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| <b>Contains Confidential or Exempt Information</b> | <b>NO</b>  |
| <b>Title</b>                                       | Coronavirus Scrutiny Recommendations                     |
| <b>Responsible Officer(s)</b>                      | Helen Harris – Director of Legal and Democratic Services |
| <b>Author(s)</b>                                   | Sam Bailey – Head of Democratic Services                 |
| <b>Portfolio(s)</b>                                | Councillor Julian Bell – Leader of the Council           |
| <b>For Consideration By</b>                        | Cabinet  |
| <b>Date to be Considered</b>                       | 8 December 2020  |
| <b>Implementation Date if Not Called In</b>        | 21 December 2020   |
| <b>Affected Wards</b>                              | All  |
| <b>Keywords/Index</b>                              |  |

**Purpose of Report:**

Overview and Scrutiny undertook some early initial scrutiny of the Council’s response to the Coronavirus Pandemic during the summer. This report outlines the final recommendations from this work.

**1. Recommendations**

That the recommendations (see Appendix 1 to this report) made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are agreed.

**2. Reason for Decision and Options Considered**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee decided early on in the Pandemic that it was important that there was some early scrutiny of the Council’s response to the pandemic. The Committee recognised though, that as the Council was in a response phase of the pandemic any scrutiny needed to be light touch as it was important not to divert too much officer resource from responding to the pandemic. Therefore it was agreed that the committee meetings would focus on oral evidence from key officers, with the minutes of these meetings forming the evidence base for any recommendations.

Cabinet could choose to accept all the recommendations. This is the preferred option as the recommendations have been reached after careful consideration of the evidence given by officers during the pandemic.

However Cabinet could also choose to reject some, or all, of the recommendations if Cabinet do not feel they should be proceeded with.

A Scrutiny Panel has been set up to scrutinise the Council's ongoing response to and recovery from the pandemic which will cover some of the issues that were not able to be addressed in the initial scrutiny of the pandemic. It will also pick up some longer running issues. Due to the light touch nature of the scrutiny that was undertaken, if there are any recommendations that are unclear or Cabinet feels they need further development they could be referred to this Scrutiny Panel for further investigation. They could then form part of the final recommendations of this panel to Cabinet next year.

It is worth noting that one of the panels did not make recommendations on the night of the meeting but asked members to send suggested recommendations around afterwards. Although OSC agreed to send these recommendations on to Cabinet, some of the recommendations lack context or evidence as set out in the minutes. Where this is the case reasons for the recommendations are outlined in Appendix 1 to this report to assist Cabinet with deciding whether to accept the recommendations, reject the recommendations or to refer them to the COVID Scrutiny Panel.

### **3. Key Implications**

#### **4. Financial**

Any financial implications in accepting recommendations are highlighted in Appendix 1, through comments made by Officers.

#### **5. Legal**

There are no legal implications.

#### **6. Value For Money**

Value for money is not a consideration when Scrutiny makes recommendations. However it should be considered when the decision maker decides whether to accept the recommendations or not.

#### **7. Sustainability Impact Appraisal**

A sustainability impact appraisal will need to be undertaken for any new initiatives or projects that are commissioned as a result of the acceptance of any of these recommendations.

#### **8. Risk Management**

Risk management will need to be considered undertaken for any new initiatives or projects that are commissioned as a result of the acceptance of any of these recommendations.

## **9. Community Safety**

No implications.

## **10. Links to the 3 Key Priorities for the Borough**

These recommendations are key in supporting the Council's priority of 'A healthy and great place', through responding to, and recovering from the Coronavirus Pandemic.

## **11. Equalities, Human Rights and Community Cohesion**

If any of the accepted recommendations result in a change in service a full Equalities Analysis Assessment will need to be carried out before any change is made.

## **12. Staffing/Workforce and Accommodation implications:**

None.

## **13. Property and Assets**

There are no property implications.

## **14. Any other implications:**

No other implications.

## **15. Consultation**

The recommendations were made as a result of consultation across the organisation through the scrutiny review process.

## **16. Timetable for Implementation**

Each accepted recommendation will have its own timetable for implementation.

## **17. Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Coronavirus Scrutiny Final Recommendations & Officer Comments

## **18. Background Information**

Scrutiny panel reports, minutes and recommendations are all published on the Council's website:

<https://ealing.cmis.uk.com/ealing/Committees.aspx>

## **Consultation**

| <b>Name of consultee</b> | <b>Post held</b>                          | <b>Date sent to consultee</b> | <b>Date response received</b> | <b>Comments appear in paragraph:</b> |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Internal</b>          |   |                               |                               |                                      |
| Helen Harris             | Director of Legal and Democratic Services | 12 Nov 20                     | 18 Nov 20                     |                                      |
| Cllr Josh Blacker        | Chair of OSC                              | 11 Nov 20                     | 12 Nov 20                     |                                      |
| Cllr Joanna Dabrowska    | Vice Chair of OSC                         | 11 Nov 20                     | 12 Nov 20                     |                                      |
| Ross Brown               | Chief Finance Officer                     | 12 Nov 20                     | 26 Nov 20                     |                                      |

### **Report History**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Decision type:</b> | <b>Urgency item?</b>                    |
| Key Decision          | No                                      |
| Report no.:           | Report author and contact for queries:  |
|                       | Sam Bailey, Head of Democratic Services |
|                       | 7497                                    |