

Mayor and Cabinet			
Report Title	Matters referred by the Public Accounts Select Committee – Review of the Economic Development Service		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	X
Ward	All		
Contributors	Public Accounts Select Committee		
Class	Part 1	Date	8 July 2009

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the Public Accounts Select Committee's Review of the Economic Development Service. The final report of the Review is included at Appendix A below.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Mayor is recommended to:
- (a) Note the views and recommendations of the Committee set out in the main report at Appendix A.
 - (b) Agree that the Executive Director for Regeneration be asked to respond to the Review's recommendations.
 - (c) Ensure that a response is provided to the Public Accounts Select Committee no later than at its meeting on 22 October 2009, in line with the requirements of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the Council's Constitution.

3. Context

- 3.1 The Review of the Economic Development Service was carried out by the Public Accounts Select Committee between October 2008 and April 2009. The final report was agreed at the meeting on 15 June 2009, following evidence sessions on 9 December and 10 March, and discussion of recommendations on 21 April 2009.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se, although the financial implications of several of the recommendations will need to be considered in due course.

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). It is therefore requested that a response is provided to the Public Accounts Select Committee no later than at its meeting scheduled for 22 October 2009.

6. Equalities Implications

- 6.1 The Council's Economic Development service is provided for the borough's diverse community, with the worklessness initiatives specifically targeting the most marginalized within the community, notably those on incapacity benefit and lone parents. Specific initiatives such as support for small businesses and independent retailers in the borough's town centres also benefit BME communities who are well represented in these sectors.

7. Crime and Disorder/Environmental implications

- 7.1 There are no specific implications.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

If you have any queries on this report or the wider Review of Voluntary Sector Grant Funding, please contact Charlotte Dale, Scrutiny Manager (0208 3149534), or Kevin Flaherty, Head of Business & Committee (0208 3149327).