

REPORT TO:	Cabinet 10 December 2018
SUBJECT:	STAGE 1: RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM SCRUTINY
LEAD OFFICERS:	Richard Simpson, Executive Director Resources and S151 Officer Stephen Rowan – Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny
LEAD MEMBER:	Councillor Sean Fitzsimons Chair, Scrutiny and Overview Committee
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

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 Scrutiny and Overview Committee (30 October 2018) & the Streets, Environment and Homes Sub-Committee (6 November 2018) and to provide a substantive response within two months (ie. at the next available Cabinet meeting on **21 January 2019**).

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

3. 30 OCTOBER 2018 – SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Committee held a Question Time session with the Cabinet Member for Finance

and Resources. Subsequent to the questions asked at the meeting, the Committee reached the following conclusions:

1. The Committee were disappointed with the lack of information provided as an update on the implementation of their recommendations made over the past four year.
2. It was particularly disappointing to note that a system for notifying local Members about S106 and Cil funds in their Wards had not been implemented in the three years since the recommendation was made.
3. That further information was required on the Council's Digital Strategy and the implementation of the Eyes and Ears Strategy and as such the new Chief Digital Officer would be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to provide an update.

3.2 The Committee also requested the following information to be provided by the Cabinet Member:-

1. It was requested that representations made by the Council calling for fair funding for outer London Boroughs are shared with Committee Members.
2. That an update on the implementation of a system for notifying local Members about the S106 & Cil funds raised in their Wards be provided.

3.3 The Committee agreed to make the following recommendation to the Cabinet:

1. Recommend to the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources that action is taken to ensure that Members are informed when s106 and Cil agreements have been negotiated in their Ward, including confirming for what purpose the funds had been secured
2. Recommend to each Cabinet Member that a tracker is maintained of all Scrutiny recommendations which come under their responsibility.

3.4 The Committee considered an item on Co-operation and Social Enterprise in Croydon; present were the Cabinet Members Economy & Jobs and Finance & Resources. Subsequent to the questions asked of to those present, the Committee reached the following conclusions:

1. The Committee were disappointed to note that although the Council had signed up to support the ten principles for Cooperative Council's, there did not seem to be an overarching policy to support cooperatives within the Council.
2. Although there had been an emphasis on social enterprise over recent years, there was a need to develop a strategy that encompassed all the different social business models and in particular the various models of co-operatism.

3.5 The Committee also requested the following information to be provided by the Cabinet Member:

Arising from the discussion of this item, the following further information was requested a breakdown of Council contractors, categorised by business model.

3.6 The Committee agreed to make the following recommendation to the Cabinet:
Recommend to the Cabinet Member for Economy and Jobs that a comprehensive strategy is developed to set out how the Council will provide support for all forms of co-operatism and social enterprise.

4. 6 NOVEMBER 2018 – STREETS, ENVIRONMENT & HOMES SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Sub-Committee held a Question Time session with the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and Regeneration. Subsequent to the questions asked of to those present, the Committee reached the following conclusions:
1. The Cabinet Member and officers were thanked for their presentation and report.
 2. That going forward, rolling trackers for recommendations made would be implemented to ensure that they were being monitored and completed as required.
 3. There was a concern at the lack of progress made on some of the recommendations that has been made over the last few years, in particular in relation to bonfires, smoke control and the impact on air quality.
- 4.2 The Committee agreed to make the following recommendation to the Cabinet:
1. Recommend to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and Regeneration for exact timescales to be provided on the resolution of outstanding recommendations.
 2. Recommend to the Cabinet member for Environment, Transport and Regeneration for a review of Public by Laws to take place despite constraints.
- 4.3 The Committee also considered a report on Social Housing in Croydon. Subsequent to the questions asked of to those present, the Committee reached the following conclusions:
1. The Members thanked the registered housing providers and Support for attending the meeting.
 2. The Sub-Committee Members felt that the information report presented by the Council officers required improvement as lacked vital information about the sector in Croydon.
 3. The Housing First initiative was innovative and welcoming and that progress details of progress would be welcomed at future meetings.
 4. The work of the Gateway service was positive and making a difference to the lives of Croydon residents.
 5. The short term funding provided by government to Thames reach was not beneficial to their workforce in the long term.
 6. The those housing providers that have been successful in ensuring that their contractors pay the London Living Wage be congratulated.
 7. There is a need for better co-ordination between all Registered Housing Providers in Croydon to ensure best use of resources across the borough
- 4.4 The Committee agreed to make the following recommendation to the Cabinet:
1. Recommend to Optivo, Caysh, CCHA and Thames reach to work extensively to encourage their contractors to pay staff the London Living Wage.
 2. Recommend to Cabinet Member that the Council should lead on having an annual review of Registered Housing Providers performance in the borough,
 3. Recommend to the all registered housing providers In Croydon to improve their partnership working within Croydon and with the Council.
 4. Recommend to Cabinet Member to review Croydon's overall approach to its relationship with Registered Housing Providers in Croydon and report back to this committee.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

The recommendations are presented to Cabinet 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, 21 January 2019** is the next available meeting).

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Background document 1: Reports to the Scrutiny & Overview Committee on 30 October 2018. <https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=166&MId=1519>

Background document 2: Reports to the Streets, Environment & Homes Sub-Committee on 6 November 2018.
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=170&MId=1493&Ver=4>