

What sort of city do you want Oxford to be by 2036?

Oxford is a fast-growing international city

HOME TO **160,000** PEOPLE

Population expected to increase **20%** by 2036

Larger proportion of adults in **FULL-TIME STUDIES**

1/3 YOUNG POPULATION of the population is aged 18 to 29

than any other city in England and Wales

Oxford is the least affordable city in the UK

Average house prices are **16.2 times average earnings**

Average house price is **£453,545**

30% rent their home in the private sector

3,300 households are on the waiting list for social housing

1 in 5 people live in shared homes

Oxford has a growing economy

4,600 businesses provide **114,000** jobs

7th most visited city in the UK

£6.8 billion added to the UK economy in 2014

46,000 people commute into Oxford for work

Major employment sectors include research, publishing and health

Care is needed to protect Oxford's unique and special environment

About **380** hectares of nationally important wildlife sites

Over **1,500** listed buildings

Around **4,500** properties at high-risk from flooding

2020 AIR QUALITY targets for Nitrogen Oxide being exceeded in some areas

Climate change means this could rise to nearly 6,000 by 2080

Oxford has social challenges

After housing costs **1 in 4** children live below the **poverty line**

21% of Oxford Year 6 children are obese

22% of adults have no or low educational qualifications

Men in the most deprived areas **live 9 years less** on average than those who live in the least deprived areas

Technologies and lifestyles are changing

People expected to spend more money on **LEISURE, HOTELS, EATING OUT** and bars

DRIVERLESS CARS might be mainstream by 2020s

People may become **MORE ISOLATED**

- More than half of over-75s **living alone**
- **5 million** older people say TV is their main form of company
- **11%** of people work from home

17% of all SHOPPING likely to be done online by 2020

Oxford City Council is taking its first steps towards producing a new Local Plan for Oxford. The Local Plan is important because it will shape how Oxford develops. It will set out how we want our City to look and feel; it will guide new developments to the right locations whilst protecting and improving the environment and people's quality of life; it will deliver the new homes, businesses, jobs, shops, and infrastructure needed to support the growth of Oxford over the next 20 years; and it will be used in determining planning applications and to guide investment decisions across the City.

We want to make sure that Oxford continues to be a successful and attractive city; the kind of place people enjoy living in, working in and visiting. This is your opportunity to help shape the vision for the Local Plan. There will be two more opportunities to be involved in Summer 2017 and Summer 2018.

We want to know what you think. This leaflet contains first ideas about the key issues. Inside is a short questionnaire, which can be returned by **freepost**. Please return your completed questionnaire by **12th August 2016**. If you have more time to read into and think about these issues we have also produced more information, which is available on our website at www.oxford.gov.uk/localplan, along with a more detailed online questionnaire.



Your opinions matter

Our Plan will need to respond to the pressures and changes shown on the front page of this leaflet and look at least 20 years ahead. It will need to ensure that Oxford is:



What things about Oxford mean most to you, and you would like to see protected?

What things about Oxford do you like least, and how would you like to see them improved?

Please tick next to each of the questions below that you agree with. Tick as many as you wish - you can tick more than one from each group.

PROVIDING HOMES AND JOBS

Living and housing

One of the biggest challenges in Oxford is that there are not enough homes, and housing is too expensive for most people. This has many impacts on families and communities, as well as on employers and services which struggle to keep staff, such as schools and hospitals. We need enough homes of the right type in the right locations to meet the needs of different groups of our community.

Do you think it is important that we provide:

- As many new homes as possible?
- More family homes (at least 3 bedrooms)?
- More affordable homes to rent (social rented)?
- More homes for older people?
- More university student halls of residence?
- More housing for key workers?

Do you have any comments on this topic?

A strong economy and workforce

It is important that Oxford has a mix of job opportunities so that everyone has the chance to contribute to and benefit from economic growth. Oxford already has many opportunities in a wide range of industries.

Do you think it is important that:

- Business parks and industrial estates are protected for employment and invested in?
- Small business units and hubs for start-up and growing companies are available?

- There is a range of jobs and opportunities for all parts of our community?
- We build on Oxford's economic strengths (such as health, education and science)?
- Developers are asked to help provide training and skills for local people e.g. for construction workers?

Do you have any comments on this topic?

Wise use of resources

A bigger population means more demand on natural resources such as water, energy and land. It is important to plan developments to minimise their use of resources. In Oxford we need to make the most of our limited land, especially if we are to provide the homes we need.

Do you think that we should:

- Develop taller buildings in some areas?
- Encourage new homes to be built in existing back gardens or between buildings?
- Consider developing parts of recreational areas that are poor quality or not well used?
- Continue to support sustainable urban extensions to enable Oxford to grow?

Do you have any comments on this topic?

MAKING IT WORK

Moving around the city

More people living, working and socialising in Oxford and the surrounding area means that there will be more journeys being made. In Oxford many journeys are already made by walking, cycling and the bus rather than by car. Walking and cycling can help with healthy lifestyles and reduce congestion. We need to make sure that they are attractive and realistic ways to access facilities and jobs.

Do you think we should look at:

- Providing direct walking and cycling routes that are separate from traffic?
- Using more of the road space for pedestrians, cyclists and buses and less for cars?
- Reducing the amount of public car parking in our city and district centres?
- Providing less car parking for new homes?
- Planning for other types of development (such as businesses, shops, leisure) with less car parking?
- Reducing congestion at peak times, by encouraging homeworking and flexible working patterns?

Do you have any comments on this topic?

Green and open spaces

Access to green open spaces and opportunities for outdoor sports are very important to physical and mental health and wellbeing. We will need to make sure there are enough publicly accessible green spaces for our population. A network of green spaces is also important for wildlife and the environment.

Do you think we should :

- Work with private landowners to increase public access to existing green spaces in the city?
- Ensure open space is made publicly available when large new sites are developed?
- Protect a network of green spaces for different needs such as recreation, biodiversity and, flood protection?

Do you have any comments on this topic?

Design and historic environment

Oxford is famous for its history and architecture. As well as the city centre, it has a series of "villages" or local centres. Each of these offers a special character and strong identity which local people value. It is important that new development in Oxford respects this history and character so that the city remains a unique and special place.

Do you think that we should:

- Continue to protect the views of the dreaming spires by restricting tall buildings?
- Encourage new, modern architecture where appropriate?
- Plan new development to protect local character?

Do you have any comments on this topic?

Shopping, entertainment and leisure

As shopping patterns are changing we need to make sure that our centres adapt. Making sure that there are a wide range of things for people to do (such as shopping, eating out, entertainment and culture) is an important part of making places attractive so people want to visit and linger in our centres and support their neighbourhoods and local communities. The environment of the centres is also important.

Do you think we should look to:

- Expand what's on offer in local centres so they remain the focus for the community, with space for people to gather and hold events?
- Promote evening entertainment in the city centre such as restaurants, cinemas and theatres?
- Encourage more cafes and restaurants in the city centre and local centres?
- Increase areas of the city centre that are pedestrianized?
- Make the best use of facilities by ensuring they are multi-functional, for example providing community and sports uses?

Do you have any comments on this topic?

An online questionnaire is available at www.oxford.gov.uk/localplan

If you have any questions please

email planningpolicy@oxford.gov.uk

phone 01865 252847

or write to
Planning Policy
Oxford City Council
St Aldate's Chambers
109-113 St Aldate's
Oxford
OX1 1DS

Please use the space below to make any further comments.

Large empty rounded rectangular box for additional comments.

Name:

Address:

Email:

Gender: Female Male

Age Group: ≤18 19-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56-65 65+

Would you like to be kept informed of the next stages of Local Plan development? Yes No

We would prefer to contact you by email, but if you would prefer us to contact you by post please tick here (and ensure you have written your address)

Oxford City Council will not use your details for any other purpose. Oxford City Council is committed to ensuring that the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 are met.



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