

# Supplement for

# Scrutiny Committee

On **Tuesday 1 July 2025** At **6.00 pm**

## Supplement to Item 6: Working Group Recommendations

### Contents

6. **Report back on recommendations and from Scrutiny  
Working Group meetings**

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At its meeting on 18 June 2025, Cabinet considered the following reports from Scrutiny and made responses to the recommendations:

- Leisure Investment Programme Update and More Leisure Service Annual Plan
- Oxford Local Plan 2042 Regulation 18 Consultation Document
- Annual Complaint Performance & Service Improvement Report

Since the Scrutiny Committee's previous meeting, the following Working Groups have met:

- Housing and Homelessness Working Group (24 June 2025)

The Committee is asked to:

1. **Note** Cabinet's responses to its recommendations.
2. **Endorse** any recommendations from Working Group meetings.

*Recommendations from meetings held after the publication of this agenda will be included in a late supplement.*

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**To:** Scrutiny Committee  
**Date:** 1 July 2025  
**Report of:** Chair of the Scrutiny Committee  
**Title of Report:** Recommendations from the Working Groups for endorsement at the Scrutiny Committee

Summary and recommendations	
<b>Decision being taken:</b>	To endorse the recommendations from the Working Groups.
<b>Key decision:</b>	No
<b>Lead Member:</b>	Chairs of the Scrutiny Working Groups
<b>Corporate Priority:</b>	A Well-Run Council
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	None

<b>Recommendation(s): That the Scrutiny Committee resolves to:</b>
1. <b>Endorse</b> the recommendations from the Climate and Environment, Housing and Homelessness, and Finance and Performance Working Groups.

Information Exempt From Publication	
N/A	N/A

Appendix No.	Appendix Title	Exempt from Publication
N/A	N/A	N/A

## Overview and Summary

1. The Scrutiny Committee is asked to endorse the recommendations from the following Working Groups held since the previous meeting:

## **Housing and Homelessness Working Group – 24 June 2025**

- National Homelessness Property Fund 1
  - Annual Review of the Housing, Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-28
2. Cabinet Members, in consultation with relevant Officers, will either, agree, agree in-part, or disagree with the recommendations. The tables below detail the Working Group's recommendations for endorsement by the Committee. No table was produced for items where no recommendations were suggested.
  3. The Housing and Homelessness Working Group would like to record:
    - Its support for the officer recommendation to roll over the Council's investments in the NHPF1 into the new "evergreen" property fund in September 2025.
    - In relation to Priority 2 of the Housing, Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy, the Working Group noted that the current target is to process only 'the majority' of property licence applications. The Group suggested that target should be to process all property licence applications.
    - The Working Group also extended their congratulations to the Housing Needs Team for being named LGC Housing Team of the Year – a well-deserved recognition of their impactful work in preventing homelessness in Oxford.
  4. The Working Groups wish to thank Cabinet Members and Officers who contributed to the presentation of reports and discussions.

### **Financial implications**

5. Financial implications for the reports listed above were outlined within the reports presented at Working Groups.

### **Legal issues**

6. Legal implications for the reports listed above were outlined within the reports presented at Working Groups.

### **Level of risk**

7. Risk Registers, where appropriate, were linked to the reports presented at Working Groups.

### **Equalities impact**

8. Equalities Impact Assessments, where appropriate, were linked to the reports presented at Working Groups.

### **Carbon and Environmental Considerations**

9. Consideration for Carbon and Environmental impacts, where appropriate, were linked to the reports presented at Working Groups.

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**Table 1 – Recommendations of the Housing and Homelessness Working Group –  
Annual Review of the Housing, Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-28**

The table below sets out the recommendations made by the Housing and Homelessness Working Group on 24 June 2025 for endorsement by the Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 1 July 2025. The Cabinet will be asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

<b><i>Recommendations</i></b>	<b><i>Agree?</i></b>	<b><i>Comment</i></b>
1) That Cabinet continue to actively lobby against changes to local government funding for homelessness services, particularly those that would result in significant funding reductions for Oxford and other local authorities with high levels of homelessness.		
2) That Council explore all available measures to safeguard tenants from unjust or revenge evictions pending the passage of the Renters' Rights Bill.		