

Oxford Strategic Partnership Steering Group

Minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2019

Attendees:

Jan Royall, University of Oxford, Chair
David Bagshawe-Cope, Oxford Brookes University
Cllr Susan Brown, Oxford City Council
Shelley Ghazi, Oxford City Council
Ian Green, Oxford Civic Society
Cllr Ian Hudspeth, Oxfordshire County Council
Hannah Iqbal, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust
Kim James, Oxfordshire County Council
Emily Lewis-Edwards, Community First Oxfordshire
Thelma Martin, Oxford Civic Society
Gordon Mitchell, Oxford City Council
Mish Tullar, Oxford City Council
Richard Venables, VSL and Partners
Stuart Wilkinson, University of Oxford
Jackie Wilderspin, Oxfordshire County Council

Apologies

Cllr Andrew Gant, Oxford City Council
Caroline Green, Oxford City Council
Kathy Hall, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust
Brendan Hattam, Land Securities
Cllr Tom Hayes, Oxford City Council
Jo Kidman, Thames Valley Police
Tom McCulloch, Community First Oxfordshire
Frank Nigriello, Unipart Group

1. Welcome and Apologies

2. Draft minutes of the last meeting & matters arising

Minutes of meeting held 18th February (paper 1) were agreed as correct

3. Growth Deal update

Gordon Mitchell highlighted that work on the different work streams including meeting spending targets, is going well. Work around the shared long term planning process to 2050 is underway, with people drawn from across county. This work is not just a reflection of Local Plans but more ambitious that is, how this whole area will look in 30 years' time, and what will be subject to influence of planning, for example the plan for fast broadband.

Year 2 sees the second phase of work which is more difficult, and new work streams need to be defined. While the Deal is a contract to do a certain range of things over 5 years, the growth agenda is broader and longer term. The Oxford/Cambridge arc – (previously called the corridor) was a fuzzy concept for a while but it is now clear that Government effort is gearing up substantially. There are now working groups – including

Councillors and officers, in discussions about long term investment in rail, the environment and similar ambitions.

Cllr Hudspeth added that the Growth Deal came from a standing start last year. County has now secured Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) funding to support infrastructure that will enable the expansion of Didcot Garden Town. We are delivering infrastructure for growth. Our thoughts are on Growth Deal 2 as we will be at end of 5 years before we know. The Local Infrastructure Plan showed a £9 billion shortfall for infrastructure – however, we have already now secured around 25% of that through funding.

Cllr Brown – inclusive growth is still a challenge in what we're delivering through the Growth Deal. It is enabling us to build more social and affordable housing, but we also need to focus on clean growth. It was disappointing that funding for a cycle lane to Eynsham was not possible under the A40 Smart Corridor funding bid criteria. We had to take out the proposed cycleway in order to meet Government requirements, which was frustrating. So we need to keep up the pressure on Government about clean growth, particularly in relation to climate change.

Jackie Wilderspin highlighted policy influencing work they have undertaken for example health impact assessments as a policy document with the Oxfordshire 2050.

Action – we should continue to take every opportunity to press the case with Government for supporting cycle infrastructure, as part of infrastructure bids, and directly – All.

4. School Attainment

Kim James, Head of Service for Education, Oxfordshire County Council, presented on attainment in Oxford City Schools. See presentation attached for further information.

Kim highlighted the progress in educational attainment across the city over the last two years illustrated by improving figures across the city. This included improved outcomes for early years development. However, the attainment gap for disadvantaged children had widened – and the County Council will be looking at the SATs results in July. They continue to put funding into bespoke projects in schools around educational disadvantage. About to bid (15th May) into the Oxfordshire Strategic Schools Partnership (what was the Strategic School Partnership Board) for £50,000 for focused work on East Oxford around attendance and exclusions. Meetings with Head Teachers will take place in June, with the project starting in September.

Some families, when things get tough, get electively home educated although statistically if children are in school they have a better chance of improving their chances. At 700, the numbers of home educated children is equivalent of two primary schools across the county. Aiming to meet head teachers to get project off the ground in September.

Inspection outcomes and themes

- Of 31 primary schools in Oxford (including Botley), 2 are Inadequate and 2 Require Improvement. There is one inadequate secondary school – St Gregory the Great.

- Recruitment is not as challenging as other parts of the county. However affordable homes are an issue.
- Further work on pupil premium which starts at 8% uptake in Oxford and increases to 15% later in the school years, highlights there is under use of the premium in the early days. Potential barrier is that new parents are not comfortable claiming benefit when they first start school and do not know the staff.
- Early years ‘% of good development’ statistics show an improving picture in Oxfordshire. However in the city it is 71% compared to 74% Oxfordshire so more work needs to be done.
- Schools in South East Oxford overall form the lowest level of achievement of any areas in the county.
- Free school meals – gap has widened in terms of achievement.

Following the presentation, Cllr Brown asked if there was a correlation between free school meals and amount of times the family have moved home as there is anecdotal evidence that evictions have increased due to Universal Credit. As a housing authority we do not always get to hear about these house moves until afterwards. So the families may not be getting good advice and support from us and/or the county when they need it.

Action – follow up discussion on families moving house and school and suggest next steps - Kim James

Action – follow up discussion regarding home educated children in Oxford, why are they being taken out of school and what is being done, Deborah Bell to provide an update - Kim James

5. Inclusive Growth - Update on seminar programme

Jan Royall gave an update on the Inclusive Growth theme of the OSP and that we are progressing with a series of seminars this year, part of which will be to learn what other areas are doing around this agenda. In summary:

- Aim of seminars to start a conversation about growth and what it means for Oxford and Oxfordshire. As well to build a coalition of the willing to shape future growth to benefit all particularly those who currently do not benefit.
- Not just about Oxford – opportunities through economic growth tied with Growth Deal are countywide. Also deprived areas across the county where residents lack opportunities that growth has brought.
- As such we have met with OxLEP who are leading work on Local Industrial Strategy and they are keen to be partners in developing seminars.
- We are looking to find a series of evening dates across July, September and October for the 4 seminars which would be closed events with approximately 50 people invited.
- Will be looking to bring in speakers from both local and national organisation including for example Mayor of Bristol who has led inclusive growth work there. The RSA who published recommendations on how to take inclusive growth forward.

There was a discussion on who the audience for the seminars are with the Board of the OxLEP an obvious audience as well as the business community. Jackie Wilderspin highlighted that they can involve people through the neighbourhood partnerships in our deprived neighbourhoods.

Action – include audience suggestions from members on list for seminar attendance – Shelley Ghazi.

Action – involve Stronger Communities sub-group in seminar engagement – Shelley Ghazi

6. Community First Oxfordshire – place making and inclusive growth

Emily Lewis-Edwards from Community First Oxfordshire (CFO) highlighted the range of work they undertake that relates to inclusive growth. In particular their place making work in building thriving communities. Research strongly supports employment of a Community Development Worker (CDW) at early stage. Lack of social infrastructure for new communities can lead to long term problems.

Examples of their work include:

Heyford Park Community Development Partnership (Long term example). This is a 2 ½ year partnership between CFO, Cherwell District Council and Dorchester Living at a major development site at Heyford Park, Upper Heyford – all three partners are funding the exemplar project. CFO employs an on-the-ground CDW to develop social action and volunteering, bring together different parts of the community and release the skills and capacity of local people and the local economy. The CDW has been in post since August 2018, and even at this early stage we have seen great impacts (new community actions such as a lunch club and a youth club have been set up by residents with support of the CDW), building bridges work between Upper Heyford and Heyford Park is strong. There is an increased sense of belonging and ownership of the new community – an important aspect, we believe, that supports inclusive growth.

Woodstock Community and Infrastructure Delivery Plan (Early stage/ short term example). Commissioned by Blenheim Estates and working closely with Woodstock Town Council to facilitate the community and infrastructure delivery plan. In preparation for the 4 major development sites and over 1,000 new homes planned or proposed for Woodstock. The Plan will take shape across 2019. The first six months will see a wide-range of opinion and ideas gathered from residents, organisations and businesses while the second will see projects identified and prioritised, with strategies for delivering them set out. This is a really important commission with a distinctive, forward thinking developer that is wedded to the concept of ‘inclusive development’.

In the discussion that followed members agreed with the importance of placemaking for example in the new Oxpens development and future development around Grenoble Road and Cherwell. Ian Green highlighted the designers review panel that includes the voice of residents and highlighted how Cambridge has been using community development placemaking extensively in new city placemaking.

Action – Barton Healthy New Town report circulated – Jackie Wilderspin

7. Safer Communities Sub-group update

Chief Inspector Marc Tarbit highlighted key information from the Safer Communities Annual Report. There is a New Chief Constable and a new force strategy and the themes are:

- Protecting the vulnerable
- Reducing burglary
- Reducing assaults

There is more focus on outcomes than before for example domestic violence where protection notices are used more. Oxford is doing really well in that area and has the highest number of these notices in the county.

Hate crime - they have carried out community resilience work around Mosques and worked with victims of such crimes. The Police and NHS workers make up the highest percentage of victims; however there has been a good response to attacks on staff.

Organised crime – there are 5 mapped organised crime gangs in the city 3 of which are active. 18 months ago 60% of County lines gangs were in Oxfordshire. Thames Valley Police working with the City Council have carried out a lot of work around the open drugs market, with the creation of a new joint taskforce. What's worked well is engagement with communities e.g. ring back system for drug related crime. This has allowed them to create a network of people across communities. Held world café event in East Oxford and people in the community mapped out what they knew about drug taking locally. This led to tangible outcomes in terms of arrest and drug recovery. Also alongside this they have made locations less vulnerable e.g. foliage cut back, installation of cameras.

Also looked at facilitators of drug markets for example car hire companies and making it less easy for drug dealers to hire cars as well as harder to stay in hotels. Also looking at predicting open drug markets using software.

Knife crime - there have been 3 incidents in a row so this is a huge concern. Currently reviewing where information is coming from and looking at developing a common picture around knife crime. Have an excellent data analyst who has met with health providers to identify victims and offenders of knife crime. They have also been test purchasing with some stores found to be good while others have helped people pick out the best knife.

Richard Venables referenced the Youth in Mind conference and potential links with inclusive growth agenda.

[Action –send details of Youth in Mind conference – Richard Venables.](#)

8. Forward plan

OSP Meeting Date	Key Agenda Items
Mtg 3. 2nd July 2019 10:30-13:00 Long Room, Town Hall, Oxford	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Growth Board update• Inclusive Growth Seminar update• Oxford City Council Corporate Strategy 20-24

OSP Meeting Date	Key Agenda Items
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme group report - Economic Growth annual update & Stronger Communities six monthly update • Task & Finish approach review
<p>Mtg 4. 22nd October 2019 10:30-13:00 tbc</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth Board update • Theme group report - Low Carbon Oxford Annual update, Safer Communities six month update • Task & Finish update