

<b>Title</b>	County Councillor's Report
<b>Author</b>	Cllrs Kate Gregory and Nigel Champken-woods
<b>Parish</b>	Thame Town Council
<b>Date</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021

### **New Local and Transport Connectivity Plan:**

A new plan was approved at cabinet to promote cycling, walking and low-carbon transport in the county. It sets a goal of replacing one in every three car trips by 2040. Nestled within the plan is a new freight strategy that includes proposals for reducing inappropriate movements of HGVs through villages. The next step for the plan is to hold a public consultation, with final adoption scheduled for spring 2022.

### **Rough sleeping plan**

A new homelessness prevention strategy was approved by Cabinet. The strategy involves rapid response when someone becomes at risk, and a focus on individual needs and circumstances to provide greater levels of support.

### **Warning on social care funding**

Cllr Calum Miller, cabinet member for finance has issued a warning that unless the chancellor provides more money for adult social care and special educational needs councils will have no choice but to raise council tax so that we can continue to provide the care needed for vulnerable residents. Rather than 'solving' the crisis in care, the national insurance hike announced by the government will increase costs for local authorities.

### **New 20mph policy approved**

OCC has finally launched its much-anticipated new 20mph policy. The policy has been widely welcomed by campaign groups, parishes, and residents. A website has been launched with more information on how the policy will work

### **Parking enforcement changes**

A reminder that the way parking is controlled in parts of the county is set to change in a bid to create safer roads and help traffic flow more freely. The government has approved OCC bid to take on responsibility for civil parking enforcement. OCC already enforce parking in Oxford City and West Oxfordshire and will now take over from Thames Valley Police in South Oxfordshire, the Vale of White Horse and Cherwell districts, ensuring continuity across the whole county when the change comes into place this month. You can [read more about this arrangement](#) in our recent news story.

Consultation date on paid parking is still to be confirmed and as part of the consultation we would like to organise an afternoon in the Town Hall so members of the public can ask officers questions.

### **Councillor Priority Fund now open (Both)**

Applications to the Councillor Priority Fund are still open. This is a fund of £15,000 to be used over two years on projects in Thame, Chinnor and surrounding villages

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/community-and-living/thriving-communities/councillor-priority-fund>

### **Thame to Haddenham Cycleway (Kate)**

The Cabinet member for transport has included the Thame to Haddenham Cycleway in a central government funding bid

### **Red Kite Family Centre Peppercorn Rate (Kate)**

Kate has asked the question from officers that the decision to not offer a peppercorn rate was made by the previous administration. This will be explored by the new administration in further detail

### **Nelson Street (Both)**

The junction at Nelson Street is dangerous and should have been changed with the S106 money from one of the developments.

### **S106 money (Both)**

There appears to be a lot of S106 money sitting at OCC allocated to different projects which we are investigating on how we get it spent.

### **Junction Upper High St, Priestend & Oxford Road (Nigel)**

Street signage to be changed to help stop accidents on this junction where house has been hit several times.