



Mayor and Cabinet

Referral regarding proposed Public Spaces Protection Order

Date: 19 July 2023

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee

Outline and recommendations

This report informs Mayor and Cabinet of the views of the Safer Stronger Select Committee, set out in section 4 below, following consideration of a report entitled Proposed Public Space Protection Order. The Mayor and Cabinet is invited to respond.

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report informs Mayor and Cabinet of the views of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee following consideration of a report entitled Proposed Public Space Protection Order on 27 June 2023. The Committee received an overview of the report from the Cabinet Member for Housing Management, Homelessness and Community Safety, the Head of Safer Communities and other Safer Communities officers and put questions to them. Other evidence included written submissions from external experts and stakeholders¹ and oral evidence from Metropolitan Police Service officers and a representative of a charity. The Committee agreed to refer its views and recommendation to Mayor and Cabinet. Mayor and Cabinet is invited to respond.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the views of the committee as set out in section four of this referral and is invited to respond.

3. Policy Context

- 3.1 Scrutiny's work programme has regard to the corporate strategy² which sets out the Council's values, priorities and focus for 2022-2026. These are categorised under the following headings:

- Cleaner and Greener
- Strong Local Economy
- Quality Housing
- Children and Young People
- Safer Communities
- Open Lewisham
- Health and Wellbeing

4. The Select Committee's views

- 4.1 The Committee resolved *[t]o refer to the Mayor and Cabinet the key issues and concerns noted during discussion and identified during the Committee's research with a recommendation that, as the proposal and its implications require further consideration – the proposed Public Spaces Protection Order should not be progressed until the issues and concerns contained in the referral have been fully considered, the proposed restrictions reviewed, comprehensive and representative engagement with stakeholders undertaken and a report regarding*

- *those issues and concerns;*
- *the broader policy and activities in place and further opportunities to address the behaviours which are the subject of the order;*
- *the findings of that further engagement; and*
- *the justification for the order, if it is to be progressed;*

brought to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee.

- 4.2 The key issues and concerns noted by the Committee can be found by watching the webcast of the meeting³ and reading the background documents linked at the end of this

¹ [Documents tabled at Committee](#)

² [Lewisham Council - Corporate strategy](#)

³ https://lewisham.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/773659

report. The Chair has also shared a summary with officers.

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 The Constitution provides for select committees to refer reports to the Mayor and Cabinet, who are obliged to provide a response within two months (not including recess).

7. Equalities implications

7.1 The 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.

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.

Background papers

[Document Pack](#) and [Tabled Document](#) – Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee, 27 June 2023

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