



Mayor and Cabinet

Report title: Overview and Scrutiny Committee - requests for further information

Date: 5 March 2020

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Executive Director for Corporate Services (Scrutiny Manager)

Outline and recommendations

This report informs Mayor and Cabinet of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's requests for further information arising from the question and answer session with Cabinet Members, held on 5 March 2020. The Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the requests of the committee and agree to provide a response.

- Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the requests for further information set out in section 4 below and ensure that a response is provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

1. Summary

1. This report informs Mayor and Cabinet of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's requests for further information arising from the question and answer session with Cabinet Members, held on 5 March 2020. The Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the requests of the committee and agree to provide a response.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. The Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the views of the committee as set out in section four of this referral and agree to provide a response.

3. Policy Context

- 3.1. The strategic priorities of the Council's [Corporate Strategy for 2018-2022](#) are:

[Open Lewisham](#) - Lewisham is a welcoming place of safety for all, where we celebrate the diversity that strengthens us.

[Tackling the housing crisis](#) - Everyone has a decent home that is secure and affordable.

[Giving children and young people the best start in life](#) - Every child has access to an outstanding and inspiring education, and is given the support they need to keep them safe, well and able to achieve their full potential.

[Building an inclusive local economy](#) - Everyone can access high-quality job opportunities, with decent pay and security in our thriving and inclusive local economy.

[Delivering and defending: health, social care and support](#) - Ensuring everyone receives the health, mental health, social care and support services they need.

[Making Lewisham greener](#) - Everyone enjoys our green spaces, and benefits from a healthy environment as we work to protect and improve our local environment.

[Building safer communities](#) - Every resident feels safe and secure living here as we work together towards a borough free from the fear of crime.

- 3.2. The work carried out by Cabinet Members directly contributes to the Council's corporate priorities.

4. Overview and Scrutiny Committee's views

- 4.1. At its meeting on Monday 27 January 2020, the Committee held a question and answer session with Councillor Brenda Dacres, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities; Councillor Chris Barnham, Cabinet Member for School Performance and Children's Services; and Councillor Chris Best, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care and Deputy Mayor.

- 4.2. The Cabinet Members agreed to look into the following issues and provide a response to the Committee:

4.3.

Safer Communities Portfolio

- **Athena** – Can sex workers be confident that they will get non judgemental support?
- **Concern Hubs** – Can a full range of statistics on usage be provided, including a breakdown of client ethnicity?

School Performance and Children's Services Portfolio

- **Schools in deficit** – How many Lewisham schools are in deficit and can some

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further information on their situations be provided?

- **Hand sanitising gel / handwash** – are any Lewisham schools experiencing difficulty in procuring these products as a result of shortages arising from the coronavirus outbreak?
- **School playing fields** – can more information be provided on the current strategy including whether there are any plans to expand the number of school playing fields?

Health and Adult Social Care Portfolio

- **Air quality** – Should the monitoring sites reveal that certain particulate levels are increasing, can further information be provided on what is being done to address this and improve air quality?
- **Youth support** – Can more information be provided on the successful bid for funding to support youth support in two local accident and emergency departments?
- **Vaccinations** – can more information on uptake be provided?

5. Financial implications

5.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

6. Legal implications

6.1. There are no direct legal implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

7. Equalities implications

7.1. Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

7.2. The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

8. Climate change and environmental implications

8.1. There are no direct climate change or environmental implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

9. Crime and disorder implications

9.1. There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

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10. **Health and wellbeing implications**

10.1. There are no direct health and wellbeing implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

11. **Background papers**

11.1. [Executive Question Time – OSC report, 05.03.20](#)

12. **Report contact**

12.1. *Charlotte Dale, Scrutiny Manager, charlotte.dale@lewisham.gov.uk 020 8314 8286*

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