



Cabinet

22 January 2025

REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

Subject Heading:

Comments of Overview and Scrutiny Board on Citizens Advice Service and Budget Consultation

SLT Lead:

Gavin Milnthorpe – Deputy Director of Legal Services

Report Author and contact details:

Anthony Clements – Committee Services Manager
anthony.clements@onesource.co.uk

Policy context:

The report deals with a statutory process.

Financial summary:

There is no significant financial impact from the statutory processes as these requirements are being met by existing budgets.

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy **X**

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

SUMMARY

Using its Constitutional powers under the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Overview and Scrutiny Board has made two recommendations to Cabinet. Cabinet is recommended to respond to these.

RECOMMENDATION

That Cabinet considers and responds to the following recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Board:

- 1. That it be investigated whether S 106 or Community Infrastructure Levy funding from the Angel Way or Como Street developments can be used to support the Citizens Advice Service – either as a replacement for existing grant funding or as a means to provide accommodation for the service on either of these sites.**
- 2. That next year’s budget consultation be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Board, in draft form, in order that this can be scrutinised and suggestions made, prior to its going live.**

REPORT DETAIL

At its meeting on 12 December 2024, the Overview and Scrutiny Board scrutinised the facilities offered to Havering residents by the Citizens Advice Service. During discussions, it was suggested that it be investigated whether either S 106 or Community Infrastructure Levy funding from forthcoming developments in the borough could be used to support Citizens Advice – either through direct financial or as a potential option for accommodation for the service.

The Overview and Scrutiny Board also requested that the budget consultation for next year be brought to it in draft at an early stage in order that this can be scrutinised prior to its going live.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks: None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the Board's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

Legal implications and risks: None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the Board's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

Human Resources implications and risks: None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the Board's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

Equalities implications and risks: None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the Board's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

Environmental and Climate Change implications and risks: None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the Board's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.