

**Committee:** Cabinet

**Date:** 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015

**Wards:** All

**Subject:** **Reference from Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel – Adult Education in Merton: evidence and options for achieving a value for money service**

Lead officer: Rebecca Redman, Scrutiny Officer

Lead member: Councillor Russell Makin, Chair of Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Panel

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**Recommendations:**

That the Cabinet consider the following recommendations made by the Sustainable Communities O&S Panel further to undertaking pre decision scrutiny of Adult Education in Merton: evidence and options for achieving a value for money service:

- a) That the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel support the recommendation that a commissioning model be adopted for the delivery of an adult education service in Merton; and
  - b) That Cabinet communicate their commitment to the commissioning principles outlined within the report at paragraph 3.14, in particular, the retention of staff, where possible, and the development of a nurturing environment for learners.
  - c) That Cabinet consult the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel at key stages of the implementation of the commissioning model to enable the Panel to undertake pre decision scrutiny.
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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1.1 To present to Cabinet the recommendations of the Sustainable Communities O&S Panel further to undertaking pre decision scrutiny of Adult Education in Merton: evidence and options for achieving a value for money service.

**2. DETAILS**

2.1 At its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015, the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel undertook pre decision scrutiny of Adult Education in Merton: evidence and options for achieving a value for money service and considered officer's advice and recommendations.

### **3. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

3.1 The Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel received a report detailing officer's recommendations on Adult Education in Merton: evidence and options for achieving a value for money service, as well as hearing representations from the Cabinet Member for Education.

3.2 Members wished to make the following recommendations for Cabinet consideration:

- a) The Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel supports the recommendation that a commissioning model be adopted for the delivery of an adult education service in Merton;
- b) That Cabinet communicate their commitment to the commissioning principles outlined within the report at paragraph 3.14, in particular, the retention of staff, where possible, and the development of a nurturing environment for learners.
- c) That Cabinet consult the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel at key stages of the implementation of the commissioning model to enable the Panel to undertake pre decision scrutiny.

### **4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

4.1 Cabinet is required under the terms of the Constitution to receive, consider and respond to references from overview and scrutiny.

### **5. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

5.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **6. TIMETABLE**

6.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **7. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **8. LEGAL AND STATUTORY 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. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **11. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **12. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**

None for the purposes of this report.

**13. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

13.1 None for the purposes of this report.