



Mayor and Cabinet

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee – In-depth Review - How Lewisham Council Embeds Equalities Across its Service Provision

Date: 16 September 2020

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Assistant Chief Executive (Scrutiny Manager)

Outline and recommendations

This report presents the final report and recommendations arising from the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee's in-depth review into "How the Council Embeds Equalities Across its Service Provision". The full report and recommendations are attached as Appendix A.

Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to:

- (a) Consider the recommendations of the Committee as set out in the report at Appendix A.
- (b) Agree that the relevant Executive Director be asked to provide a response to the review's recommendations.
- (c) Ensure that a response is provided to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the final decision as to how the committee's recommendations will be actioned.

1 Summary

1. This report informs Mayor and Cabinet of the recommendations and report of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on their in-depth review on "How Lewisham Council embeds Equalities across its Service Provision" and requests a response from the Mayor and Cabinet as to how these recommendations will be taken into account.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. The Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to:

- (a) Consider the recommendations of the Committee as set out in the report at Appendix A.
- (b) Agree that the relevant Executive Director be asked to provide a respond to the review's recommendations.
- (c) Ensure that a response is provided to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on the final decision as to how the committee's recommendations will be actioned.

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.

4. **Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee's views**

- 4.1. Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee have carried out an in-depth review into "How Lewisham Council Embeds Equalities Across its Service Provision". The review and recommendations at Appendix A are the result of this in-depth work and Mayor and Cabinet is asked to consider these and provide a response to the Committee.

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:

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- 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.

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

[Agenda and decisions for Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, 09.09.20](#)

12. Report contact

- 12.1. *Katie Wood, Scrutiny Manager, katie.wood@lewisham.gov.uk 020 8314 9446*

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