

Policy BSC 9: Public Services and Utilities

B.150 Waste management and disposal is the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council and the District Council will continue to consider the emerging Minerals and Waste Development Framework in the preparation of the Local Plan.



B.151 A new library is proposed for Banbury as part of the Spiceball Development Area (Policy Banbury 9). In Bicester a new library is proposed as part of the town centre redevelopment ('Policy Bicester 5: Strengthening Bicester Town Centre'). The new improved library services will be provided by Oxfordshire County Council.

B.152 The preparation of the Local Plan has highlighted the need for additional burial grounds to be provided in some locations. A new burial site for Bicester is being investigated ('Policy Bicester 9: Burial Site in Bicester'). In other cases the need for additional burial site provision will be more appropriately addressed through the Local Plan Part 2 and/or by way of planning application.

B.153 The Planning Obligations Draft SPD provides more details on the provision of public services as part of new development including emergency services (police, fire & ambulance) and places of worship.

B.154 Preliminary enquiries with utility companies have taken place with a view to identifying the infrastructure requirements and constraints to future development in the District. Gas, electricity and heat supply and investment in electricity infrastructure is provided by the private sector and the Council will continue to work with suppliers and distributors to provide the necessary services to strategic sites. Developers will need to take account of the location of existing services and will need to contribute financially to their relocation on development sites.

B.155 Thames Water, Anglian Water and Severn Trent Water provide the majority of the water supply and waste services in the District. Water services business plans are based on 5 year schedules and the scale of investment is substantial. Timelines vary on projects and the Council will work with the water companies to plan the delivery of specific projects.

B.156 Telecommunications infrastructure will be provided as part of the strategic allocations, for example it is a requirement of the Eco-towns PPS that homes should be provided with connection to Superfast Broadband. As a result of the investment by the Department for Culture, Media and Sports (DCMS), Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council full District wide coverage will

have been secured by 2017 to support increased business and residential use, supporting increased home working, new business formation and new service provision.

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The Council will support proposals which involve new or improvements to public services/utilities if they are required to enable the successful delivery of sites and where they accord with other relevant policies in the Plan. All new developments will be expected to include provision for connection to Superfast Broadband.