

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSIONS	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
Report: Croydon Economic Recovery (Considered by Scrutiny & Overview Committee on 22 July 2020)							
1. That information on the Economic Renewal Board, including terms of reference, vision and an ongoing overview of activity, is published on the Council website.	The Committee retained a concern about the transparency of the Economic Renewal Board and felt that there should be an aim to make it as transparent as possible to allow local businesses and the public to understand the aims of the Board and the outcomes it was delivering.	Councillors Manju Shahul-Hameed & Stuart King Resources	Accept	Gavin Handford	N/A	That information on the Economic Renewal Board, including agendas, supporting papers, terms of reference, vision and an ongoing overview of activity, is published on the Council website as it becomes available.	TBC
2. That options for using the Fairfield Halls for alternative means during its closure are explored.	The Committee welcomed the confirmation that options for using existing Council buildings to provide business support were being investigated and would encourage the exploration of options for using Fairfield Halls during its closure.	Councillors Manju Shahul-Hameed & Stuart King Place	Accept	Stephen Tate	Yes – These are dependent on requirements e.g. cleaning, staffing, technical, etc.	Dependent on requirements but could be implemented immediately e.g. if rooms were required for straightforward meetings. For more complex use, some time would need to be factored in. Working with BH Live who hold the overall diary for all spaces and who could provide staff.. Building available until end of March 2021.	TBC
3. That options to increase the marketing of the borough are explored to identify cost effective solutions.	Although it was acknowledged that the Council was marketing the borough as a place to do business and there was limited funding available to expand upon current activity, given the opportunities that may be available arising post covid-19 lockdown it would encourage the exploration of cost effective options to increase the marketing of the borough.	Councillors Manju Shahul-Hameed & Stuart King Place	Accept	Stephen Tate	Yes - TBC	Inward investment strategy being assessed as part of the sustainable economic renewal board.	TBC

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSIONS	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
Report: Call-In: Key Decisions set out in Cabinet Reports 'Responding to the Local Government Funding Challenge' and 'July Financial Review' (Considered by Scrutiny & Overview Committee on 25 August 2020)							
<p>1. To enable greater transparency, the Committee requests that the Cabinet endorses the approach of the Scrutiny & Overview Committee, and its sub-committees, to keep a watching brief over the Council's finances for the remainder of the financial year, and on the budget setting process for 2021-22, and requests the allocation of sufficient support to ensure that the scrutiny of the budget is both timely and meaningful.</p>	<p>As scrutiny of the Council's finances is a key role for Scrutiny (set out in the Scrutiny Guidance published in 2019) and in light of the ongoing risk of a Section 114 Notice being served, the Committee agrees that both itself and its Sub-Committees will keep a watching briefing on this year's budget for the remainder of the financial year, and will take a more active role in scrutinising the development and setting of the 2021-22 Budget.</p>	<p>Councillor Stuart King Resources</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Lisa Taylor</p>	<p>No direct financial implications, savings and growth expected to be identified to balance the budget.</p>	<p>To report back to Scrutiny and Overview committee on the budget decisions coming from the Budget Development meetings as appropriate.</p>	<p>Scrutiny on 13/10/20, by agreement with Members, postponed to provide officer capacity to enable completion of the MHCLG bid for capitalisation direction</p>
<p>2. The Committee requests that they are kept informed of progress made with the Capital Programme Review, including any policy changes made as part of the review.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Councillor Stuart King Resources</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Lisa Taylor</p>	<p>No direct financial implications, savings and growth expected to be identified to balance the budget.</p>	<p>To report back to Scrutiny and Overview committee on the budget decisions coming from the Budget Development meetings as appropriate.</p>	<p>Scrutiny on 13/10/20 postponed to provide officer capacity to enable completion of the MHCLG bid for capitalisation direction</p>

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSIONS	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
<p>3. To ensure lessons are learnt the Council's risk management processes and the risk register are reviewed in light of the covid-19 pandemic to ensure that greater allowance is made for unforeseen events.</p> <p>The outcomes from this review should feed into the revision of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the setting of new targets for general fund balances.</p> <p>As the Council is undertaking a fundamental restructuring of the organisation to aid delivery of its locality strategy, the Council should also take this opportunity to re-evaluate its organisational culture, to ensure its fitness going forward during a period of financial uncertainty.</p>	<p>Although it was difficult to plan for unforeseen events, such as the covid-19 pandemic, the Committee agrees that there are lessons to be learnt from the crisis which should inform the Council's future risk management processes. The Committee welcomes the greater financial controls introduced to address the funding gap and agreed that a robust approach to new spending will be needed on an ongoing basis going forward if the Council is to address historic underfunding and increase the level of reserves held.</p>	<p>Councillor Stuart King</p> <p>Resources</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Lisa Taylor</p>	<p>No direct financial implications, savings and growth expected to be identified to balance the budget.</p>	<p>Risk register is already reviewed and reported to GPAC on a quarterly basis. It will now be reported to Cabinet regularly (including, specifically, any Cabinet meeting considering the Budget or Medium Term Financial Strategy. It can also be reported to Scrutiny committee.</p>	<p>TBC</p>

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSIONS	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
<p>4. That a Communications Plan is developed to ensure that there is a greater level of transparency with the general public over the budget challenges facing the Council and the action needed to address the shortfall. This should include, as a minimum, an easily accessed section on the Council's website outlining the issues facing the Council and regular updates on progress made in addressing the shortfall.</p>	<p>The Committee agrees that transparency about decisions made to address the funding gap was essential for both Council staff and the wider public to retain confidence in the Council and its ability to deliver essential services.</p>	<p>Councillor Stuart King Resources</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Lisa Taylor/ Neil Williams</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Ongoing as the budget is developed Specific area on website to be created</p>	<p>Scrutiny on 13/10/20, by agreement with Members, postponed to provide officer capacity to enable completion of the MHCLG bid for capitalisation direction</p>
<p>5. That the Cabinet continues to explore all avenues to lobby the Government to provide earlier and greater financial certainty for local authorities, and that regular updates on the results of lobbying are provided for the Committee.</p>	<p>The Committee recognises that the Government's plans to confirm its funding settlement intentions in November at the earliest for this and future years, continues to extend the period of uncertainty for local authorities and their ability to plan or respond in year accordingly. The Committee encourages that all avenues for lobbying are explored.</p>	<p>Councillor Callton Young Resources</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Lisa Taylor</p>	<p>Potential to generate additional funding – but unknown at this time</p>	<p>Ongoing lobbying both by the Council and through other routes such as MPs, London Councils and Local Government Association. Outcome of this approach will be fed in to the budget setting</p>	<p>Scrutiny on 13/10/20, by agreement with Members, postponed to provide officer capacity to enable completion of the MHCLG bid for capitalisation direction</p>