

Sustainable Development Select Committee		
Report Title	Response from Mayor and Cabinet to matters referred by the Sustainable Development Select Committee – Empty Properties.	
Key Decision	No	Item No 7.
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Resources (Senior Committee Manager)	
Class	Part 1	Date: 3 February 2010

1. Summary

This report inform members of the response given by the Mayor to a report of a review of Empty Properties undertaken by the Sustainable Development Select Committee.

2. Purpose of the Report

To report to members a Mayoral response to recommendations made by the Sustainable Development Select Committee on a review of Empty Properties.

3. Recommendation

The Sustainable Development Select Committee is recommended to receive the Mayoral response.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Mayor considered the attached report entitled 'Response matters referred by the Sustainable Development Select Committee on the Review of Empty Properties at a Mayor & Cabinet meeting held on December 2 2009.

5. Mayoral Response

- 5.1 The Mayor received the report and noted that Lewisham have acclaimed much success on empty properties. The Executive Director of Customer Services said that they were doing all they could with the resources available. The Mayor asked if the problem was likely to get worse with the recession, it was noted that this would not be the case.
- 5.2 The Mayor said that he would like to congratulate all those who had been involved with the work and commented that although the numbers may not seem a lot, but in comparison with other local authorities Lewisham had done very well.

The following recommendations were then agreed.

i) the contents of the report be noted, and officers proceed with proposals that are completely affordable and immediately self-financing, subject to the normal decision making process.

(ii) the possibility that additional resources may be available from the South East London Housing Partnership be noted, and officers to pursue this option; and

(iii) the excellent results achieved so far on current resources be noted, and specific proposals that require additional Capital expenditure be considered as part of the normal budget process.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Minutes of the Mayor & Cabinet meeting December 2 2009.

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Olga Cole, Senior Committee Manager, 0208 314 8577.