1. Summary

1.1 This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Sustainable Development Select Committee, arising from discussions held on the Sustainable Development Select Committee review of the Catford regeneration programme Interim report and Creative Lewisham 2001 report considered at its meeting on 29 June 2016.

2. Recommendation

2.1 Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the views of the Sustainable Development Select Committee as set out in this report and ask the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration to provide a response.

3. Sustainable Development Select Committee’s views

3.1 On 29 June 2016, the Sustainable Development Select Committee considered the Catford regeneration programme Interim report and Creative Lewisham 2001 report. The Committee resolved to advise Mayor and Cabinet of the following:

3.2 The Committee commends the Creative Lewisham 2001 report to Mayor and Cabinet, and particularly its call for a vision for urban developments in the borough and its call for high ambitions.

3.3 The Committee endorses the comments from the Lewisham Culture & Urban Development Commission’s report about the benefits of a piazza in the centre of Catford:

3.4 “The square’s main café will be a central meeting point and the library will put on events, often outside, which give a sense that libraries are innovative. The Council’s offices, as a consequence, will become for citizens ‘our place’ and the interactions between ordinary people and officials will happen often by chance encounter. St Modwen’s shopping centre will have had a dramatic overhaul having decided that, with these new developments, it can no longer hang back. The market will wend itself round into the square by putting on niche markets to appeal to varied tastes. The route down from the station will feel processional engender a sense of expectation of what is to come. The setting of the Catford stations will be vastly improved so making arrival a joyful experience and the open spaces will not feel cut off by fencing, and will at special moments become an entertainments venue relating well to what is going on in the square. At night the lighting of major civic buildings will create a feeling of drama.” (Creative Lewisham: the report of the Lewisham Culture & Urban Development Commission, page 39).
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).

6. Further implications

6.1 At this stage there are no specific environmental, equalities or crime and disorder implications to consider. However, there may be implications arising from the implementation of the Committee’s recommendations.

Background documents

Reports to Sustainable Development Select Committee, 29 June 2016,
Item 10: Sustainable Development Select Committee review of Catford regeneration programme Interim report

Item 11: Creative Lewisham 2001 report

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