

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 14 November 2016

Wards: All

Subject: Scrutiny review of shared and outsourced services

Lead officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services

Lead member: Councillor Peter Southgate, Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Contact officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services, 0208 545 3864

Recommendations:

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1. That Cabinet considers the report and recommendations (attached in Appendix 1) arising from the scrutiny review of shared and outsourced services undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission;
 2. That Cabinet agrees to the implementation of the recommendations through an action plan being drawn up by officers in consultation with the lead Cabinet Member to be designated by Cabinet.
 3. That Cabinet decides whether it wishes to formally approve this action plan prior to it being submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. To present the scrutiny review report on shared and outsourced services for endorsement and seek approval to implement the review recommendations through an action plan being drawn up

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. The Overview and Scrutiny Commission has recognised that scrutiny members will increasingly be scrutinising services that have been provided or commissioned through a wide range of different channels or mechanisms, as well as scrutinising proposals to move to alternative delivery arrangements.
- 2.2. In order to be able to carry out such scrutiny effectively, the Commission has established two separate task group reviews to increase its knowledge of different models of service provision and the associated implications for scrutiny.
- 2.3. When the Commission received the report of the shared services review in July 2015, it agreed that this would not be presented to Cabinet until the review of outsourced services had also completed. This would enable the cumulative learning and complementary recommendations to be reported together.
- 2.4. The joint report of the shared and outsourced services task group was presented to the Commission on 7 July 2016 and is attached at Appendix 1 for Cabinet's consideration.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1. The Overview and Scrutiny Commission can select topics for scrutiny review and for other scrutiny work as it sees fit, taking into account views and suggestions from officers, partner organisations and the public.
- 3.2. Cabinet is constitutionally required to receive, consider and respond to scrutiny recommendations within two months of receiving them at a meeting.
- 3.3. Cabinet is not, however, required to agree and implement recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny. Cabinet could agree to implement some, or none, of the recommendations made in the scrutiny review final report.

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 4.1. In carrying out its review, the task group questioned council officers, directors and the chief executive as well as talking to senior managers at Barnet Council and at Richmond and Kingston's social enterprise company Achieving for Children.
- 4.2. Appendix 1 of the task group report lists the written evidence received by the task group and Appendix 2 contains a list of witnesses at each meeting and details of visits made by the task group

5 TIMETABLE

- 5.1. The final report was approved by members of the Commission at its meeting on 7 July 2016 and it was agreed to present the report to Cabinet.
- 5.2. Cabinet is asked to provide a formal response to the Commission within two months

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. None for the purposes of this covering report. Any specific resource implications will be identified and presented to Cabinet prior to agreeing an action plan for implementing the report's recommendations.

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. None for the purposes of this report.

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. None for the purposes of this report.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. None for the purposes of this report.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. None for the purposes of this report.

11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

Appendix 1 – task group review report on shared and outsourced services

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 12.1. Notes of task group meetings