

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 16 January 2024 concerning the Draft Corporate Strategy 2024-28 for Consultation. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

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Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1) That the Council undertakes a comparative analysis to clearly set out what has changed between the current Corporate Strategy 2020-24 and the draft Corporate Strategy 2024-28 as a result of prioritisation.		This work will be done as part of our response to the LGA peer review.
2) That the Council incorporates references to community wealth building, or appropriate alternative language which reflects the principles of community wealth building, within the draft Corporate Strategy 2024-28 – to include explicit use of the phrase ‘shortened supply chains’ within the ‘Strong, Inclusive Economy’ section.		The Corporate Strategy has been drafted to avoid the use of jargon or terms that are not widely understood by a general audience. We believe our commitments reflect some of the key principles of community wealth building in appropriate alternative language, in particular on the Oxford Living Wage, local economic development in disadvantaged areas, and using our procurement power to support local businesses, apprenticeships and better public spaces. We have consulted with the procurement team on including a reference to ‘shortened supply chains’. We believe that this is already implicit in our commitment to strengthening local supply chains, but we are unable to mandate or enforce shortened supply chains in our procurement. As part of strengthening our work with local businesses, we hold ‘meet the buyer’ events and ‘how to tender’ workshops primarily targeted at local businesses. On high-value contracts we ask bidders to detail their reliance on sub-contractors and name them.
3) That the Council includes wording under the priorities within the ‘Zero Carbon Oxford’ section along the lines of		We believe the commitments to work with partners to reduce building emissions across the city, and the

<p>'working in partnership with other institutions in Oxford to ensure a joined-up approach to tackling emissions'.</p>		<p>commitment to work with partners on a Local Area Energy Plan to reduce emissions, amount to a commitment to a joined-up approach to tackling emissions while also giving more concrete and measurable actions.</p>
<p>4) That the Council includes a glossary of key terms used throughout the Corporate Strategy 2024-28 in the final document.</p>		<p>This will be included in the final published documents in June 2024.</p>
<p>5) That the Council draws out and emphasises the interaction and interconnectivity between the priorities of the Corporate Strategy 2024-28 within the foreword of the final document.</p>		<p>That was always the intention and will be included in the final published documents in June 2024.</p>