



Mayor and Cabinet

Report title: Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Future Lewisham – an economically sound future

Date: 9 March 2022

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Assistant Chief Executive

Outline and recommendations

This report informs Mayor and Cabinet of the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee following consideration of a report on plans to deliver the Mayor's Future Lewisham ambition for an economically sound future. The Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the views and agree to provide a response.

- Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the views of the committee set out in section 4 below and ensure that a response is provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

1. Summary

1.1 This report informs Mayor and Cabinet of recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee following consideration of an officer report on plans to deliver the Mayor's Future Lewisham ambition for an economically sound future.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Mayor and Cabinet is recommended to note the views of the committee as set out in section four of this referral and agree to provide a response.

3. Policy Context

3.1 At the Council's Annual General Meeting in May 2021, the Mayor outlined the Council's priorities to support the borough's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. "Future Lewisham: our borough's recovery" sets out four themes at the heart of the Council's response to the impact of the pandemic. The report considered by the committee related to the theme of "An economically sound future".

3.2 The Corporate Strategy priority "Building an inclusive local economy" includes the following commitments:

- More Living Wage employers
- Support to access work and to progress
- High quality work and reduced inequalities
- A thriving local economy

3.3 The Mayor of London, Greater London Authority (GLA), London boroughs and a range of other strategic partners have jointly agreed an Economic Recovery Framework for London. The framework contains five pillars of activity – Jobs, Business, Thriving Neighbourhoods, Connected City and Global London. Within each pillar are four key issues to focus collective efforts on, with building the green economy and narrowing social, economic and health inequalities as cross-cutting themes.

3.4 In March 2021 the Government set out its ambition to "Build Back Better" through the pillars of infrastructure, skills, innovation, "Levelling Up" across the UK, transition to net zero and a vision for a Global Britain. The Government also launched a "Plan for Jobs" to protect, support and create jobs. Any future Government funding and investment in the economy, training and jobs will be focused on these priorities.

4. Overview and Scrutiny Committee's views

4.1 At its meeting on Tuesday 8 March 2022, the Committee considered an officer report on plans to deliver the Mayor's Future Lewisham ambition for an economically sound future. The Committee also heard from the Chief Executive of the New Economics Foundation on models for economic recovery following the pandemic.

4.2 The Committee:

- Endorsed the proposed introduction of a new employment service, Lewisham Works, to support local unemployed residents in to work.
- Welcomed the commitment to an annual headcount and survey of independent and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic owned businesses, and a focus on improving engagement and trust between these businesses and the Council.

4.3 The Committee also agreed to ask Mayor and Cabinet to set out a strategy for future economic development in the borough, and that delivering this should be agreed as a priority for the Council as part of the next Corporate Strategy.

Is this report easy to understand?

Please give us feedback so we can improve.

Go to <https://lewisham.gov.uk/contact-us/send-us-feedback-on-our-reports>

5. Financial implications

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

6. Legal implications

6.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

7. Equalities implications

7.1 The Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It 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.

7.2 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.

8. Climate change and environmental implications

8.3 There are no direct climate change or environmental implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

9. Crime and disorder implications

9.1 There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

10. Health and wellbeing implications

10.1 There are no direct health and wellbeing implications arising from the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

Background papers

[Future Lewisham – an economically sound future, Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 8 March 2022](#)

Report contact

Charlotte Dale, Head of Overview and Scrutiny, charlotte.dale@lewisham.gov.uk, 020 8314 8286

Is this report easy to understand?

Please give us feedback so we can improve.

Go to <https://lewisham.gov.uk/contact-us/send-us-feedback-on-our-reports>