**Appendix A**

**Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of**

**the Housing and Homelessness Panel of the Scrutiny Committee**

The document sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Housing and Homelessness Panel on 07 March 2024 concerning the Allocation of Preventing Homelessness Grant 2024/25. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

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| ***Recommendation*** | ***Agree?*** | ***Comment*** |
| 1. That the Council carries forward any underspend in SWEP funds to the next financial year, specifically earmarked for SWEP to ensure financial resilience of that vital provision. | In Part | In the event of the £30,000 budget for Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) being underspent in any year, the intention would be to use this money to cover any other in-year overspends on Preventing Homelessness Grant (PHG) funded services, or to fund similar services in-year for homeless people, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Head of Financial Services (Section 151 Officer).  If there are no such pressures, an option will be to recommend to Cabinet and Council a carry forward of the budget to next year’s PHG budget to use for SWEP or other services, but this would be subject to the approval of the Head of Financial Services, who has to consider the impact on the wider Council budget. |