

## **Committee: Overview and Scrutiny Commission**

**Date: 7 July 2016**

Wards: All Wards

### **Subject: Scrutiny review of shared and outsourced services**

Lead officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services

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

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#### **Recommendations:**

- A. That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission considers and endorses the report arising from the scrutiny review of shared and outsourced services, attached at Appendix 1; and
  - B. That the Commission agrees to forward the review report to Cabinet for approval and implementation of the recommendations, by means of an action plan to be drawn up by officers working with the Cabinet Member(s) to be designated by Cabinet
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#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 To present the combined scrutiny review report on shared and outsourced services to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission for endorsement and to seek agreement to forward to Cabinet for its consideration

#### **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 is attached at Appendix 1.

#### **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.

#### **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 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 task group was established by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Commission and so this report will be presented to its meeting on 7 July 2016 for the Commission's approval, with a view to presenting to cabinet at its meeting on 19 September 2016.

#### **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 It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community.

#### **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**

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

#### **12. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 12.1 Notes of task group meetings.