



Mayor and Cabinet

Report title: Comments of the Sustainable Development Select Committee on the parks and open space strategy

Date: 10 June 2020.

Key decision: No.

Class: Part 1.

Ward(s) affected: All.

Contributors: Sustainable Development Select Committee

Outline and recommendations

This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Sustainable Development Select Committee, arising from discussions on the parks and open space strategy.

Mayor and Cabinet is asked to consider the Committee's comments and ask the relevant officers to provide a response.

1. Summary

- 1.1. On Tuesday 10 March 2020, the Sustainable Development Select Committee considered a report from officers on Lewisham's draft parks and open space strategy ([link to the agenda and reports for the meeting on 10 March 2020](#)) The Committee reflected on the contents of the report – and received a presentation from officers. Following questions to officers, the Committee agreed to refer its views to Mayor and Cabinet.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. Mayor and Cabinet is asked to consider the Committee's comments and ask the relevant officers to provide a response.

3. Sustainable Development Select Committee views

- 3.1. The Committee welcomes the new parks and open space strategy and asks in particular that consideration be given to the recommendations in its 'parks management and maintenance' review. Furthermore, the Committee supports the development of linkages between green areas and it reiterates its support for the 'Railway Children Urban National Park' initiative - as outlined in the Grove Park neighbourhood plan. It recommends this should be referenced in the parks and open space strategy and - that the Council should undertake to update the assessments of the sites of nature conservation in the area covered by the proposal.
- 3.2. The Committee welcomes and encourages the plan to develop a corporate natural capital account for Lewisham.
- 3.3. The Committee recommends that careful attention should be given to the best ways of engaging with disabled young people - as well as their parents and carers - regarding the development of the accessible play strategy.
- 3.4. The Committee recommends that the parks and open space strategy should reference the Lewisham cycling strategy and -in particular- the opportunities that parks and open spaces provide to enable active travel.
- 3.5. The Committee recommends that Mayor and Cabinet should task officers with considering whether there are elements of the parks and open space strategy that can be delivered using neighbourhood community infrastructure levy funding.
- 3.6. The Committee believes that parks and open spaces can provide opportunities for younger and older people to meet and interact. It recommends that Mayor and Cabinet should ensure that the design for all new public spaces in the borough builds on best practice in terms of intergenerational design.

4. Financial implications

- 4.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report. However, there may be implications arising from them implementation of the Committee's recommendations. These will need to be considered as part of the response.

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).

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6. Equalities implications

- 6.1. The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 6.2. In summary, 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.
- 6.3. There may be equalities implications arising from the implementation of the Committee's recommendations – these will need to be considered in the response.

7. Climate change and environmental implications

- 7.1. There are no direct climate change or environmental implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report. There will be climate change and environmental implications arising from the implementation of the Committee's recommendations – these will need to be considered in the response.

8. Crime and disorder implications

- 8.1. There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report. There may be implications arising from the implementation of the Committee's recommendations – these will need to be considered in the response.

9. Health and wellbeing implications

- 9.1. There are no direct health and wellbeing implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report. There may be implications arising from the implementation of the Committee's recommendations – these will need to be considered in the response.

10. Report author and contact

- 10.1. If you have any questions about this report then please contact: Timothy Andrew (Scrutiny Manager) 020 8314 7916 – timothy.andrew@lewisham.gov.uk

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