

<b>Mayor and Cabinet</b>			
<b>Title</b>	Comments of the Healthier Communities Select Committee on the proposed cuts to health visiting services.		
<b>Contributors</b>	Healthier Communities Select Committee	<b>Item No.</b>	
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	<b>Date</b>	12 December 2018

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Healthier Communities Select Committee, arising from discussions held on the proposed cuts to health visiting services in Lewisham, considered at its meeting on 3 December 2018.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the views of the Select Committee as set out in this report and agree to provide a response.

## **3. Healthier Communities Select Committee views**

- 3.1 At its meeting on 3 December 2018, the Healthier Communities Select Committee received a report on the public consultation on proposed cuts to the public health grant, including cuts to health visiting services.
- 3.2 The committee took oral evidence from Council officers and members of the public and after questioning and discussion resolved to refer its views to the Mayor and Cabinet in the following terms:

*The Healthier Communities Select Committee notes the Mayor's manifesto pledge to continue to give the highest priority to our children and family services and to ensure all our young people – no matter what their background or challenges – achieve their potential and thrive. Having heard the responses to the public consultation on public health cuts, specifically health visiting cuts, the committee is concerned about the impact the proposed cuts would have on current and future life experiences of children and young people in Lewisham. The committee therefore asks Mayor & Cabinet to make its decision on the proposed cuts to health visiting services having regard to these points and the evidence produced on health visitor to children ratios in paragraphs 11.21 to 11.33 of the Mayor & Cabinet report on these cuts.*

## **4. Financial Implications**

**5.**

- 4.1 Although this report has no direct financial implications, there may be financial implications as a result of the Committee's comments.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 The Lewisham 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.

**Background papers**

*Public health grant cuts consultation, Healthier Communities Select Committee, 3 December 2018*

If you have any questions about this report, please contact John Bardens (Scrutiny Manager) on 02083149976.