

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS

Head of Service:	Cagdas Canbolat, Director of Corporate Services and Section 151 Officer (Chief Finance Officer), Victoria Potts, Director of Environment, Housing and Regeneration
Report Author	Andrew Bircher
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	N/A
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1 – Consultation response: LGR for Surrey Appendix 2 – Consultation response: Fair Funding Review 2.0

Summary

To report to committee details of two government consultations responded to since the last committee meeting.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

(1) Note the consultation responses

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 The consultations have already been submitted and cannot be amended further. The consultations reports are provided for information only.

2 Background

- 2.1 Two government consultations were submitted by the council. The first was a government consultation on LGR for Surrey – attached as Appendix 1 - and the other was on the proposed Fair Funding Review 2.0 – attached as Appendix 2.

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- 2.2 Both consultations have been published on Members news
- 2.3 As set out in the Constitution any responses to consultations that have been submitted outside of a committee approval process should be reported to the next meeting of the relevant committee.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1.1 There are no direct consequences as a result of this report

3.2 Crime & Disorder

- 3.2.1 None arise from this report

3.3 Safeguarding

- 3.3.1 None arise from this report

3.4 Dependencies

- 3.4.1 none

3.5 Other

- 3.5.1 none

4 Financial Implications

Fair Funding Review 2.0 outlines the proposals for a new funding formula to be used in determining the Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS) for 2026/27.

The report includes a general assessment of the changes and the response to the 46 consultation questions, as detailed in Appendix 2.

Section 151 Officer's comments:

- 4.1 The report examines the key elements of the consultation and assesses the potential implications for Epsom and Ewell Borough Council (EEBC), based on the limited information currently available.

It is important to note that the final impact of these proposals will not be confirmed until the LGFS is published in December 2025.

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5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 **Legal Officer's comments:** In accordance with Delegation CG2 as set out within Appendix 2.1 of the Council's constitution, the Chief Executive, Directors and Heads of Service have "Authority to Respond on behalf of the Council to all Consultations from Central Government, Surrey County Council and any professional body, after consultation with the Chair of any relevant Committee. A report will be brought to the next listed committee meeting sharing the response".

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

- 6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:
- Budget setting and LGR are part of the council's priorities
- 6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is included within the current Service Delivery Plan.
- 6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** No issues arose from the consultations
- 6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** None
- 6.5 **Partnerships:** None
- 6.6 **Local Government Reorganisation Implications:** One consultation was about LGR

7 Background papers

- 7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- none

Other papers:

- Published on members' news