



Mayor and Cabinet

Comments of the Sustainable Development Select Committee on the flood risk management strategy

Date: 6 July 2022.

Key decision: No.

Class: Part 1.

Ward(s) affected: All (none specific)

Contributor: 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 flood risk management 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 Monday 27 June 2022, the Sustainable Development Select Committee considered a report from officers on the flood risk management strategy ([link to the agenda](#)) 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 report and agrees that the strategy should be implemented.
- 3.2. The Committee recommends that Mayor and Cabinet should consider the options and resource implications of commissioning a comprehensive survey of underground water sources and streams in the borough. The Committee acknowledges the constrained financial situation facing the Council and it encourages Mayor and Cabinet to consider innovative and collaborative approaches to implementing this recommendation.

- 3.3. The Committee would welcome additional education and outreach on the issues related to homeowners paving their gardens. This should include updated information on the Council's website about the potential impacts of replacing gardens and green spaces with impermeable paving.

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 the 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).

6. Equalities implications

- 6.1. 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.
- 6.2. 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.
- 6.3. There are no direct equalities implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report.

7. Climate change and environmental implications

- 7.1. There are no direct climate change or environmental implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report. However, in February 2019 Lewisham Council declared a Climate Emergency and proposed a target to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030. The declaration tasked the Sustainable Development Committee with scrutinising the Council's emerging plans.

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.

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.

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10. Report author and contact

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

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