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 Housing and Homelessness Panel on 05 December 2023 concerning the City of Sanctuary Accreditation. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
That the Council advocates for safe legal routes into the United Kingdom for those fleeing war, conflict and/or persecution during Refugee Week and more broadly on an ongoing basis, linking in with the lobbying element of the City of Sanctuary Accreditation work.	Yes	We agree that it is vital for the Council to advocate for safe legal routes into the United Kingdom for those fleeing war, conflict and/or persecution during Refugee Week and more broadly on an ongoing basis. The Council has supported refugee resettlement for a number of years and continues to do so. In July 2023 the Council made a voluntary commitment to resettle 8 households per year for the next five years. The Council of Sanctuary action plan and associated report, planned for next year will expand on how the Council will go further to create a more welcoming & inclusive City and this will be reported via the Cabinet and Full Council process. It will also include how the Council intends to work with the City of Sanctuary charity on key policy issues to enable positive change more broadly.

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