

Budget 2025/26 Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)**Place Investment and Growth Proposals relevant to this PAC****New investment in prevention of Violence Against Women & Girls - £250,000**

1. This additional ongoing investment will enhance the support provided to victims, and those at risk of becoming victims, of violent crime (particularly women and girls), and the prevention of this type of crime. The service is specifically designed to be inclusive of all women, including transgender women, and non-binary individuals. It therefore has a positive impact on groups that share protected characteristics (and particularly on age, sex and gender reassignment).

Continued investment in the Law Enforcement and Gangs teams - £3.075m

2. This additional ongoing investment will ensure the continuation of the Law Enforcement and Gangs teams, whose purpose is to improve safety and the feeling of safety, and prevent crime across the borough. Although the Law Enforcement Team is a universal service, there to protect all residents, businesses and visitors to the borough, it is believed that this additional ongoing investment has a positive impact on groups that share protected characteristics. Particularly those groups that are at greater risk of becoming victims of crime (such as women and girls) or those that are disproportionately disadvantaged by obstructions on the highway (such as those with mobility issues). The continued investment in the Gangs team is also believed to have a positive impact on those with protected characteristics, such as age, given the focussed work the service does with children and young people.

Enhancing corporate and resident anti-fraud measures through the Digital Inclusion Strategy - £124,000

3. Resources are required to implement the Digital Inclusion Strategy for the borough. The Strategy vision is for Hammersmith and Fulham to be a more digitally inclusive borough by 2025 (aligned with the Greater London Authority); a place where residents have access to the digital skills, devices and support they need to achieve their aspirations. The proposal is for a digital inclusion programme manager and resource budget to be allocated to ensure the ambitions set out in the strategy are delivered. There are no direct negative equality implications for groups with protected characteristics, under the Equality Act 2010. The implementation of the strategy Individual actions as part of the digital inclusion programme will be evaluated appropriately prior to delivery, however the overall impact on equalities is expected to be positive.

Place Savings Proposals relevant to this PAC**Enhanced specialist enforcement of environmental street scene crime - £150,000**

4. The purpose of this specialist service is to improve street cleanliness and reduce health and safety risks relating to environmental street crime (such as flytipping, littering and obstructions on the public highway). Although this is a universal service, there to protect all residents, businesses and visitors to the borough, it is believed that this has a positive

impact on groups that share protected characteristics. Particularly those groups that are disproportionately disadvantaged from obstructions on the highway (such as those with mobility issues). An equalities impact assessment will be undertaken as part of the options appraisal and decision process.

Additional external income for CCTV - £30,000

5. This budgetary saving is to be delivered through new external funding, with no impact on the current service delivery model. It is believed that this proposal has a neutral impact on groups that share protected characteristics as there are no planned service changes, and this service is provided to all residents, businesses and visitors.

Local Support Payments - bringing the service in-house and reducing administration costs - £150,000

6. The proposal is based on the reduction of administration costs in delivering the Local Support Payments scheme by bringing it in-house. Legal implications of bringing the service in-house are currently being investigated. This cannot currently be confirmed and if this is not achievable the budget will need to be supplemented by the Household Support Fund (HSF). This proposal will have a neutral impact on groups that share protected characteristics as the mitigation proposed will ensure that the value of awards are maintained. There is a dependency on HSF round 7 to achieve this.