

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>Cabinet 19 September 2016</b>
<b>AGENDA ITEM NO:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>STAGE 1: RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING ON 14 JUNE 2016  SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING ON 7 JULY 2016  STREETS, ENVIRONMENT AND HOMES SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING ON 22 JUNE 2016</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICERS:</b>	<b>Richard Simpson, Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Resources) and S151 Officer  Stephen Rowan - Statutory Scrutiny Officer</b>
<b>LEAD MEMBER:</b>	<b>Councillor Sean Fitzsimons Chair, Scrutiny and Strategic Overview Committee</b>
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:</b>	<b>The constitutional requirement that Cabinet receives recommendations from scrutiny committees and to respond to the recommendations within two months of the receipt of the recommendations.</b>

The Leader of the Council has delegated to the Cabinet the power to make the decisions set out in the recommendations contained within this report:

## **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Cabinet is asked to:

- 1.1 Receive the recommendations arising from the meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee (14 June 2016), the Scrutiny and Overview Call-In (7 July 2016), and the Streets, Environment and Homes Scrutiny Sub-Committee (22 June 2016) and to provide a substantive response within two months (ie. at the next available Cabinet meeting on **14 November 2016**)

## **2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 On 14 June 2016, the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee considered an item on Home Schooling. At that meeting the Sub-Committee made recommendations to Cabinet and these are contained in Section 3 of this report.

In this report Cabinet is being asked to receive the recommendations.

- 2.2 On 7 July 2016, the Scrutiny and Overview Committee received a Call-In on the Brick by Brick Croydon Limited development company. At the meeting the Committee made recommendations to Cabinet and these are contained in Section 4 of this report.

- 2.3 On 22 June 2016, the Streets, Environment and Homes Scrutiny Sub-Committee considered an item on Accessibility at Croydon Rail Stations. At that meeting the Sub-Committee made recommendations to Cabinet and these are contained in Section 5 of this report.

In this report Cabinet is being asked to receive the recommendations.

The constitution requires that an interim or full response is provided within 2 months of this Cabinet meeting.

## **3. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Children and Young People Sub-Committee at its meeting on 14 June 2016 resolved to ask Cabinet to:

- 1 The Council should carry out a piece of research to ascertain how many children being schooled at home have special educational needs, including needs which have not been formally diagnosed.
- 2 The Springboard environment appeals to electively home educated (EHE) children and their families due to the nurturing and supportive ambience and small numbers of students. It has led to a significant rise in IGCSE exam provision through Springboard for Year 10 and 11 EHE students. However, following the move of Springboard to a new location and the loss of the examination centre, the Council should support this organisation to facilitate a new examination centre for home schooled pupils, unless suitable alternative provision can be found by other means.
- 3 To reflect the raising of the Participation Age to 18, the Council should identify additional resources to ensure that full support can continue to be provided to home schooled children to the end of compulsory schooling.
- 4 Where safeguarding issues have been identified, the Council should use its enforcement powers to the full to compel parents to cooperate with its officers and secure the welfare of the child / children concerned.
- 5 The Council uphold the principle of home elected education and will not

constrict parents' freedom to educate their own children. However, in view of the Council's duty to safeguard children in the borough, it should lobby central government and put forward the case for national legislation, in order to bring about the compulsory registration of home schooled pupils and mandatory yearly visits.

These recommendations and a timetable for response are attached at **Appendix A**.

#### **4. SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Scrutiny and Overview Committee at its meeting on 7 July 2016 resolved to ask Cabinet to:

- 1 Make a commitment to address any concerns expressed by a councillor or councillors regarding the quality and fairness of a consultation exercise and hold additional consultation, either in writing and/or through meetings or drop-ins as appropriate, to remedy these concerns
- 2 Ensure that any consultation exercise it undertakes or commissions a company to undertake should provide at minimum 10 working days notice, unless the matter is urgent, to enable the majority of individuals concerned to participate in it
- 3 That the Council, or relevant contractors, should offer local councillors briefings or feedback regarding the responses to consultation exercises the Council or relevant contractors have conducted

These recommendations and a timetable for response are attached at **Appendix B**.

#### **5. STREETS, ENVIRONMENT AND HOMES SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Streets, Environment and Homes Sub-Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2016 resolved the following:

**To recommend to the Cabinet and Transport for London:**

- 1 That the major infrastructure project at Fiveways include plans to upgrade Waddon station to improve accessibility.

**To recommend to the Cabinet and Network Rail:**

- 2 That all steps are taken to ensure that the outcomes from the Coulsdon South and Selhurst stations' feasibility studies receive Access for All funding.
- 3 That a feasibility study into Norwood Junction is re-launched to make the station step-free accessible. If the outcome of the study concludes that platforms two and three cannot be made step-free, the remaining platforms should still be upgraded to step-free access.

**To recommend to Network Rail, the Cabinet, and Transport for London:**

- 4 That alternative funding streams are sought for accessibility capital projects through the Council itself as well as private developers, and that multi-party, match-funding bids are made to the Department for Transport to increase the chances of receiving central government funding

These recommendations and a timetable for response are attached at **Appendix C**.

## **6. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

## **7. COMMENTS OF THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR AND MONITORING OFFICER**

The recommendations are in accordance with the constitution.

This requires that the Scrutiny report is received and registered at this Cabinet Meeting and that a substantive response is provided within 2 months (ie. **Cabinet, 14 November 2016** is the next available meeting).

## **8. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT**

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

## **9. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

## **10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

## **11. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT**

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

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### **CONTACT OFFICER:**

Stephen Rowan, Head of Democratic Services  
and Scrutiny  
T: 020 8726 6000 X 62529  
Email: [stephen.rowan@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.rowan@croydon.gov.uk)

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:**

**Background document 1:** Reports to the Children and Young People Sub-Committee on 14 June 2016 on Home Schooling Inclusion.

<https://secure.croydon.gov.uk/akscroydon/users/public/admin/kab14.pl?operation=SUBMIT&meet=26&cmte=CYP&grpId=public&arc=1>

**Background document 2:** Reports to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee on 7 July 2016 on Home Schooling Inclusion.

<https://secure.croydon.gov.uk/akscroydon/users/public/admin/kab14.pl?operation=SUBMIT&meet=25&cmte=SOC&grpId=public&arc=1>

**Background document 3:** Reports to the Streets, Environment and Homes Sub-Committee on 22 June 2016 on Home Schooling Inclusion.

<https://secure.croydon.gov.uk/akscroydon/users/public/admin/kab14.pl?operation=SUBMIT&meet=1&cmte=SEH&grpId=public&arc=1>

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT AND CABINET MEMBER RESPONDING	ACCEPT/ REJECT RECOMMENDATIONS (inc. reasons for rejection)	IDENTIFIED OFFICER	ANY FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS IF ACCEPTED (ie Action Plan)	DATE OF SCRUTINY MEETING TO REPORT BACK
<b>HOME SCHOOLING (AXX/16)</b> - At its meeting on 14 June 2016, the Sub-Committee <b>RESOLVED</b> to:						
1. The Council should carry out a piece of research to ascertain how many children being schooled at home have special educational needs, including needs which have not been formally diagnosed.						CYP 6 December 2016
2. The Springboard environment appeals to electively home educated (EHE) children and their families due to the nurturing and supportive ambience and small numbers of students. It has led to a significant rise in IGCSE exam provision through Springboard for Year 10 and 11 EHE students. However, following the move of Springboard to a new location and the loss of the examination centre, the Council should support this organisation to facilitate a new examination centre for home schooled pupils, unless suitable alternative provision can be found by other means.						CYP 6 December 2016
3. To reflect the raising of the Participation Age to 18, the Council should identify additional resources to ensure that full support can continue to be provided to home schooled						CYP 6 December 2016

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children to the end of compulsory schooling.						
4. Where safeguarding issues have been identified, the Council should use its enforcement powers to the full to compel parents to cooperate with its officers and secure the welfare of the child / children concerned.						CYP 6 December 2016
5. The Council uphold the principle of home elected education and will not constrict parents' freedom to educate their own children. However, in view of the Council's duty to safeguard children in the borough, it should lobby central government and put forward the case for national legislation, in order to bring about the compulsory registration of home schooled pupils and mandatory yearly visits.						CYP 6 December 2016

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<b>Brick by Brick Croydon Limited</b> - The Scrutiny and Overview Committee at its meeting on 7 July 2016 resolved to recommend to Cabinet to:						
1. Make a commitment to address any concerns expressed by a councillor or councillors regarding the quality and fairness of a consultation exercise and hold additional consultation, either in writing and/or through meetings or drop-ins as appropriate, to remedy these concerns						SOC 13 December 2016
2. Ensure that any consultation exercise it undertakes or commissions a company to undertake should provide at minimum 10 working days notice, unless the matter is urgent, to enable the majority of individuals concerned to participate in it						SOC 13 December 2016
3. That the Council, or relevant contractors, should offer local councillors briefings or feedback regarding the responses to consultation exercises the Council or relevant contractors have conducted						SOC 13 December 2016



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<b>Transport Hubs and Accessibility</b> - The Streets, Environment and Homes Sub-Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2016 resolved to recommend to Cabinet that:						
<p><b>To recommend to the Cabinet and Transport for London:</b></p> <p>1. That the major infrastructure project at Fiveways include plans to upgrade Waddon station to improve accessibility</p>						SEH 22 November 2016
<p><b>To recommend to the Cabinet and Network Rail:</b></p> <p>2. That all steps are taken to ensure that the outcomes from the Coulsdon South and Selhurst stations' feasibility studies receive Access for All funding.</p>						SEH 22 November 2016
<p><b>To recommend to the Cabinet and Network Rail:</b></p> <p>3. That a feasibility study into Norwood Junction is re-launched to make the station step-free accessible. If the outcome of the study concludes that platforms two and three cannot be made step-free, the remaining platforms should still be upgraded to step-free access.</p>						SEH 22 November 2016

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<p><b>To recommend to Network Rail, the Cabinet, and Transport for London:</b></p> <p>4. That alternative funding streams are sought for accessibility capital projects through the Council itself as well as private developers, and that multi-party, match-funding bids are made to the Department for Transport to increase the chances of receiving central government fundin</p>						<p>SEH 22 November 2016</p>