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**Cabinet – 8 April 2025**

**Report Title**

Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

**Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?**

No

**Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

Jo Brown, Assistant Chief Executive

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**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-wide

**Summary**

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) met on 8 April 2025 to scrutinise the following reports that would be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 14 April 2025.
  - Agreement of the borough's Household Support Fund allocation for 2025/26 (Listed as Item 7 on the Cabinet Agenda).
  - Economic Inactivity Trailblazer (Listed as Item 9 on the Cabinet Agenda).
  - Licensing Act 2003 - Statement of Licensing Policy (Listed as Item 11 on the Cabinet Agenda).
- 1.2 Having reviewed the reports and the recommendations, the Board resolved as follows in respect of these items listed:

Item	Recommendations
<p>Agreement of the borough's Household Support Fund allocation for 2025/26 (Listed as Item 7 on the Cabinet Agenda)</p>	<p>Resolved: That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board supported the recommendations that Cabinet agree:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That provisional allocations of the Household Support Fund Grant of £4.387m be made as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. £2.687m for food vouchers to children eligible for free school meals for school holidays up to and including Easter 2026.</li> <li>b. £950k towards the estimated costs of the Council's Local Council Tax Support Top Up Scheme.</li> <li>c. £500k to support applications from households for assistance with energy costs, through the Council's Energy Crisis Support Scheme.</li> <li>d. £90k to provide additional financial support to care leavers.</li> <li>e. £60k to local voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations to support vulnerable households over Christmas / New Year through a supplement to the Crisis Support service level agreement.</li> <li>f. £100k to provide parcels of household items to be distributed through VCS support.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Delegate authority to the Assistant Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader, to determine revised and final allocations for the Household Support Grant. This will include provision for other eligible actions within the use of Household Support Fund should it not be possible to achieve full spend of the grant through the approved options.</li> </ol>
<p>Economic Inactivity Trailblazer (Listed as Item 9 on the Cabinet Agenda)</p>	<p>Resolved: That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board supported the recommendations that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve acceptance of the Council's indicative allocation of the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer funding to deliver activity targeted at implementing an integrated employment, skills and health system.</li> <li>2. Approve use of the funding to manage the programme, commission community-based engagement activity, and personalised support (to include flexible support budgets), activate employers to create job opportunities for participants, pay for additional staff salaries (within RiDO, Employment Solutions and for other Pathways to Work roles within the Council) and cover miscellaneous costs.</li> <li>3. Delegate authority to the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local</li> </ol>

Item	Recommendations
	<p>Economy and the Section 151 Officer to determine detailed use of the grant or make any subsequent amendments to the proposed budget allocations.</p> <p>Further actions that arose from discussions were that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OSMB would receive a progress update on the implementation Economic Inactivity Trailblazer programme as soon as possible but within four months.</li> <li>• OSMB would receive an update on the progress of the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer programme within twelve months following its implementation.</li> </ul>
Licensing Act 2003 - Statement of Licensing Policy (Listed as Item 11 on the Cabinet Agenda)	<p>Resolved: That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board supported the recommendations that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. approve the draft Licensing Act Statement of Licensing Policy attached to this report as Appendix 1 for consultation in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.</li> </ol> <p>Further actions that arose from discussions were that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was agreed that following the consultation, a further report would be submitted to OSMB ahead of its consideration by Cabinet which included the outcome of the consultation a revised Policy.</li> </ul>

### Recommendation

That Cabinet has regard to the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board when making decisions in respect of the above matters.

### List of Appendices Included

None

### Background Papers

None