

Requested changes to recommendations

The Committee has been asked by the report authors of the Waterways and Housing and Homelessness Strategy to consider whether it wishes to make changes to a number of the recommendations made in the reports attached for approval. On the left are those recommendations as they appear in the report, and on the right are the alternative wordings being suggested by the report authors.

Waterways

Original	Suggested
Recommendation 2: Where appropriate and relevant, council strategies and policies will be updated to reflect the contribution of the waterways to the city. For example, the Local Plan, Infrastructure Delivery Plan, Housing and Homelessness Strategy, Green Spaces Strategy and Leisure Strategy	Recommendation 2: Where appropriate and in line with our standard review processes and timescales, council strategies and policies will be updated to reflect the contribution of the waterways to the city. For example, the Local Plan, Infrastructure Delivery Plan, Housing and Homelessness Strategy, Green Spaces Strategy and Leisure Strategy.
Recommendation 3: That the importance of the City's waterways is recognised as an infrastructure asset, and consideration is given to how the Council could maintain them through capital investment, alongside that of wider partners	Recommendation 3: That the city's waterways are recognised as an infrastructure asset and consideration is given to where and when the Council should invest to support them, alongside that of wider partners.
Recommendation 4: Given the limited understanding of the diverse communities living on boats in the city, that the Council undertakes or commissions a study to develop a better understanding of the number of people living permanently on boats in the City, the varying reasons for living on boats, the provision of mooring sites and services and the suitability of existing infrastructure to support these communities.	Recommendation 4: Given the limited understanding of the diverse communities living on boats in the city, the Council considers how, together with the other key partners and communities involved, it can build a better understanding of this section of our community and identify whether there are any unmet needs which partners can work together to resolve.
Recommendation 5: That consideration is given as to how	Recommendation 5: That consideration is given as to how

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<p>the Council should best develop a policy position on the issue of boats used as housing and what roles and responsibilities the Council has, considering the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Does Cabinet agree with the Scrutiny Committee that boats should be recognised and welcomed for the contribution they currently make to housing provision in the city?2) What are the implications for the Council with regard its role as both a housing and planning authority, its legal obligations, and how this would influence wider policy and strategy matters and the role of our other partners?3) Are there sufficient mooring sites and service infrastructure and what is the Council's role in addressing any shortfalls?4) Is the infrastructure at current Council-owned sites sufficient?5) Are there opportunities for the Council to develop approaches to prioritise the allocation of moorings to those most in need?	<p>the Council should establish a position on the issue of boats as housing and what roles and responsibilities the Council has, alongside those of its partners. Consideration of the following questions may help inform this position:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Does Cabinet agree with the Scrutiny Committee that boats should be recognised and welcomed for the contribution they currently make to housing provision in the city?2) Council should consider its own roles and responsibilities, alongside those of its partners, with regard boats being used as homes. This should include seeking to understand the Council's statutory roles, such as those associated with being a housing and planning authority, also the wider legal obligations under, for example, equalities legislation.3) Working with other partners and the community, Council should consider if there are shortfalls in provision and better understand what is the Council's role, together with that of our partners, in addressing any shortfalls?4) Is the infrastructure at current Council-owned sites sufficient?5) Are there opportunities for the Council to develop approaches to prioritise the allocation of moorings to those most in need?
<p>Recommendation 6: That the Council will recognise and back through future investment opportunities to invest and regenerate the waterways within the City, particularly with a view to bringing out their contribution to local history and culture and enhancing their potential as a leisure asset.</p>	<p>Recommendation 6: As the Council works together with its partners and communities to regenerate and improve the waterways within the City, it should increase the emphasis on the contribution made to local history and culture, ensuring that this heritage is protected and enhanced wherever possible.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 8: That consideration is given to how the Council can deliver and/or support improvement initiatives on the waterways which contribute to wider efforts to combat the climate and ecological crisis</p>	<p>Recommendation 8: Council will work with its partners and communities to deliver and support improvement initiatives on the waterways which contribute to wider efforts to combat the climate and ecological crisis</p>
<p>Recommendation 9: That the Council identifies how it intends to increase access and use of the waterways by all in the city, particularly as routes for sustainable alternative transport modes such as cycling and walking, with particular consideration given to the issues at Wolvercote Lock and Hythe Bridge.</p>	<p>Recommendation 9: That the Council works with its partners and communities to promote the use and enjoyment of the waterways by all in the city, particularly as routes for sustainable alternative transport modes such as cycling and walking.</p>

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Housing and Homelessness Strategy

Original	Suggested
<p>Recommendation 3: That the Council should map its expectations of how the various arms of the Council contribute to the homelessness prevention agenda, also to include the expectations of those organisations which are under a duty to refer people under the Homelessness Reduction Act and to take actions to ensure their efficacy.</p>	<p>Recommendation 3: That the Council should make further progress on embedding homelessness prevention within all the services it delivers. This includes continuing and reinvigorating the work of the cross council Homelessness Reduction Act Project Group/Homelessness Prevention Officer Group, and ensuring this group continues to identify and deliver actions to embed prevention work across the authority.</p> <p>In addition “Tenants at Risk” meetings should continue to ensure officers from teams across the authority work together on cases to prevent homelessness.</p>

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	<p>Key partner organisations of the council also need to be supported with homelessness prevention and the “Duty to Refer”. This should be enabled through continued support of the Oxfordshire Homelessness Prevention Champions Network (a legacy of Trailblazer), which builds understanding and relationships with staff from a range of organisations in order to prevent homelessness.</p>
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