

Cabinet

14 January 2026

REPORT OF PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB- COMMITTEE

Subject Heading:

Comments of Place Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee following Pre-Decision Scrutiny of Mercury Land Holdings (MLH) and the Regeneration Plans

SLT Lead:

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Policy context:

The report deals with a statutory process.

Financial summary:

There is no significant financial impact from the statutory process as these requirements are being met by existing budgets.

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

Places Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee – Comments to Cabinet following pre-decision scrutiny of Mercury Land Holdings (MLH) and Regeneration Business Plans, 27 January 2026

The Place Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee submit the following comments for response by Cabinet at its meeting on 28 January 2026:

Mercury Land Holdings Business Plan

1. An explicit commitment should be given in the MLH Business Plan that MLH will not sell units direct to another Council.
2. Further information should be provided to Members on the impact of MLH developments on lowering the demand for temporary accommodation. The Sub-Committee supports the intention of officers to develop a dashboard to illustrate this.
3. The commitment of MLH to support the Council's Social Values Strategy should be stated more explicitly in the MLH Business Plan.

All Business Plans

4. Given their length and complexity, the Sub-Committee requests that the Business Plans are in future brought for scrutiny at an earlier stage with drafts presented in December if possible. The SubCommittee appreciates however the pressures on officers and that elements of this timescale may be outside of officers' control.