

Management response form



Report title: Financial Sustainability

Completion date: [\[date\]](#)

Document reference: [\[insert reference here\]](#)

Ref	Recommendation	Management response Please set out here relevant commentary on the planned actions in response to the recommendations	Completion date Please set out by when the planned actions will be complete	Responsible officers (title)
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R1	<p>There are weaknesses in how the Council identifies savings. To change this, the Council should:</p> <p>1.1 work with officers and Members to develop arrangements for identifying savings of a scale that can impact on its identified budget gap from a range of sources; and</p> <p>1.2 develop and implement arrangements to identify and evaluate the impact of these savings on services and service users.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>As set out in the MTFS update report the Council acknowledges that it has a serious and major budget challenge due to significantly reduced national funding and the scale of historic cost reductions already taken over the last decade.</p> <p>A Transformation Programme is being developed with governance and resourcing arrangements now agreed. The programme will be prioritised and the early emphasis will be on maximising cost reduction opportunities in areas such as digital, use of assets and service transformation. The Programme will be undertaken and developed through engagement with both officers and members.</p> <p>The impacts and consequences of cost reduction proposals will be subject to formal impact assessments and appropriate consultation with service users</p>	<p>Phased programme of activity within the Transformation Programme in conjunction with budget setting for 2025/26 and beyond.</p> <p>Delivery of a legal and balanced budget by March 2025</p>	<p>Neal Cockerton (Chief Executive)</p> <p>Gary Ferguson (Corporate Finance Manager)</p>
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