

Mayor and Cabinet			
Report Title	Comments of Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward	All		
Contributors	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee		
Class	Part 1	Date	11 July 2012

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report presents the views and comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee arising from the Riots Communities and Victims Panel – Final Report item that was discussed at the 9th May 2012 meeting.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Mayor is recommended to:

- (a) Note the views and recommendation of the Committee set out in the section 3
- (b) Agree that the Executive Director for Community Services be asked to respond to the Committee's comments.
- (c) Ensure that a response is provided to the Select Committee

3. Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee Views

- 3.1 On 9th May 2012 the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee discussed the Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report after it was referred to the Committee by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their February meeting.
- 3.2 The Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee would like to make the following comments to the Mayor and Cabinet:
- 3.3 There was a disconnect between the hard sentencing that took place in the immediate aftermath of the riots in August 2011 and the wider ranging nuanced overview that is laid out in the report. There has been a lack of public debate over the way that sentencing policy seemed to be set aside at this time and the Committee welcomes a discussion of this issue at the Safer Lewisham Partnership
- 3.4 There is a lack of clarity as to whether the recommendations in the report will be implemented either at a local or national level.
- 3.5 Concern was raised over the concept of responsible capitalism, with the Committee questioning whether this a realistic aim, specifically with regard to recommendation 33 which aims 'to promote Shareholder Participation schemes which give

employees a stake in the businesses within which they work the Panel calls for the Government's responsible capitalism work to focus on shareholder participation. It should be a priority to support businesses who take this approach'.

- 3.6 The Committee also raised concerns over the phrase 'character attributes' when used in the report as it assumes character attributes needed for success are widely understood and uniform. In addition some of the use of language in the report could be viewed as pejorative, specifically the phrase 'usual suspects'.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se, although the financial implications of accepting the Committee's recommendations will need to be considered.

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 The Council works to eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment, promote equality of opportunity and good relations between different groups in the community and recognise and take account of people's differences.

7. Crime and Disorder/Environmental Implications

- 7.1 There are no specific implications.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Riots Communities and Victims Panel Final Report

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Andrew Hagger, Scrutiny Manager (0208 3149446), or Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee (0208 3149327).