

**Decisions taken by the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee on Thursday, 3 November 2022**

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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**Part A – Items considered in public**

A1	Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2022	That the minutes of the meeting held on the 13 <sup>th</sup> October be agreed as an accurate record of proceedings.
A2	Declarations of interest	There were no declarations of interest.
A3	Budget Reductions for 2023/24	<p>That the following comments be referred to the Public Accounts Select Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The Committee requested that the following comments be referred to the Public Accounts Select Committee on proposal COM_SAV_08: Reduction in opening hours at Lewisham Libraries.</li> <li>2) The Committee was concerned with the saving on reducing hours at Lewisham Libraries. The Committee felt that in light of the policy on “Warm Welcomes” and due to the hugely important role libraries play in supporting vulnerable residents such as through social prescribing, supporting digital inclusion and being a place of welcome to all residents, that it was essential that the impact of the cut was very carefully examined before any decision was made. Library usage by demographic use at different dates and times should be carefully examined to minimise any impact and consultation should take place with partners at community libraries. It was important to fully examine whether a cut in hours could have unintended consequences for the most vulnerable and cause additional costs to other services by residents’ needs having to be met in other and possibly more costly ways.</li> </ol>
A4	Libraries Update	That the report be noted.
A5	Select Committee work programme	That the report be noted and the work programme be agreed.