

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 of the Scrutiny Committee on 26 March 2024 concerning the Integrated Performance Report Q3 2023/24. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) That the Council undertakes a comparative analysis of the current overall slippage of the Capital Programme and how that aligns with the 40% optimism bias assumptions included in the MTFP 2024/25 to 2027/28, to understand the extent to which the 40% optimism bias assumptions from 2024/25 are realistic.	Yes	A briefing note will be prepared for finance panel once the year end figures are known for 2023-24.
2) That the Council undertakes an analysis in relation to the letting of Council-owned property between estimated time taken to let properties versus actual time taken to let properties, with a view to being able to incorporate more accurate assumptions in the budget going forward.	Yes	<p>This analysis is already undertaken. Some information can be provided now but a further briefing note can be provided if required.</p> <p>The rental income forecast for the Budget are now undertaken on a property-by-property basis over the four year term with an annual reforecast. On the base portfolio, they are accurate. Last year we saw circa £12k differential on £10.2m of income.</p> <p>Where we have more complex transactions, they do come with a higher risk and forecasting can be more challenging. In order to ensure the forecast is as accurate as possible we use market intelligence and also external advice where appropriate and the assumptions used to model the income are cautious.</p> <p>The Council is only ever in control of 50% of the</p>

		transaction and there are a number of external factors which can cause either an abortive or delayed transaction. The forecasts are reviewed quarterly to monitor this and any subsequent impact on the Budget.
3) That the Council reassesses corporate and service area risks to ensure accuracy of the number and classification of risks, with particular consideration given as to whether the two corporate risks relating to climate change should be merged into one risk and whether the service area risk related to Hinksey Heated Outdoor Pool should be reduced to an amber risk.	Yes	With the on boarding of the new Leisure contractor further mitigations have been put in place at the Hinksey Heated Outdoor pool. This will result in the risk being lowered to amber. The presentation of the climate change risks will be considered by the Head of Corporate Strategy for the next iteration of the risk register presented to Cabinet.
4) That the Council ensures clarity in future Integrated Performance reports in relation to the period covered by Key Performance Indicator reporting.	Yes	This amendment will be incorporated into future Integrated Performance Reports.