

Cabinet – 26 November 2025

Notice of Recommendation from the Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 2 April 2025 for provision to Cabinet meeting of 26 November 2025.

Action required – for consideration by Cabinet and publication of a response within 2 months of 26 November 2025.

Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee Agenda Item 8 – Recommendations from the Safer Accommodation Strategy Working Group.

The Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed the following recommendation to Cabinet on this item:

RESOLVED that the Environment and Place O&S Committee recommend to Cabinet

1. That as part of the Safe Accommodation Strategy development, officers consider an awareness campaign and/or guidance materials on the different types of financial support that are available to support those fleeing domestic abuse, in particular in relation to different types of housing tenure (e.g. shared tenancies, joint mortgages), in order to break down a potentially significant barrier to survivors accessing support to end their abuse.

2. That the engagement plan for the Safe Accommodation Strategy should ensure that the voices of those with lived experience are heard and reflected within the Strategy.

3. That an all councillor briefing session be added to the Safe Accommodation Strategy engagement plan, to ensure members are adequately informed about the strategy and able to contribute views, and to enable them to fulfil their role within the community by communicating the benefits of the Safe Accommodation Strategy to residents.

4.a) that the provision of safe accommodation and associated commissioning process be reviewed,

b) that scrutiny members be invited to review and input into this review, prior to the commencement of commissioning, through an additional meeting of this working group.

5. That the use of temporary accommodation be continuously reviewed and specific KPIs be established for monitoring the success of the new safe accommodation model, including occupancy rates, length of stay, outcomes for survivors (e.g., successful move-on to permanent housing), and survivor satisfaction. These KPIs should be reviewed regularly by the relevant scrutiny committee to ensure accountability and transparency.

6. That Cabinet, with the support of the council's Corporate Management Board, be requested to take a view on forthcoming decisions that may be of significant or

contentious public impact, regardless of decision-making thresholds, and an all councillor briefing be held before any such decisions are made, to enable all councillors, and particularly ward councillors, to be properly informed.

(Unanimous Decision)