

REPORT TO:	CABINET 25 January 2023
SUBJECT:	STAGE 1: RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM SCRUTINY
LEAD OFFICERS:	JANE WEST - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - RESOURCES ADRIAN MAY – INTERIM HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & SCRUTINY
LEAD MEMBER:	COUNCILLOR ROWENNA DAVIS CHAIR, SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
CABINET MEMBER:	JASON PERRY, EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF CROYDON
WARDS:	ALL
FINANCIAL IMPACT	
<p>The Scrutiny recommendations to the Executive (Appendix A) may have financial implications. Following the recommendations being received at Cabinet, the Executive will identify and consider any financial implications as part of their response. If any recommendation is subsequently progressed for consideration and decision by the Executive Mayor in Cabinet, full financial, legal and equalities implications would be presented.</p>	
FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE: Not a key decision	

The Executive Mayor has the power to make the decisions set out in the recommendations contained within this report:

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Mayor in Cabinet is asked to:

1. Receive the recommendations arising from the meetings of the Children & Young People Sub-Committee held on 27 September 2022 (Appendices 1 & 2); Streets & Environment Sub-Committee held on 4 October 2022 (Appendices 3 & 4); Streets & Environment Sub-Committee held on 8 November 2022 (Appendices 5 & 6); Health and Social Care Sub-Committee held on 18 October 2022 (Appendix 7); and Scrutiny & Overview Committee on 6 December 2022 (Appendix 8).
2. To provide a substantive response to the recommendations (a Scrutiny Stage 2 Report) within two months (i.e. at the Cabinet meeting on 22nd March 2023).

2. STAGE 1: RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM SCRUTINY

- 2.1 Recommendations that have been developed from the Scrutiny and Overview Committee and its Sub-Committees since the last Cabinet meeting are provided in the attached appendices. The constitution requires that an interim or full response is provided within 2 months of this Cabinet meeting.

3. CONCLUSIONS FROM COMMITTEE/SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- 3.1 In order to provide additional context for the Cabinet, a summary of the conclusions reached by the Scrutiny & Overview Committee or relevant Sub-Committee follows.

Children & Young People Sub-Committee – 27 September 2022

Item: Children's Centre Contract - Insourcing of the South Locality Children's Centre Delivery

- 3.2 The Sub-Committee were pleased to see that the Council had ensured Children's Centres were still available in the South Locality by insourcing the delivery of the Centres
- 3.3 The Sub-Committee were concerned about the limited opening hours of the Purley Oaks Centre and how effectively families who would usually rely on this service would be signposted to alternative resources.
- 3.4 The Sub-Committee were concerned about the £97K budget pressure from insourcing the South Locality but were reassured that this would be looked at holistically to avoid a reduction in service for the South of the borough. Members were of the view that they should receive an update on Children's Centres, once the Family Hub model had been fully implemented to see how this was performing.

Item: Early Help, Children's Social Care and Education Dashboard

- 3.5 The Sub-Committee were of the view that missing information from the Dashboard should be provided in the updated report for the next meeting with full commentary for any indicators with a RAG rating of red or amber.

Streets, Environment & Homes Sub-Committee - 4 October 2022

Item: Housing Needs Transformation Plan

- 3.6 The Sub-Committee were reassured by the action already taken and the pace of change in the Housing Needs service. Members agreed that the direction of travel was positive.

3.7 The Sub-Committee requested that more detailed versions of the Transformation Plan, that included mapping of the various work streams, were shared once they were available.

3.8 The Sub-Committee requested more granular detail on the identified workstreams and the plans for cultural change.

Item: Healthy Streets and Active Travel (including Healthy Neighbourhoods, School Streets, Vision Zero, Cycling and Walking Strategy)

3.9 The Sub-Committee thanked officers for the very useful briefing on monitoring and engagement for Healthy Neighbourhoods in advance of the meeting and asked that once information on how monitoring data would be used that this be shared with Members.

3.10 The Sub-Committee concluded that the Council's webpages on Active Transport and Healthy Streets should be brought together to allow this to be more coherent and easier to understand for residents.

3.11 The Sub-Committee concluded that there was a strong central government drive for local authorities to adopt Active Travel policies, but that this was not widely understood. The detail on how Active Travel England fit into this picture was also unclear.

Streets & Environment Sub-Committee – 8 November 2022

Item: Waste Contract Performance Paper

3.12 The Sub-Committee were concerned about the performance of the contract and were disappointed at the levels of improvement since the Service Improvement Notice had been served to Veolia in February 2022.

3.13 The Sub-Committee were positive about the 'Love Clean Streets' app, but were keen to see issues in passing photographic evidence on to Veolia's street crews resolved.

3.14 The Sub-Committee concluded that an information sheet on street grading should be produced to inform Members and residents on what each grade meant.

3.15 The Sub-Committee asked for a future update on repeat missed collections for estates and the actions being taken to resolve this.

3.16 The Sub-Committee were positive about the communications plan being produced by the SLWP, and asked to be sighted on this once it was completed.

3.17 The Sub-Committee were of the view that access issues for communal waste should be mapped and included in future reports.

Item: Cabinet Report - Waste Collection and Street Cleansing Contract

3.18 The Sub-Committee concluded that there needed to be a discussion on how this contract was scrutinised going forward, with the possibility that Scrutiny Chairs of other partner boroughs of the SLWP collaborated in scrutinising the current contract and any future contracts.

3.19 The Sub-Committee concluded that there might be similar contracts coming down the pipeline and that these should be received for Pre-Decision Scrutiny.

3.20 The Sub-Committee were of the view that a timeline and details on Member and resident engagement for the development of the Service Delivery Options be provided to Members alongside the SLWP triennial survey results.

Health and Social Care Sub-Committee – 18 October 2022

Item: Adult Social Care Budget & Reforms

3.21 The Sub-Committee was reassured that Adult Social Services were on track to deliver their budget.

3.22 The Sub-Committee were reassured that the Council had done everything it could to prepare for the 'Fair Cost of Care' but recognised that this was still a risk to all local authorities and sought to write to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to ask that this was urgently reviewed to ensure risks were mitigated to avoid destabilisation of the care market and local authority budget setting.

3.23 The Sub-Committee agreed it should be sighted on the newest the self-assessment based on the preparation for inspection tool developed by the ADASS, once completed.

Scrutiny & Overview Committee – 6 December 2022

Item: Borough of Culture

3.24 The Committee commended the team for the hard work that had gone into preparing the Borough of Culture programme and agreed that all involved had fantastic intentions and demonstrated a commitment to the widest possible engagement.

- 3.25 The Committee welcomed the approach from the organisers of the Borough of Culture to widen the definition of culture, beyond that defined by the Arts Council, to include areas such as faith based activity, food and comedy.
- 3.26 The Committee welcomed confirmation that options for utilising unused business space, such as empty shop units, for Borough of Culture events were being actively explored
- 3.27 The Committee welcomed confirmation that the Ignite Fund would be used to expand the reach of the Borough of Culture programme to under-represented parts of the borough and would encourage the Steering Group to continue targeting areas without representation in the Borough of Culture programme.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The recommendations were developed from the deliberations of either the Scrutiny & Overview Committee or one of its Sub-Committees.

5. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY

- 5.1 The recommendations set out in the appendix to this report directly arise from Scrutiny.

6. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from the content of this report. Please see Finance Impact Section above.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The Head of Litigation and Corporate Law comments on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance that the recommendations are presented to Cabinet in accordance with the Constitution.
- 7.2 This requires that the Scrutiny report is received and registered at this Cabinet Meeting and that a substantive response is provided within 2 months (i.e. **Cabinet on 22nd March 2023** is the next available meeting).

Approved by Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation & Corporate Law on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance & Deputy Monitoring Officer

8. EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.1 There are no equalities implications arising directly from the content of this report, the report received recommendations from scrutiny, but no decision for recommendation.

9. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

9.1 There are no human resource implications arising directly from the contents of this report

10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

10.1 There are no environmental implications arising directly from the contents of this report, the report received recommendations from scrutiny, but no decision for recommendation.

11. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

11.1 There are no crime and disorder implications arising directly from the contents of this report, the report received recommendations from scrutiny, but no decision for recommendation.

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSED DECISION

12.1 There is a statutory requirement for Cabinet to receive the recommendations made by Scrutiny.

13. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

13.1 None

14. DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

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

There are no Data Protection implications at this stage, but that the situation will be reviewed again at Stage 2 when Cabinet provide their response to the proposed recommendations.

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

No.

CONTACT OFFICER:

Simon Trevaskis, Senior Democratic Services
& Governance Officer – Scrutiny
T: 020 8726 6000 X 64840
Email: simon.trevaskis@croydon.gov.uk

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Recommendations from Children & Young People Sub-Committee;
Item: Children's Centre Contract - Insourcing of the South Locality Children's Centre
Delivery, 27 September 2022

Appendix 2 – Recommendations from Children & Young People Sub-Committee;
Item: Early Help, Children's Social Care and Education Dashboard, 27 September
2022

Appendix 3 – Recommendations from Streets & Environment Sub-Committee, Item:
Housing Needs Transformation Plan, 4 October 2022

Appendix 4 – Recommendations from Streets & Environment Sub-Committee, Item:
Healthy Streets and Active Travel (including Healthy Neighbourhoods, School
Streets, Vision Zero, Cycling and Walking Strategy), 4 October 2022

Appendix 5 – Recommendations from Streets & Environment Sub-Committee, Item:
Waste Contract Performance Paper, 8 November 2022

Appendix 6 – Recommendations from Streets & Environment Sub-Committee, Item:
Cabinet Report - Waste Collection and Street Cleansing Contract, 8 November 2022

Appendix 7 – Recommendations from Health and Social Care Sub-Committee, Item:
Adult Social Care Budget & Reforms, 18 October 2022

Appendix 8 – Recommendations from Scrutiny & Overview Committee, Item:
Borough of Culture, 6 December 2022

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Meeting of the Children & Young People Sub-Committee on 27 September 2022
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=167&MId=3428&Ver=4>

Meeting of the Streets & Environment Sub-Committee on 4 October 2022
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=170&MId=3429&Ver=4>

Meeting of the Streets & Environment Sub-Committee on 8 November 2022
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=170&MId=3439&Ver=4>

Meeting of the Health and Social Care Sub-Committee on 18 October 2022
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=168&MId=3436&Ver=4>

Meeting of the Scrutiny & Overview Committee on 6 December 2022
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=166&MId=2927&Ver=4>