

Date of meeting:	09 February 2026
Title of Report:	<b>Cabinet Response to Budget Scrutiny Recommendations</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader)
Lead Strategic Director:	David Northey (Interim Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Jamie Sheldon (Democratic, Governance and Scrutiny Service Manager)
Contact Email:	Jamie.sheldon@plymouth.gov.uk
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

### **Purpose of Report**

To present Cabinet's response to the 19 budget scrutiny recommendations made by Scrutiny Management Board following sessions on 21, 22 and 28 January 2026.

### **Recommendations and Reasons**

That Cabinet:

1. Approves the responses to the budget scrutiny recommendations as set out in Appendix A.

*Reason: The Constitution requires Cabinet to respond to scrutiny recommendations*

2. Notes its thanks to Scrutiny Management Board for the budget scrutiny undertaken.

*Reason: Recognises the Board's constructive engagement in the budget setting process*

### **Alternative options considered and rejected**

None - The Constitution requires Cabinet to respond to scrutiny recommendations as part of the budget setting process. Failure to respond would undermine the scrutiny function and the principles of good governance.

### **Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan**

Budget scrutiny is an essential part of the Council's budget setting process. Responding to scrutiny recommendations demonstrates the Council's commitment to:

**Democracy** - valuing scrutiny's role in examining budget proposals and responding transparently to recommendations

**Responsibility** - carefully considering the impact of budget decisions and acting on scrutiny's identification of risks

**Co-operation** - working collaboratively between Cabinet and scrutiny to achieve better outcomes.

### Implications for the Medium-Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications

Recommendations within the report impact on the 2026/27 budget and subject to the response from Cabinet could have impact on future years budgets within the scope of the current Medium Term Financial Strategy.

### Financial Risks

There are no risks resulting from this report. The Budget report itself sets out the resources and costs and identified financial risks.

### Legal Implications

The Constitution requires Cabinet to respond to scrutiny recommendations. Responding to budget scrutiny recommendations is part of the Council's constitutional framework for budget setting.

### Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

There are no environmental implications as a direct result of this report

### Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

*\* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

None.

### Appendices

*\*Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Cabinet Response to Budget Scrutiny Recommendations							

### Background papers:

*\*Add rows as required to box below*

*Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.*

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)
----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------

	<i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

**Sign off:**

Fin	DN.2 5.26.0 16	Leg	LS/0 0003 197/ 42/L B/06/ 02/2 6	Mon Off		HR		Asset s		Strat Proc	
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Northey (Interim Service Director for Finance/ S151 Officer)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 06/02/2026											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council)											
Date approved: 06/02/2026											