

Mayor and Cabinet			
Title	Comments of the Children and Young People Select Committee on Raising the Participation Age		
Contributors	Children and Young People Select Committee	Item No.	
Class	Part 1	Date	3 December 2014

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Children and Young People Select Committee, arising from discussions held on the officer report entitled Lewisham's Preparations for the Raising of the Participation Age, considered at its meeting on 12 November 2014.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Mayor is recommended to note the views of the Children and Young People Select Committee as set out in section three of this referral and agree that the Executive Director for Children and Young People provide a response.

3. Children and Young People Select Committee views

- 3.1 On 12 November 2014, the Children and Young People Select Committee considered a report entitled Lewisham's Preparations for the Raising of the Participation Age.
- 3.2 The Committee highlighted information in the report that showed that raising the participation age has significantly increased the scope of the responsibilities that rest with the local authority, with the expectation that it will be delivered within existing resources. The Committee were concerned that this represents an extra cost pressure for the Council at a time of severely restricted resources.
- 3.3 The Committee raised concerns about the risks to delivering activities around increasing the participation of young people in education, employment or training that could arise from changes to the youth service, including the restructure of the way the service is delivered and budget reductions. The Committee sought reassurance that these risks had been identified and that proposed changes would not impact on the capability of the Council in delivering its statutory duties around the participation of young people in education, employment or training.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se; but there may financial implications arising from carrying out the action proposed by the Committee.

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).

Background papers

Lewisham's Preparations for the Raising of the Participation Age - Meeting of the Children and Young People Select Committee, 12 November 2014

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Andrew Hagger, Scrutiny Manager (ext. 49446) or Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee(0208 3149327).