

Cabinet Response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Board – Budget Monitoring – Revenue and Capital Outturn 2025/26 Quarter 4

Recommendation 1:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend to Cabinet that the year-end underspend be allocated, with 50% transferred to the Adult Social Care Transformation Reserve and 50% allocated to support cleaning in secondary and community shopping areas.

Response:

Cabinet has carefully considered the recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Board regarding the use of any surplus arising from the 2025/2026 financial year outturn.

However, Cabinet does not accept this recommendation.

Full Council, at its meeting on 26 February 2026, agreed as part of the 2026/2027 budget setting report that:

“Any underspend from the current financial year (2025/2026) will be considered for allocation into priority areas, which take into account the consultation results on the 2026/2027 budget.”

In developing the 2026/2027 budget, the Council also took account of a range of engagement and evidence, including feedback from the budget consultation process, the Overview and Scrutiny Board, and the December 2025 residents’ survey.

Cabinet remains committed to this agreed approach. Any surplus identified at outturn will therefore be considered in line with this Council-approved framework, ensuring that decisions on allocation are aligned with agreed corporate priorities and informed by the outcomes of the budget consultation process and wider resident feedback.

In light of this existing resolution, Cabinet considers that no further action is required in response to the recommendation.