**Croydon Council**

**Draft REPORT TO:**

**COUNCIL**

**19 MARCH 2012**

**AGENDA ITEM:**

3

**SUBJECT:**

Report of the Local Independent Review Panel

**LEAD MEMBER:**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mike Fisher

**LEAD OFFICER:**

Julie Belvir, Director of Democratic & Legal Services & Council Solicitor

**WARDS:**

All

**CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:**

The recommendations in this report will contribute to the following corporate priorities:

- Protecting resident priorities - to protect and enhance the services that matter the most to Croydon's residents and customers; and
- Empowering communities - Creating a fair society that enables people to have power to take decisions as well as come together to deliver solutions for themselves and their local community

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

**FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.:**

1063.

1. **RECOMMENDATION**

1.1 That the Council notes the recommendations of the report, gives consideration to the contents of the report and responds as it considers appropriate.

2. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2.1 The purpose of this report is to formally present the conclusions and recommendations that the Local Independent Review Panel has agreed upon following its review of the rioting that took place in Croydon on 8 August 2011.
3. BACKGROUND

3.1 At its meeting on 19th September 2011, the Cabinet considered an agenda item entitled “Appointment of Local Independent Review Panel to inquire into recent disturbances in Croydon”.

3.2 Following consideration of the report, the Cabinet agreed to establish a Local Independent Review Panel (The Panel) to review the rioting in Croydon. The Cabinet also agreed “that there be a report back and debate on the outcome of the Review at a future meeting”. The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mike Fisher, has referred the report to the full Council for consideration.

3.3 The Panel has completed its review and its final report, published on 28 February 2012, has been supplied to all Councillors. The report may be accessed via the following link: http://www.croydononline.org/lirp/report.pdf

3.4 During its review, the Panel received information from a wide range of sources. It received 196 written contributions from businesses, residents, Councillors, MPs and other parties describing their experiences and views on the rioting.

3.5 The Panel also held 16 public meetings in a range of locations across the Borough. During those meetings, the Panel has spoken in depth with representatives from public agencies, local businesses, local residents, community leaders, youth groups, an expert on gang culture and individuals convicted of rioting on 8 August 2011.

3.6 Drawing on the information that it has received, the Panel has made a number of recommendations to a variety of public agencies. These recommendations, as well as review of the events of the 8th August 2011, are detailed within the report of the Panel. The Council is asked to note the recommendations, consider the contents of the report and to respond as it considers appropriate.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 The review of the rioting has been based upon contributions from people living and working in Croydon. The full process undertaken by the Panel is detailed in the appendices of the Panel’s report.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.2 Approved by: Dianne Ellender, Head of Finance Planning & Environment and Central Departments.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Panel was established by the Council under the Local Government Act 2000. That Act confers upon the Council very wide powers to do anything that it considers likely to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental well-being of Croydon.
7. **HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT**

7.1 There are no human resources implications arising directly from this report.

7.2 Approved by: Heather Daley, Head of HR Consultancy on behalf of the Director of Workforce, Equality & Community Relations.

8. **EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.1 There are no equalities implications arising directly from the report, save that the work of the Panel has been designed to ensure that no-one has been prevented from contributing to the review by virtue of age, language, literacy or any protected characteristic.

9. **CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT**

9.1 The rioting in Croydon on 8 August 2011 resulted in an unprecedented level of Crime and Disorder and the work of the Panel has been undertaken to help understand the causes of the disorder and what can reasonably be done to prevent, minimise or reduce such disorder in the future.

9.2 Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council has a duty to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. This report allows the Council to consider this report in this context. Under section 6 of the same Act the Council also has a duty together with other responsible authorities to prepare a Crime Reduction Strategy. The Council may consider that the contents of the report should be referred to the Community Safety Partnership as part of the section 6 Duty.

**CONTACT OFFICER:**
Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny, extension 62520

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS** Report of the Local Independent Review Panel