healthy Communities - Cllr Rachel Crouch	Heather McCulloch, Community Wellbeing Manager heather.mcculloch@westoxon.gov.uk
Review of the Ubico Shareholder Agreement & Ubico Board Member Appointments	No	Open	Executive	23 Apr 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Bill Oddy, Assistant Director for Commercial Development Bill.Oddy@publicagroup.uk
Cotswold National Landscape Management Plan 2025-2030	No	Open	Executive	23 Apr 2025	Executive Member for Planning - Cllr Hugo Ashton	Chris Hargraves, Head of Planning chris.hargraves@westoxon.gov.uk

11 June 2025						
Ubico Business Plan 2025-26	Yes	Open	Executive	11 Jun 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Bill Oddy, Assistant Director for Commercial Development Bill.Oddy@publicagroup.uk
Public Toilet Review	Yes	Open	Executive	11 Jun 2025	Executive Member for Environment - Cllr Lidia Arciszewska	Fiona Woodhouse, Parking Projects & Contracts Officer Fiona.Woodhouse@publicagroup.uk
Knights Court Business Case	Yes	Open	Executive	11 Jun 2025	Executive Member for Housing and Social Care - Cllr Geoff Saul	Andrew Turner, Business Manager - Assets and Council Priorities andrew.turner@publicagroup.uk
9 July 2025						
Climate Change Strategy	Yes	Open	Executive	9 Jul 2025	Executive Member for Climate Action and Nature Recovery - Cllr Andrew Prosser	Hannah Kenyon, Climate Change Manager hannah.kenyon@westoxon.gov.uk
10 September 2025						
Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)	No	Open	Executive	10 Sep 2025	Executive Member for Planning - Cllr Hugo Ashton	Chris Hargraves, Head of Planning chris.hargraves@westoxon.gov.uk

Key Decision Delegated to Executive Member						
UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund	No	Open	Executive Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Economic Development - Cllr Duncan Enright	Before 31 Mar 2026	Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Economic Development - Cllr Duncan Enright	Emma Phillips, Market Town Officer Emma.phillips@westoxon.gov.uk
Key Decisions Delegated to Officers						
Allocation of S106 Monies to Witney Town Council to Design, Build and Operate a New Third Generation (3G) Pitch at West Witney Sports Ground	Yes	Open	Executive Director of Place - Phil Martin	11 Sep 2024 Before 31 Mar 2026	Executive Member for Leisure and Major Projects - Cllr Tim Sumner	Leisure Strategy Manager - Rachel Biles
Dry Mixed Recycling Bulking and Haulage Contract	Yes	Part exempt	Executive Assistant Director - Commercial Development - Bill Oddy	11 Sep 2024 Before 31 Mar 2026	Executive Member for Environment - Cllr Lidia Arciszewska	Simon Anthony, Business Manager - Environmental Services Simon.Anthony@publicagroup.uk

Standing Delegation: Settlement of Legal Claims	Yes	Open	Head of Legal Services - Helen Blundell	Before 31 Mar 2026	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham, Executive Member for Finance - Cllr Alaric Smith	Helen Blundell, Interim Head of Legal Services helen.blundell@fdean.gov.uk
Review and Repurpose Earmarked Reserves to Mitigate against Four Main Financial Risks	Yes	Open	Director of Finance - Madhu Richards	Before 31 May 2025	Executive Member for Finance - Cllr Alaric Smith	Madhu Richards, Director of Finance madhu.richards@westoxon.gov.u k
Allocation of New Initiatives Funding	Yes	Open	Chief Executive & Head of Paid Service - Giles Hughes	Before 31 Mar 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Giles Hughes, Chief Executive Officer giles.hughes@westoxon.gov.uk
Allocate Funding from the Project Contingency Earmarked Reserve	Yes	Open	Director of Finance - Madhu Richards	Before 31 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Finance - Cllr Alaric Smith	Madhu Richards, Director of Finance madhu.richards@westoxon.gov.u k
Other Business for Council Meetings						
Recommendations from the Constitution Working Group	No	Open	Council	26 Mar 2025	Executive Member for Finance - Cllr Alaric Smith	Andrew Brown, Head of Democratic and Electoral Services andrew.brown@westoxon.gov.u k
Community Governance Reviews	No	Open	Council	26 Mar 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Andrew Brown, Head of Democratic and Electoral Services andrew.brown@westoxon.gov.u

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Review of Members' Allowances Scheme	No	Open	Council	21 May 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Andrew Brown, Head of Democratic and Electoral Services andrew.brown@westoxon.gov.uk
Strategic Partnerships Update	No	Open	Council	21 May 2025	Leader of the Council - Cllr Andy Graham	Astrid Harvey, Strategic Policy and Partnerships Officer Astrid.Harvey@westoxon.gov.uk