

Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal



Executive summary

The Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal aims to unleash a new wave of innovation-led growth by maximising the area's world-class assets, such as the universities of Oxford and Oxford Brookes, and "big science" facilities such as those at the Harwell Oxford Campus and Innovation Campus. It acknowledges the region's strong track record of delivering growth and seeks to support those existing, and new, businesses in achieving their full potential. The deal we have agreed with Government allows us to maintain and grow Oxford & Oxfordshire's status as a prosperous economic area. Our deal will:

- Invest in an ambitious network of new innovation and incubation centres which will nurture small businesses:
 - The Harwell Innovation Hub: focused on open innovation;
 - The UKAEA Culham Advanced Manufacturing Hub: focused on remote handling technologies;
 - The Oxford BioEscalator: focused on the life sciences sector;
 - The Begbroke Innovation Accelerator: focused on advanced engineering sectors.
- Invest in Growth Hub to help small and medium enterprises to grow through better business support – with a particular focus on supporting innovation;
- Accelerate the delivery of 7,500 homes across the county; and recognise that the provision of quality housing will be fundamental to the delivery of innovation-led growth. To support this commitment, Oxford & Oxfordshire will propose an ambitious Local Growth Deal, including a request to lift the Housing Revenue Account debt cap;
- Enable three new transport schemes to support developments at the Enterprise Zone, Northern Gateway and the first phase of the "Science Transit" public transport scheme;
- Deliver over 500 new Apprenticeships for young people;
- Provide £95m of local and national public sector investment with a further £550m of investment from housing providers;
- Leverage in nearly £600m of private sector investment through site development, transport infrastructure, skills schemes; and business support services and innovation centres;
- Create 18,600 new jobs and a further 31,400 jobs during the construction phase.

Our signing of this document confirms our joint commitment to ensure the full implementation of the Oxford & Oxfordshire City Deal, proposed by the Oxford and Oxfordshire Local Authorities and the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership; consistent with the detailed implementation plan. To ensure implementation and demonstrate success we will jointly track progress against milestones and outcomes.

Introduction and economic overview

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership brings together business, the universities, colleges, research facilities and local authorities in the area: Oxford City Council, Cherwell District Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council.

Oxford is a global brand, known the world over for its academic excellence and historical significance. The area is amongst the top five Technology Innovation Ecosystems in the world¹, home to an impressive knowledge-intensive cluster, with 1,500 high tech firms employing around 43,000 people. Oxford and Oxfordshire has a rich set of assets – the University of Oxford is amongst the best in the world, Oxford Brookes University is a top-performing new university, and significant research facilities such as the UK Atomic Energy Authority Culham Centre for Fusion Energy and the Harwell Oxford Science and Innovation Campus in Oxfordshire (site of the national synchrotron facility and ISIS pulsed neutron source).

Taken together, Oxfordshire has a diverse economic base with strengths across a broad base of knowledge-intensive sectors: satellite and data tracking; biomedical engineering; pharmaceuticals and advanced manufacturing, as well as medical software for managing healthcare technology and services.

The Knowledge Spine



Map provided by kind permission of Oxfordshire County Council

¹ Technology Innovation Ecosystem Benchmarking Study: Key findings from Phase 1, Graham, 2013.

Why are we doing this?

Despite a wealth of assets in the area, Oxford and Oxfordshire has underperformed, not reaching its full potential when compared with other internationally renowned areas around world-class universities such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford or Cambridge.²

The recently-published Oxfordshire Innovation Engine report³ indicated that if Oxford had grown at the same rate as Cambridge between 1997 and 2011, £500m more GVA would have been created in the local economy. The report found that growth in Oxfordshire has been constrained by insufficient public transport and an at-capacity road network, under-developed business networks and lack of critical mass to support growth and investment. In addition, demand for housing and commercial premises has outstripped supply in recent years, leading to a shortage of available property and pricing many employees and businesses out of the market.

City Deal partners are committed to dealing with these issues as a priority in the Strategic Economic Plan and Local Growth Deal bid, and to bring together local resources to make the investment where it is needed to create the right conditions to develop, grow and retain dynamic businesses. City Deal partners see the City Deal as the first phase of achieving Oxford and Oxfordshire's long term ambition for growth which will be set out fully in the forthcoming Strategic Economic Plan.

The Deal

Oxford and Oxfordshire and the Government have agreed:

- An investment package to deliver an ambitious network of new innovation and incubation centres which will nurture small businesses:
 - The Harwell Innovation Hub: focused on open innovation;
 - The UKAEA Culham Advanced Manufacturing Hub: focused on remote handling technologies;
 - The Oxford BioEscalator: focused on the life sciences sector;
 - The Begbroke Innovation Accelerator: focused on advanced engineering sectors.
 - Invest in Growth Hub to help small and medium enterprises to grow through better business support – with a particular focus on supporting innovation.
- Local partners will invest to accelerate the delivery of 7,500 homes across the county. To support this commitment, Oxford & Oxfordshire will propose an ambitious Local Growth Deal, including a request to lift the Housing Revenue Account debt cap;
- To enable three new transport schemes to support developments at the Enterprise Zone, Northern Gateway and the first phase of the “Science Transit” public transport scheme;
- To deliver over 500 new Apprenticeships for young people;
- To put in place a governance structure that enables Oxford and Oxfordshire local authorities to work together with the Local Enterprise Partnership Board to deliver the City Deal.

² For example, Oxfordshire's GVA per capita has tracked the UK average in recent years despite our latent potential, while Cambridgeshire grew at 2½ times the national rate.

³ The Oxfordshire Innovation Engine: realising the growth potential (October 2013) available at http://www.sqw.co.uk/file_download/411

Key elements of the deal

Innovation

Through the City Deal, Oxford and Oxfordshire will maximise the world-class assets in the area and encourage more commercialisation from research. Through the City Deal:

1. A ambitious new network of innovation and incubation centres will be created to drive, business growth, commercialise intellectual property and underpin Oxford and Oxfordshire's "innovation ecosystem";
2. The new Oxfordshire Innovation Support Program will strengthen the innovation network and provide direct support to innovation based growth.

Innovation centres

Through the City Deal Oxford and Oxfordshire have agreed with Government an ambitious programme of investment in a network of four new innovation centres designed to drive business innovation and commercialisation of intellectual property for the benefit of the Oxfordshire economy:

- The **Harwell Innovation Hub** is a facility focused on promoting open innovation based at the Harwell campus, home to "big" science facilities such as the Diamond Synchrotron and the recently relocated European Space Agency and Space Catapult Centre.
- **UKAEA Culham Advanced Manufacturing Hub:** focused on remote handling – which will have applications across a number of different industries where there are extreme environments (nuclear, space, underwater, underground).
- **Oxford BioEscalator:** a new-breed of incubator space designed nurture small spin-off companies in the life science sector with the capacity to grow into mid-sized companies. Situated in the Old Road Campus in Oxford, it will allow co-location with hospital and research facilities and staff (including clinicians, patients and researchers) and sharing equipment that allow "adjacent innovation" to develop at scale. It will also support single teams to manage multiple biotech companies which will significantly reduce management costs ("burn rate").
- **Begbroke Innovation Accelerator:** located at Begbroke Science Park, the project will build on a track record of successful integration of the academic and business communities, and will focus on the advanced engineering sectors of automotive, nuclear materials, advanced materials, robotics, as well as in nano-medicine, pharmaceuticals, motorsport and supercomputing.

The Oxfordshire Innovation Support Program

City Deal partners will create a tailored business support programme which will bring together a network of existing provision, amplify and enhance existing services to businesses and plug gaps with bespoke programmes in order to promote innovation based growth. The programme will have two parts:

1. Simpler business support

The programme will simplify the support available to local businesses by bringing information together on a single website about the existing support. The network will have a single brand under the Local Enterprise Partnership and will provide marketing materials and an events calendar that will increase awareness of the national and local service offers that are available.

2. Investing in innovative businesses

In addition, City Deal partners have identified a series of bespoke programmes that address gaps in existing provision, are tailored to the specific needs of Oxfordshire businesses and do not duplicate existing services. The programmes represent a substantial new investment in direct business support to help spin-outs and companies at key stages of their development.

- **Business Activation Vouchers** to help early stage businesses access advice and mentoring;
- **Proof of Concept** funds to increase investment to prepare new technologies for more substantial investment;
- **Growth Investment:** scale-up funding to help businesses grow on to the next level; and
- **Innovation Investment Vouchers** to increase use of advanced skills development and increase access to expensive machinery and infrastructure.

The Oxfordshire Innovation Support Programme has been developed by City Deal partners in conjunction with Lancaster University Management School. To support this programme, the Government will invest £2m which will be matched by £5m from local partners.

Planning for development

Oxford and Oxfordshire's successful economy, proximity to London and quality of life have ensured that house prices have remained buoyant despite the recent financial crisis. The City Deal should enable further economic growth. However, this success has placed pressure on the local housing market. Oxford and Oxfordshire have overwhelming evidence that the lack of choice and availability of housing and affordable housing is a major barrier to growth. Oxford and other areas in the county are identified as among the least affordable locations in the country, and significantly ahead of London. The universities and businesses in the knowledge economy identify that housing is a significant barrier to the recruitment and retention of staff, including senior management and researchers. More housing is essential for the future of the knowledge economy in Oxford and Oxfordshire.

City Deal partners recognise that a more strategic and ambitious approach towards housing growth is essential to the future of the knowledge economy in Oxford and Oxfordshire, and will ensure that the area continues to be a dynamic place to invest and work.

The City Deal partners' strategy documents, including the recently published Oxfordshire Innovation Engine report⁴, clearly point towards opportunities for housing growth outside the city as well as within Oxford, which will provide residents – and those seeking to live in Oxfordshire - with more diverse housing.

The City Deal local planning authorities either have local plans, or are in consultation on local plans, that set the local policies and strategies for local development. They are consistent with national policy and must include robust five year housing supply forecasts to maintain affordability for existing, and new, residents. Alongside these plans, the local planning authorities are developing schedules for levying a Community Infrastructure Levy – and regularly review housing completions against plans. City Deal authorities are currently reviewing policy and practices on building regulations to ensure they do not create unnecessary bureaucracy. In addition, Oxford and Oxfordshire have commissioned an independent Strategic Housing Market Assessment which is due to be published in early 2014, which City Deal partners will review and bring forward housing sites that will meet the needs outlined in the report.

As part of the City Deal, Oxford and Oxfordshire will:

- Accelerate the delivery of 7,500 homes through the combined Oxfordshire Housing Programme by 2018. Over a third (36 per cent) of these will be affordable. This represents 72 percent increase in the number of homes delivered by 2018 against the current forecast and will provide an immediate stimulus to the construction industry, engender confidence in investors and deliver housing for knowledge economy workers;

⁴ The Oxfordshire Innovation Engine: realising the growth potential (October 2013) available at http://www.sqw.co.uk/file_download/411

- Commit to deliver the necessary sites that will meet the housing needs outlined in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (reporting in early 2014).

The Department for Transport, Network Rail and London and Continental Railways, as part of Great Western Electrification, East-West Rail and the Electric Spine work, will work together to improve and develop Oxford Station, which will have considerable benefit not only as a gateway to the city but also brings the potential to enable considerable development on site and in areas in the near vicinity. Local and national stakeholders, including City Deal partners, have agreed to work together to develop a wider master plan that focuses on the gains a redeveloped station could enable and the regeneration benefits on adjacent sites. Further details on land assembly and on the allocation of uplift will be agreed as part of Local Growth Deal by summer 2014.

Through the Local Growth Deal, City Deal partners will prioritise measures to address housing affordability across the county and in the city. The Local Growth Deal bid from Oxford and Oxfordshire will include proposals to:

- Deliver a further 1,095 homes on the Oxpens and Blackbird Leys sites within 10 years as part of a 3,000 home programme within the city beginning on site in 2015; and
- Oxford City Council will bring forward the Oxpens site for comprehensive redevelopment by 2015 to include a minimum of 300 residential units, together with office, leisure and other employment uses.

The Government recognises the need for housing growth, and announced its intention to support raising the Housing Revenue Account debt cap by £300m nationally allocated through a competitive bidding process. As a response to the need for economic growth and affordable housing, the Oxford and Oxfordshire partners will have at the heart of its Strategic Economic Plan and Local Growth Fund bid the proposal to raise the Oxford City Housing Revenue Account debt cap by £121m over 10 years. As a first instalment the Growth Fund proposals will include a bid of £30m in 2015/16 and £30m in 2016/17.

Simplified planning

City Deal partners have worked with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), and the relevant agencies in the Defra Network (Environment Agency, Natural England and Forestry Commission) in the development of the City Deal and will in future actively engage with them at an early stage in the design and delivery of the City Deal projects so as to ensure environmental constraints and opportunities are taken into account from the outset. This includes taking account of the green infrastructure strategy being co-funded by Natural England and active engagement during the identification and selection of any new allocations as a result of the Strategic Housing Market Analysis. In addition, Science Vale Oxford (Oxfordshire's Enterprise Zone) enjoys a package of simplified planning measures that are attractive to business and support enterprise. Oxford and Oxfordshire would like to build on these relationships and this experience by developing a package of simplified planning measures to enable development in key locations across Oxfordshire to be accelerated. This will include:

- Formalising the early engagement and positive working with the Defra network in strategic planning (including development orders), working together to build resilience to extreme weather events and helping to ensure that growth, where possible leads to the enhancement of important habitats and species. City Deal partners will also take into account the work of Local Nature Partnership and Nature Improvement Areas in growth planning;
- Consideration of Local Development Orders in prioritised development areas such as Harwell; and
- A review of the potential Local Development Orders locations by December 2014.

A strategic approach to land

Oxfordshire's Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership works with the Homes and Communities Agency to identify opportunities in Oxfordshire to maximise value of the local authorities' assets. All the councils have asset management strategies and contribute land to affordable housing where possible. The county council, as the largest landowner, is already working with the Government Property Unit and has uploaded its assets on to the Government's central civil estate database (e-PIMS).

As part of the City Deal, the Oxford and Oxfordshire local authorities commit to:

- Working with the Government Property Unit and to list their asset on e-PIMS; and
- Sharing expertise and accumulated experience to support project/programme delivery across the county in a cost-effective and lean way.

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Transport to support innovation

City Deal partners are committed to increasing connectivity along the “knowledge spine”, connecting people to jobs, opening up a choice of housing to skilled workers and enabling specific sites. The ambition is to create the conditions that make Oxford and Oxfordshire the location of choice for the world's leading science and technology businesses. A transport system that is fit for purpose is central to creating investor confidence and ensuring residents have a good quality of life. Oxford and Oxfordshire and Government have agreed to invest in critical infrastructure to support the City Deal:

- A package of measures will improve access to the **Science Vale Oxford Enterprise Zone** from the national and local road network. This will increase reliability – and in turn provide the confidence necessary to attract business investment and high skilled employees;
- Schemes to support the regeneration of **Oxford's Northern Gateway** and the A40 approaches to Oxford. The package of measures will relieve congestion and enable the delivery growth at the Northern Gateway development site including 500 houses and up to 8000 new jobs: and;
- City Deal partners have a long-term ambition to transform public transport along the “knowledge spine”; **the Oxford Science Transit** will be a fully integrated public transport system that connects the area's centres of innovation and economic growth with the two universities. It will mean that people using Oxford Science Transit will be able to hop on, and off, high-frequency bus and rail services using “smart” tickets (akin to Oyster cards), planning their journeys using real-time information and updates. The City Deal will enable the first phase of the Science Transit by focusing on the major pinch points in the network: the A34 between Abingdon and south Oxford and the access into Oxford from the A34 along the Oxford Southern Bypass.

Key arteries: the A34 and A40

Forming part of a wider corridor connecting the Midlands and the South Coast, the A34 through Oxfordshire connects businesses with goods and services, and people with opportunities. The Government acknowledges the importance of this critical transport route for Oxfordshire. City Deal partners have championed improvements to the A34 as demand for movement along this transport corridor can exceed capacity - giving rise to traffic jams and unreliable journey times.

Oxford and Oxfordshire will work in partnership with the Highways Agency to prepare evidence on the Oxfordshire section of the A34, to support potential future investment options for improving journey time

reliability as part of the Agency's Route Based Strategy process. The Agency's Solent to Midland Route Based Strategy, which includes the A34, is due to reach its conclusion in March 2015, and its outcomes and recommendations will be considered in determining future investments for the strategic road network.

The A40 is recognised as a key artery for the "knowledge spine" and essential to the gateway into Oxford. So as part of this deal the City Deal partners and Government will invest a total of £17.8m in highway infrastructure at the A40 Northern Gateway which will deliver improvements to the strategic road corridor and enable the employment and housing development identified at Northern Gateway.

Developing a locally responsive skills system to support Oxfordshire's growing sectors

To maximise the potential of the area, City Deal partners want to create a locally responsive skills system that will maximise the impact of public investment and drive growth across Oxford and Oxfordshire.

Supporting uptake of apprenticeships in key sectors

City Deal partners have developed an integrated programme to increase the number of young people taking up Apprenticeships, with a particular focus on courses that will support Oxford and Oxfordshire's growth sectors: advanced engineering and manufacturing; space technology and biosciences. The programme has two elements:

1. Local partners will bring forward increased demand for an additional 525 apprenticeships over three years to drive growth in key sectors of the economy. In return, Government commits to ensuring that funding is made available within the skills system over the three years of City Deal from 2014/15, in line with the level of demand brought forward from employers. Usual Adult Skill Budget funding parameters will apply and this additional capacity will be drawn down when demand outstrips existing local budget capacity. Subject to affordability and meeting performance and quality thresholds, additional funding will be available to support increases in 19-23 year old Apprenticeships through the growth process;
2. To support this, Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership will work in partnership with the National Apprenticeship Service and will promote the Apprenticeship Grants for Employers to eligible employers. All eligible learners will commence their Apprenticeships by 31st December 2014 in order to qualify, before the programme ends in 2015. In addition, City Deal partners will explore the creation of a locally-funded apprenticeship top-up scheme which will help stimulate further demand for science, technology, engineering and maths Apprenticeships for young people.

Through this Deal, local partners commit to delivering:

- 525 additional Apprenticeships for young people (aged 16-23) over three years from 2014/15; and;
- 300 AGE grants targeted at small and medium sized businesses in growth sectors.

Informing and supporting young people

The City Deal partners will create a new body, provisionally called **Oxfordshire Experience for Work**, which will work closely with the private sector to support young people as they transition into the world of work by supporting them to access relevant, accredited work experience placements which delivers employability skills valued by employers.⁵ It will work with the National Careers Service to avoid duplication and align services already delivered locally through the National Careers Service to provide up-to-date Oxfordshire-centric careers advice and guidance based on local labour market information about growth sectors, and will raise awareness amongst young people of science, technology, engineering and maths career choices. It

⁵ These are outlined by the CBI: positive attitude; self-management; team working; business & customer awareness; problem solving.

will also broker more strategic links between business and the education sector to encourage more business involvement in schools and colleges, and greater uptake of training such as traineeships and Apprenticeships, in line with the Government's objectives. Oxfordshire Experience for Work will be a brand recognised by young people, the skills provider network and local employers.

Through this Deal, local partners commit to delivering:

- 350 more employers offering accredited work experience opportunities;
- 250 more employers engaging with schools and colleges;
- 150 employers engaging with traineeships; and
- 1,850 more employers with raised awareness of Apprenticeships.

Leadership and Governance

All of the elements of the Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal have been designed with input from Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and key stakeholders. The Deal is underpinned by a commitment to deliver through a collaborative Board and Executive.

The City Deal partners will establish a Joint Committee to act as City Deal Board. The Joint Committee would be established under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, and the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012. The Local Authorities will invest powers in the City Deal Board by virtue of representative membership; the Board will comprise 6 local authority and 6 private sector representatives drawn from the wider Local Enterprise Partnership Board membership including the chairman, university, research institution and private sector business. The City Deal Board will be chaired on a rotational basis by a Local Authority Leader. The City Deal Board (Joint Committee) will ensure that decisions relating to the implementation of this proposal are binding on all parties, thereby bringing confidence to Government and the business community more widely that its ambitions will be delivered. The work of the City Deal Board will be subject to public scrutiny and transparency.

The City Deal Board will be supported by an Executive structure (secretariat), operating under the direction of the Local Enterprise Partnership Chief Executive; it will take forward the growth ambitions identified in the City Deal.

The Board will be supported in its delivery ambition by an “Oxfordshire Growth Board” which will bring together the Local Transport Board, the Spatial Planning & Infrastructure Partnership and economic development professionals through a democratically established/representative membership body led by our local authority partners. The resources of the Executive, by definition, will be available to support each constituent partner to drive forward those projects that support the City Deal ambition and the wider Oxfordshire growth aspirations of the emerging Strategic Economic Plan. The Executive will facilitate co-location and co-ordination of identified staff working on inward investment, economic development, skills and innovation.

Oxfordshire County Council will be designated as the “Accountable Body” for the purposes of the City Deal.

The Partners have signalled their ambition through the City Deal and therefore as they move toward the Strategic Economic Plan and Growth Fund bid, they will review the Local Enterprise Partnership governance and executive arrangement to ensure there is greater clarity and transparency.

The City Deal partnership is committed to delivering the ambition expressed in the City Deal. In addition, the local authorities are already doing much to review and reform the public services they provide in order to deliver more efficient, effective and co-ordinated services across the county. As part of the City Deal, Oxfordshire local authorities agree to take this a step further by working in partnership with the Public Service Transformation Network to spread best practice, learn from other places and to develop a local public service transformation plan.

Summary of commitments

Innovation Hubs and Support

Oxford & Oxfordshire commitments	Central Government commitments
<p>To invest the innovation facilities designed to increase the commercialisation of research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harwell Innovation Hub (£7.1m) • Culham Advanced Manufacturing Hub (£13.4) • BioEscalator (£10m) • Begbroke Innovation Accelerator (£7m) <p>To invest to create the Oxfordshire Innovation Support Programme (£5m)</p>	<p>To invest the innovation facilities designed to increase the commercialisation of research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harwell Innovation Hub (£7m) • Culham Advanced Manufacturing Hub (£7.8m) • BioEscalator (£11m) • Begbroke Innovation Accelerator (£4.2m) <p>To invest to support the Oxfordshire Innovation Support Programme (£2m)</p>

Planning for development

Oxford & Oxfordshire commitments	Central Government commitments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerate the delivery of 7,500 planned houses by 2018 across Oxfordshire; • Commit to deliver the necessary sites that will meet the housing needs outlined in the Strategic Housing Market Analysis (reporting in early 2014); • Develop simplified planning package – formalising the early engagement and positive working with the Defra network in strategic planning (including development orders), working together to build resilience to extreme weather events and helping to ensure that growth, where possible leads to enhancement of important habits and species. City Deal partners will also take into account the work of Local Nature Partnership and Nature Improvement Areas in growth planning. As part of this, Oxford and Oxfordshire will consider Local Development Orders in prioritised development areas such as Harwell; and review potential locations for Local Development Orders by December 2014; • The district authorities will work with the Government Property Unit and list their assets on e-PIMS by spring 2014; • Share expertise and accumulated experience to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department for Transport, Network Rail and London and Continental Railways, as part of Great Western Electrification, East-West Rail and the Electric Spine work, will work together to improve and develop Oxford Station. Local and national stakeholders have agreed to work together to develop a wider master plan that focuses on the gains a redeveloped station could enable and the regeneration benefits on adjacent sites. Further details on land assembly and on the allocation of uplift will be agreed as part of Local Growth Deal by Summer 2014; • The Defra network will work with Oxford and Oxfordshire to develop the simplified planning package.

support project/programme delivery in a cost-effective and lean way across the County.	
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Transport for innovation

Oxford & Oxfordshire commitments	Central Government commitments
<p>Drawing together local public sector and private sector contributions to invest in key projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Transit - £14.8m • Northern Gateway - £10.5m • Access to the EZ - £22.7m <p>• To work with the Highways Agency to support the delivery of the Route Based Strategy for the A34 (due for completion by March 2015), considering all methods for enhancing the flow of traffic, including “active traffic management”.</p>	<p>Invest in key projects to support the innovation agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Transit - £8.7m • Northern Gateway - £7.3m • Access to the EZ - £6.1m

The locally responsive skills system

Oxford & Oxfordshire commitments	Central Government commitments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support Oxfordshire Experience for Work: £24m of employer match funding support to 2020, representing 17:1 leverage. Oxfordshire Experience for Work will deliver integrated, co-ordinated services for young people to support them during and as they leave school to access appropriate training, further education and employment opportunities. It will also broker links between businesses and the education sector, including accredited work experience, traineeships and Apprenticeships; • Develop Oxfordshire Labour Market Intelligence to inform the provision of information, advice and guidance for young people, providers, parents and employers; • To work closely with the National Careers Service and schools careers advisers to enable a localised careers offer and ensure that this complements the National Careers Service local offer; • Explore the creation of a locally funded top up scheme to support that already on offer through Apprenticeship Grant for Employers. The scheme will help stimulate further demand for science, technology, engineering and maths Apprenticeships in young people. The scheme will be funded by the Local Authorities, Local Enterprise Partnership and aligned with funding from Skills Funding Agency and National 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Government commits to ensuring that funding, within Adult Skills Budget parameters, is made available as needed to meet additional demand within the skills system over the three years of city deal from 2014/15 to support the growth in provision of Apprenticeships (for 16-23 year olds) brought forward by city deal partners: 525 Apprenticeships over three years, at least 325 of which local partners expect to see in areas that will directly support the growth sectors of advanced engineering and manufacturing - automotive/motorsport and composites; space-related technologies; and bio/life sciences and cryogenics; • The National Apprenticeship Service commits to working with Oxfordshire Experience for Work to align local activity; • The Skills Funding Agency commits to work with the Local Enterprise Partnership to develop a shared approach to strategic skills planning to ensure the relevance, impact and quality of provision meets the needs of businesses; • The Skills Funding Agency will make a notional £450,000 ring-fenced allocation of the Apprenticeship Grants for Employers to Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership for 300 apprenticeships. The Skills Funding

<p>Careers Service;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop Oxfordshire experience for work in partnership with the emerging Oxfordshire Innovation Support Programme. 	<p>Agency will work with Oxford and Oxfordshire to clearly define the employers who are in scope and agree a profile. All eligible learners will commence their Apprenticeships by 31st December 2014 in order to qualify, before the programme ends in 2015. The Skills Funding Agency will also monitor and revise the profile to reflect actual demand within the £450,000 ceiling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1.5m from Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to pump prime the delivery of Oxfordshire Experience for Work across three years from 2014/15.
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