

Mayor and Cabinet		
Title	Comments of the Housing Select Committee on the outcome of the consultation on the proposed saving to the handyperson service	
Contributor	Housing Select Committee	Item
Class	Part 1 (open)	7 December 2016

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the Housing Select Committee's views on the outcome of the consultation on the proposed saving to the handyperson service.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the views of the Housing Select Committee as set out in this referral and ask the Executive Director for Customer Services to provide a response for Mayoral consideration.

3. The Select Committees' views

- 3.1 On 16 November 2016 the Housing Select Committee discussed the outcome of the consultation on the proposed saving to the handyperson service (saving M6 in the 2017/18 Revenue Budget Savings Report).

- 3.2 The committee agreed to advise Mayor and Cabinet of the following:

The committee notes that many Lewisham residents turn to the Council as a source of reliable and trustworthy services. The committee is concerned that some people may find it difficult without this or a similar service to turn to. With this in mind, the committee notes that while Lewisham Homes doesn't provide this exact service, it does provide day-to-day repair and maintenance services, which require many of the same skills. The committee therefore recommends that officers ask Lewisham Homes to provide the handypersons service at a reasonable price that will cover costs. The Committee recommend trialling any arrangement for a year – keeping the revenue and expenses separate from the Housing Revenue Account.

4. Financial implications

- 4.1 Although this report has no direct financial implications, there may be financial implications of the actions proposed by the committee.

5. Legal implications

- 5.1 The Constitution provides for select committees to refer reports to the Mayor and Cabinet. The Mayor and Cabinet are obliged to consider the report and the proposed response from the relevant Executive Director and report back to the Committee within two months.

6. Further implications

- 6.1 At this stage there are no specific environmental, equalities or crime and disorder implications to consider. However, there may be implications arising from the implementation of the committee's recommendations.

Background papers:

Lewisham Future Programme, 2017/18 Revenue Budget Savings Report

If you have any questions about this report, please contact John Bardens (Scrutiny Manager) on 0208 3149976.

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