

Policy & Resources Committee

Date:	2 August 2016
Title:	Oxfordshire County Council - Devolution of Services
Contact Officer:	Graham Hunt, Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide a written update on the possible devolution of services from Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) to Thame Town Council.

Update:

2. Although there has been much talk and comment, very little has actually happened.
3. The original "Oxfordshire Together" initiative, as last reported on at the Policy & Resources Committee meeting on 16 February 2016, with further e-mail updates afterwards, has gone quiet.
4. (Somewhat ironically, one aspect that was not covered by the Oxfordshire Together initiative, weed control on the footway / highway, seems to have been abandoned by OCC, leading to numerous complaints. It seems this is a countryside phenomenon.)
5. It seems that the OCC / SODC Unitary debate took over (which itself has now subsequently slowed down – see separate e-mail updates to Councillors), with various meetings held that included devolution on the agenda.
6. Frequent repetition of Thame's position led the Town Clerk to prepare a paper, separately provided, outlining Thame's situation. This has been shared with Councillors, staff, OCC, Grant Thornton and NALC.

Action Required:

7. To note the report and the Town Clerk's paper.