

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 Scrutiny Committee on 13 March 2023 concerning the report on the Housing, Homelessness, and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-2028. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

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Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>1) That the Council works with OX Place to consider how it might move towards having a higher percentage of new homes let at social rent level than a simple majority.</p>	<p>Partially</p>	<p>Every development by OXPlace seeks to balance the priorities given to the company by this council. These priorities are; the building of new affordable homes including most importantly homes for social rent, the building of homes with high standards of environmental sustainability, a financial return to the council to fund public services. All three of these priorities need to be carefully considered on a site by site basis when deciding on the maximum number of homes for social rent which can be delivered within the financial envelope of each OXPlace scheme.</p> <p>Our Local Plan 2016-2036 stipulates that any new development over 10 units are required to have 50% affordable units, of these 80% must be social rented. Following changes to the National Planning Practice Guidance, we amended this requirement to 75% social rented and 25% First Homes. This policy requirement for social rented units is one of the highest in the Country, demonstrating our priority to provide more homes at social rent.</p> <p>Planners are currently considering responses to the new Local Plan 2040 Preferred Options consultation and have undertaken recent work on housing viability. This new plan will set out future requirements for the level of social rented accommodation required for all new development schemes.</p>

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