

Appendix A
Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of
the Finance and Performance Panel of the Scrutiny Committee

The document sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Finance and Performance Panel on 06 December 2023 concerning the Integrated Performance Report Q2 2023-24. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

| <i>Recommendation</i> | <i>Agree?</i> | <i>Comment</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) That the Council produces a summary document which clearly sets out all of the possible options available to the Council for reducing Temporary Accommodation costs, alongside the advantages and disadvantages of those options. | Yes | Officers will prepare a document on the options for reducing temporary accommodation costs as requested. |
| 2) That the Council challenges the optimism bias assumptions applied to initial assumptions within capital and revenue programmes, with a view to arriving at more realistic assumptions and avoiding the current high degree of slippage going forward. | Yes | Within the Council's budget papers to be considered at Cabinet on 13 December 2023 officers have included an 'optimism bias' of 40% against project costs included in the capital programme. This methodology is recognised in the HM Treasury Green Book on how to appraise programmes and projects and will effectively reduce the overall capital programme to allow for slippage. |

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