

Overview & Scrutiny Recommendation Response Pro forma

Under section 9FE of the Local Government Act 2000, Overview and Scrutiny Committees must require the Cabinet or local authority to respond to a report or recommendations made thereto by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such a response must be provided within two months from the date on which it is requested¹ and, if the report or recommendations in questions were published, the response also must be so.

This template provides a structure which respondents are encouraged to use. However, respondents are welcome to depart from the suggested structure provided the same information is included in a response. The usual way to publish a response is to include it in the agenda of a meeting of the body to which the report or recommendations were addressed.

Issue: City Centre Accommodation Strategy

Lead Cabinet Member(s): Cllr Dan Levy, Cabinet Member for Finance

Date response requested:² 23 January 2024

Response to report:

Enter text here.

Response to recommendations:

Recommendation	Accepted, rejected or partially accepted	Proposed action (if different to that recommended) and indicative timescale (unless rejected)
That the Council produces a vision document and plan, detailing its	Y	The Council will produce a vision document and plan setting County Hall and Speedwell House, and the opportunities they

¹ Date of the meeting at which report/recommendations were received

² Date of the meeting at which report/recommendations were received

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<p>understanding of ‘social value’ and ‘regeneration’, its priorities for place-shaping, the opportunities it sees, and the steps it will take to see those priorities realised throughout the implementation of the strategy as part of the report for the Cabinet’s next decision on the sales of either County Hall or Speedwell House.</p>		<p>provide for regeneration, placeshaping and delivery of social value, in the context of the wider regeneration of Oxford City centre, especially the West End of Oxford.</p> <p>This document will frame the vision for County Hall and Speedwell House within the existing planning policy framework of the City and will highlight policies effecting their future use and development. This document will also inform and assist the marketing and sale of County Hall.</p> <p>The Council already has a clearly defined understanding of ‘social value’ in procurement which is determined and measured through the use of the Social Value Portal ‘Social Value 101’. Social Value is measured by the Council through the portal using the TOM System which stands for ‘Themes, Outcomes and Measures’ which align with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>Social Value as measured through the portal is already embedded in the Council’s approach to Speedwell House through its procurement of contractors and through the evolution of its design and development.</p>
<p>That the Council has a clear understanding over potential future consolidation of current staff buildings into Speedwell House when determining its floorspace needs.</p>	Y	<p>The provision of adequate floorspace for services from buildings being consolidated into Speedwell House has been considered at length. The size and layout of Speedwell House reflects the future staff needs identified in the PwC City Centre Accommodation Report and as further evolved through additional studies.</p>

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	<p>The Outline Business Case for the City Centre Accommodation Strategy (approved at Cabinet on 23rd January 2024) sets out the strategy, confirming that "...work was undertaken with HR Business Partners to confirm the number of colleagues currently based and/or working from the in-scope city centre sites. It is accepted that this analysis provides sufficient accuracy to inform planning assumptions at OBC stage... In summary, the in-scope workforce data identifies a total of 1,298 FTEs working at a ratio of 3 workpoints/seats to every 10 FTE. This indicates a space requirement of approximately 3,500m² assuming 9m² per workpoint/seat".</p> <p>The space at Speedwell House will be designed for agile working and will be flexible and multi-functional, allowing areas to be used throughout the day and evenings, for different uses, including additional collaboration/meeting space.</p> <p>The designs will allow space to be used differently in the future as needs evolve and will be flexible enough to allow opportunities with partner community organisations to be pursued.</p>
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