

Public Document Pack



OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 8 September 2021 at 7.00 pm
Conference Room, Civic Centre, Silver
Street, Enfield, EN1 3XA

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Councillors : Susan Erbil (Chair), Margaret Greer (Vice-Chair), Lee David-Sanders, Birsen Demirel, Mahmut Aksanoglu, Elif Erbil, James Hockney and Derek Levy

Education Statutory Co-optees: 1 vacancy (Church of England diocese representative), vacancy (other faiths/denominations representative), Tony Murphy (Catholic diocese representative), Alicia Meniru & 1 vacancy (Parent Governor Representative).

Enfield Youth Parliament Co-optees (2)

AGENDA – PART 1

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Council are invited to identify any disclosable pecuniary, other pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests relevant to the items on the agenda.

3. TO AGREE MINUTES OF MEETING ON 20, 21 JULY & 5 AUGUST 2021 (Pages 1 - 24)

To agree the minutes of the meetings which took place on the 20, 21 July and 5 August 2021.

4. FLYTIPPING UPDATE

To receive a “Fly-tipping” update.

This item will be circulated to follow.

5. BUILD THE CHANGE UPDATE (Pages 25 - 34)

To receive an update on the “build a change” programme.

6. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

To agree the dates of the next Overview & Scrutiny Committee Business Meetings as follows:

Thursday 4th November 2021
Thursday 16th December 2021
Thursday 10th February 2022
Thursday 31st March 2022

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY, 20 JULY 2021****COUNCILLORS**

PRESENT (Chair) Susan Erbil, Lee David-Sanders, Birsen Demirel, Elif Erbil, James Hockney, Derek Levy, Kate Anolue and Ayten Guzel

ABSENT Margaret Greer and Mahmut Aksanoglu

STATUTORY CO-OPTES: *1 vacancy (Church of England diocese representative), vacancy (other faiths/denominations representative), Mr Tony Murphy (Catholic diocese representative), Alicia Meniru & 1 vacancy (Parent Governor representative) - Italics Denotes absence*

OFFICERS: Sarah Cary (Executive Director, Place), Claire Johnson (Head of Governance & Scrutiny & Superintendent Registrars), Clare Bryant (Senior Governance Officer), May Hope (Plan Making Manager), Helen Murch (Head of Strategic Planning and Design), Edward Jones (Principal Planner), Natalya Palit (Area Plans Manager)

**1
WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest registered in respect of any items on the agenda.

**3
TO AGREE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING OF OSC - 2.6.2021**

The Committee agreed the minutes from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Business meeting which took place on the 2nd June 2021.

**4
DRAFT LOCAL PLAN**

The Chair advised that the consultation on the Local Plan is still ongoing. The Officers will present on four main areas, namely:

- The process - local plan preparation process, future stages of the Plan preparation, and the current consultation approach.

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- Green Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change
- Housing Need
- Spatial Options and Green Belt

1. The following comments were received from Officers:

- There is a requirement by law to produce a spatial plan, which will then be examined by the Planning Inspectorate. This sets out the development needs of the borough, details and sites.
- Enfield's planning process is currently at Stage 1 where evidence is being collected and issues identified. The initial consultation started in 2019 but can be repeated if required, with a proposed submission plan expected next year. Examination and implementation phases take place thereafter, with a long-term strategic approach over the next 50 years.
- The spatial strategy sets out the strategic direction where several areas were looked at. Option 1 where 25,000+ homes, investment in green infrastructure and economic development was opted for. Options identified included train stations, Crews Hill and Chase, managing industrial estates, promoting sports and recreational needs, providing affordable housing (include mixed housing units).
- Challenges identified included limited green belt release, investment in infrastructure and exceeding environmental capacity.
- Two growth areas are being examined:

Crews Hill Station: the vision is to make the most of the station and surrounding areas, improving green space access and creating family housing by making good use of the undeveloped land whilst creating a gateway for rewilding.

Chase: providing access to green spaces, promoting active travel, creating suburban homes and a useful link between stations, maximising use of Trent Park.

- Rural Enfield will allow for more rewilding, promoting further UK tourism an eco-tourism, encourage food growing and horticulture and improve overall wellbeing. 60,000+ new trees will be planted during the winter. This will allow for diversity of usage and encourage greater resilience, with further access to green and open spaces.
- Site Allocations: site selection methodology created a process which called for a sites and land availability assessment. Although many smaller sites were put forward, the focus was more geared to larger areas, e.g. 50 homes or more. There are 62 proposed site allocations covering housing employment, sports, burial and nature. At present

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only areas have been identified and going forward more work is needed to move to the next stage of the plan.

Reasons why certain areas are avoided may involve flood risks, non-availability, unsustainable location, expired planning permission.

- Policies: All policies are grounded in spatial vision, to include a range of land uses and growth to focus on the strategies in the plan.
- Housing: Housing is unaffordable for many with a rise of nearly 20% in the last 20 years and costs 12 times the average earning in the borough. The consequence of this is overcrowding and lack of choice and has a knock-on effect for renters and first-time buyers. Enfield have been delivering 500 new homes per year, with the government target being 4,397. There is clearly an urgent need for larger homes, with wheelchair access to accommodate the aging and growing population, aiming towards the baseline of 17K dwellings.
- Climate Change: sustainable travel must be seen, together with enhancements to green and blue networks. The current policies include the promotion and protection of nature in an immediate response to climate change.

2. In response the following comments were received from Committee Members:

- Clarification was sought in respect of transport facilities around the Crews Hill area and will the current status be improved and how much will be done to support the infrastructure at Crews Hill and Chase Park and how can these areas become more viable.

In response, there are still consultations going on in respect of these areas and more master planning is required with transport assessments being looked at. The aim is to source self-sufficient areas or enhance areas already available nearby.

- Is consultation robust enough in this area, as residents want to see further consultation.

In response, the next stage of consultations will involve more detailed evidence finding to include transport assessment and the creation of correct infrastructure in respect of housing pockets. All policies have been looked at as a whole and the aim is to promote active travel and change behavioural habits in this respect with the inclusion of overall sustainability and climate change.

Active communications with the GLA and partners are in place to resolve issues and find suitable solutions. Changes are expected from the feedback received from consultations. There are several tasks (and risks) required that are still being worked on to adopt the Local

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Plan. There is a checklist from the Planning Inspectorate before submitting to the Secretary of State.

- Why is only one option being considered? Perhaps investigating the Eastern Corridor, perhaps building in east/west travel in the Borough? Lessons learnt from Enfield Island Village.

In response, it was agreed that the option chosen was preferred as it included 7 places making areas faster in the Borough, with all land being considered, whilst allowing for optimisation of density to meet housing growth targets. The green and blue strategy focusses on the west/east connection and it is helpful to study what has worked in the Borough in the past.

- Eastern and western corridor should be included in Enfield to ensure good relationships are formed with TFL to ensure regular trains and transport links are in place to cut down car use.
- How does the “National Park City” apply to Crews Hill?

In response “Rural Park City” is about working with rural areas. Crews Hill is not within this designation and is labelled as a gateway.

- Of the 62 proposed sites, what percentage of these will go to the next stage and will this be allocated.

In response the results of this will be based on feedback and the intention is to develop all sites going forward to the next stage, unless there are any serious implications.

- The lifespan of the Local Plan is 20 years, is there a risk that the vision is currently too routed in present and the future is not being considered?

In response, NPPS requires plans to be updated every 5 years which would help look forward. Officers are providing their professional judgement and what is provided is based on this.

- How are these messages being relayed to residents and what are the methods of consultations?

In response, the consultations focus on choices having to be made and offering explanations to the background of these choices. The “character of growth” study has helped to inform site allocations and the growth to meet needs means having to develop outside of town centres. The consultations process is on-line and advertised on social media, going into different language publications and two local newspapers. There are also drop in sessions with 110 representations so far.

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- Are the questions in the consultation straight forward?

In response, there have been some concerns raised and some of the jargon/clarifications have since been changed. Responses are monitored weekly, with emailed responses accepted.

- How are template responses handled compared to detailed letters sent in?

In reply, all responses received are all given equal weight.

- Concern was raised that the target of homes expected seems impossible to accomplish. The size of the properties is also a concern in that they are not big enough for families who often need 3 or 4 bedrooms. Children need to have space to play in their homes, with a greater need for smaller green spaces which are affordable.

In response, achieving the delivery of affordable housing is a challenge and within the “affordable housing policy”, the Council will try to deliver as much housing as possible, especially 3 bedroomed homes which are in high demand. There is a team of planners looking at the viability of every scheme and the plan aims for smaller green spaces. Residents are encouraged to engage with us to ascertain what they want to see.

- Does the Local Plan have a housing mix expectation, for example 60% two bedroomed properties etc.

In response, the priority for sizing of the properties is based on affordability and the aim is to keep the decision making flexible whilst considering need but adhering to the policy.

- Enfield has the highest number of temporary accommodation cases in England. How much will this be reduced in the Local Plan?

In response, it is known that Enfield has a high number of houses of multiple occupancy (HMO's) as many houses have been converted to these. Temporary housing is a tenure and building more houses will not fully alleviate the housing crisis. The reasons for temporary accommodation are very complicated and a need further analysis is needed in this respect to achieve discounted housing rents.

- What parts of Enfield have responded to the consultation so far?

In response most responses have come from the EN2 area, but all residents must be reached.

In conclusion, the Chair thanked all the Officers for their clear presentation. She will circulate the letter from the lobbying group as requested. **Action: Cllr Susan Erbil**

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5
SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME

The Chair introduced this item, noting that each work programme.

It was agreed that fly-tipping will come to OSC and circulated to the Environment and Climate Action Scrutiny Panel to monitor.

Claire Johnson will contact the Committee Chairs over the next few weeks to develop terms of reference. **Action: Claire Johnson**

6
DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates of future meetings were agreed.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 21 JULY 2021**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT (Chair) Lee David-Sanders, Birsen Demirel, Mahmut Aksanoglu, James Hockney and Derek Levy

ABSENT Susan Erbil, Margaret Greer and Elif Erbil

STATUTORY CO-OPTTEES: *1 vacancy (Church of England diocese representative), vacancy (other faiths/denominations representative), Mr Tony Murphy (Catholic diocese representative), Alicia Meniru & 1 vacancy (Parent Governor representative) - Italics Denotes absence*

OFFICERS: Sarah Cary, Executive Director, Place Joanne Drew, Director of Housing & Regeneration, Jim Dunn, Housing consultation & Resident Engagement Officer, Doug Wilkinson, Director of Environment & Operational Services, Richard Eason, Healthy Streets Programme Director, Claire Johnson, Head of Governance, Scrutiny & Registration Services and Susan O'Connell, Governance Officer

Also Attending: Councillor Ian Barnes (Deputy Leader)
Councillor Gina Needs (Cabinet Member for Social Housing)
Councillor Edward Smith (Call-In Lead)
Councillor Maria Alexandrou (Call-In Lead)
Councillor Lindsay Rawlings (Call-In Lead)
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou (Observing)
Councillor Yasemin Brett (Observing)

1

WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Due to the absence of the current Chair and Vice-Chair at this meeting, a Chair was elected for this meeting only. Councillor Demirel was elected as Chair for the meeting.

Apologies had been received from Councillors Susan Erbil, Elif Erbil (Substitute Cllr Ayten Guzel) and Margaret Greer (Substitute Cllr Chinelo Anyanwu).

Councillor Demirel welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the process to be followed in hearing the Call-ins.

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2

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3

CALL IN: RESIDENT INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY IN COUNCIL HOUSING

Cllr Edward Smith was welcomed as the Call-In lead and highlighted the following:

- The reasons for the Call-in are in the agenda papers.
- As background, attempts have been made over the years to engage with tenants and leaseholders in housing matters with a view to improve service matters on their estates with the current arrangements focusing on Customer Voice (CV).
- Members of the Customer Voice used to attend the Housing Board which was a formally constituted body with membership also including the Cabinet Member for Social Housing, the Opposition Lead for Housing and senior council staff.
- The strategy will go out for a 6-week consultation period. Some of the reasons made in the Cal in have been taken into account in the responses but not all of them.
- The response to reason 1 sets up the general principles emerging from the initial discussions. However, he felt that they do not constitute a full analysis of issues facing resident engagement in Enfield nor do they provide details on how matters might be better arranged in future.
- The response to reason 2 on the Housing Advisory Group (HAG) refers to the fact that the meetings were always held in private. However, he felt that the meetings were effective and cross party and independent membership of the group has been changed without sufficient explanation in the report. Noted that the membership was open to review as part of the consultation process, wants to be reassured that the consultation will fully address this matter.
- The proposed 11 new committees are unwieldy and unrealistic. The response does not address this issue just refers to the broad principles on resident engagement set out in the White Paper. The response does admit that the new structure might lack transparency and the means of holding politicians and officers to account.
- More details proposals were required on reason 4 in the final consultation document to show reporting and lines of accountability.
- Reason 5 the response does not address the concerns from the members of Customer Voice and felt that the new membership of HAG will not provide effective challenge to the council.
- In summary reassurance was being sought that all the points raised will be taken on board and dealt with in the consultation document.

The Chair thanked Cllr Smith and asked the Cabinet Member for Social Housing Cllr Gina Needs and officers to respond.

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- The Cabinet Member provided reassurance that the resident voice will come forward. The points that have been raised will be in the consultation, this is part of the consultation stage which it is important to move to. It is really important to get to the consultation stage to get the views of the residents.
- The change to the membership of the HAG happened prior to the strategy. The council is seeking a broader set of opinions. If residents feel that there are too many groups, then this will be taken on board. The views are needed from the consultation first, but she is happy to discuss what comes up from the consultation.
- The Director of Housing and Regeneration advised that the new arrangements aim to embrace and bring on board all residents from the housing market and reflect the change in the broadening role in providing support to people with their housing needs. To look at the whole issues around housing as well as specific issues related to tenure. It is important that all voices are included.

The Chair invited questions and comments from Members, relevant to the call-in reasons:

- In response to a query on whether other councils are implementing similar strategies and how successful these have been? Officers advised that every authority is looking at their own structures on resident engagement following the Social Housing White Paper. Enfield does work with other boroughs on what is working and will continue to liaise.
- On point 1 on the reasons for call in just under 6,000 people were invited to respond, 60 people took part in focus groups. Is this the numbers expected to form a document going forward Officers confirmed that the council wanted to do a full consultation with all residents, so this was just an initial focus group to frame ideas to put out to the wider group. These numbers were as expected and included a range of residents including those from the CV, HAG, Repairs Stakeholders Group, Tenants and Residents Associations and in Temporary accommodation.
- On point 2 cannot see a response on; no roles for opposition, change downgrading status and reduced ability to provide independent advice. Officers advised in terms of accountability all residents both individually or as part of groups are able to write to the Chair of the Housing Scrutiny Panel with any issues, concerns or comments. The Cabinet Member is also open to feedback. This has been communicated to residents. Many of the issues that the residents may wish to raise can be easily resolved by officers. If the issues are not resolved or there is a policy or financial impact there is a formal route. The membership of whatever structures there will be going forward are subject to consultation. The Cabinet Member has confirmed the question will be asked on member involvement in this groups as part of the consultation.
- On point 2 on the new committees the first paragraph ends whilst offering minimal commitment with a clear improvement output- what

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does this mean? Members were advised that not all residents want formality. It is important that residents have choices and that the council wants to adopt a variety of methods for residents to engage. An example was provided of a method where issues-based meeting would take place with a focus group and following these meetings would try to encourage residents to form a tenant's association. However often once the issue is resolved residents do not want to take this step.

- How does this strategy compare to past resident engagement strategies? Members were advised that the extended reach of cover that the new engagement strategy offers is the main difference. A variety of styles are used to allow involvement. The pandemic has brought about the wide use of MS Teams this has seen many more people engaging from many different backgrounds, groups, cultures and ages. There will also be a need for face to face, but online will also continue. More channels allow more people to take part.
- Lots of residents who live in the housing stock fall into the hard to reach groups, is 6 weeks long enough to get input from these groups, is there a danger that different groups want different things. Will direct assistance be given to residents where needed to get a greater volume of feedback. Members were advised that face to face will be needed for example for those without the internet or where English is not their first language, vulnerable or elderly. Councillors and officers should know who may struggle. The consultation is about involving as many people and getting as many views as possible. Felt that 6 weeks should be long enough but could be extended if needed.
- Recruitment of panels- what would this process look like, what is make up of appointment panels to ensure that critical friend approach is retained. How can we get underrepresented groups involved? Members were advised that this is a good time to reach out there is a range of community activities planned over the summer period and surgeries that could also be used to get views. An example was given of working with Somalian women. Where non-English speaking groups will need to ensure consultation with their advocates and community organisations who work closely with them. Recruitment for CV and HAG already have an agreed recruitment process. The process used must be transparent and clear and is dependent on the nature of the group.

Councillor Smith in summing up thanked the committee for the time allowed for the debate. The initial analysis provided by focus groups was too short and too broad. The consultation document should be revised to make it explicit what the issues are and set out in plain English. Still concerned at the membership of HAG felt that this is a crucial part of overall framework and that there are issues on who the membership should be. Residents cannot make a decision if it is not clear. The consultation should be clear on accountability and structures.

Overview & Scrutiny considered the reasons for the call-in and the responses provided.

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Councillors Aksanoglu, Anyanwu, Demirel, Guzel and Levy voted in favour of the above decision and Councillors David-Sanders and Hockney voted against. The original Cabinet decision was therefore agreed.

4

CALL IN: BOWES PRIMARY AREA QUIETER NEIGHBOURHOOD

Cllr Maria Alexandrou was welcomed as the Call-In lead and highlighted the following:

- The many reasons for the Call In are detailed in the agenda papers.
- Failure to consult residents, the perception survey which did not mention road closures had 263 responses and there was a petition of 377 people that was delivered in Parliament that wanted LTN's. This contrasts to the 1600 signatures that opposed the Bowes LTN, plus the demonstrations and other petitions.
- There was no prior debate or consultation that took place and this forced design was delivered to the detriment imposed upon residents' lives.
- The online consultation discriminated against certain groups. There had been a lack of community engagement on the scheme.
- Nitrogen dioxide levels had increased by 20 per cent at Bowes Primary School in the 8 months since the implementation of the LTN.
- Noted that the camera enforcement vehicles have now been switched to electric the cleaner air retentions have been usurped by the traffic fumes. No baseline measure on air quality were taken before the installation of the LTN so how can any meaningful comparisons be made. Traffic data will be put into a model to analyse the impact on air quality
- Failure to address concerns over the impact on people with disabilities, their rights had not been considered and engagement with blue badge holders had been a "tick-box exercise". A survey revealed more than three quarters of those with a disability thought the trial had had a negative impact on them. Multiple road closures act as a physical and psychological barrier between them and their families and carers.
- LTNs had forced traffic into other roads such as the A406. LTN's are designed to push traffic onto the main roads what about the residents that live on the main roads.
- The proposal is to allow the LTN to continue to allow more representative data of normal conditions. However, NO2 has increased despite Covid restrictions.
- In conclusion the drive to make the streets safer has created the opposite effect. The future of LTN's are a political decision pointing that the outcome is a political commitment. The main beneficiaries of the LTN's are all the residents of the borough in particular are children and young people. Yet the congestion is where children walk to school. LTN's have increased traffic and there is no obvious uptake in walking or cycling. LTN's have forced traffic into other roads and divided the community in order to create a few quiet roads in the entire borough.

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The Chair thanked Cllr Alexandrou and asked the Deputy Leader Cllr Ian Barnes and officers to respond.

- The Deputy Leader asked cabinet for the trial to be extended to allow more data to be collected about typical traffic patterns.
- The traffic cams pollution data responses from TfL on buses on the North Circular in the interim report are all welcomed. This shows no issues on buses or on the North Circular. But this is heavily caveated due to the abnormal traffic patterns due to the pandemic
- Regarding the concern raised on failure to consult residents, the trial had been accompanied by a six-month consultation period, all of this data is in the interim report. The council had followed government guidelines on the scheme's rollout. This timetable came from the government.
- The administration, the government and the Mayor of London are all aligned 39% of emissions come from the roads. Drastic action is needed to encourage people out of cars
- In addition to the perception survey, there was the petition at OSC, numerous Ward Forums, ward councillors were consulted all the way through the process and councillors have been lobbied by several groups. The Deputy Leader and officers have met with several groups both for and against the LTN. There was a Bowes Webinar where questions were answered.
- Bowes was filtered in 2012 but some roads were left behind. This LTN seeks to address these roads.
- The deputy leader suggested the 20 per cent air pollution rise near the primary school had come from social media. Nitrogen dioxide levels typically increase during winter because more people use their cars
- Council enforcement vehicles are now all electric and have been for months.
- Regarding failure to address inequalities impact and rights of disabled the council had carried out a special survey for people with disabilities and held focus groups with them to find out what issues they were experiencing and what could be done to help them.
- Trying to avoid the road becoming gridlocked for those that have to drive. People with disabilities made 32% fewer car trips than other Londoners yet pedestrians are five times more likely to be injured by a motor vehicle.
- Regarding the lack of clear information on funding, the government are clear in their conditions that point closures can be used in LTN's.
- Traffic displacement on Boundary Road, these numbers have gone down not up, heavily caveated due to the pandemic. Rat running traffic has been using residential roads as a pressure valve to avoid main roads. Through traffic should be on main roads.
- The impact of air quality is being measured the results are negligible at present. There 2 places with moderate increases, one is where Haringey are creating their own LTN.
- Finally, 83% of responses from car owners, whereas 50% of residents do not have a car. 52% of non-car owners see scheme as positive whereas

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56% see the scheme as negative. This report is not making recommendations on the future of the trial.

The Chair invited questions and comments from Members, relevant to the call-in reasons

- Following a question, it was confirmed that Bowes was one of the first LTN's as Bowes has suffered for a long while with roads being used as a rat run to avoid the North Circular. It will also be in the ULEZ zone.
- Clarification was provided on the disability focus groups. The focus groups were an opportunity during the first consultation to collect information from people with protected characteristics this enabled the council to identify people who may wish to participate further so that officers could understand in more detail; what the issues were. Two focus groups formed part of the EQIA, this is a continuous process. At the start of the project published the first version of the EQIA, the second version formed part of this report. There will be a further version when a decision is made considering the insights and looking into whether an alternative design can address any issues.
- Worrying that 76% of people with disabilities have a negative view of the scheme. What changes are proposed to address these concerns. Members were advised that 75 people saw the scheme as negative. The focus groups are drilling down as to what the issues are and what can be done to mitigate. The council is working directly with Transport for All on continuing to develop the way we approach equalities and engage with protected characteristics. In terms of what can be changed in the current design this work is ongoing.
- Further to a query on whether pollution monitors are included on the monitoring of main roads surrounding the LTN. Officers confirmed the council was not using air quality monitors to gauge the trial's impact on pollution levels. Instead, it is collecting traffic data and inputting it into a model to get an indication of the LTN's impact on air quality.
- How will the LTN in Haringey impact on Bowes LTN? Enfield's LTN has pushed some traffic into Haringey. Enfield are working closely with Haringey on this and felt that this is positive for both sets of residents.
- If the decision stands you want to extend the trial in normal conditions presumably from September onwards. This was confirmed as was that scheme could be left in removed or modified once the trial has finished.
- Disability groups- are you satisfied with what has been done and that you are doing enough. The committee was advised that whilst more could always be done will continue to review what has been learnt so far. The establishment of the Health Strategic Disability Reference Group is a very positive step.
- Officers confirmed following a query that the responses from the feedback are not weighted between car users and non-car users.
- Following a query how many Experimental Traffic Orders have been removed or rescinded officers agreed to come back to Cllr David-Sanders after the meeting.

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- Officers reassured members that at every stage of the process both legal and counsel advice is taken.
- Following a query on bus gate proposed for Brownlow Road it was confirmed that once Haringey's LTN is installed will look at the potential of putting a bus gate in this road. This could be part of any modified scheme.
- What is the trigger point to remove LTN's as other councils have done? It was confirmed that the government have paid for 100 LTN's and only 3 or 4 have been removed. This was a government election pledge so the number of LTN's is expected to increase. More data is needed to judge whether it was a success.
- Regarding comments on emergency barriers removed as impeding emergency services. Officers advised that the council has worked collaboratively and engaged with emergency services on this scheme. No objections have been received from emergency services. Warwick Road had width restrictions to prevent heavy goods vehicles using the road. This was hindering the London Ambulance service. This scheme enabled Warwick Road to become free flowing from an ambulance perspective.
- Following a query on community engagement the Deputy Leader confirmed that of the groups; 3 were pro LTN's, 2 neutral and one anti.
- The two ward councillors in attendance at the meeting were asked for their views. Councillor Brett commented that while she supported efforts to tackle climate change, she criticised the government timeline for rolling out the trial and said the way the LTN was implemented in Bowes was not helpful. She felt that consulted was not the right word for the prior engagement with ward councillors, who had been presented with a very tight timeline for the trial, and the reason she had agreed was because it was going to be for an experimental period that might contribute to the climate change discussion. She felt that residents were pitted against each other causing diversion. The deputy leader said that all Ward Councillors were consulted, and the community was divided as not all of the road were sorted in 2012.
- Councillor Achilleas Georgiou agreed that the problem went back to 2012 when schemes were introduced. On this issue of those with disabilities there was the opportunity to make changes to make changes to benefit people with disabilities. Can any amendments be made before the experimental orders come to an end? Cllr Georgiou said he did not believe there had been prior engagement with people living on the North Circular, which is on the boundary of the scheme, and asked if the council would hold focus groups and consultation with them. In response, Cllr Barnes advised that the LTN had reduced the number of vehicles going on to the North Circular, and that residents on the road had been free to take part in the consultation on the trial. The council would consider carrying out more engagement with those disproportionately impacted by the scheme adding that it could be modified in response to the concerns raised by people with disabilities.

Councillor Alexandrou in summing up highlighted the following; she felt that the vibrant spirit has been destroyed and the scheme is socially divisive with gridlocked roads, whilst cycle lanes are empty. The council should promote equality and eliminate discrimination, no provision for people with disabilities.

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No positive enhancements are provided to improve the surrounding areas to encourage walking and cycling, no alternative green travel options are offered. The scheme does not include public transport, traffic has been deliberately forced on to main roads. People are apprehensive to use North Circular and now feel trapped at home, more work is needed with focus groups.

Overview & Scrutiny considered the reasons for the call-in and the responses provided.

Councillors Aksanoglu, Anyanwu, Demirel, and Guzel voted in favour of the above decision and Councillors David-Sanders, Hockney and Levy voted for against. The original Cabinet decision was therefore agreed.

5

CALL IN: ENFIELD HEALTHY STREETS FRAMEWORK

Cllr Lindsay Rawlings was welcomed as the Call-In lead and presented reasons for issuing the Call-in.

- The Call-in reasons and responses are detailed in the report.
- Activity 1, paragraph 1 the emphasis in the report of most of the activities is on improvements to the cycling infrastructure with pedestrians second best.
- Paragraph 2 if the intention is to increase cycle hubs at stations that the word existing should be removed.
- Paragraph 4 believes that this should be a holistic framework not just about cycling and walking without including public transport. Not sure how many residents are aware of the number of bus routes that can be used. On a number of areas where there is poor connectivity a more joined up approach would allow more people to see where they can get to with public transport.
- Activity 2 paragraph 1, anecdotally that the rise of illegal use of e-scooters, riding cycles on pavements and also through public open spaces does put people off walking around. Rather that look at pure statistics for accidents would rather see data collected on changing habits of pedestrians because of perceived problems on pavements. Even with the increase in safe segregated cycle routes in the borough there does not appear to be less people riding on the pavements.
- Activity 3 thought needs to be given in how to engage with more people need to gain the views of a wider range of residents.
- Activity 4 pleased that the activities are not ranked in order, but this should be made clearer in the report. A wide range of views are needed on this.
- Activity 6 point 10 the response does not give reasons for providing so few references to public transport throughout the report. One of the main thrusts of healthy streets cannot assume that getting people cycling or walking will get them to leave their cars behind some journeys will need to be taken by public transport.
- Point 41 whilst agreed that other improvements can relate to pedestrians they do not do so obviously. Others reading the report may miss these.

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- Point 55 there should be an indication of much or how little people need to change their modes of travel in order to make a difference such as leaving the car at home one day a week, etc. If residents could see how making a relatively small change could make a difference to climate change, they may be more inclined to do so.
- To sum up not totally against the healthy streets initiative and am pleased that the emphasis has moved away from just cycling to include walking and public transport. This report needs to show residents that it is serious in its support for walking across the borough.

The Chair thanked Cllr Rawlings and asked the Deputy Leader Cllr Ian Barnes and officers to respond.

- With regards to the point favouring cyclists over pedestrians throughout the report it talks about improving conditions for walking and cycling. The overall purpose of the report is to provide a framework for healthy streets. There are 10 indicators, and these achieve a balance between walking and cycling.
- To clarify regarding cycling hubs at stations this is not expansion of the cycle hubs already in place without evidence of demand but an increase in the number of good quality secure cycle parking spaces such as those found at station hubs are needed at other stations that do not currently have this facility.
- The paper relates to public transport as programming to facilitate walking and cycling. Most public transport trips will begin on foot. The focus of TfL's healthy streets approach is walking and cycling journeys.
- With regards to people walking or cycling to Town Centres spending more than those arriving by car or public transport with no data to support this assertion. Links have been put in the response where the evidence can be read.
- Danger from motor vehicles to pedestrians and from the increasing use of e scooters and cyclists riding on the pavement. The response contains data on relative risk from different modes of transport. It was agreed that the use of e scooters and cycles on footways does cause distress to some people, this is a police matter. One of the reasons that Enfield did not take part in the e scooter trial scheme is that we want to see the results first.
- Fear of traffic is a reason that people often give for choosing not to walk or cycle. The National attitude survey is included which has a focus on walking or cycling. Segregated cycle lanes help with safety.
- With reference to where the report states that we will seek to involve those with protective characteristics. Everything will done to try to increase participation across these groups. The report mentions the establishment of a Healthy Streets Disability Reference group (HSDRG) this consists of 15 people with representation from various disabilities.
- Regarding point 10, the administration fully supports public transport and will do everything they can to expand this.

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- Community engagement a variety of methods are used including leaflets, paper versions of the consultation and documents posted through doors and try to help residents with different languages.
- The comment on the mix of metric and imperial measures is noted.

The Chair invited questions and comments from Members, relevant to the call-in reasons

- In a response to a request for more information on the HSDRG officers advised that they are working with Transport for All which is a pan disability charity focuses specifically on the transport sector. The annex in the report sets out the equalities approach. The report sets out to make a commitment on how the council will engage with those with protective characteristics.
- A comment was made that it is hoped that the points made in the call in will be taken on board. Going forward the linguistics and the way it is being communicated needs to be softened. Softer language is needed to engage people with the behavioural and cultural shift needed. Public transport is a major part of the report. Members were advised that the next step is to look at how this can be communicated in a softer way. Engagement with Councillor Rawlings would be welcomed on this.
- Activity 2 one of the main issues raised with Councillors is road safety. One of the frustration residents raise is that the accident rate is not high enough, and speeding is a policing issue. It is very difficult to get even modest measures put in place. Officers advised that funding is a challenge in order to best determine where to allocate scarce resources on road safety there has to be a tool to prioritise where the greatest need is. It is acknowledged that there are issues in other places and a wider more holistic approach is taken in these areas. The council receives lots of requests for road safety measures.
- How do we engage with groups who do not naturally engage? Members were advised that it will be the role of the HSDRG to reach out, they will be mentored by Transport for All. It was acknowledged that this will be a challenge.
- East of the borough the junction at Hertford Road/ Ordnance Road is challenging with cars parking at junctions, heavy traffic, issues with cycle lanes and the perception that this not safe. This is very confusing and there are also traffic signalling issues which have been raised with TfL. Officers agreed to look at this scheme.
- Following a query, it was confirmed that the putting in good quality cycle storage is resident led.

Cllr Rawlings in summing up said that there is not enough mention of public transport within the report. The links provided in the responses should be in the report. Agree with the data re accidents but need to investigate what stops people walking. Felt that there is too much emphasis on national surveys should focus Enfield specific. Different ethnic groups have their own reasons for not cycling or walking. The report needs to make clear that the points are not in order. Language used to be made gentler and more friendly. Cllr

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Rawlings happy to work with officers in making the report suitable for the public.

Overview & Scrutiny considered the reasons for the call-in and the responses provided.

Councillors Aksanoglu, Anyanwu, Demirel, Guzel and Levy voted in favour of the above decision and Councillors David-Sanders and Hockney voted against. The original Cabinet decision was therefore agreed.

**6
DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The dates of meetings were noted, it was confirmed that the provisional Call in date of the 5 August 2021 is now a confirmed Call in date.

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OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 5.8.2021

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY, 5 AUGUST 2021**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT (Chair) Lee David-Sanders, Birsen Demirel, Mahmut Aksanoglu, James Hockney, Derek Levy, Doug Taylor and Hass Yusuf

ABSENT Susan Erbil, Margaret Greer and Elif Erbil, Mr Tony Murphy (Catholic Diocese Representative)

OFFICERS: Joanne Drew (Director of Housing & Regeneration), Amena Matin (Housing Development and Estate Regeneration Programme Manager), Bindi Nagra (Director of Health & Adult Social Care) Doug Wilson (Head of Strategy & Service Development) Claire Johnson (Head of Governance & Scrutiny (Superintendent Registrars), Koulla Panaretou (Mayoral Services Manager)

Also Attending: Cllr Gina Needs (Cabinet Member for Social Housing), Cllr Edward Smith (Conservative Group)

**1
WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Margaret Greer, Cllr Susan Erbil, Cllr Elif Erbil. They were represented by Cllr Hass Yusuf and Cllr Doug Taylor.

Cllr Mahmut Aksanoglu put himself forward to Chair the meeting and this was seconded by Cllr Birsen Demirel.

Cllr Mahmut Aksanoglu welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

**2
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest registered in respect of any items on the agenda.

**3
CALL IN : DEVELOPMENT OF LAND FORMERLY KNOWN AS REARDON COURT**

Cllr Edward Smith was welcomed as the Call-In lead and presented reasons for issuing the Call-in.

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The Call-in reasons and responses are detailed in the report where that:

- There had been a lack of consultations with the residents. It was viewed that if the concerns of the residents had been considered at the design stage, then the project would have progressed at the initial stages. The two main concerns identified by the residents were noise and parking issues.
- Since initial stages of discussions in 2016/17 and the demolition of Reardon Court in 2020, little has progressed with this project.
- Since the termination of the procurement and the withdrawal of the planning permission, the project is now at a standstill.
- The alternative approach - to bring in a partner, such as a Housing Association with specialised skills in this field should have been considered, they would have secured a grant and the Council would have been the client.
- In respect of the lets - the law required Housing Associations if in partnership with the Council to provide nominations to 100% of first lets and 75% of second lets.
- The question must be asked how we can deliver value for money whilst maintaining good standards.

The Chair thanked Cllr Smith and asked the Cabinet Member for Social Housing (Cllr Gina Needs) and officers to respond.

- Cllr Needs advised that Enfield have a duty to provide suitable, affordable care for our vulnerable elderly residents.
- The questions posed are understandable due to the time taken to progress the scheme.
- Residents' concerns in respect of parking and noise have been registered.
- Cllr Needs concluded that she supports this scheme and hopes other members do too.
- Joanne Drew (Director of Housing & Regeneration) advised that this scheme was initially led by the Adult Social Care team supported by Corporate property and funded by the general fund. Since 2020 and in compliance with GLA grant requirements the Housing Service is delivering the project as part of its 3500 council homes programme which is fully funded by the Housing Revenue account. It is important to note that the £30m allocation is capital and not available for use for day to day services.
- Bindi Nagra (Director of Health & Adult Social Care) advised that extensive consultations have taken place and formed part of the original planning application, during which time the aspect of parking did not come up.
- In terms of procurement, progress was limited as the Covid period only produced three bidders and only one was acceptable, although exclusions meant that a high degree of risk would be placed on the

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Councils side which was unacceptable to the Council at which point the procurement was abandoned.

- Amena Matin (Housing Development and Estate Regeneration Programme Manager) advised that the Council have a specialist project management team, who understand what homes are needed and where. At the demolition stage of Reardon Court, residents raised concerns about parking and noise and the Council listened and subsequently revised the scale of the scheme.
- New plans have included adding acoustic materials to the new build and this necessitated the need to revisit the planning application.
- Cabinet has agreed a registered providers framework for future schemes as appropriate. However, in the case of Reardon grant in the Councils name had already been secured.
- Cllr Doug Taylor asked for clarification on the original planning application in February 2020 where there was a deputation at the meeting and a revised planning application was required. He asked whether the reason for call in was more related to the planning decision rather than cabinet. In response, Bindi advised that the original scheme is being redesigned and is in the process of being re-consulted with the residents.
- Cllr Smith responded to say that the wrong scheme was initially submitted to planning for the 91 units and if consultations were completed, time would have been saved. Ameena responded to advise that the impact on the Cosgrove Close residents through the current consultation process has been considered in that the original scheme approved by the Planning Committee was being revised and will remain within the footprint of the building that was originally there.
- Cllr Derek Levy asked for clarity on the finance of the scheme. If the budget allowed £32m for 91 units then £30m for 69 units, the number of units has reduced by a significantly larger proportion than the projected budget requirement. A small reduction in budget will equate to a loss of 22 units. Also is there a contingency to the budget. In response, Cllr Needs advised that additional funding has been allocated in order to address the noise issues and other extras. Since Brexit, materials have been in short supply and prices have escalated causing cost estimates to go up considerably. Ameena further responded by advising the pandemic has impacted labour and materials and 20% projected increase in costs is a prudent cost assumption for the current market.
- Cllr Birsan Demirel advised that this was an exciting scheme to be proud of in the borough and sought clarity on the effect of covid and mitigation issues. In response Ameena reiterated that materials and labour costs have increased, and discussions are being held with the GLA in respect of grant funding to support the scheme. Cost of inflation has been factored into the pricing from 2% to 4%.
- Cllr Hass Yusuf advised that the project was robust and more care homes in the borough will be beneficial to our residents. Noise issues will only be from the initial construction of the site and concerns in relation to noise from the recycling centre next door will be minimal, fully endorsing the scheme.

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- Cllr James Hockney sought clarity on alternative options for spending the money on social care. In response Bindi/Doug advised that whether the Council fund and own the extra care scheme or go to the registered providers market to design, build and run the scheme, there is still a revenue cost implication. There is evidence that RPs building and running will cross subsidise accommodation costs by charging more for care and support costs. The cost of providing care and support does not reflect additional spend but funding used to purchase alternative types of support for people who might otherwise be placed in residential care, which costs more. This type of service promotes more independent living for older vulnerable people.
- Cllr James Hockney asked why an in-house team were not used for care services rather than using independent contractors. In response, it is more beneficial for the client (some of whom are very vulnerable) to separate the landlord and the care provider as if the same provider delivers both and the quality of care is not acceptable this can lead to disputes.
- To confirm the figures: £30m was the original cost, £27m is now the reduced cost for fewer units, 40% of which is grant funded, therefore the total amount of borrowing for the council is only £17.4m.

Cllr Edward Smith in summing up highlighted the following by claiming that:

- Project management of the scheme had not been handled effectively. Whilst going to planning twice, residents should have been adequately consulted. A huge cost increase must now be borne due the delays incurred.
- The Registered Providers and Housing Associations have been running similar successful schemes for many years for the elderly. This would be cheaper and better for the residents. If the Council had acted more efficiently from the outset, this issue would now be sorted.

Overview & Scrutiny considered the reasons for the call-in and the responses provided.

The Chair confirmed that having heard the reasons for call-in and the responses to call-in, the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee would now be asked to vote. The options available to Members were:

- i) Confirm the original decision.
- ii) Refer the decision back to the Cabinet Member/Decision Maker for further consideration.
- iii) Refer to Full Council

Councillors Aksanoglu, Yusuf, Taylor, voted in favour of upholding the original Cabinet decision and Councillors David-Sanders and Hockney voted against. Cllr Derek Levy abstained. The original Cabinet decision was therefore agreed.

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**4
DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as the 8th September 2021.

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Build the Change Programme

Overview and Scrutiny – 8th September 2021

BUILD THE
CHANGE

Striving for excellence



Progress since the last update

Old Housing office layout (2nd floor EGL)



View previous office layout – Outdated, uncoordinated, inflexible office space with poor lighting



View - Staff area adjacent to kitchen

Progress since the last update

Housing Hub construction progress



View North side - showing steelwork supporting existing roof mounted heat pumps, repairs and sprayed finish to soffits, exposed floor slab and columns.

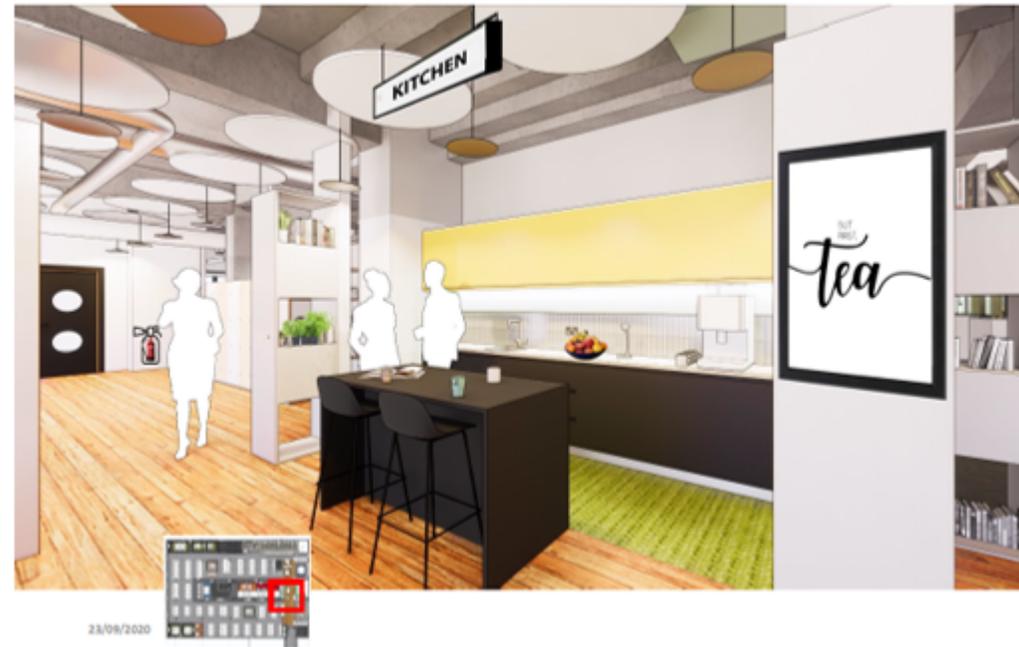
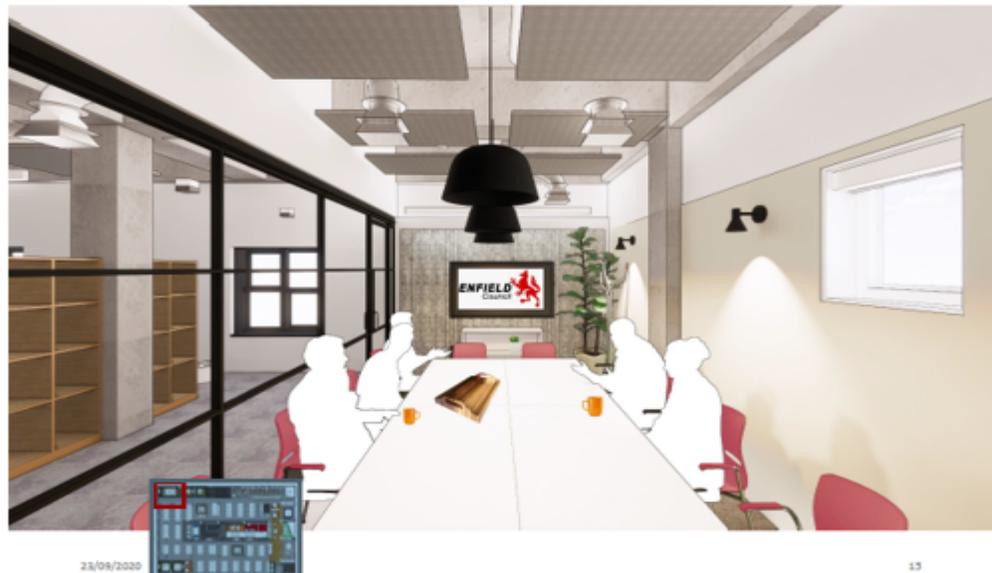
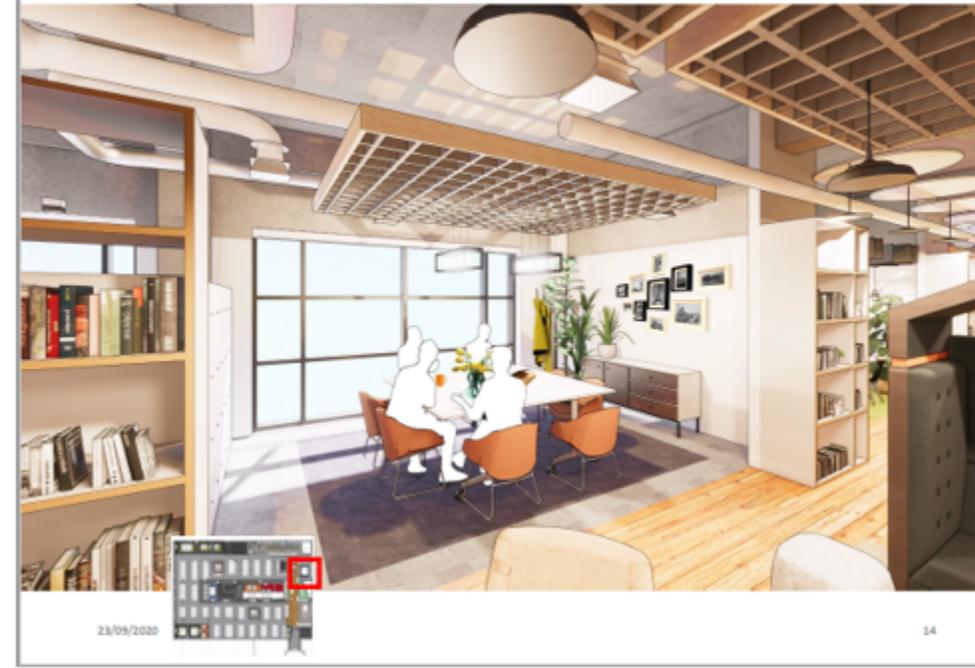


View West (towards front of building), showing removed screed, repairs and sprayed finish to soffits, services all removed

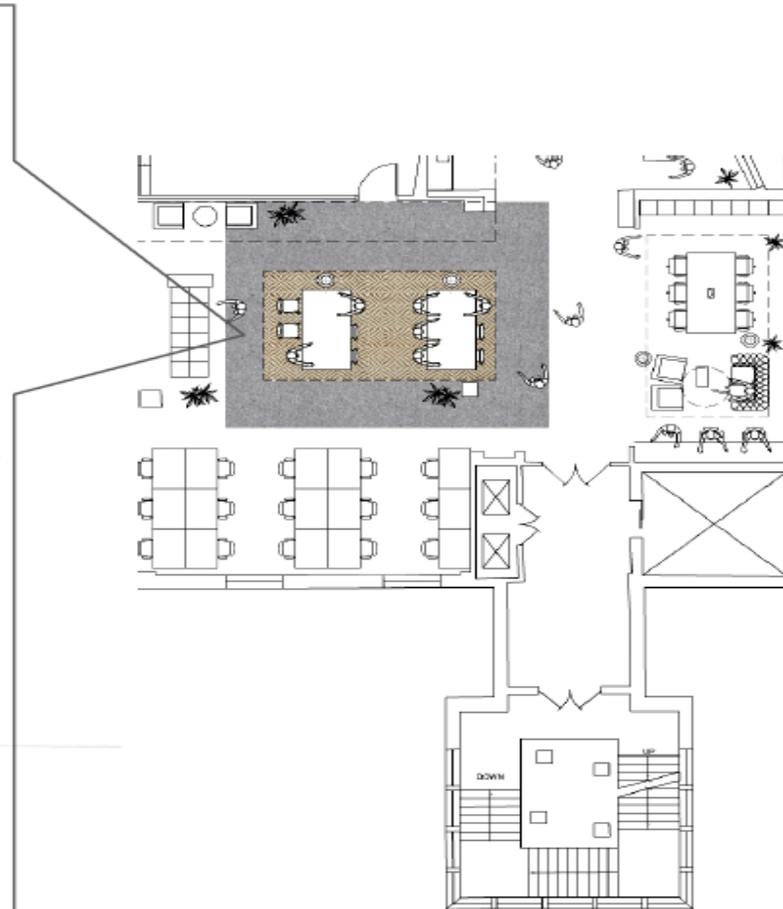
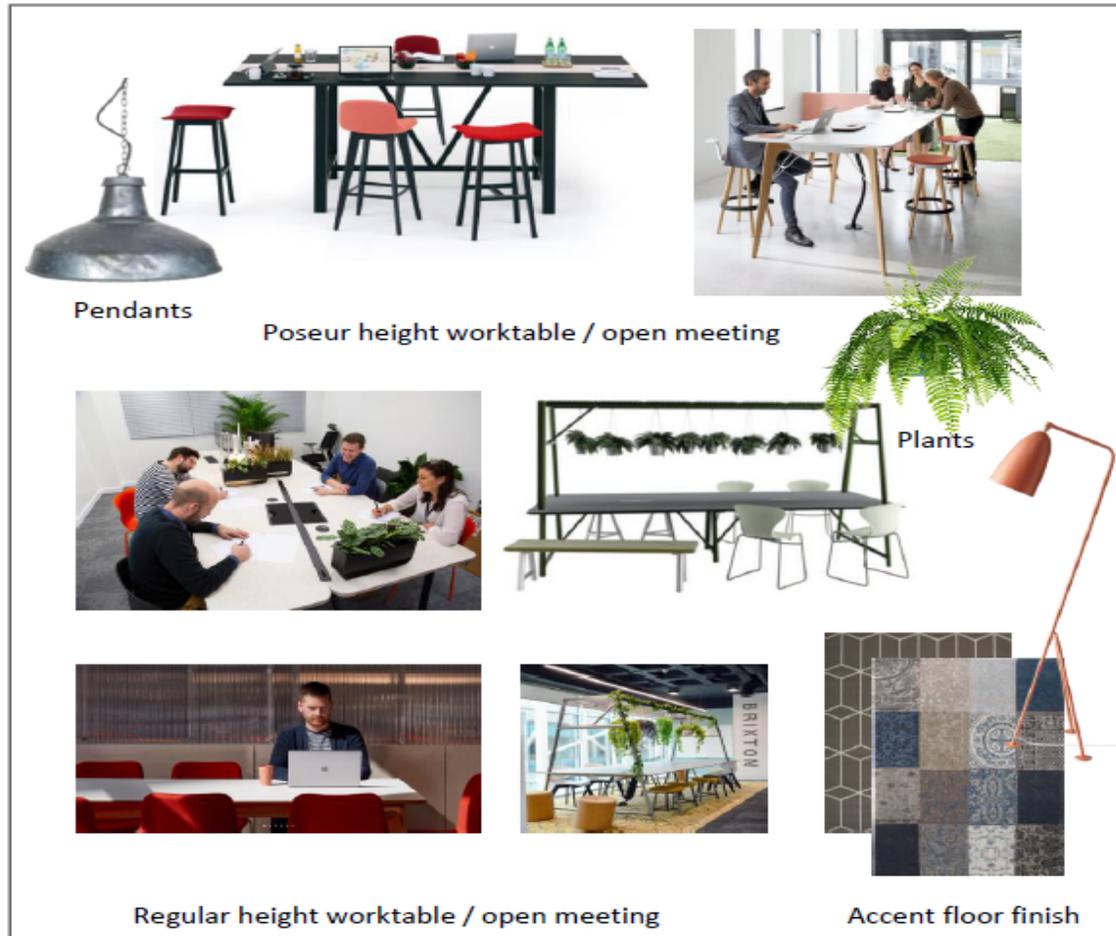


View of rear wall where new windows will be installed to bring light to social space, kitchen etc

Housing Hub



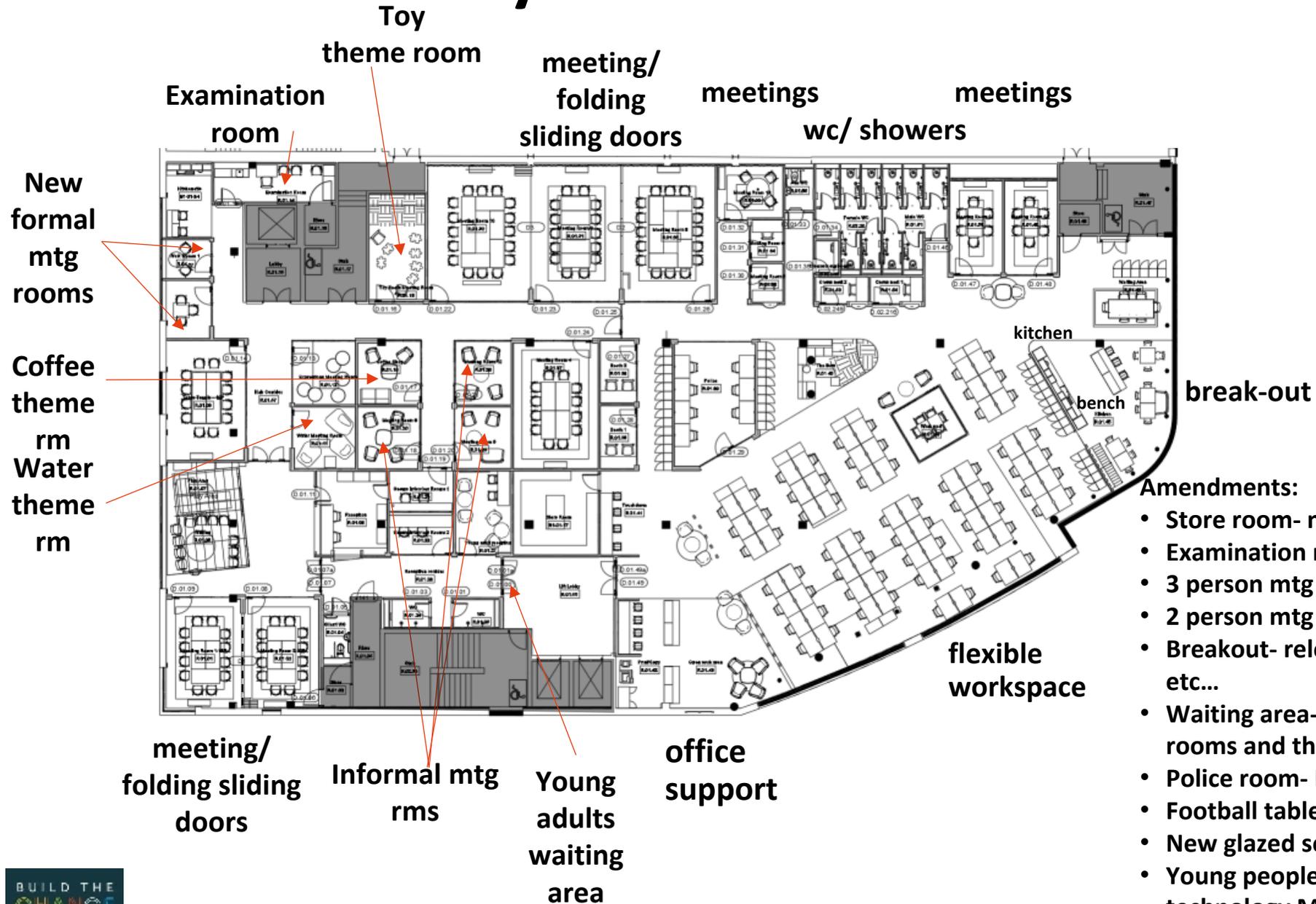
Housing Hub collaboration area



Housing Hub



Children & Family Services Hub 1st Floor Layout



Amendments:

- Store room- new access and increased storage
- Examination room- increased room size
- 3 person mtg room- added top left
- 2 person mtg room- added top left
- Breakout- relocated and reduced with zip tap etc...
- Waiting area- space increased between the mtg rooms and the case conference rooms
- Police room- Individual server accommodated
- Football table- replaced with soft seating
- New glazed security door- added at reception
- Young people waiting: stools, high bench, technology Microsoft hub, screen, artwork

Children & Family Services Hub 2nd Floor Layout



Amendments:

- Store room- new access and increased storage
- Examination room- increased room size
- 4 person mtg room- added top left
- 2 person mtg room- added top left
- Breakout- relocated and reduced with zip tap etc...
- Waiting area- space increased between the mtg rooms and the case conference rooms
- Police room- Individual server accommodated
- Football table- replaced with soft seating
- New glazed security door- added at reception
- Room 5- young people waiting: stools, high bench, technology Microsoft hub, screen, artwork

Children and Family Service Hub



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