



Mayor and Cabinet

Comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Asset Management

Date: 8 May 2024

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1.

Ward(s) affected: All (none specific)

Contributor: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Outline and recommendations

This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, arising from discussions on Asset Management.

Mayor and Cabinet is asked to consider the Committee's comments and ask the relevant officers to provide a response.

1. Summary

- 1.1. On Tuesday 18 March, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) considered a report from officers on Asset Management (link to the [report](#)) The Committee reflected on the contents of the report – and asked questions of officers. Following the discussion, the Committee agreed to refer its views to Mayor and Cabinet.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. Mayor and Cabinet (M&C) is asked to consider the Committee's comments and ask the relevant officers to provide a response.

3. Overview and Scrutiny Committee views

- 3.1. The Constitution sets out that, upon being advised by the Executive Director for the Directorate using a property that it is surplus to the requirements of that Directorate, the Executive Director for Place may, following consultation with other Directorates as to any alternative use for the property, *and having first informed the ward members in which the property is situated*, declare the property surplus to corporate requirements and authorise its disposal, if no alternative use is identified by Directorates, provided that the estimated value of the property does not exceed £500,000.

- 3.2. Disposals above the value of £500,000 (and any disposals where the proposed sale price is below market value) are subject to the agreement of Mayor and Cabinet and ward members are also informed.
- 3.3. Following a vote (6 in favour, 2 not in favour), the Committee agreed to request that members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are notified of any disposals at the same time that the members representing the ward in which the property is situated, are informed.

4. Financial implications

- 4.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report. However, there may be implications arising from their implementation of the Committee's recommendations. These will need to be considered as part of the response.

5. Legal implications

- 5.1. The Constitution provides for select committees to refer reports to the Mayor and Cabinet, who are obliged to consider the report and the proposed response from the relevant Executive Director; and report back to the Committee within two months (not including recess).

6. Equalities implications

- 6.1. Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 6.2. The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 6.3. There are no direct equalities implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report.

7. Climate change and environmental implications

- 7.1. There are no direct climate change or environmental implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report. However, in February 2019 Lewisham Council declared a Climate Emergency and proposed a target to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030. Asset Management will play a key role in this agenda.

8. Crime and disorder implications

- 8.1. There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report.

9. Health and wellbeing implications

- 9.1. There are no direct health and wellbeing implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report. There may be implications arising from the implementation of the Committee's recommendations – these will need to be considered in the response.

10. Report author and contact

If you have any questions about this report, then please contact: Charlotte Dale
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