



Mayor and Cabinet

Comments of the Public Accounts Select Committee on social value

Date: 23 January 2024.

Key decision: No.

Class: Part 1.

Ward(s) affected: All (none specific)

Contributor: Public Accounts Select Committee

Outline and recommendations

This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Public Accounts Select Committee, arising from discussions on the Council's social value annual report.

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 Thursday 30 November, the Public Accounts Select Committee considered the Council's annual report on social value ([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. Public Accounts Select Committee views

- 3.1. The Committee recommends that key social value targets be included in the Council's quarterly corporate performance reporting. (within the strong local economy section).
- 3.2. The Committee also recommends that consideration be given to monitoring the equalities and socio-economic background of applicants for Council contracts - with a view to promoting economic investment in underrepresented communities.

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 their 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.

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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