

Cheltenham Borough Council

Cabinet

14 October 2014

Scrutiny task group review – Hidden Deprivation in our Town Centre

The Cabinet Response

Accountable member	Councillor Rowena Hay, Cabinet Member Healthy Lifestyles
Accountable officer	Richard Gibson, Strategy and Engagement Manager
Executive summary	<p>As the covering report from Overview and Scrutiny explains O&S requested some further steer from Cabinet before doing any further work on this review.</p> <p>It was acknowledged when this task group was first set up that its remit covered several Cabinet portfolios and therefore Cabinet asked the Cabinet Member Healthy Lifestyles to be their Cabinet Lead for the task group.</p> <p>When the request was received from O&S in August for an interim report to be presented to Cabinet, the Cabinet Member Healthy Lifestyles agreed to co-ordinate a response from the Cabinet Members and this is set out in this report.</p> <p>There were a number of recommendations where the task group suggested they could be referred to other groups where work was already being done. Cabinet support all of these recommendations.</p> <p>Regarding recommendation 5, raising standards of private rented sector accommodation across the town is a Cabinet priority which is being progressed as a direct result of the prior commissioning review. A licensing scheme across the borough will be considered as an option within this piece of work. This will be considered as part of the commissioning review looking at Environmental and Regulatory Services (REST) and any recommendations will be brought to Cabinet in due course as part of this review.</p> <p>Similarly with recommendation 7, increased pro-active enforcement for all regulatory and environmental services was recognised during the public protection and private sector housing commissioning reviews. Regulatory and environmental services are being re-designed as part of the REST review so this recommendation can be further considered as part of this review.</p> <p>The Cabinet considers this response covers all the recommendations arising from the scrutiny review and they have no requests for scrutiny to do any further work at this stage.</p>

Recommendations

1. Cabinet supports the O+S committee's proposal that the recommendations relating to the work of the Town Centre Neighbourhood Coordination Group (NCG) (1,11 and 12) are passed to the Group coordinator to action;
2. Cabinet supports the O+S committee's proposal that the recommendations relating to the reducing alcohol related violence (2) and the late night levy (3) are passed to the Cabinet Member Development and Safety to action;
3. Cabinet recognises that the action relating to developing a collaborative approach to drug dealing (4) is already a commitment within the 2014-15 corporate strategy with the Deputy Chief Executive being the lead officer;
4. Cabinet supports the O+S committee's proposal that the recommendation in respect of greater promotion of housing advice services (6) is passed onto the Housing and Communities Manager to action;
5. Cabinet recommends that the Scrutiny Task Group's proposals to licence all private rented sector accommodation in the borough (5) and introduce a more pro-active enforcement regime (7) are passed to the Cabinet Member Development and Safety and the Cabinet Member Housing to consider within the scope of the commissioning review looking at Environmental and Regulatory Services and its work-strand looking at private-rented sector housing;
6. Cabinet recommends that the Scrutiny Task Group's proposals in respect of Ubico operational matters (8,9 and 10) are passed to the Joint Waste Team and Ubico to investigate and they report back to the Cabinet Member Clean and Green Environment on their feasibility within existing operational budgets.
7. Cabinet thank the scrutiny task group for their report and do not request O&S to do any further work at this stage.

Financial implications	No additional budget requirements have been identified at this stage; it is anticipated that the recommendations can all be accommodated within existing operational budgets. Contact officer: Sarah Didcote Sarah.Didcote@cheltenham.gov.uk, 01242 264125
Legal implications	Legal advice will be provided in due course and as appropriate on those actions set out in the recommendations which are agreed by Cabinet and taken forward. In particular legal input will be provided to the commissioning review looking at Environmental and Regulatory Services and the proposed additional work-strand looking at the feasibility of licensing all private-rented sector housing in the borough. Contact officer: peter.lewis@tewkesbury.gov.uk, 01684 272012

HR implications (including learning and organisational development)	None identified at this stage
Key risks	If Cabinet do not monitor progress against the stated recommendations, there is a risk that the Council will not be seen to be making good on its intentions to improve services for people living in the town centre.
Corporate and Community Plan implications	The recommendations from the STG could help the council deliver six of its corporate strategy outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheltenham has a clean and well-maintained environment. • Cheltenham's natural and built environment is enhanced and protected. • Communities feel safe and are safe. • People have access to decent and affordable housing. • People are able to lead healthy lifestyles. • Our residents enjoy a strong sense of community and involved in resolving local issues.
Environmental and climate change implications	None identified at this stage
Property/Asset Implications	None identified

1. Background

1.1 As set out in the Executive Summary and report from O&S.

2. Reasons for recommendations

2.1 A response to the scrutiny task group report.

3. Alternative options considered

3.1 None identified at this stage.

4. Consultation and feedback

4.1 This response from Cabinet has been discussed with Cabinet Members and the Strategy and Engagement Manager who supported the task group.

4.2 The STG met on 9 occasions and involved a wide range of stakeholders including the coordinator of the Town Centre Neighbourhood Coordination Group. The recommendations have been shared with relevant members of staff.

5. Performance management –monitoring and review

5.1 O&S will monitor the implementation of these recommendations as part of their follow up programme.

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Appendices	None
Background information	Report of the scrutiny task group

Risk Assessment

Appendix 1

The risk				Original risk score (impact x likelihood)			Managing risk				
Risk ref.	Risk description	Risk Owner	Date raised	Impact 1-5	Likelihood 1-6	Score	Control	Action	Deadline	Responsible officer	Transferred to risk register
	If Cabinet do not monitor progress against the stated recommendations, there is a risk that the Council will not be seen to be making good on its intentions to improve services for people living in the town centre.	Richard Gibson	24 Sept 2014	3	2	6	Accept	Cabinet Member Healthy Lifestyles to bring a report back to O+S within 6 months reporting on progress.	31 March 2015	Richard Gibson	Commissioning Division Risk Register

Explanatory notes

Impact – an assessment of the impact if the risk occurs on a scale of 1-5 (1 being least impact and 5 being major or critical)

Likelihood – how likely is it that the risk will occur on a scale of 1-6

(1 being almost impossible, 2 is very low, 3 is low, 4 significant, 5 high and 6 a very high probability)

Control - Either: Reduce / Accept / Transfer to 3rd party / Close