### Report of the Independent Growth Commission

### Report of the Director of Strategy and Programmes

**Open report**

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### Summary:

The report of the independent Growth Commission was published on 24 February 2016. 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 ‘The Borough and its urban form’, ‘The Borough’s areas’, ‘Skills and employment’ and ‘Business’, the Commission made over 60 recommendations about issues within the remit of the Living and Working Select Committee. In the section about ‘Opportunities and potential: Supporting People’, the Commission made 21 recommendations about issues within the remit of the Children’s Services Select Committee.

In summary, the Living and Working Select Committee reviewed recommendations 17-66, 87-90, 92-94, 96, 98-109 and were asked to approve three top priorities, however given the number of recommendations to review, they have presented a list of nine priorities that are directly related to the recommendations contained in the Independent Growth Commission report plus two other areas which they considered should be prioritised relating to protection and redevelopment of all shopping areas and cleanliness.

The Children’s Services Select Committee have reviewed recommendations 67-86 and 95 and been asked to approve three top priorities which will be reported orally to PAASC as the Children’s Services Select Committee met on 18 July, after the publication of the this agenda.

In addition in the ‘Skills and Employment’ section, seeing the cross cutting nature of two of the recommendations the Select Committee are asked to consider recommendations 91 and 97 as set out as an appendix to this report and decide whether to recommend one or both of them to Cabinet as a priority.

### Recommendation(s)

The Select Committee is asked to note the top priorities of the Growth Commission from the Living and Working Select Committee and Children’s Services Select Committee and decide whether to approve as priority recommendations 91 or 97, or both, to Cabinet.

### 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 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 full report and a summary version are at [https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/business/growing-the-borough/our-strategy-for-growth/overview-2/](https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/business/growing-the-borough/our-strategy-for-growth/overview-2/).

1.2 At its meeting on 19 April 2016, 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 that Select Committees as appropriate to consider the detailed recommendations which fall within their remits.

2. **Proposal and Issues**

2.1 The vast majority of the recommendations arising out of the independent Growth Commission report relate to issues within the remits of the Living and Working Select Committee (60 recommendations) and the Children Services Select Committee (21 recommendations). Each Select Committee was asked to present to this meeting for information its top three priorities for onward submission to the Cabinet.

2.2 The LWSC having debated the merits at length, and in view of the large number and wide ranging topic areas set out in the recommendations they concluded that it was not possible to narrow their priorities down to three and therefore they have presented a list of eleven priorities as set out in Appendix 2.

2.3 The CSSC meeting was held on 18 July and therefore at the time of publishing the agenda it was not possible to report on the outcome of the meeting. Consequently the views of the Select Committee will be verbally reported along with a tabled list of the agreed priorities will be presented at the meeting.

2.4 In addition two further recommendations (91 and 97) set out in the Skills and Employment section of the IGC report are seen as cross cutting in terms of the remits of the Select Committees and therefore both have been referred to PAASC to consider whether one or both should be recommended to Cabinet as a priority. The details of each are set out in Appendix 3.

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

5.1 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 recommendations relevant to LWSC.
Appendix 3 The Growth Commission recommendations (Nos 91 and 97)