

REPORT TO:	Cabinet 14 November 2016
AGENDA ITEM NO:	10
SUBJECT:	STAGE 2: RESPONSE TO 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
LEAD OFFICERS:	Jo Negrini, Chief Executive Stephen Rowan, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny
CABINET MEMBERS:	Councillor Alisa Flemming, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning Councillor Alison Butler, Cabinet Member for Homes, Regeneration and Planning Councillor Stuart King, Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:	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.

CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON: The Constitution requires that in accepting a recommendation, with or without amendment, from a Scrutiny and Strategic Overview Committee or Sub-Committee, the Cabinet 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 Strategic Overview Committee or Sub-Committee, within a specified period, on progress in implementing the action plan.

Corporate Plan sections:
Croydon a Place to Live and Work;
Fairness – Equalities, Open & Accountable;
Croydon Safe & Secure; Sustainable Transport.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The recommendations in this report may have a financial implication and as each recommendation is developed the financial implication will be explored and approved.

FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.: not a key decision

The Leader of the Council has delegated to the Cabinet the power to make the decisions set out in the recommendations below:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet is recommended to approve the response reports and action plans attached to this report (at Appendices A-C) and that these be reported to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or relevant Sub-Committees.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/DETAIL

2.1 This report asks the Cabinet to approve the full response reports arising from the stage 1 reports to the Cabinet meetings held on 19 September 2016 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.

3. SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Scrutiny recommendations are contained in the schedule in the appendix to this report.

3.2 The detailed responses (including reasons for rejected recommendations) and action plans (for the implementation of agreed recommendations) are contained in the appendices.

4. CONSULTATION

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCIL SOLICITOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

The recommendations are in accordance with the constitution.

7. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

8. EQUALITIES IMPACT

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

11. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSED DECISION

11.1 These are contained in the appendix to this report.

12. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

12.1 These are contained in the appendix to this report.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

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

<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.

<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.

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

<p>SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION</p>	<p>DEPARTMENT AND CABINET MEMBER RESPONDING</p>	<p>ACCEPT/ REJECT RECOMMENDATIONS (inc. reasons for rejection)</p>	<p>IDENTIFIED OFFICER</p>	<p>ANY FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</p>	<p>TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS IF ACCEPTED (ie Action Plan)</p>	<p>DATE OF SCRUTINY MEETING TO REPORT BACK</p>
<p>HOME SCHOOLING - At its meeting on 14 June 2016, the Sub-Committee RESOLVED to:</p>						
<p>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.</p>	<p>People / Cllr Flemming – Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning</p>	<p>Agreed-The Learning Access Service will work with schools identified as having a high number of pupils leaving their roll for the purposes of elective home education to identify if undiagnosed SEND needs have been a factor.</p> <p>Croydon has raised this issue at the national Elective Education LA forum where it will be discussed in November 16 to identify a) how other LAs track this and recognise undiagnosed SEN and b) to try and identify a uniform national means of monitoring this</p>	<p>Head of Learning Access, Children Family Intervention and Childrens Social Care</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>January 17</p>	<p>CYP 6 December 2016</p>

APPENDIX A

<p>SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION</p>	<p>DEPARTMENT AND CABINET MEMBER RESPONDING</p>	<p>ACCEPT/ REJECT RECOMMENDATIONS (inc. reasons for rejection)</p>	<p>IDENTIFIED OFFICER</p>	<p>ANY FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</p>	<p>TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS IF ACCEPTED (ie Action Plan)</p>	<p>DATE OF SCRUTINY MEETING TO REPORT BACK</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>People / Cllr Flemming - Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning</p>	<p>Agreed-The Learning Access Service are working with the Saffron Valley PRU Federation to ensure IGCSE exam provision will again be available for 2017. An information, advice and guidance meeting was held in September 16 with 8 EHE families in attendance and 4 more requesting information following the meeting with obvious interest in accessing the exam provision.</p>	<p>Head of Learning Access, Children Family Family Intervention and Childrens Social Care</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>September 17</p>	<p>CYP 6 December 2016</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>People / Cllr Flemming - Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning</p>	<p>Agreed-14-19 Participation team actively involved in supporting next steps and monitoring progression to post-16 provisions. The 14-19 Participation team attended the September 16 advice meeting for EHE families and offered the</p>	<p>Head of Learning Access, Children Family Family Intervention and Childrens Social Care</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>CYP 6 December 2016</p>

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		parents the initial information, advice and guidance regarding post-16 options. The 14-19 team will continue ongoing monitoring, tracking, advice and guidance in regard to the suitability of ongoing EHE to achieve desired post-16 outcomes.				
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.	People / Cllr Flemming-Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning	<p>Agreed-The Learning Access Service has drafted a protocol to be agreed with colleagues in Children's Social Care on working together when EHE is raised by the parent of the child on a CIN or CP plan.</p> <p>The EHE Monitoring and Support Teacher continues to make appropriate MASH referrals when safeguarding concerns are raised. Referrals to the Education Welfare Service are made when sufficient</p>	Head of Learning Access, Children Family Family Intervention and Childrens Social Care	None	Ongoing	CYP 6 December 2016

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		evidence of suitable education provision is not provided. The EHE Monitoring and Support Teacher is a standing member of the LA's weekly children missing education panel.				
<p>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.</p>	<p>People / Cllr Flemming – Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learning</p>	<p>Agreed-The elective home education monitoring and support teacher contributes to the national elective home education forum of LA officers which is engaged in discussions with central government to review legislation in this area.</p> <p>The forum is working with the London Safeguarding Children Board to make representations to central government on the issue of registration.</p>	<p>Head of Learning Access, Children Family Intervention and Childrens Social Care</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>CYP 6 December 2016</p>

APPENDIX B

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Brick by Brick Croydon Limited - 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	Place, Cllr Butler - Cabinet Member for Homes Regeneration and Planning	Accept – the council will request that Brick by Brick Croydon Ltd commit to do this.	Director of Development	none	asap	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	Place, Cllr Butler - Cabinet Member for Homes Regeneration and Planning	Accept – the council will request that Brick by Brick Croydon Ltd commit to do this.	Director of Development	none	asap	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	Place, Cllr Butler - Cabinet Member for Homes Regeneration and Planning	Accept – the council will request that Brick by Brick Croydon Ltd commit to do this.	Director of Development	none	asap	SOC 13 December 2016

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Transport Hubs and Accessibility - The Streets, Environment and Homes Sub-Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2016 resolved to recommend to Cabinet that:						
<p>To recommend to the Cabinet and Transport for London:</p> <p>1. That the major infrastructure project at Fiveways include plans to upgrade Waddon station to improve accessibility</p>	<p>Place, Cllr King – Cabinet Member for Transport & Environment</p>	<p>Reject - This station accessibility improvement is outside of the current scope of the TfL Fiveways project and is not something that TfL has the funding or capacity to deliver.</p> <p>There is however a requirement that the Fiveways project enables step free access at Waddon Railway Station by ensuring that the design does not preclude any future plans to improve station access should Network Rail (NR) be in a position to take this forward in the future.</p> <p>The station is owned by NR and TfL cannot be expected to invest in another organisation's assets.</p>	<p>Director of Planning & Strategic Transport</p>	<p>Croydon Council is committed to provide £20m to TfL towards the Fiveways project but none of this will be used by TfL for station access</p> <p>For any further Financial Implications, see response to Recommendation 4.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>SEH 22 November 2016</p>

APPENDIX C

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<p>To recommend to the Cabinet and Network Rail:</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>	<p>Place, Cllr King Cabinet Member for Transport & Environment</p>	<p>Accept - The DfT select which stations receive Access for the All (AFA) funding. Currently, the DfT is committed to fund these projects and Network Rail (NR) is committed to deliver a scheme to the output that DfT specify.</p>	<p>Director of Planning & Strategic Transport</p>	<p>There are no direct financial implication to the Council as long as Access for All funding is forthcoming. Otherwise see response to Recommendation 4.</p>	<p>Croydon Council will work with NR and TfL to bid to the DfT for Access for All (AFA) funding.</p>	<p>SEH 22 November 2016</p>
<p>To recommend to the Cabinet and Network Rail:</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>	<p>Place, Cllr King Cabinet Member for Transport & Environment</p>	<p>Accept - NR's funding for feasibility studies for the Access for the All (AFA) programme derives from the DfT, NR is currently not in a position to undertake any further work.</p> <p>The most likely way that step free access will be provided at Norwood Junction Station would be as part of the Brighton mainline Upgrade project.</p>	<p>Director of Planning & Strategic Transport</p>	<p>See response to Recommendation 4.</p>	<p>The Council will continue to lobby the DfT and work with NR for this key improvement project.</p>	<p>SEH 22 November 2016</p>

<p>To recommend to Network Rail, the Cabinet, and Transport for London:</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 funding</p>	<p>Place, Cllr King - Cabinet Member for Transport & Environment</p>	<p>Accept - There are ways in which projects can be funded on the NR system. Projects can be wholly or partly funded by 3rd parties).</p> <p>However, if additional funding is required (i.e. match funding) then NR can only match that funding if they have a corresponding budget that they can utilise.</p> <p>NR's funding comes directly from the DfT/Treasury, so if Croydon Council had 50% of the funding for any potential improvement scheme), it does not guarantee NR would be able to provide the other 50%.</p> <p>NR has recently worked with two other London boroughs to help deliver option selection reports for station access improvements utilising their own funding, with no financial contribution from NR.</p> <p>NR report that the DfT welcome funding from 3rd parties to improve the</p>	<p>Director of Planning & Strategic Transport</p>	<p>The recommendation is to seek alternative funding streams through the Council itself as well as private developers. The use of externally derived funds available to the Council (for example Local Implementation Plan funding or CIL) would have opportunity costs (that funding not available to be used on other items). The use of Growth Zone funding and / or Croydon Capital/Borrowing would have both opportunity costs and direct financial costs to the Council. S106 funding from developers for station access may be difficult to justify. In parts of the borough there may not be the level of development that</p>	<p>An officer would need to be identified/funded to research funding opportunities, commission access improvement feasibility /costings for Croydon stations and then to coordinate funding strategies; attempt to draw in / draw on funding.</p>	<p>SEH 22 November 2016</p>
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APPENDIX C

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		business case for scheme investment.		could make a significant contribution towards often costly station access.		