

Mayor and Cabinet		
Title	Comments of the Public Accounts Select Committee on the social value policy	
Contributor	Public Accounts Select Committee	
Class	Part 1 (open)	6 February 2019

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report informs Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Public Accounts Select Committee, arising from discussions about the social value policy.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the Committee's comments as set out in this report and ask the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration to provide a response.

3. Public Accounts Select Committee views

- 3.1 On Thursday 20 December, the Public Accounts Select Committee considered an officer report on proposals for the Council's new social value policy.
- 3.2 The Committee resolved to advise Mayor and Cabinet of the following:
- The Committee welcomes the social value policy. However, it urges Mayor and Cabinet to provide direct, sustained and determined political will in order to challenge officers to achieve the highest possible social value from all of Lewisham's contracts.
 - The Committee believes that the Council should be able to ensure that, where practical, the supply chain for Council contracts also provides social value to Lewisham.
 - The Committee recommends that there be regular and diligent monitoring of contractors to ensure that they are adhering to both the technical requirements and the wider spirit of the Council's ambitions for social value. The Committee also believes that consideration should be given to changing key performance indicators over time to ensure that the Council is achieving ongoing high quality value from its contracts.
 - The Committee believes that air quality and other environmental issues should receive much greater prominence in the new policy.

4. Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report per se; but there may be financial implications arising from carrying out the action proposed by the Committee.

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. 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

Public Accounts Select Committee agenda, 20 December 2018:

<https://tinyurl.com/PAC201218>

If you have any questions about this report please contact Timothy Andrew, Scrutiny Manager (timothy.andrew@lewisham.gov.uk)