

Executive response to recommendations of the Corporate O&S Committee MTFs Working Group report

	Comments and Recommendations of the Corporate O&S Committee	Cabinet Member	Cabinet's Response - Comments
R1	<p>Plan B - that Cabinet considers preparing a contingency plan to refer to if Plan A goes off track. Not a replacement but a plan that offers an alternative to compliment the risk-based approach on what we know so far 2024-26, assumptions from five-year trend and performance data. With so many uncertainties in the coming years, combined with some significant risks, it would be useful to have the assurance from Cabinet that a Plan B exists.</p>	<p>Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources</p> <p>Accept</p>	<p>Further detail: Current position, plans and timeline Resource implication</p> <p>Cabinet have considered the risks and financial uncertainties and have set a Contingency budget at £15m for 2024/25 which is a reasonable sum to set aside to meet unknown pressures, should they emerge. In considering the level of reserves and their use to support the MTFs, the risks have been taken into account and the use of reserves is sustainable in the medium term. In the longer term, Cabinet are recommending that services begin to identify savings and transformation in order to ensure the budget can be balanced in future.</p>
R2	<p>Children's Transformation - that the Children's Transformation programme continues at pace and delivers a reduction in numbers of children in our care, in line with the assumptions in the MTFs. It is recommended that Cabinet and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive quarterly</p>	<p>Cabinet Members for Children and Young People and Finance and Resources</p>	<p>Cabinet is closely monitoring the Children's Transformation programme, dashboard monitoring performance is shared with the Children's Improvement Board and Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny where an overview of performance is provided and corrective actions being taken. The additional items requested will be considered for inclusion within the reports.</p>

	<p>monitoring as part of the integrated performance updates, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. High-level dashboard monitoring of the transformation programmes performance. b. Exception reporting and corrective actions planned. c. A breakdown of the target savings against delivery dates 		
R3	<p>SEND Transport – that Cabinet be requested to inject more pace to move forward on SEND transport work and encourage exploring new ways to engage with parents to find provision for their child nearer to home.</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)</p>	<p>Cabinet are monitoring the financial forecast and progress against reviewing the SEND Transport service closely. Actions to increase efficiency of route planning, increasing vehicle occupancy have been supported and impact is being monitored.</p>
R4	<p>EHCP Guidance – that Cabinet be requested to challenge the lack of clarity in the guidance when determining EHCP’s and make representation to the Secretary of State for Education to review policy and guidance in the interests of clarity and consistency in EHCP process.</p>	<p>Leader and Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)</p>	<p>Lobbying the government over the guidance surrounding EHCPs will be considered and may be incorporated into future lobbying undertaken by Cabinet.</p>

	Comments and Recommendations of the Corporate O&S Committee	Cabinet Member Accept/ accept in part /Do not accept	Cabinet's Response - Comments Further detail: Current position, plans and timeline Resource implication
	The Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee have issued a number of recommendations in their report to Cabinet on Carbon Sequestration and Woodland Creation. This report was presented to Cabinet on 17 th January 2024.		Whilst formal responses to the recommendations on carbon sequestration and woodland creation will be provided, the MTFS does include provision for investments in Countryside and the environment around Chasewater and Cannock Chase in particular plus investment in tree planting.