

## Oxford Strategic Partnership Steering Group

### Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013, 10.00am at Oxford Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford

#### Steering Group Attendees:

Alison Baxter, Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA)  
Anne Gwinnett, Oxford Brookes University  
Robert Kirtland, Critchleys and ProOxford Group  
Cllr Bob Price, Oxford City Council  
Cllr Rodney Rose, Oxfordshire County Council  
Chris Sharp, Thames Valley Police  
Cllr John Tanner, Oxford City Council  
Jackie Wilderspin, NHS Oxfordshire (Chair)

#### Additional Attendees:

Christian Bunt, Thames Valley Police  
Phil Clare, University of Oxford  
Michael Crofton-Briggs, Oxford City Council  
David Edwards, Oxford City Council  
Cllr Jean Fooks, Oxford City Council  
Jacqui Ibbotson, Oxford Inspires  
Sebastian Johnson, Oxford City Council  
Val Johnson, Oxford City Council  
Margaret Ounsley, University of Oxford  
Sadie Paige, Oxford City Council  
Michael Redley, University of Oxford  
Mohit Sharma, NHS Oxfordshire  
Joanna Simons, Oxfordshire County Council  
Richard Venables, VSL and Partners

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Congratulations were extended to Debbie Dance on her OBE, awarded for services to heritage in the Queen's New Year's Honours List 2013.

Best wishes in retirement and thanks for his contribution were extended to Chris Sharp. Superintendent Christian Bunt, who will be replacing Superintendent Chris Sharp was welcomed to the meeting.

**Apologies** were received from:

#### Members

Debbie Dance, Oxford Preservation Trust  
Sally Dicketts, Oxford and Cherwell Valley College  
Susi Golding, Visit Oxfordshire  
Cllr Ian Hudspeth, Oxfordshire County Council  
Michael Sibly, University of Oxford  
Peter Sloman, Oxford City Council

#### Officers

Anna Wright, Oxford City Council

**2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012** were agreed as a correct record.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### **3.1 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Update**

Cllr Bob Price gave a verbal update on the LEP and reported on the LEP meeting held at Begbroke Science Park (8<sup>th</sup> January 2013). Key areas covered included:

- City Deal and role of the LEP;
- LEP Business Plan for Growth (copy attached for information);
- Results of the Survey of Oxford Business (copy attached for information); and
- Enterprise Zone update.

Copies of LEP meeting papers can be viewed and downloaded from the LEP website at [www.oxfordshirelep.org.uk/cms/content/meetings](http://www.oxfordshirelep.org.uk/cms/content/meetings)

#### **3.2 Urban Broadband Fund Bid Update**

Sebastian Johnson gave a verbal update and reported that:

- Oxford is one of 12 successful cities announced on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012.
- Oxford hosted a meeting of the 12 cities and government representatives on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013.
- Government has requested revised bid following issues around state aid. We hope to get sign-off in March and find out the amount of funding that will be made available to the Oxford project.
- Money must be spent by March 2014, but discussions are taking place with the Treasury to try to extend this.

Sebastian will provide update at next OSP meeting. Anne Gwinnett thanked Sebastian for leading on this successful piece of work.

### **4. Economic Growth Strategy for Oxford**

David Edwards reported on the results of the consultation on the draft Economic Growth Strategy as outlined in the reports circulated and it was noted that the Strategy has been widely welcomed and comments received were mostly positive. He reported that the latest draft circulated had incorporated many of the comments received. He thanked the work of the consultants, Shared Intelligence, and the Steering Group that has overseen the development of the Strategy.

Richard Venables reported on additional comments and feedback from businesses as outlined in the report circulated.

Following discussion some minor changes were agreed to the following paragraphs:

2.25 (4<sup>th</sup> sentence) – "...a single campus" to "... a single or at most two campuses"

3.27 (2<sup>nd</sup> sentence) – "...the City and County Councils working with..." to "...the City Council working with..."

3.82 (3<sup>rd</sup> sentence) – “...the SPIP should also invite partners to widen this review...” to “the City Council should also invite partners to widen this review...”

3.82 (6<sup>th</sup> sentence) – “In this context SPIP should...” to “In this context partners should...”

Page 69, Rec 4, Key Decision and Next Steps (1<sup>st</sup> sentence) – delete “where appropriate”

With the changes above agreed, the OSP

- Agreed and adopted the Oxford Economic Growth Strategy
- Invites the LEP to use the Economic Growth Strategy, evidence and recommendations as part of the county wide growth plan
- Will commence the preparation of a detailed action plan based on the Economic Growth Strategy
- Will build stakeholder commitment to a detailed action plan

It was also agreed that the existing Economic Growth Strategy Steering Group be asked to continue to oversee the development of the Action Plan and that the OSP will continue to act as the governance body for this work.

An update on the Action Plan will be brought to the next OSP meeting.

## **5. City Deal**

David Edwards provided an update on the Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal bid:

- Final submission was made Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2013.
- The focus of the proposal is “transformational growth through a world class knowledge economy”
- The assessment by Government will likely be multi-layered through civil servants, Government Departments and an ad hoc Ministerial Committee
- David reported on a positive meeting with Michael Fallon, MP and Minister for Business and Enterprise where the bid was presented. Councillors Bob Price and Ian Hudspeth had been present along with Pro-Vice Chancellor Ian Walmesley. – all of whom are also members of the LEP.
- Adrian Shooter, Chairman of the LEP has met with Mark Prisk, MP and Housing Minister.
- Those successful bids are likely to be told in mid February 2013 and will have a further 8 months to develop and agree the city deal.

The considerable work of the Bid Team led by David Edwards was noted and they were thanked.

An update will be provided by David at the next meeting.

## **6. Education Attainment update**

Bob Price reported that today marked the launch of the City Leadership Programme and provided a brief update on the City project. Key points were:

- This is the first time that leaders of the 11 schools are getting together with the two universities;

- It is looking at schools' development needs and a way to meet them using existing forums
- Infrastructure and process in place for next 18 months
- Nine schools in KRM programme for Reading Literacy and Numeracy
- Covers schools at the bottom of education attainment in Oxford with the aspiration of moving them 10% above the national average
- Each school will receive £8k per year to buy books

Jacqui Ibbotson reported that Pegasus and the Story Museum have been working with Anna Wright and others involved in the education project and have been awarded £45,000 from Artswork to deliver workshops and training as well as provide Arts Award teacher training for all the schools involved in the Literacy Programme.

Joanna Simons presented key points from the Oxfordshire County Council Education Report that was circulated with the agenda. Key points covered:

- Key Stage 1 reading in Oxford city has improved by 5% (on previous year);
- Results for Key Stage 2 level 4 English and Maths have improved at a rate two times the national average;
- Oxfordshire Learning Partnerships;
- Teaching School Alliance bid from successful schools.

It was noted that significant progress is being made and that the initiatives undertaken in the city are having a positive impact. Thanks were extended to teachers, parents, children and governors.

In response to a question about how people can get involved in supporting schools, Joanna Simons outlined opportunities and offered to be a point of contact.

## **7. Feedback on OSP Public Event and Leaders' Dinner**

Cllr Bob Price reported on OSP Public Event and Leaders' Dinner.

- Public Event held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012 was well organised with good presentations, but attendance was low (30 people).
- Leaders' Dinner held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2012 included discussions focussed on the future of the city with useful contributions and a range of aspirations.

The low attendance at the Public Event prompted a discussion about how this could be addressed, with the following key themes emerging:

- we need to be clear on our objectives for the event;
- we need to have a clear sense of what attendees want from the event;
- we need to target around 90 key stakeholders in the city as attendees and work to ensure they attend;
- the event could be a networking opportunity, a forum for updating on progress, a learning opportunity/ workshop.

Jackie Wilderspin opened a discussion on the public profile of the OSP, and the consensus was that profiling the work of the Partnership is more important than who or what the

Partnership is. It was felt that there should be more focus in the media on the positive outcomes that result from OSP and other partnerships, better profiling of partnership working, and many suggestions on how to proactively engage with the press and other media.

Jackie will lead a small task and finish group to draft a Communications Plan and circulate to OSP members for comment.

## **8. Forward Plan**

### 8.1 Engagement and participation work update.

Val Johnson reported on engagement and partnership project. Val has been working with Alison Baxter and other key people to develop a project brief that is currently out to tender. The successful candidate will be appointed in early February, and may be contacting OSP members for an interview. The action plan will be developed and brought back to OSP in Spring for approval.

### 8.2 Forward Plan

Jackie Wilderspin presented the forward plan as outlined in the Agenda Paper and this was agreed.

The next meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013 will include reports on Economic Growth Strategy Action Plan; City Deal; Broadband; Participation and Engagement; and Welfare Reform and Oxford's role as a pilot area for Universal Credit.

The meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013 will include reports on Low Carbon Oxford; the Oxford Heritage Plan; and the Town Team

## **9. Any Other Business and Future Meeting Dates**

9.1 Chris Sharp provided an update on Operation Bullfinch and the current court case.

9.2 Future meeting dates are as follows (all from 10.00am – 12.00midday followed by a sandwich lunch):

- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2013
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014

The meeting finished at 12.00pm