

District Councillor Report – Cllr Sam Casey-Rerhaye, June 2025

Climate Scorecard for South Oxfordshire District Council

Councilclimatescorecards.uk have scored SODC up 22 points since 2023. Other Oxfordshire Councils also do very well. SODC did particularly well on planning and land use, and biodiversity. There are seven questions scored, and you can compare with other councils across the country on their site.

Local Government Reorganisation

The public engagement exercise on Local Government Reorganisation launched on Wednesday 4th June and will run for six weeks. You can find out more and [take part in the online survey here](#).

Capital Grants applications open

The Capital Grant Scheme opened on 2nd June for applications of up to £75,000.

The grant gives organisations a financial boost towards capital expenditure such as making improvements to buildings or play areas.

Applicants must show how their projects will help improve the quality of life for people in South Oxfordshire through projects that: support thriving, healthy and inclusive communities; provide infrastructure that meets local need; take action on climate change and nature recovery; and improve participation, accessibility and accountability.

Organisations eligible to apply are:

- Town and parish councils
- Non-profit businesses and Community Interest Companies
- Community-based organisations.

The Capital Grant Scheme is open for applications until **Friday 25th July**. Applicants can apply online through our website, southoxon.gov.uk/grants where the full guidance is available to help submit the best possible application.

Thank you for sharing our social media messages on the grant.

Local Plan Inquiry in Public

The public hearings for the South and Vale Joint Local Plan took place last week.

This stage of the examination involves the appointed Planning Inspectors holding sessions to hear from the Councils and other

participants about whether the local plan is sound and has been prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements. You can [watch back the recordings of the hearings here](#).

Bulky Waste

We've started a new campaign aimed at encouraging everyone to reuse unwanted bulky items, instead of throwing them away.

Many items – such as furniture, TVs or white goods – can be repaired, donated, sold, or collected for free by local charities or retailers. By rethinking bulky waste, everyone could save money, help to reduce waste and save precious resources.

Have a look and share [our posters](#) and social media messages with your residents.

More information can be found at southandvale.gov.uk/reuse

If you have any questions or issues you would like to contact me about:

sam.casey-rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk.

Or leave a message for me on 01235 635566.