

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

REPORT:	CABINET	
DATE	26 July 2023	
REPORT TITLE:	Scrutiny Stage 2 Responses to Recommendations arising from: Scrutiny & Overview Committee held 28 March 2023 (Appendices 1 & 2)	
LEAD OFFICER:	Jane West, Corporate Director for Resources Adrian May, Interim Head of Democratic Services T: 020 8726 6000 X 62529. Email: adrian.may@croydon.gov.uk	
LEAD MEMBER:	Councillor Rowenna Davis Chair, Scrutiny and Overview Committee	
AUTHORITY TO TAKE DECISION:	The Constitution requires that in accepting a recommendation, with or without amendment, from a Scrutiny and Overview Committee or Sub-Committee, the Executive Mayor shall agree an action plan for the implementation of the agreed recommendations and shall delegate responsibility to an identified officer to report back to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or Sub-Committee, within a specified period, on the progress made in implementing the action plan.	
KEY DECISION?	No	N/A
CONTAINS EXEMPT INFORMATION?	No	Public
WARDS AFFECTED:	All	

1 SUMMARY OF REPORT

1.1 This report invites the Executive Mayor to approve the full response reports arising from the Stage 1 reports presented to the Cabinet meeting held on 24 May 2023, including:

- Action plans for the implementation of agreed recommendations, or
- Reasons for rejecting the recommendations.

and that these be reported to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or relevant Sub-Committees.

- 1.2** The Constitution requires that in accepting a recommendation, with or without amendment, from a Scrutiny and Overview Committee or Sub-Committee, the Executive Mayor shall agree an action plan for the implementation of the agreed recommendations and shall delegate responsibility to an identified officer to report back to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or Sub-Committee, within a specified period, on the progress made in implementing the action plan.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** The Executive Mayor, in Cabinet, has the power to make the decisions set out in the recommendation below:

To approve the response and action plans attached to this report at Appendix 1 and 2 and that these be reported to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or relevant Sub-Committees.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSED DECISION

- 3.1** These are contained in the appendices to this report.

4 SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1** The Scrutiny recommendations are set out in the appendices to this report.
- 4.2** The detailed responses, including reasons for rejected recommendations and action plans for the implementation of agreed recommendations are also contained in these appendices.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1** These are contained in the appendices to this report.

6 CONSULTATION / PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY

- 6.1** The recommendations have been developed following the deliberations of either the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or one of its Sub-Committees.
- 6.2** The recommendations in the appendices to this report may involve further consultation and as each recommendation is developed, these implications will be explored and approved.
- 6.3** Some of the recommendations in the appendices to this report are the result of Pre-Decision Scrutiny.

7 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 7.1** Outcome 1: The Council balances its books, listens to residents and delivers good sustainable services:

Priority 4: Ensure good governance is embedded and adopt best practice The Council must learn the lessons of past failures and embed sound governance processes to ensure that decision-making is transparent, open and honest. These must ensure effective control of our projects and programmes and encourage meaningful scrutiny and challenge.

8 IMPLICATIONS

8.1 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1.1** The recommendations set out in the appendices to this report may have a financial implication and as each recommendation is developed the financial implication will be explored and approved.

8.2 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.2.1** Under Section 9F Local Government Act 2000 (“The Act”), Scrutiny and Overview Committee (SOC) have the powers to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken in connection with the discharge of any executive and non-executive functions and to make reports or recommendations to the executive or to the authority with respect to the discharge of those functions. SOC also has the power to make reports or recommendations to the executive or to the authority on matters, which affect the authority’s area or the inhabitants of its area. To discharge this scrutiny function, SOC has appointed Scrutiny Sub-Committees, which includes Streets & Environment (S&E) Sub-Committee. Pursuant to the above provision, S&E Sub-Committee has made a recommendation arising from its scrutiny of the budget areas under its remit, which is set out in the attached appendix.

- 8.2.2** Under Section 9FE of the Act, there is a duty on Cabinet to respond to the scrutiny report, indicating what (if any) action Cabinet proposes to take, within 2 months of receiving the report and recommendations.

8.3 HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 8.3.1** The recommendations in the appendix to this report may have a Human Resources impact and as each recommendation is developed these implications will be explored and approved.

8.4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8.4.1 The Council has a statutory duty, when exercising its functions, to comply with the provisions set out in the Sec 149 Equality Act 2010. The Council must, in the performance of its functions, therefore, have due regard to:

1. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.
2. advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
3. foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8.4.2 The recommendations set out in the appendices of this report have equality implications and will require an EQIA as part of the development of the proposals. The implications will be explored to identify impact and mitigation utilised to negate any adverse impact where necessary.

Approved by: Denise McCausland Equality Programme Manager 16/05/2023

8.5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

8.5.1 The recommendations set out in the appendices of this report may have an Environmental impact and as each recommendation is developed, these implications will be explored and approved.

8.6 CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

8.6.1 The recommendations set out in the appendices of this report may have a Crime and Disorder reduction impact and as each recommendation is developed, these implications will be explored and approved.

8.7 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

8.7.1 WILL THE SUBJECT OF THE REPORT INVOLVE THE PROCESSING OF 'PERSONAL DATA'?

The recommendations set out in the appendices of this report may involve the processing of 'personal data' and as each recommendation is developed, these implications will be explored and approved.

8.7.2 HAS A DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT (DPIA) BEEN COMPLETED?

NO

The recommendations set out in the appendices of this report may require a DPIA and as each recommendation is developed, these implications will be explored and a DPIA carried out where necessary.

9 APPENDICES

9.1 Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Stage 2 Responses: Recommendations from Scrutiny & Overview Committee, Item: Council Tax Hardship Scheme 2023-24, 28 March 2023

Appendix 2 – Scrutiny Stage 2 Responses: Recommendations from Scrutiny & Overview Committee, Item: Financial Performance Monitoring – Month 9, 28 March 2023

10 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

10.1 Agenda for the meeting of the Scrutiny & Overview Committee held on 28 March 2023

<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=166&MId=2930>