

REPORT TO	ON
CABINET	Wednesday, 22 January 2020



TITLE	PORTFOLIO	REPORT OF
Strategic Review of Community Involvement, including My Neighbourhoods Final Report	Cabinet Member (Community Engagement, Social Justice and Wealth Building)	Assistant Director of Scrutiny and Democratic Services, Director of Neighbourhoods and Development

Is this report a KEY DECISION (i.e. more than £100,000 or impacting on more than 2 Borough wards?)	No
Is this report on the Statutory Cabinet Forward Plan ?	Yes
Is the request outside the policy and budgetary framework and therefore subject to confirmation at full Council?	No
Is this report confidential?	No

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present Cabinet with the final report from the cross-party Member Working Group's Strategic Review of Community Involvement, including My Neighbourhoods.

PORTFOLIO RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That Cabinet considers and agrees the final report from the Strategic Review of Community Involvement, including My Neighbourhoods.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

3. To ensure the Council continues to embed and place community involvement at the heart of everything it does.

CORPORATE OUTCOMES

4. The report relates to the following corporate priorities: (tick all those applicable):

Excellence, Investment and Financial Sustainability	✓
Health, Wellbeing and Safety	✓
Place, Homes and Environment	✓

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

Our People and Communities	✓
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BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

5. At its meeting on 19 June 2019, the Cabinet created a cross-party Member Working Group with the remit to carry out a strategic review of community involvement, including My Neighbourhoods.
6. The cross-party Member Working Group was made up of:
 - ▶ Councillor Aniela Bylinski Gelder (Chair)
 - ▶ Councillor Jacky Alty
 - ▶ Councillor David Howarth (from November 2019)
 - ▶ Councillor Peter Mullineaux
 - ▶ Councillor Matthew Trafford
 - ▶ Councillor Angela Turner (up to November 2019)
 - ▶ Councillor Karen Walton

7. The cross-party Member Working Group has met on a fortnightly basis to undertake extensive evidence gathering, making use of existing data and carrying out further engagement as necessary.

PROPOSALS (e.g. RATIONALE, DETAIL, FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT)

8. A copy of the cross-party Member Working Group's final report from the Strategic Review of Community Involvement, including My Neighbourhoods is included at Appendix 1.
9. Cabinet is asked to consider and agree the final report from the cross-party Member Working Group.

CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

10. Existing resident consultation data was used as part of the review. Additional consultation took place with Members, employees, parish/town councils and partners as part of the review.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

11. Various community involvement options were considered as part of the review with the most appropriate models included in the review recommendations.

AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS

12. None as a result of this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT

13. Ensuring buy-in and effective project management of the implementation of any recommendations from the review are key risks. It is felt that developing an engagement toolkit and maximising the use of our project management framework will mitigate these risks to an acceptable level.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT

14. It is felt that the review has a positive impact on equality and diversity, with no negative impacts on protected characteristics.

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

15. Many of the recommendations can be implemented within existing resources. Where additional resources are needed these will be considered as part of the ongoing budget process for 2020/2021 and beyond. At this stage the one specific area where additional resources have been requested is supporting youth engagement activities.

16. The small grants scheme proposed in recommendation 12 in the appendix will most likely require additional resourcing. Once the scheme is developed the full details will be reported so that the financial implications can be considered for approval.

17. The review of My Neighbourhood Forum meetings, described in recommendation 8 in the appendix, may also result in additional resourcing requirements. The distribution of core funds, the staffing requirements and IT support may be affected. Again, once the review is undertaken the full details, including financial implications, will be reported.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

18. There may need to be some changes to the Council's constitution to implement some of the recommendations, which will be considered by the Governance Committee and agreed by Full Council in the usual way.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Report to Cabinet – 19 June 2019

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Final Report Connecting Communities - Review of Community Involvement, including My Neighbourhood arrangements

Darren Cranshaw, Assistant Director of Scrutiny and Democratic Services,
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