

| <b>MAYOR &amp; CABINET</b> |   |                 |                  |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Report Title</b>        | ADDENDUM TO THE BUDGET REPORT 2012/13           |                 |                  |
| <b>Key Decision</b>        | Yes   | <b>Item No.</b> | 5                |
| <b>Ward</b>                | All   |                 |                  |
| <b>Contributors</b>        | Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration |                 |                  |
| <b>Class</b>               | Part 1  | <b>Date:</b>    | 15 February 2012 |

## 1 CHANGES TO THE MAIN BUDGET REPORT

1.1 The following changes are being made to the Budget Report 2012/13.

### Recommendations

1.2 *Delete* recommendation 3.7 which refers to a new service charge for Lewisham Homes tenants for CCTV systems.

1.3 *Add* specific recommendations for Appendix Y11 – Early Years Childhood Centres:

1.3.1 The Mayor is recommended to agree:

- (i) Consultation on the closure of the early childhood centres at Rushey Green, Honor Oak and Ladywell
- (ii) That the formal closure date is proposed as 31 August 2012

### Equalities Legislation

1.4 Please replace Section 17 of the Report with the following paragraphs.

1.4.1 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty), replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. The new duty covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

1.4.2 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.

1.4.3 As was the case for the original separate duties, the new duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.

1.4.4 The Equality and Human Rights Commission issued guides in January 2011 providing an overview of the new equality duty, including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. The guides cover what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guides were based on the then draft specific duties so are no longer fully up-to-date, although regard may still be had to them until the revised guides are produced. The guides do not have legal standing unlike the statutory Code of Practice on the public sector equality duty, However, that Code is not due to be published until April 2012. The guides can be found at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-duties/new-public-sector-equality-duty-guidance/>

**For further information on this report please contact:**

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