

Mayor and Cabinet			
Title	Comments of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service		
Contributors	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Item No.	
Class	Part 1	Date	18 May 2016

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet meeting of the comments and views of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, arising from discussions held on the officer report entitled Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service at its meeting on 14 April 2016.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Mayor and Cabinet are recommended to note the views of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee as set out in this referral and ask the Executive Directors for Community Services and Resources and Regeneration to provide a response for Mayoral consideration.

3. Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee views

- 3.1 On 14 April 2016, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered a report entitled Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service. The Committee resolved to advise Mayor and Cabinet of the following:
- 3.2 The Committee was concerned about the depleted resources available to the environmental services including those areas dealing with contaminated land. The Committee sought assurances that adequate resources have been put in place to both minimise the risk of a major incident occurring and, should a major incident occur, that sufficient resources are in place to respond given the potentially serious consequences.
- 3.3 The Committee was also concerned about the increased reliance by the service on external agencies to provide advice and support to residents (such as Consumer Advice). The Committee specifically highlighted the dependence on organisations in the voluntary sector in light of reducing budgets in both the voluntary sector and public sector more generally.
- 3.4 The Committee noted the good work done by the new Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service (CER) and the Environmental Health Service during and following reorganisation. The Committee felt this work should be adequately supported by a dedicated communications strategy as well as general support from the Council's communications service, especially with regards to information on the service being available in one place on the Council's website.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se; but there may be 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

[Review of Lewisham's Crime, Enforcement & Regulation Service \(CER\) and the Environmental Health Service](#) at the meeting of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on 14 April 2016.

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Simone van Elk, Scrutiny Manager (0208 3146441).