

APPENDIX 4 – THEME E COMMERCIAL APPROACH

1. Proposal Overview	
Proposal title:	Building Control Service Efficiency
Reference:	E-12
Lead officer:	Patrick Dubeck
Ward/s affected	N/A
Cabinet portfolio	Cllr Paul Bell, Housing and Planning
Scrutiny committee/s	Public Accounts Select Committee

2. Decision Route		
Key Decision	Public Consultation	Staff Consultation
N	N	N

3. Contextual Information				
Which service area/s are in the scope of the cuts proposal?				
<p>Building control are responsible for the review and approval of Building Work ranging from small scale changes to large scale redevelopment proposals. The Building Control regime is delivered via the Council as well as through approved inspectors in the private sector meaning that the Council is in competition with the private sector to deliver the service.</p> <p>In addition, the impending Building Safety Bill has been published with the intention of overhauling current building regulations across England and Wales. It is intended to strengthen the whole regulatory system for building safety by establishing a comprehensive new building safety regime governing design, construction and occupation of higher risk buildings, with particular focus on fire safety measures.</p> <p>Local authorities will have a significant role in the way the new regulations will work. It is therefore important to ensure the service in Lewisham is redesigned and remains fit for purpose when the new regime becomes law in 2022. There are also opportunities to increase the market share of Council provided services. The Council can do this by 'selling' this service to individuals and developers operating in Lewisham but to also consider expanding this. For instance this service could be provided to other local authorities needing support.</p>				
What is the controllable budget of the service area/s?				
Budget Type	Spend (£000)	Income (£000)	Net Budget (£000)	
General Fund	£558 (E43004)	£691 (E43004)	(133)	
HRA				
DSG				
Health				
TOTAL				
What is the staffing profile of the service area/s?				
Grades	Number Of Posts	FTE	Vacant Posts	
			Agency / Interim Cover	Not Covered
Scale 1 – Scale 5				
Scale 6 – SO2				
PO1 – PO5				
PO6 – PO8				
SMG1 – SMG3				
JNC				

4. Cuts Proposal
What changes are proposed to the service area/s?

The Council received applications for 650 building works in 2019/20. This is compared to over 2,000 planning applications.

The current programme of savings already has £50k earmarked for the service over the next three years including 2020/21. This new proposal is seeking to double that over the same period.

This will be achieved through an increased market share for services for current applications going through the Planning system.

Mitigating Actions for 22/23

Increasing market share may mean that additional resources are necessary to meet increased demand. It will be important to work to streamline existing processes and ways of working to improve efficiency alongside seeking additional work.

As part of this, and to ensure readiness to operate in the new regulatory environment, the service will be seeking ISO9001 accreditation. This will be in the form of a review to be carried out Local Authority Building Control service. This objective may require a restructure of the service at some point in the next 12 months.

Are there any specific staffing implications? No

What level of saving will be achieved? (NET OF ANY CAPITAL OR REVENUE INVESTMENT)

Proposal strand	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	TOTAL
	£20	£30	£0	£50
TOTAL				
% Net Budget	£20	£30	£0	£50
Does proposal impact on:	General Fund	HRA	DSG	Health
	Y	Y	Y	Y

If yes, please describe impact: An increase in income of £50k

What are the potential delivery risks and mitigation?

The main risk is the ability to attract and then meet increased service demand. The service review referenced above will help ensure the service is fit for purpose. A peer assessment of the existing service is planned to support this review.

The changing regulatory environment, whilst anticipated to create further opportunities for local authority delivered services, will also carry greater risk due to increased complexity of the incoming regime. The service will need to ensure the necessary technical competence and experience to meet this challenge are retained and recruited.

Are there any specific legal implications?

No

Is public consultation required (formal/statutory)? No

5. Impact & Outcomes

What is the likely impact of the proposed changes?

Service Users

This proposal is intended to improve the responsiveness of the Council led service and improve the service that customers experience.

Staff

None

Other Council Services				
None				
Partners				
None				
Are there any specific equalities implications for service users?				
Protected characteristics and other equalities considerations	High (Positive / Negative)	Medium (Positive / Negative)	Low (Positive / Negative)	Neutral
Age				Neutral
Disability			Positive	
Ethnicity				Neutral
Gender				Neutral
Gender reassignment				Neutral
Marriage and civil partnerships				Neutral
Pregnancy and maternity				Neutral
Religion and belief				Neutral
Sexual orientation				Neutral
Socio-economic inequality				Neutral
Is a full EAA required?			No	
How do the proposed changes align with the Council's Corporate Strategy?				
Corporate Priorities	High (Positive / Negative)	Medium (Positive / Negative)	Low (Positive / Negative)	Neutral
Open Lewisham			Positive	
Tackling the Housing crisis			Positive	
Giving children and young people the best start in life				Neutral
Building an inclusive local economy				Neutral
Delivering and defending: health, social care & support				Neutral
Making Lewisham greener			Positive	
Building safer communities			Positive	
Good governance and operational effectiveness			Positive	

1. Proposal Overview	
Proposal title:	Changes to Leisure Concessions for Older People
Reference:	E-14
Lead officer:	James Lee
Ward/s affected	All wards
Cabinet portfolio	Cllr Andre Bourne, Culture
Scrutiny committee/s	Healthier Communities Select Committee

2. Decision Route		
Key Decision	Public Consultation	Staff Consultation
Y	N	N

3. Contextual Information			
Which service area/s are in the scope of the cuts proposal?			
The Council currently offers various concessions including "Be Active" and free access to its gyms and swimming pools for those aged over 60 or in receipt of disability benefits.			
What is the controllable budget of the service area/s?			
Budget Type	Spend (£000)	Income (£000)	Net Budget (£000)
Leisure contracts budget is being rebuilt year on year but this proposal reflects a real reduction in spend transferring to a base budget reduction (due to surplus being generated across the contracts overall in 23/24.			
What is the staffing profile of the service area/s?			
None.			

4. Cuts Proposal				
What changes are proposed to the service area/s?				
Under this proposal we could continue to provide some concessions such as the Be active scheme. The provision of "free swim and gym" would continue for people in receipt of disability benefits but not for all over 60s. For this option the saving across the GLL sites would be c£170,000 with an overall savings of at least £190,000 anticipated across all sites.				
The GLL figures have been based on the below assumptions:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total annual usage estimated at 611,170 60+ and people in receipt of disability benefits usage reflects 16% of total usage (97,787) Assume 70% of 60+ and people in receipt of disability benefits will continue to use service if they have to pay (68,451) 				
Over 60s would move to existing concessionary pay and play and membership rates.				
The saving would be implemented in October 2022 in line with any extension of the GLL contract and at the same time (contracts allowing) at Downham.				
Are there any specific staffing implications?				N
What level of saving will be achieved? (NET OF ANY CAPITAL OR REVENUE INVESTMENT)				
Proposal strand	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	TOTAL
	95k	£95k	Full savings taken from base budget.	£190k
TOTAL				£190k

% Net Budget				
Does proposal impact on:	General Fund	HRA	DSG	Health
	Y	N	N	N
If yes, please describe impact:				
What are the potential delivery risks and mitigation?				
<p>Higher than anticipated drop off will have a financial impact with secondary implications for health and social care due to decreased level of physical activity amongst target groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigated through targeted marketing to increase overall cohort aware of the service alongside continued improvement in service standard to make the offer more attractive for those now required to pay. Drop off could be mitigated by retaining free access for those on benefits but this would reduce saving and increase administrative burden <p>There are reputational risks associated with reducing the concessions available to vulnerable groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will be mitigated by highlighting the remaining concessions available and wider physical activity available for free in our parks and open spaces. “Be Active” concessions will continue to be available Communication will need to focus on the ongoing cuts from central government, the impact of Covid on leisure services and the need to target our services at those most in need (i.e. it is generally accepted that not all over 60 year olds require a concession and some are able to pay). 				
Are there any specific legal implications?				
No.				
Is public consultation required (formal/statutory)?			N	

5. Impact & Outcomes

What is the likely impact of the proposed changes?

Service Users

As outlined above there is likely to be a drop off in the number of users as a result of this cut. This is estimated to be approximately 30% of the current usage. It is anticipated that this will be a mixture of those in most financial need and those least committed to the activity.

Staff

Employees of both the Council and the leisure providers are likely to have to deal with a number of complaints and concerns from those who previously accessed the services for free – particularly during the transition period.

Other Council Services

If the removal of the concession leads to significant numbers of individual with poor health from discontinuing their use of the gym and swimming pool there may be some impact on health and social care services.

Partners

The removal of the concession will reduce some administrative burden from the leisure providers but complaints and concerns are likely to increase – particularly during the transition period.

Are there any specific equalities implications?

CUTS PROPOSAL PROFORMA 2022/23

Protected characteristics and other equalities considerations	High (Positive / Negative)	Medium (Positive / Negative)	Low (Positive / Negative)	Neutral
Age	Negative			
Disability				x
Ethnicity				x
Gender		Negative		
Gender reassignment				x
Marriage and civil partnerships				x
Pregnancy and maternity				x
Religion and belief				x
Sexual orientation				x
Socio-economic inequality	Negative			
Is a full EAA required?			N	
How do the proposed changes align with the Council's Corporate Strategy?				
Corporate Priorities	High (Positive / Negative)	Medium (Positive / Negative)	Low (Positive / Negative)	Neutral
Open Lewisham			Negative	
Tackling the Housing crisis				x
Giving children and young people the best start in life				x
Building an inclusive local economy				x
Delivering and defending: health, social care & support		Negative		
Making Lewisham greener				x
Building safer communities				x
Good governance and operational effectiveness		Positive		

1. Proposal Overview	
Proposal title:	Seek corporate sponsorship for festive lighting
Reference:	E-15
Lead officer:	Zahur Khan
Ward/s affected	Wards identified in the priority list, based on where there is evidence and justification for new measures
Cabinet portfolio	Cllr Patrick Codd, Environment and Transport
Scrutiny committee/s	Public Accounts Select Committee

2. Decision Route		
Key Decision	Public Consultation	Staff Consultation
Y	N	N

3. Contextual Information				
Which service area/s are in the scope of the cuts proposal?				
In November of each year Lewisham puts up a number of festive lighting displays on lamp columns and other locations across the borough.				
This is not a statutory service.				
It is carried out by the Lighting team (part of Highways in Public Realm) at a cost of around £30k PA which is paid directly to a contractor who carry out the works.				
What is the controllable budget of the service area/s?				
Budget Type	Spend (£000)	Income (£000)	Net Budget (£000)	
General Fund	30	0	30	
HRA				
DSG				
Health				
TOTAL				
What is the staffing profile of the service area/s?				
Grades	Number Of Posts	FTE	Vacant Posts	
			Agency / Interim Cover	Not Covered
Scale 1 – Scale 5	none			
Scale 6 – SO2				
PO1 – PO5				
PO6 – PO8				
SMG1 – SMG3				
JNC				

4. Cuts Proposal	
What changes are proposed to the service area/s?	
The proposal is to stop funding festive lighting displays from Council budgets and to seek sponsorship from partners or other parties.	
	2022/23
Capital Investment	0
First year Rate of Return	£30k
Are there any specific staffing implications?	No

What level of saving will be achieved? (NET OF ANY CAPITAL OR REVENUE INVESTMENT)				
Proposal strand	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	TOTAL
If funded from capital	30	30	30	90
If funded from revenue				
TOTAL				90
% Net Budget				
Does proposal impact on:	General Fund	HRA	DSG	Health
	Y	N	N	N
If yes, please describe impact:				
What are the potential delivery risks and mitigation?				
Reputational risk 'council cancels Christmas' and community impacts, no switch on event etc. Mitigation would be seeking sponsorship to enable this to continue.				
Are there any specific legal implications?				
No				
Is public consultation required (formal/statutory)?			No	

5. Impact & Outcomes

What is the likely impact of the proposed changes?

Service Users

The residents and visitors would not be able to enjoy Lewisham's festive lighting displays in the event that sponsorship cannot be generated to fund this service.

When festive lighting encourages people to commercial areas, especially for switch-on events etc, there would be a likely reduction in income if sponsorship cannot be found.

Staff

None

Other Council Services

None

Partners

Reduced revenue for contractor if sponsorship cannot be secured.

Are there any specific equalities implications for service users?

Protected characteristics and other equalities considerations	High (Positive / Negative)	Medium (Positive / Negative)	Low (Positive / Negative)	Neutral
Age				N
Disability				N
Ethnicity				N

CUTS PROPOSAL PROFORMA 2022/23

Gender				N
Gender reassignment				N
Marriage and civil partnerships				N
Pregnancy and maternity				N
Religion and belief				N
Sexual orientation				N
Socio-economic inequality				N
Is a full EAA required?			N	
How do the proposed changes align with the Council's Corporate Strategy?				
Corporate Priorities	High (Positive / Negative)	Medium (Positive / Negative)	Low (Positive / Negative)	Neutral
Open Lewisham				Neutral
Tackling the Housing crisis				Neutral
Giving children and young people the best start in life				Neutral
Building an inclusive local economy			Negative	
Delivering and defending: health, social care & support				Neutral
Making Lewisham greener				Neutral
Building safer communities				Neutral
Good governance and operational effectiveness				Neutral