

Merton Council Council

13 September 2023

Supplementary Agenda 1

- 17 Amendments to the Strategic Theme Report 1 - 4
- Conservative Amendments 1 & 2
 - Liberal Democrat Amendments 1 & 2
- 7c There are no Strategic Theme motions submitted

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Full Council 13th September 2023

Conservative amendment 1 to the strategic theme report:

Police Stations in Merton

To add after recommendation A:

“B. Council calls upon the Cabinet to engage with the Mayor of London to reverse his decision to close Wimbledon Police Station and to ensure that Wimbledon and Mitcham Police Stations remain open.”

Report now to read:

Recommendations:

A. That the Council note and consider the content of this report.

B. Council calls upon the Cabinet to engage with the Mayor of London to reverse his decision to close Wimbledon Police Station and to ensure that Wimbledon and Mitcham Police Stations remain open.

Cllr Nick McLean Cllr Daniel Holden Cllr Thomas Barlow Cllr Max Austin

Cllr Eleanor Cox Cllr Andrew Howard Cllr Michael Paterson

Full Council 13th September 2023

Conservative amendment 2 to the strategic theme report: disabled children holiday club provision

To add after recommendation A:

“B. Council notes recent research by Contact and the Disabled Children’s Partnership showing that nationally only 4% of families with disabled children have access to all the days and hours of holiday club provision that their child needs, and that 37% of parents report that holiday club providers cannot meet the needs of their child. Therefore, Council calls upon the Cabinet to review the suitability of holiday clubs for disabled children across the borough, to consider committing funding where necessary to increase provision for disabled children and to consider running a public information campaign to ensure that parents are aware of clubs in their area.”

Report now to read:

Recommendations:

A. That the Council note and consider the content of this report.

B. Council notes recent research by Contact and the Disabled Children’s Partnership showing that nationally only 4% of families with disabled children have access to all the days and hours of holiday club provision that their child needs, and that 37% of parents report that holiday club providers cannot meet the needs of their child. Therefore, Council calls upon the Cabinet to review the suitability of holiday clubs for disabled children across the borough, to consider committing funding where necessary to increase provision for disabled children and to consider running a public information campaign to ensure that parents are aware of clubs in their area.

Cllr Nick McLean Cllr Daniel Holden Cllr Thomas Barlow Cllr Max Austin

Cllr Eleanor Cox Cllr Andrew Howard Cllr Michael Paterson

Council 13 September 2023
Liberal Democrat Amendment 1 to the Strategic Theme Report
Amendment 1: Promoting diversity, access and inclusion

To add the following Recommendations to the Strategic Theme Report

B. Council welcomes the commitment within the draft Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion strategy to “Improving our evidence base to inform our decision making”, and notes the commitment to review and update the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) process and guidance, and as such requests that Cabinet ensures that the review specifically looks at best practice around:

- ensuring that Cabinet (or the appropriate decision-maker) has proper opportunity to fully consider EIAs; and
- monitoring the effectiveness and impact of EIAs on an ongoing basis.

C. Council welcomes the commitment within the draft Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion strategy to “Promoting community engagement to empower our residents, improve understanding of the issues faced by local people, and develop services to meet the differing needs”, and as such requests that as part of its legal duty to report annually on the accessibility of Council services, Cabinet consider appropriate partners to advise on:

- information and communications accessibility;
- workforce equality, diversity and inclusion; and
- accessibility in the public realm.

Councillor Anthony Fairclough

Councillor Matthew Willis

Council 13 September 2023
Liberal Democrat Amendment 2 to the Strategic Theme Report
Amendment 2: Tackling poverty borough-wide

To add the following recommendation to the Strategic Theme Report:

B. Council appreciates efforts to mitigate the impact of deprivation and the cost of living crisis (including maintaining the existing Council Tax Support Scheme and a reduction in the increase in Council Tax from 5% to 4% for a number of residents). Council requests that Cabinet consider as part of the Business Planning process for 2024/25 the costs and benefits of enhancing, for one year only in the first instance, the Council Tax Support Scheme by, for example, varying the taper rate (the rate at which the benefit is reduced as income increases) and the eligibility criteria (to include those residents who are struggling through the cost-of-living emergency, but fall just outside eligibility criteria and therefore do not currently qualify for council tax support). Council notes that the Council Tax Support Scheme has the potential to reach all deprived households in the Borough whereas other measures based on Council Tax bands, ward or postcodes can miss pockets of deprivation.

Councillor Anthony Fairclough

Councillor Matthew Willis