

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Matters Referred by the Public Accounts Select Committee – Review of Community Services	
Key Decision	No	Item No. 11
Ward	All	
Contributors	Public Accounts Select Committee	
Class	Part 1	Date: 5 September 2007

1. Summary

This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments/views of the Public Accounts Select Committee arising from its Review of Community Services. These are set out in section 3 below.

2. Recommendations

The Mayor is recommended to:

- (i) note the views of Public Accounts Select Committee as set out in section 3; and
- (ii) agree that the Executive Directors for Community Services and Resources be asked to comment and provide advice on the views and recommendations of the select committee.

3. Public Accounts Select Committees Views

On 2 July 2007, the Public Accounts Select Committee received a report on its review of Community Services. The Public Accounts Select Committee agreed to recommend that:

- (i) the Cabinet member for Community Services take regular reports on the Directorate's progress in tackling the key areas for improvements in costs and efficiency identified through its strategic budget review, including:
 - targeting of resources and services on those in greatest need
 - completion of the planned review of charging policy in 2007/8 (subject to the outcome of current consultation)
 - reduction of contract rates through smarter purchasing of residential care

- changes to staffing levels and skills mix in Adults Teams.
- (ii) the Cabinet member for Community Services give some attention to specific ways in which adult social care services might become more efficient through extra provision of cost-effective but popular services. These might include accelerating the planned development of an appropriate range of supported accommodation (including more extra-care housing) with a corresponding reduction in spend on residential care; and increasing the uptake of the direct payments method of service provision.

4. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report. However, subsequent financial implications arising from the recommendations of the select committee will be reported in the response of the relevant Executive Director(s) to Mayor and Cabinet.

5. Legal Implications

The Constitution provides for the Select Committees to report to the Mayor and Cabinet and for the Executive to consider the report within one month of receiving it.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Review of Community Services

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Fola Beckley, 020 8314 9976 or Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business and Committee, 020 8314 9327.