The report of the independent Growth Commission was published on 24 February. The Council published its response on 20 April, accepting the ten key steps recommended by the Commission; and indicating that long term plans in response to the Commission’s findings would be developed in the light of engagement with partners.

In the sections of their report about ‘Early Years’, ‘Education and aspirations’, and ‘Social cohesion and well-being’, the Commission made over 20 recommendations about issues within the remit of the Children’s Services Select Committee.

The Select Committee is asked to select its top three priorities which the Lead Member will present to PAASC in July to inform all Lead members of CSSC’s priorities before they are considered by Cabinet.

**Recommendation(s)**

The Committee is asked select its top three priorities from the Growth Commission recommendations 67-86 and 95, which are listed in Appendix 2.

**Reason(s)**

At its meeting on 19 April, the Cabinet agreed the Council’s response to the Growth Commission, including referral of the recommendations of the Growth Commission (pages 58-65; recommendations 17-109) for consideration by Select Committees between May and July 2016.

1. **Introduction and Background**

1.1 In 2015 the Council asked a panel of independent experts – the Growth Commission - to review the Council’s ambition to be London’s growth opportunity, and to recommend how to maximise the contribution of the Borough and our people to the London economy. The Commission’s report was published in February. The
1.2 At its meeting on 19 April, the Cabinet agreed the Council’s response to the Growth Commission. The response was published on 20 April – attached at Appendix 1. That endorsed the ten key steps proposed the Commission, and asked Select Committees to consider the detailed recommendations which fall within their remits.

2. Proposal and Issues

2.1 The independent Growth Commission made 20 recommendations about issues within the remit of the Children’s Services Select Committee. The Committee is invited to offer its views on those recommendations and to select its top three priorities from those which are listed in Appendix 2.

3. Options Appraisal

3.1 Not applicable at this stage.

4. Consultation

4.1 The Commission consulted extensively in the compilation of its report. It held evidence sessions and workshops with key stakeholders. Cabinet Members held several discussions with the chair of the Commission. The Commission invited contributions from over 70,000 residents via ‘My account’, but only one person responded.

5. Implications

The implications are wide-ranging. Some of the Commission’s recommendations are about principles or aspirations, consistent with the Council’s vision. Other recommendations propose specific actions or initiatives, where the legal, financial and other implications would need to be assessed in detail before firm decisions were taken.

Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:


List of appendices:

Appendix 1 The Council’s response to the Growth Commission
Appendix 2 The Growth Commission’s recommendations relevant to CSSC