

The logo for Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OXLEP) features a stylized circular icon on the left, composed of three overlapping, curved bands in shades of blue and white. To the right of the icon, the letters "OXLEP" are written in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font.

OXLEP

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership - Progress Report





Chief Executive's Forward

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) is now in its fourth year of operation and has made considerable progress in strengthening our economy. Over this time, OxLEP has created a robust partnership that has established a strong and effective relationship between business, Government and our local authorities. This partnership of public, private, higher and further education has set a strong strategic approach building on our region's priorities for investment, infrastructure and business support.

This Partnership approach has served the region well over the last four years securing:

- Investment through the Growing Places Fund - £9m
- A City Deal for Oxford and Oxfordshire - £55.6m
- Developed a Strategic Economic Plan outlining our priorities
- Secured a Growth Deal and an extended Growth Deal - £118m
- Set the framework for €20m European Investment in the area
- Approval of Didcot Garden Town
- Second Enterprise Zone - £120m business rates for Oxfordshire

These achievements can be seen as milestones that many new businesses will recognise. A short Start-Up phases agreeing our purpose and structure; a Strategy Development Phase agreeing priorities and positions followed by a period of Securing Investment and finally into Delivery.

Over this time OxLEP itself has grown and matured. It has developed robust processes and protocols, appointed an executive team and now manages a growth programme with almost £1bn of activity. Whilst this is the most visible role we undertake, the Board members and I are also gaining impact by influencing and lobbying decisions made for our county. We are actively promoting our innovation ecosystem that is second to none, and are undertaking advocacy work on behalf of individual businesses, enhancing Oxfordshire's position as the UK's leading innovation and knowledge hub, with a growing global reputation for research and development in a number of fields.

We appreciate the contribution of all Board members who served during the last four years. Our progress would not have been possible without the support of the six councils, businesses and our Government partners.

Nigel Tipple
Chief Executive

Contents

Chief Executive's Forward	2
OxLEP Timeline	4-7
Board Members 2011 - 2015	8
City Deal Governance 2014 - 2015	9
OxLEP Influencing Government Case Study	10
Strategic Economic Plan 2014	11
People	12-13
Place	14-15
Enterprise	16-19
Connectivity	20-21
OxLEP Investment Programme	22
Looking to the Future	23



STRATEGIC INFLUENCE, STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE



2011

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership endorsed by Government

Oxfordshire LEP (OxLEP) was formed in 2011, after the coalition government came into power and announced its intention to abolish Regional Development Agencies and replace them with Local Enterprise Partnerships. The geography covered by the OxLEP is the administrative area of the County of Oxfordshire including all five districts authority areas.



OxLEP formed



2012

Growing Places Fund

The Government's Growing Places Fund (GPF) is designed to accelerate developments that may have stalled as a result of a restricted financial climate, to enable the creation of new jobs and homes.

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership was allocated £8,370,160 capital and £684,266 revenue. The aim of GPF was to provide repayable funding to help address infrastructure constraints that enable development to come forward thereby helping to deliver new jobs and homes.



Growing Places Fund launched



2013

Permanent Chief Executive appointed

For the first two years of operation OxLEP was supported by the County Council, Universities and other public sector partners. In 2013 central government made funding available to enhance the capacity of all LEPs. In Oxfordshire part of this funding was used to establish a dedicated executive led by a Chief Executive who reports directly to the Chairman.



Chief Executive appointed



City Deal
£55.6M

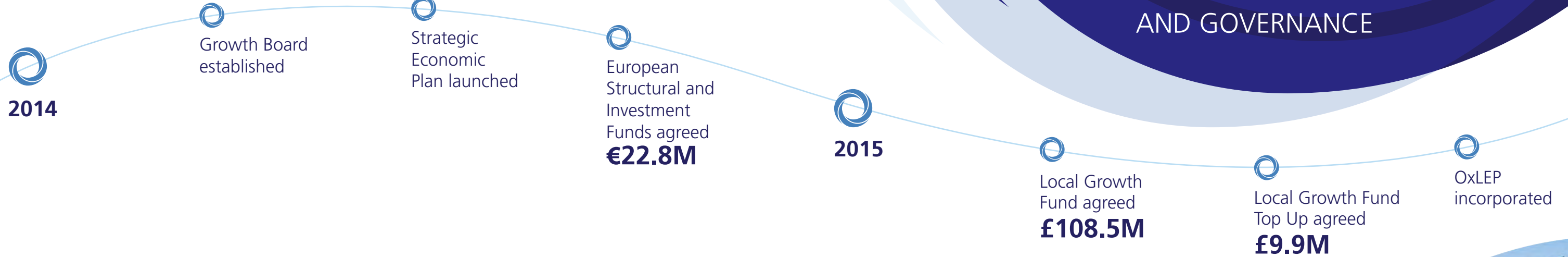
Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal negotiated

The Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal is an agreement between Oxford City Council, Oxfordshire County Council and Oxford University, the Local Enterprise Partnership and Government to devolve funding and policy tools to the local area to enable economic growth. The bid to the City Deal Programme for funding to support infrastructure projects to unlock future economic growth was formally announced on the 18th February 2013.

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) is a business led strategic body with members and stakeholders from the business community, further/higher education, local authorities, and other sectors. By working with these partners, OxLEP plays a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertakes activities to drive economic growth and create jobs across the county.



STRATEGIC INFLUENCE, STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE



Growth Board established

The City Deal was signed at Harwell in January 2014 and a new Growth Board was established to support delivery of local authority transformational projects.

Strategic Economic Plan

As part of the 2013 Spending Review, Government announced a new Single Local Growth Fund available to LEPs to bid into to secure investment to support identified local growth priorities, based on the production of a Strategic Economic Plan. The Strategic Economic Plan is a multi-year local growth strategy that demonstrates how Local Enterprise Partnerships will deliver growth based on a strong rationale, value for money and partnerships for delivery.

Oxfordshire's Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) was developed by the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) in partnership with the business community, academic institutions and the Local Authorities; and was submitted to Government on the 31st March 2014. It sets out the long term vision and ambitions for economic growth in the county.

Two years on, the SEP is being refreshed to accurately reflect Oxfordshire's current economic environment and will be available in late 2016.

European Structural and Investment Funds allocated to Oxfordshire

The European Structural and Investment Funds for 2014 to 2020 exist to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth across all member states of the European Union.

Overall Oxfordshire has very good economic performance and, it is also has a relatively small population

Consequently, Oxfordshire received the second lowest allocation in England totalling €22.8M. However, this is the first time Oxfordshire has received any allocation of EU Structural funds.

Local Growth Fund – Round 1 agreed

In response to the first Growth Fund launched by Government, OxLEP put forward a series of infrastructure projects securing £108.5M. This included a number of key strategic transport schemes, college STEM centres, flood risk management schemes and a Centre for Applied Superconductivity.

Local Growth Fund – Round 2 agreed

The Local Growth Fund was then expanded in January 2015 with an extra £9.9M of the Government's Local Growth Fund. The additional projects secured by OxLEP included a number of key strategic infrastructure schemes and the Activate Care Suite.

OxLEP incorporated – 30th March 2015

OxLEP established as a Company Limited by guarantee.



Board Members 2011 - 2015

Adrian Lockwood

Board Representative from Oxfordshire Skills Board (2011 - Present)

Paul Inman

Board Representative from Oxford Brookes University (2011 - 2013)

Alistair Fitt

Board Representative from Oxford Brookes University (2014 - Present)

Steve Cowley

Board Representative of Science Vale Oxford (2011 - 2013)

Andrew Harrison

Board Representative from Science Vale Oxford (2015 - Present)

Jim Hutchins

Board Representative from Science Vale Oxford (2014 - 2015)

Cllr Barry Norton

Board Representative from West Oxfordshire District Council (2013 - Present)

Cllr Barry Wood

Board Representative from Cherwell District Council (2013 - Present)

Nigel Wild

Board Representative from the Chamber of Commerce (2011 - 2013)

Nick Grant

Board representative of the Chamber of Commerce (2011 - 2013)

Peter Smith

Board representative from the Chamber of Commerce (2013 - 2014)

Bob Bradley

Board Representative from the Chamber of Commerce (2014 - Present)

Cllr Bob Price

Board Representative from Oxford City Council (2011 - Present)

Cllr David Robertson

Board Representative from Oxfordshire County Council (2011 - 2012)

Cllr Ian Hudspeth

Board Representative from Oxfordshire County Council (2011 - Present)

Cllr Anne Ducker

Board representative from South Oxfordshire District Council (2011 - 2014)

Cllr John Cotton

Board Representative from South Oxfordshire District Council (2014 - Present)

Ian Wenman

Board Representative from Institute of Directors (2011 - Present)

Nigel Tipple

Chief Executive (2013 - Present)

Cllr Matthew Barber

Board Representative from Vale of the White Horse District Council (2013 - Present)

Philip Shadbolt

Board Representative from Bicester Vision (2011 - Present)

Ian Walmsley

Board Representative from Oxford University (2011 - Present)

Richard Venables

Board Representative from Oxford Strategic Partnership (2014 - Present)

Sally Dicketts

Board Representative from Activate Learning (2011 - Present)

Martin Dare-Edwards

Chair (2011 - 2012)

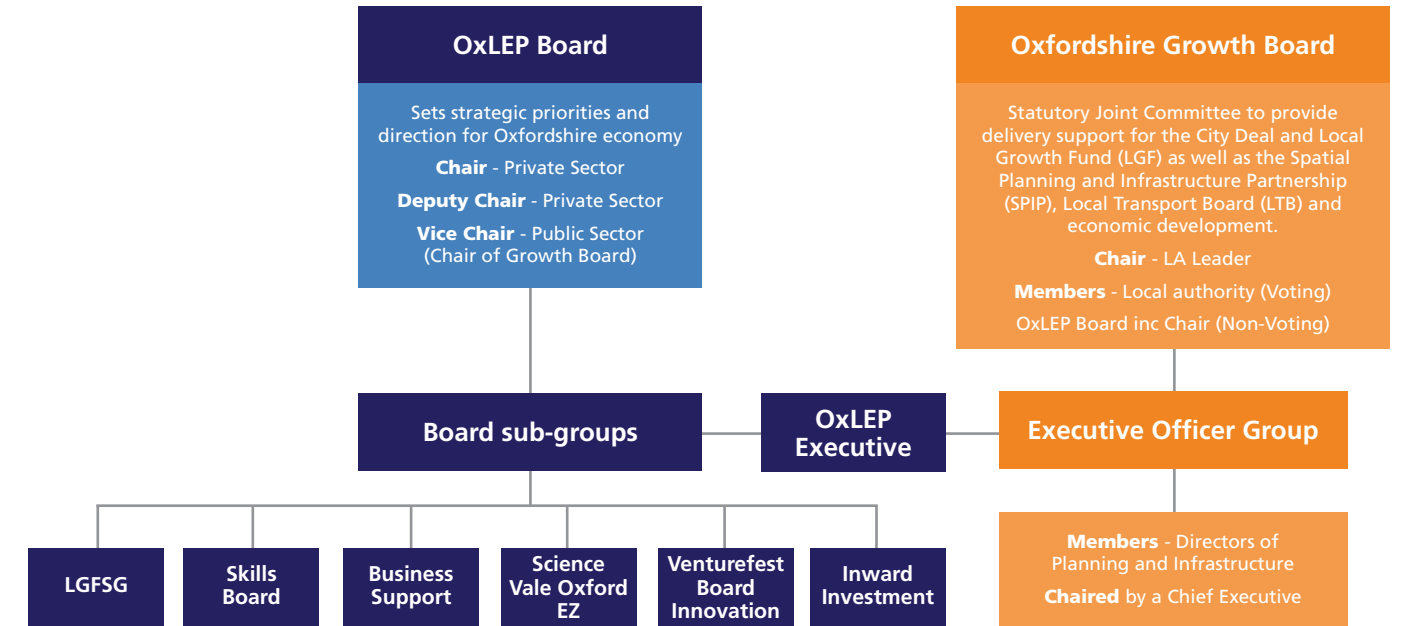
Adrian Shooter CBE

Chair (2012 - 2015)

Margaret Coles

Board Representative from Federation of Small Businesses (2011 - Present)

City Deal Governance 2014 - 2015



Case Study OxLEP Influencing Government

Oxfordshire is a global centre of innovation excellence which has track record of securing funding to support research and innovation. OxLEP has harnessed this and presented Oxfordshire as a complete economic and innovation ecosystem, linking future growth to housing and infrastructure as well as research excellence.

This approach has been very successful, in addition to the direct funding received through Growing Places Fund, City Deal and Growth Deal the LEP has also influenced Government decisions and investments.



13,000
new homes

The Autumn Statement in 2012 announced:

- £138 million partnership (£35 million from Research Partnership Investment Fund) of the University of Oxford and a consortium including Synergy Health, Cancer Research UK, Roche Diagnostics, GE Healthcare and the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, to establish a new world-leading centre for targeted cancer research;
- The establishment of a new Catapult for Satellite Applications in Harwell, Oxfordshire.

The Autumn Statement 2014:

- Confirmed Government's commitment to the Oxfordshire Flood Alleviation scheme;
- Announced England's second new garden City at Bicester which will deliver 13,000 new homes on surplus public sector land;
- Committed to exploring the feasibility of a Cambridge to Oxford expressway.

Budget 2015 announced the Milton Park Extension to Science Vale Enterprise Zone Using Highways Agency prioritise to support local growth:

- The transformation of the M40/A34 junction between 2011 and 2014, as part

of government Pinch Point funding. The improvements help to reduce congestion, improve journey times for road users, increase safety at the interchange and will underpin growth in the local economy, supporting the Bicester Master Plan.

The national Road Investment Strategy 2014, outlined £15BN improvements to the strategic road network including over £100M to deliver:

- A34 Technology enhancements – introduction of vehicle detection loops, CCTV cameras and driver information systems on the A34 between the M4 and the M40;
- A34 Oxford junctions – improvements to the Peartree and Botley interchanges.

Strategic Economic Plan 2014

The ambition set out in the Strategic Economic Plan builds on the narrative developed as part of the City Deal - that the Oxfordshire economy has the greatest potential of any location in the UK to deliver world leading technology and business innovation, building upon academic research.

The Strategic Economic Plan is based on our four Thematic Objectives:



people

Delivering specialist and flexible skills at all levels as required by businesses with full employment and fulfilling jobs.



place

Providing both the quality and choice of homes needed to support growth whilst capitalising upon the exceptional quality of life, vibrant economy and dynamic urban and rural communities.



enterprise

Innovation led growth is at the heart of the strategy, underpinned by the strength of University research and development capacity, business collaboration and supply chain potential.



connectivity

Allowing people to move freely, connect easily and providing the services and facilities needed by a dynamic, growing and dispersed economy.

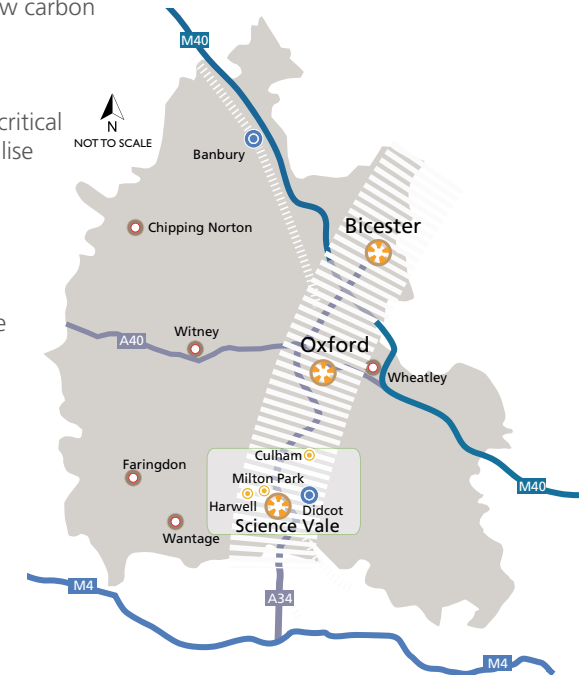
The Knowledge Spine

In addition to these themes the Strategic Economic Plan also focuses on priority localities of in the Oxfordshire Knowledge Spine (a concept introduced in the Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal):

Bicester – where improved infrastructure, 28% population growth by 2016 and increased land availability will unlock the potential for significant increases in employment growth and low carbon development.

Oxford – where continued investment in developing the critical infrastructure necessary to realise the full potential of its world-class education, research and innovation that underpins growth.

Science Vale Oxford – where we will build on its extensive research infrastructure and the designation of Harwell as the home of the national Satellite Applications Catapult and the European Space Agency.



People

Objective: Deliver and attract specialist and flexible skills at all levels, across all sectors, as required by our businesses, with full, inclusive employment and fulfilling jobs

2011 - 2012 Skills Board established

Oxfordshire Skills Board established, bringing together a wide range of public and private employers, secondary, further and higher education skills providers and stakeholder groups. Working closely with the OxLEP the Skills Board aims to achieve improvements in the skills available to Oxfordshire's employers and the learning opportunities available to students, residents and workforce. The Skills Board is a formal sub-group advising the OxLEP Board.

- Integrated, seamless co-ordination of services to young people designed to align support to ensure young people are successfully transitioned into appropriate training, further education, or employment opportunities appropriate to their abilities, ambitions and future aspirations.

An updated Skills Strategy will be produced later in 2016 to accurately reflect Oxfordshire's current skills environment.

2012 - 2013 Skills Needs Assessment completed

Skills gaps for the Oxfordshire economy identified in a Skills Needs Assessment, directed by the Skills Board.

2012 - 2013 Skills Needs Assessment completed

2013 - 2014 City Deal

The skills element of the City Deal provides support to increase the number of apprenticeship starts across the county.

2013 - 2014 Oxfordshire Skills Strategy launched

Building on its Skills Needs Assessment analysis and statement of priorities the Oxfordshire Skills Board led the development of a Skills Strategy. The Skills Strategy for Oxfordshire - developed with partners - sets the future direction for skills development in the county.

2013 - 2014 Skills Strategy launched

The aim of the Strategy is to support economic growth by 2020 by ensuring we have:

- A workforce that is aligned to employers needs by a skills system that places employers and well informed individuals at its heart
- A training and education sector that is more flexible and responsive to employer needs and produces employment-ready young people

2014 - 2015 Local Growth Fund Round 1

The Strategic Economic Plan identifies the need to invest in skills provision to meet the needs of industry across Oxfordshire. To achieve this the Local Growth Fund supported the skills provision across the area by gaining investment for:

- **Oxfordshire Centre for Tecwhnology and Innovation Training** - in Oxford to address skills shortages across engineering, electrical, design, and emerging technologies in the Oxfordshire economy.
- **Advanced Engineering and Technology Skills Centre** - in Abingdon to address skills shortages across STEM skills.

2014 - 2015 Local Growth Fund 1 and 2 agreed

2014 - 2015 Local Growth Fund Round 2

- **Activate Care Suite** - established to improve adult social care and healthcare in Oxfordshire.

2014 - 2015 ESF Programme established

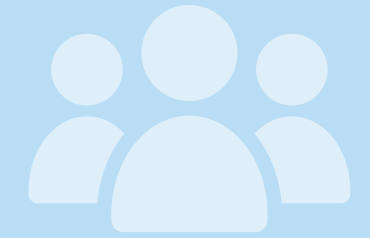
2014 - 2015 Oxfordshire European Structural Funds Investment ESF

The European Social Fund (ESF) is part of the European Structural funds and comprises £6.7 million of funding, split between three thematic objectives:

- Employment, Labour Mobility and Access to Employment
- Social Inclusion
- Education, Skills and Life-Long Learning

Key Performance Indicators

Indicator	2011	2014	Change
NVQ4 or equivalent	183,600	205,100	▲
No Qualifications	28,100	20,100	▼
JSA	7,980	2,800	▼
ESA	14,800	14,980	▲



2011 - 2012 Skills Board established

2012 - 2013 Skills Needs Assessment completed

2013 - 2014 Skills Strategy launched

2014 - 2015 Local Growth Fund 1 and 2 agreed

2014 - 2015 ESF Programme established

2014 - 2015 Oxfordshire European Structural Funds Investment ESF

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Place

Objective: Provide the quality environment and choice of homes needed to support growth and capitalise upon the exceptional quality of life, vibrant economy and the dynamic urban and rural communities of our county.

2012 - 2013 Growing Places Fund launched

The Government's Growing Places Fund (GPF) is designed to accelerate developments that may have stalled as a result of a restricted financial climate, to enable the creation of new jobs and homes.

Out of a national pot of £500M, OxLEP received £9.05M to help support schemes across our area. This funding supports economic growth by addressing the infrastructure and site constraints that may be impeding development. The Growing Places Fund operates on a revolving investment basis – it is not a grant. Recipients of GPF are expected to repay the funds once their development is completed. The fund is currently allocated, but operates on a recycling loan basis and it will re-open as the first projects repay funding

2013 - 2014 City Deal

The City deal will accelerate the growth of the city region's knowledge based economy by creating a new 'knowledge economy spine', based on a network of centres supported by new enterprise and innovation centres. It aims to deliver more accommodation for small and medium sized businesses, to allow more start-ups to emerge and existing businesses to grow. These centres will link together the areas identified for future economic growth by the Local Enterprise Partnership centred on Oxford, Bicester and Science Vale. The enhancement of place is critical to achieving this vision.

- **Housing** - The City Deal committed the Oxfordshire Districts to provide an accelerated development of 7,500 houses between 2015 and 2018 and to work together to deliver the enhanced housing requirements identified by the Strategic Housing Market Assessment.

2014 - 2015 Local Growth Fund Round 1

- **Oxfordshire Flood Risk Management Scheme and Upstream Flood Storage at Northway** - a comprehensive package of measures to mitigate the risks of damage to homes, businesses and transport connections caused by excessive flooding.

2014 - 2015 Local Growth Fund Round 2

Transport and site improvements to support the Oxpens development, which will provide much needed office and research space and new homes in the heart of Oxford.

Key Performance Indicator

Indicator	2011	2014	Change
Dwellings completed	1,500	2,177	▲



2012 - 2013
Growing Places Fund launched



2013 - 2014
Funding secured under City Deal for Knowledge Economy Spine and to accelerate housing provision



2014 - 2015
Local Growth Fund 1 and 2 agreed

The City Deal committed the Oxfordshire Districts to provide an accelerated development of 7,500 houses between 2015 and 2018 and to work together to deliver the enhanced housing requirements identified by the Strategic Housing Market Assessment.



Enterprise

Objective: Encourage innovation led growth, underpinned by Oxfordshire's strengths in University research and development, business collaboration and supply chain potential.

2011 - 2012 Science Vale Enterprise Zone launched

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership successfully bid for Enterprise Zone statuses for land at two of the UK's biggest science and research business parks - Harwell Oxford and Milton Park - with the single ambition of being globally competitive to the benefit of Oxfordshire and the UK. Collectively the area is known as Science Vale.

The new status will accelerate development that will bring in around 8,400 high-tech, high-value-adding jobs and generate up to £10.5 million of additional business rates a year. These funds can be directly reinvested into the Oxfordshire economy.

New businesses will benefit from business rate discounts, simplified planning procedures and access to super-fast broadband.

2013 - 2014 Oxfordshire Innovation Support for Business (ISfB) Programme agreed

As part of City Deal negotiations, funding was secured for the ISfB Programme of approximately £2M. This was from the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) Round 4 under a contract managed by Lancaster University to deliver Wave 2 Growth Hubs. The funding was for the period until June 2015 with the evaluation period lasting until January 2017.

20% of the funds were targeted at creating a system that provides better support for businesses. This system included a triage service that helped business find the support they needed that could be accessed through email, websites and telephone. The system also included Network Navigators – specialist advisors in specific sectors and business processes.

80% of the funding was to support businesses directly through the following services:

- **Funding:** Providing Proof of Concept and growth funding that takes technology and innovation from the conceptual stage to being commercially viable businesses or growing an existing business
- **Start-up Success:** Mentoring and advice to help with 'business activation' and acceleration
- **Skills Vouchers:** High level management and leadership skills training
- **Facilities Vouchers:** Access to facilities such as expensive machinery and equipment.

Network Navigators deployed

Launched in March 2014 as part of the ISfB programme, the Network Navigator scheme comprises 11 sector experts representing the nine key growth sectors for Oxfordshire, set out in the OxLEP SEP. Navigators connect businesses to relevant networks within their sector and signpost enquirers to the best sources of local and national business support and funding. They include six high tech sectors and three horizontal sectors, selected to promote social as well as technological innovation.

Oxfordshire Business Support

The success of IFSB rested on reaching growing and start-up businesses. This approach was spearheaded by a dedicated web portal. The triage service offers four access channels: directly through the website, via a 'contact us' enquiry page, direct email and telephone. As part of the launch of the new website the branding of the programme was simplified to 'Oxfordshire Business Support' (this tied in to the url for the web-portal).



2011 - 2012
Science Vale Enterprise
Zone launched



2013 - 2014
Oxfordshire Innovation Support for
Business (ISfB) Programme agreed



Case Study

2015 Third round of Growing places fund Helps innovative Business

Reaction Engines Ltd was founded by Alan Bond and two engineers in 1989 and is now at the forefront of a pioneering high-tech programme. The business which is based at Culham Science Centre in Abingdon has made a breakthrough in aerospace technology and is developing SABRE, a hybrid jet/rocket engine that will be used to propel a new Skylon launcher into low earth orbit by 2020.

What makes this project exceptional is that it will pave the way for a new generation of space planes that are lighter, reusable

and can take off and land from conventional runways which will revolutionise the space industry.

Reaction Engines is a privately funded UK company and was given a £140k loan from the Growing Places Fund in 2015 to install a quality assurance department that will employ a Quality Assurance Manager and Skilled Inspector. This forms an essential part of the manufacturing process as precision and quality standards are critical for the system parts and components of the project.



2013 - 2014
City Deal funding secured for Innovation Hubs

2013 - 2014 City Deal funding secured for Innovation Hubs

The City Deal agreed an investment package to deliver an ambitious network of new innovation and incubation centres to 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 science sectors.
- **The Begbroke Innovation Accelerator:** focused on advanced engineering sectors.

Funding focused on three objectives and target selected investment priorities. The objective of the ESIF strategy in relation to business support is to make a decisive contribution to an integrated, tailored business support system for Oxfordshire, expanding the City Deal investments.

These objectives are:

- Skills and social inclusion
- SME Competitiveness
- Rural development

The first call for project bids to be funded from ESIF funds took place in March 2015

The European Agricultural Fund for Regional Development (EAFRD) is an allocation of £3,448,507, aimed at delivering support in more areas for three specific areas:

- Addressing the gap in high speed data connectivity left, once the current roll out of superfast broadband is complete
- Supporting the development of small scale renewable energy projects
- Supporting the county's rural tourism and leisure sector
- These were selected following a consultation during 2013/2014, and in light of the needs and opportunities in the county as well as the different type of work possible under EAFRD rules.



2014 - 2015
Oxfordshire European Structural Funds agreed

£6.7M ERDF funding prioritised on business support

2014 - 2015 Innovation centre funded under LGF

Centre for Applied Superconductivity - a new centre of innovation to coordinate the interaction between key industry players, Oxford University, cryogenics companies, and end users (including SMEs) on the Harwell campus and at the Culham Centre for Fusion Research Campus.

2014 - 2015 Oxfordshire European Structural Funds agreed

The overall goal of Oxfordshire's European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF) Strategy is to help deliver growth through innovation. The strategy fully embraced the need to be focused and concentrated on a limited set of priority areas.

£2.8M EAFRD prioritised on broadband, renewable energy projects and tourism



2014 - 2015
Innovation centre funded under Local Growth Fund

Key Performance Indicators

Indicator	2011	2014	Change
Number of businesses	26,970	28,315	▲
Jobs	378,000	410,000	▲
Economically active	350,000	360,900	▲
Employees	84.2%	82.5%	▼
Self Employed	12.4%	14.2%	▲

Case Study

2015 Science Vale

Science Vale UK is a joint initiative between leading hi-tech and research organisations in south Oxfordshire, and the County and District Councils, to promote the region. The UK Atomic Energy Authority is one of the partners in Science Vale UK, and Authority CEO Professor Andrew Harrison is Chair of Science Vale UK. In addition, Harwell Campus, Oxford, one of the business parks included in the zone, is being developed as part of a joint venture between the Authority, the Science & Technology Facilities Council and Goodman International.

Science Vale UK is an area of economic growth that is well on the

way to becoming a global hotspot for enterprise and innovation. Already home to a significant proportion of the region's scientific, research and development, and high technology businesses, the area is now also gaining an international reputation as a first choice business location for companies wanting to make their mark in business and research.

Parts of Science Vale UK now have Enterprise Zone status and new businesses locating to the Enterprise Zone can benefit from business rates discounts, superfast broadband and simplified planning. These benefits are worth an estimated £1bn to local businesses.

Connectivity

Objective: Allow people to move freely, connect easily and provide the services, environment and facilities needed by a dynamic, growing and dispersed economy.

2011 - 2012 Pinch Point Funding announced

As part of the 2012 Autumn Statement the Government announced the creation of a Local Pinch Point Fund (the Fund) worth £170M to remove bottlenecks on the local highway network which are impeding growth. The Fund reflects the Government's strong commitment to supporting economic growth by tackling barriers on the local highway network that may be restricting the movement of goods and people.

OxLEP worked with the County Council to prioritise bids and were successful in securing funding for:

- £10M investment for a new direct access between the two Enterprise Zones of Milton Park and Harwell Oxford, via the A34.
- Provision of an innovative 'hamburger' style roundabout at Milton interchange enabling the junction to operate effectively within planned levels of growth for the area and helping to manage traffic onto the A34.

2012 - 2013 Growing Places Fund

The Government's Growing Places Fund (GPF) is designed to accelerate developments that may have stalled as a result of a restricted financial climate, to enable the creation of new jobs and homes. OxLEP recognised that growth also requires wider infrastructure which is often funded by developer contributions when developer confidence and finance are tight. One of the first GPF projects approved by OxLEP was £1.6M Science Vale Cycle Network. The Cycle Network Project is about providing easier and greater connectivity between these locations and Didcot station by bike, providing a key layer to the Science Vale transport network which will encourage sustainable travel across the area. Subsequent projects support access to Milton and Harwell innovation Parks.

2013 - 2014 City Deal

Central to delivering the 'Knowledge Spine' that will drive growth in Oxfordshire is improving Connectivity. The City Deal

focuses on key elements of the Oxfordshire road network where improvements are required to support Oxfordshire's economic development. Approved projects include a programme of schemes to relieve congestion and enhance access at the Milton and Chilton interchanges on the A34, the Hinksey Hill /A423 southern by-pass and the Northern Gateway development site (Wolvercote and Cutteslowe roundabouts). Science Transit phase one is a package of measures that will improve connectivity all along the route from Science Vale to Oxford including junction enhancements and improved public transport.

2014 - 2015 Local Growth Fund Round 1

- **Headington Phase 1 & Eastern Arc Transport Improvements** - a package of junction and local road improvements to support growth in the Headington area of Oxford - a centre for medical research and the location of the bio-escalator at Oxford University Old Road campus, which was part-funded via the Oxford City Deal.
- **Science Vale Cycle Network improvements** - a sustainable transport scheme providing greater connectivity between Science Vale and the newly improved Didcot station by bike.
- **Didcot Station Car Park Expansion (Foxhall Rd)** - packages of measures for car park expansion including construction of a deck access car park on the existing Foxhall Road car park. Part of the expansion and improvement of Didcot station as a key gateway to Science Vale high tech cluster and the Enterprise Zone.
- **Bicester London Road – Level Crossing** - a pedestrian / cycle crossing to provide sustainable access into Bicester town centre, required for the more intensive train service as part of the East West Rail project.
- **Oxford Science Transit** - further funding was agreed.

2014 - 2015 Local Growth Fund Round 2

- **Northern Gateway** - a package to improve transport in North Oxford and enable the Northern Gateway development, which will provide business and research space and new homes.

2011 - 2012 Local Pinch Point Funding announced

2012 - 2013 GPF funded road and transport schemes

2013 - 2014 City Deal funding for congestion relief, improving access to employment and increasing productivity

2014 - 2015 LGF funded road, rail and cycling schemes

Case Study

2014 - Second Round Growing Places Fund supports 'Super Connected Cities'

Oxford City understands the need to keep up with what's happening in the global markets. To attract investment it is essential to have the best connections and the 'Super Connected Cities Programme' supported by the nationally recognised BDUK Programme through the Department of Culture Media and Sport is helping to achieve this. In 2014 OxLEP allocated £340k from the Growing Places Fund to install WiFi Hotspots in public buildings around Oxford forms part of a much larger package that has seen WiFi delivered on public transport, and a planned wireless concession and voucher scheme to help businesses get connected. This was achieved in Oxford by its own programme 'Super Connected Oxford' run by Oxford City Council and was one of just 22 cities chosen to benefit from this funding.

OxLEP Investment Programme £M

	Government Grant	Supporting Investment	Total programme
City Deal	55.6	1216	1271.6
Local Growth Deal	108.56	96.54	205.1
Local Growth Deal Top-up	9.84	593.54	603.38
Growing Places Fund	9.05	7.38	16.43
Pinch Point Funding	10	11.52	21.52
ESIF	19.5	19.5	39
TOTAL	212.55	1944.48	2157.03

Oxfordshire Economic Performance

Indicator	2011	2014	Change
Population	654,800	672,500	▲
Jobs	378,000	410,000	▲
Economically active	350,000	360,900	▲
Employees	84.2%	82.5%	▼
Self Employed	12.4%	14.2%	▲
Unemployed	3.4%	3.2%	▼
Number of businesses	26,970	28,315	▲
NVQ4 or equivalent	183,600	205,100	▲
No Qualifications	28,100	20,100	▼
JSA	7,980	2,800	▼
ESA	14,800	14,980	▲
Dwellings completed	1,500	2,177	▲

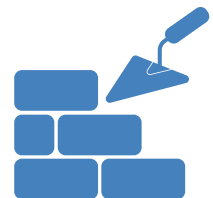
Programme Outputs 2011 - 2020



**DELIVER
7,500
new homes**



**CREATE
24,600
new jobs**



**SUPPORT
350
new apprenticeships**

Looking to the Future

2015 - 2016 promises to be a busy year for the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership as work starts on the delivery of key initiatives and projects.

OxLEP entered 2015 as an independent Company (limited by Liability) adding an additional layer of rigour to its governance and reporting mechanisms and ensuring that it is working with, but not unduly influenced by, its local authority partners.

During the year OxLEP is strengthening its procedures and policies, making sure it continues to do the basics well. As more funding is released from Government there will be increased pressure on the staff team to manage contracts, negotiations and monitoring delivery without creating an administrative burden, or failing to undertake appropriate due diligence checks.

Efforts to engage and communicate to all stakeholders continues to be important. Reaching out to businesses, to offer support, demonstrating how OxLEP can add value remains important. As a business led organisation maintaining contact with businesses and business organisations is essential.

Above all it will maintain a strategic overview, helping prioritise investment decisions and maximising the opportunities presented to us, founded on strong and robust evidence.

“By 2030, Oxfordshire will be recognised as a vibrant, sustainable, inclusive world leading economy, driven by innovation, enterprise and research excellence”





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