

Appendix A

Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

The document sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee on 06 November 2023 concerning the Central (City & University) Conservation Area Appraisal. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
<p>1) That the Council would encourage the use of modern windows and other retrofitting measures on historic buildings where appropriate, and the relevant documents are signposted within the report.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Add to the third bullet point under Step 9: Sustainability and Climate Change in the Design Advice (page 95 of the appraisal; page 101 of the Cabinet Agenda Pack) as follows [new text in bold]:</p> <p>“As a broad principle, historic features should be retained wherever possible, this does not mean that buildings cannot be made more energy efficient however, for example historic window frames and glass should be retained because they contribute strongly to the character and appearance of the conservation and historic building, but options such as careful maintenance, draft proofing or secondary glazing can offer real but sensitive benefits. Where buildings have poor performing modern, or unsympathetic replacement windows, consideration should be given to their replacement with new high-performance windows of a suitable appearance, such as double-glazed or vacuum-glazed timber sash windows. This can benefit both the building’s character and its energy performance.”</p> <p>Also add a further web link to Historic England guidance: Historic England guidance on retrofitting to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ page 95 of the Appraisal (page 101 of the Cabinet Agenda Pack) in the section on ‘Sustainability and Climate Change’; and:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Also under suggestions for 'Further Reading' at section 8.3 of the Appraisal (page 108 of the Cabinet Agenda Pack) <p>to ensure this advice note and expert guidance is easy to find.</p>
2) That the Council amend the appraisal to welcome applications that would make private green spaces more accessible to the public.	Yes	<p>Add an additional recommendation (a third bullet point) for Section 7.3 in the Management Plan) page 69 of the Appraisal and page 75 of the Cabinet Agenda Pack), which concerns 'Streets, public spaces and green and blue space' as follows:</p> <p>'Support applications that would provide greater public accessibility to private green spaces'.</p>