



## Mayor and Cabinet

### Comments of the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel on Covid

**Date:** 10 March 2021.

**Key decision:** No.

**Class:** Part 1.

**Ward(s) affected:** All.

**Contributor:** Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel

### Outline and recommendations

This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the comments and views of the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel

Mayor and Cabinet is asked to receive the views of the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel and ask Officers to prepare a response for Mayoral consideration

## 1. Summary

- 1.1. On Tuesday 16 February 2021, the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel considered a report from officers on . Following questions to officers, the Panel agreed to refer its views to Mayor and Cabinet.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1. Mayor and Cabinet is asked to receive the Panel's referral and ask the Executive Director for Community Services to prepare a response for Mayoral consideration.

## 3. Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel referral

- 3.1. The Panel request the Council via Mayor & Cabinet to ask the Department of Health and Social Care to-
  - 1) Guarantee a firewall that prevents any information governed by the NHS being used for Test & Trace being used for immigration enforcement
  - 2) End all hostile environment measures in the NHS, including charging for migrants, to combat the fear and mistrust these policies have created
  - 3) Provide specific support for all GP surgeries to register everyone including under-documented and undocumented migrants and those without secure accomodation and ensure that all other routes to vaccination are accessible to everyone
  - 4) Fund a public information campaign to ensure that communités impacted by their hostile enviroment are aware of their rights and access to the vaccine.

## 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 the implementation of the Panel'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. The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 6.2. In summary, 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 may be equalities implications arising from the implementation of the Committee's recommendations – these will need to be considered in the response.

## 7. Climate change and environmental implications

- 7.1. There are no direct climate change or environmental implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations in this report. There may be climate change and environmental implications

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arising from the implementation of the Committee's recommendations – these will need to be considered in the response.

## **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. There may be implications arising from the implementation of the Committee's recommendations – these will need to be considered in the response.

## **9. Health and wellbeing implications**

- 9.1. The Director of Public Health will be asked to contribute to the Mayoral response given that health related concerns are central to the Business Panel's referral.

## **10. Background papers**

<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=121&MId=6110&Ver=4>

## **11. Report author and contact**

- 11.1. If you have any questions about this report then please contact: Sarah Assibey, Committee Officer ([sarah.assibey@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.assibey@lewisham.gov.uk))

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