

Appendix A
Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of
the Climate and Environment Panel of the Scrutiny Committee

The document sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Climate and Environment Panel on 27 February 2024 concerning the Citywide Retrofit Strategy item presented at the meeting. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

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Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
1) That the Council incorporates all non-residential Council-owned buildings within the scope of the Citywide Retrofit Strategy and includes an approach within the strategy and associated action plan to ensure improvements in energy efficiency of all non-residential Council-owned buildings regardless of whether or not the Council pays the energy bill.	In Part	Officers are currently assessing the value in creating a Citywide Retrofit Strategy, incorporated under the Council itself or the Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership. Action planning associated with such a strategy would need to include all non-residential Council-owned buildings regardless of whether or not the Council pays the energy bill. However, the significant uncertainty over the retrofit methodologies, financing and timelines for works – in particular those required for the Council’s commercial and community assets - mean it will be some time before such an action plan could be developed.
2) That the Council ensures appropriate internal expertise in relevant service areas to drive forward projects and actions to achieve the Council’s net zero ambitions where it has direct control in order to release additional capacity and resource within the Environmental Sustainability team to enable the continuation of its transition towards driving forward areas of work where the Council has influence and can shape and enable	Yes	Officers in Environmental Sustainability, Corporate Property, Property Services and OX Place – are working closely together and with other teams to ensure retrofit is built into the Council’s ‘business as usual’ maintenance and property improvement works, and that zero carbon approaches will be applied where possible across new build.

collaboration across the City to facilitate the achievement of the City's broader net zero ambitions.		
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