



LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD

**AGENDA FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
1ST JULY, 2009 AT 7.00 PM**



**THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD**

**Please
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Date: 23 June 2009

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend the meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Enfield to be held at the Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield on Wednesday, 1st July, 2009 at 7.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the business set out below.

Yours sincerely

Assistant Director, Corporate Governance

1. ELECTION (IF REQUIRED) OF THE CHAIRMAN/DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING

2. MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

The Mayor's Chaplain to give a blessing.

3. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (15 MINUTES APPROXIMATELY)

4. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 May 2009.

5. APOLOGIES

6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Pages 9 - 10)

Members of the Council are invited to identify any personal or prejudicial interests relevant to items on the agenda. Please refer to the guidance note attached to the agenda.

7. OPPOSITION BUSINESS - TRANSPARENCY (Pages 11 - 16)

An issues paper prepared by the Labour Group is attached for the consideration of Council.

The Constitution Procedure Rules relating to Opposition Business are attached for information.

8. STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09 (Pages 17 - 24)

To receive the sixth Annual Report of the London Borough of Enfield's Standards Committee (No. 26) which sets out the key issues dealt with during the past year and looks ahead to the Committee's priorities for 2009/10.

9. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS STRATEGY (Pages 25 - 46)

To receive the report of the Director of Health and Adult Social Services (No. 27), the strategy seeks to prevent the abuse of some of the most vulnerable people in our society, as opposed to the current primary focus of responding to abuse once it has happened. .

The recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting held on 17 June 2009.

10. PARKS REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME 2009-2012 (Pages 47 - 54)

To receive the report of the Director of Place Shaping and Enterprise (No. 17) outlining proposals for the allocation of additional capital investment in parks and open spaces for the period 2009-2012.

The recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting held on 17 June 2009.

11. YOUNG PEOPLES LIFE OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION FINAL UPDATE PRIOR TO THE FULL REPORT (Pages 55 - 56)

To receive the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 28) providing Council with a final update on the Young Peoples Life Opportunities Scrutiny Commission's work.

12. ENFIELD'S SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09 (Pages 57 - 88)

To receive the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (No. 29) detailing the work undertaken by the Council's scrutiny function over the last Municipal Year. The report is presented for consideration and endorsement, prior to publication.

13. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT - AMENDED RENT INCREASE (Pages 89 - 94)

To receive the joint report of the Directors of Place Shaping and Enterprise and Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 19) seeking approval to the amended level of rents to be operative from 6 April 2009.

The recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting held on 17 June 2009.

14. CREATION OF A PLACE SHAPING AND ENTERPRISE SCRUTINY PANEL (TO FOLLOW)

To receive the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 30) seeking approval to the formation of a new Scrutiny Panel covering the function of Place Shaping and Enterprise.

15. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007 (Pages 95 - 106)

To receive the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 31) asking Council to review the options in respect of the new executive arrangements and to give a view as to a preferred option which will go in to the consultation as the Council's preferred option for the executive arrangements.

The recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Constitution Review Group meeting held on 10 June 2009.

16. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION (Pages 107 - 112)

To receive the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 32) setting out proposed changes to the Council's Constitution agreed by the Constitution Review Group (CRG) at their meeting on 10 June 2009.

17. COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME (TIME ALLOWED - 30 MINUTES)
(Pages 113 - 120)

17.1 Urgent Questions (Part 4 - Paragraph 9.2.(b) of Constitution – Page 4-9)

With the permission of the Mayor, questions on urgent issues may be tabled

with the proviso of a subsequent written response if the issue requires research or is considered by the Mayor to be minor.

Please note that the Mayor will decide whether a question is urgent or not. The definition of an urgent question is “An issue which could not reasonably have been foreseen or anticipated prior to the deadline for the submission of questions and which needs to be considered before the next meeting of the Council.”

A supplementary question is not permitted.

17.2 Councillors’ Questions (Part 4 – Paragraph 9.2(a) of Constitution – Page 4 - 8)

The ten questions and responses are attached to the agenda.

18. MOTIONS

18.1 In the name of Councillor Neville

“The Council notes with concern that the 48 hour strike by members of the RMT Union on London Underground between 10 – 12 June 2009 caused considerable inconvenience to many Enfield and other London commuters and travellers at a time when London’s economy can ill afford the substantial losses incurred as a result of this action. The Council supports the Mayor of London’s desire for a ‘no strike’ deal with the trade unions in the transport sector and calls upon all parties to negotiate such a deal to bring to an end the history of unnecessary and unreasonable tube and/or bus strikes and other industrial action affecting public transport in London.”

19. MEMBERSHIPS

19.1 To confirm the following change to Committee Memberships:

i. Audit Committee

Councillor Croshaw to replace Councillor Pipe.

19.2 To consider any changes to the proportionality of the Council’s committees.

20. NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

To confirm the following change to nominations to outside bodies:

i. Lee Valley Regional Park Authority

To appoint Councillors Rye and Taylor (Deputy) until 30 June 2013.

21. CALLED IN DECISIONS

None.

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 23 September 2009 at 7.00 p.m. at the Civic Centre.

COUNCIL - 6.5.2009

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6 MAY 2009**

COUNCILLORS**PRESENT**

Eleftherios Savva (Mayor), Pamela Adams (Deputy Mayor), Kate Anolue, Gregory Antoniou, Chaudhury Anwar MBE, Alan Barker, John Boast, Yasemin Brett, Kris Brown, Jayne Buckland, Lee Chamberlain, Christopher Cole, Andreas Constantinides, Adrian Croshaw, Dogan Delman, Tony Dey, Annette Dreblow, Christiana During, Peter Fallart, Norman Ford, Achilleas Georgiou, Vivien Giladi, Del Goddard, Jonas Hall, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Robert Hayward, Ruth Hones, Ertan Hurer, Chris Joannides, Eric Jukes, Jon Kaye, Matthew Laban, Henry Lamprecht, Bernadette Lappage, Michael Lavender, Dino Lemonides, Paul McCannah, Donald McGowan, Kieran McGregor, Chris Murphy, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykenner, Anne-Marie Pearce, Henry Pipe, Martin Prescott, Geoffrey Robinson, Jeff Rodin, Michael Rye, George Savva MBE, Rohini Simbodyal, Toby Simon, Edward Smith, Terence Smith, Andrew Stafford, Doug Taylor, Glynis Vince and Ann Zinkin

ABSENT

Chris Bond, Bambos Charalambous, Denise Headley and Kate Wilkinson

1**MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING**

The Mayor's Chaplain The Reverend Stephen Leader gave a blessing on the Council.

2**CHANGE OF ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Councillor Hurer moved and Councillor Rye seconded a motion to change the order of business on the agenda under paragraph 2.2 (page 4-5) of the Council's Procedure Rules to enable the meeting to take the motion in the name of Councillor Rodin (agenda item 10) as the next item of business. This was agreed by the meeting.

3**MOTIONS**

Councillor Rodin moved and Councillor Constantinides seconded the following motion:

"This Council is aware of the financial difficulties being faced by many Enfield residents in the current economic situation. It recognises that its decision to increase the Council Tax for 2009/10 was unwelcome. It is also aware that the Council has substantial financial reserves. It therefore resolves: -

COUNCIL - 6.5.2009

1. to change its decision taken at the Council meeting on 25 February to increase the Council Tax for 2009/10 and instead to set a Council Tax for 2009/10 at the same level as that for 2008/9
2. to declare its intention to set the Enfield element of the Council Tax for 2010/11 at the same level as the Council Tax for 2008/9.”

Councillor Rodin confirmed his view that it was unfortunate that this motion had not been debated at the last meeting because of the approach taken by the Majority Group. He felt that it was important for Council to consider and vote on this matter. As this was the Annual Meeting and the subject matter of the motion had been debated previously, he intended to formally move the motion without entering into a debate.

Councillor Rye responded on behalf of the Majority Group, confirming that this proposal had been debated twice as Opposition Business and at the budget Council meeting.

The motion was then put to the vote and lost with the following result:

For: 24
Against: 30
Abstained: 1

**4
ELECTION OF MAYOR**

Moved by Councillor Rye, seconded by Councillor Rodin:
“That Councillor Eleftherios Savva be elected Mayor of the London Borough of Enfield for the Municipal Year 2009/2010.”

On being put to the vote the motion was carried unanimously and Councillor Eleftherios Savva was duly elected Mayor.

RESOLVED accordingly.

Councillor E Savva then made and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested with the badge of office by the retiring Mayor, Councillor Chamberlain.

The Mayor left the chamber to be robed and then returned to the meeting.

**5
MAYOR'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH**

The Mayor made the following acceptance speech:

COUNCIL - 6.5.2009

“Honoured and distinguished guests, friends, colleagues, fellow councillors I would like to welcome you and to thank you all for showing your support by being here today.

I would like to thank Councillors on both sides of the chamber for supporting the nomination in electing me to serve as Mayor for the forthcoming year. I will endeavour to carry out my duties with dignity and to the high standards set by my predecessors. I would particularly like to thank both Mike and Jeff for the very kind words of introduction.

My thanks to Lee and Marcia Chamberlain for their work during the year. For Lee’s support during the twinning with Halandri and Sariyer.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the late Deputy Mayor, Councillor John Jackson who was my mentor throughout my political career, as he is greatly missed. My gratitude also to Councillor Terence Neville for all his mentoring and support during my time on the various committees.

So who am I? I am a foster carer and I truly believe in helping and guiding young people to develop their skills for life. This is why I have decided that my charity for this year will raise funds to assist children and young people within the community of Enfield. I hope that you will all support my fund raising efforts.

I have lived in Enfield for over 30 years. I am married to Androulla and we have a daughter and a grandson. As we foster children our house is always a full house.

In 2002 I was elected as a councillor for the Bush Hill Park Ward. One of my first experiences during my period of canvassing was when I knocked on a door which a typically alpha-male Greek opened, with one look at my rosette and a distinctive angry pointed finger, he said “I’m not voting for you Tories”.

So I said ok and thanked the man for this and politely noted that there were 6 people in the house eligible to vote and he said yes we voted for Savva. So I thanked him for the 6 votes and promptly moved on.

I would like to finish off by saying that as a new councillor, on entering the Civic Centre dressed in jeans and a t-shirt Councillor Tony Dey saw me and said “you are a Conservative councillor now and your need to be appropriately dressed” So I apologised and followed his example and wore a suit and tie for my next visit to the Civic Centre. Who do I see in front of me the very next day but Tony Dey in jeans and a t-shirt – that proved to me that we were a big happy family.

I am looking forward to my year in office and having the opportunity to visit as many organisations, charities and local groups that work tirelessly on behalf of those less fortunate than ourselves.

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To conclude, I must not forget to thank Androulla my wife for all her support and hard work which has enabled me to carry out my duties as a councillor and now as the Mayor. I look forward to my year in office, and I hope that I can follow in the footsteps of my predecessors.

My thanks to my daughter and grandson Charlie who have flown in for the day to witness this event. And to representatives from Courbevoie Madame Renaud and Monsieur Desesmaison, who have joined us tonight.

I am proud to serve, protect and celebrate all that is good in Enfield and ensure the borough is promoted to the best of my ability.”

**6
APPOINTMENT OF MAYORESS**

The Mayor announced the appointment of Mrs Androulla Savva, as the Mayoress for the Municipal Year 2009/2010. He invested Mrs Savva with her badge of office.

**7
APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

The Mayor confirmed the appointment of Councillor Pamela Adams to be the Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2009/2010. The Deputy Mayor then made and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested by the Mayor with her badge of office. Councillor Adams then made a speech of thanks.

**8
APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYORESS**

The Deputy Mayor then announced the appointment of Mrs Pat Dawson, as the Deputy Mayoress for the Municipal Year 2009/2010. She invested Mrs Dawson with her badge of office.

**9
ELECTION OF LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

Councillor Lavender proposed Councillor Rye for the post of Leader of the Council. Councillor Hurer seconded this. There were no other nominations for the post of Leader. The nomination was agreed.

The Mayor then asked for nominations for the post of Deputy Leader of the Council.

Councillor Rye proposed Councillor Lavender for the post of Deputy Leader of the Council. Councillor Hurer seconded this. There were no other nominations for the post of Deputy Leader. The nomination was agreed.

COUNCIL - 6.5.2009

AGREED that Councillor Rye be appointed Leader of the Council and Councillor Lavender the Deputy Leader.

10

PRESENTATION OF THE PAST MAYOR AND MAYORESS' BADGES

The Mayor presented past Mayor's and Mayoress' badges and certificates recording the Council's appreciation to the retiring Mayor, Councillor Lee Chamberlain and Mayoress Marcia Chamberlain.

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, thanked them for the contribution they had made as Mayor and Mayoress during the Municipal Year 2008/2009.

The Leader of each Group was presented with a small token of appreciation.

11

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor made the following announcement:

"I am delighted to tell you that Sylvia Chapman, one of our social workers who is in the disabilities team, has been nominated to go head to head with some of the best council workers in the country, to win the coveted prize of Council Worker of the Year! Nominated for her exceptional work with visually impaired people she needs as many people to vote for her as possible.

Sylvia, who has worked for the council for 32 years, visits residents, usually over 60 who have been newly registered as disabled, and often these people can be adjusting to losing their sight, which can be extremely upsetting.

She will complete a visual assessment which will help the person come to terms with their situation, and how they can best be helped come to terms with the changes they are going through. The loss of sight can hit people extremely hard, and many grieve for the things they can no longer do.

She richly deserves this award and the more people we can get to vote for this deserving lady the better.

To vote for Sylvia you need to go to www.localgovernmentchannel.com/awards .

If you need to find out more please contact Suzanne in the council press office."

12

MINUTES

AGREED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 1 April 2009 be confirmed as a correct record subject to the following amendment:

COUNCIL - 6.5.2009

Minute No. 116 (5) – correct spelling of chord.

**13
APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bond, Charalambous, Headley and Wilkinson.

**14
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

**15
COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME**

1. Urgent Questions (Part 4 - Paragraph 9.2. (b) of Constitution – Page 4-9)
None received.
2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED

- i. The six questions, on the Council's agenda, which received a written reply by the relevant Cabinet Member.
- ii. The following supplementary question received for the question indicated below:

Question 1 from Councillor Rodin to Councillor Lavender, Deputy Leader of the Council/ Sustainable Communities & Employment & Place Shaping:

“Will Councillor Lavender agree with me that both sides of this Council should unite to ensure that North London Waste looks elsewhere for a new waste facility?”

Reply from Councillor Lavender:

“I agree that we should be united to prevent needless waste uses being located in this borough.”

**16
URGENT DECISIONS REQUIRING THE WAIVING OF THE CALL-IN PROCEDURE (PART 4.2 – PARAGRAPH 17.3 – PAGE 4-34)**

NOTED the urgent decisions below taken in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure (Paragraph 17.3 – relating to the waiving of the requirement to allow a 5-day call-in period):

COUNCIL - 6.5.2009

1. Reorganisation of the Environmental Crime, Environmental Health and trading Standards Licensing Services within the Environmental Protection and Regulation Division.
2. High Court Judgement on Judicial Review of Chase Farm Hospital

17

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

Councillor Hurer moved and Councillor Rye seconded report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No.1), asking the Council to determine the constitution and political balance of the committees, joint committees and panels that have been set up for the discharge of the Council's functions.

AGREED

1. that the seats allocated to each political party, on the committees and boards to which Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 apply, be as set out in Appendix A of the report.
2. in accordance with paragraph 3.3 of the report, Council resolved without dissent that the rules of political proportionality should not apply to the bodies listed below:
 - a. Health Care for London Joint Scrutiny Committee
 - b. Standards Committee
 - c. Twinning Working Party
 - d. Conservation Advisory Group
 - e. Green Belt Forum
 - f. Learning Difficulties Partnership Board
 - g. Parents Forum
 - h. Secondary Tuition Centre
 - i. Schools Forum
 - j. Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
 - k. Adoption Panel
 - l. Fostering Panel
 - m. Corporate Parenting Group
 - n. Edmonton District Community Housing Partnership
 - o. Edmonton Partnership Working Group
 - p. Public Transport Consultative Group
 - q. Tenant Participation Working Group

18

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL BODIES FOR 2009/20010

AGREED

1. the establishment of the Council bodies for the coming Municipal Year and to appoint memberships to these as set out in the list tabled at the meeting.
2. to confirm the terms of reference of those bodies set out in Part 2 (pages 2-27 to 2-70) of the Constitution.

19

REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS

AGREED the Council's representation on other bodies and organisations as detailed in the list tabled at the meeting.

20

COUNCIL SCHEME OF DELEGATION

AGREED the Council's Scheme of Delegation as set out in Part 3 (pages 3-3 to 3-12) of the Constitution.

21

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

AGREED

1. the calendar of Council meetings, including the next Council Meeting on Wednesday, 1 July 2009 at 7.00 p.m. at the Civic Centre.
2. that any further changes/additions to the calendar of Council meetings be delegated to the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources, in consultation with party groups.

22

CALLED IN DECISION

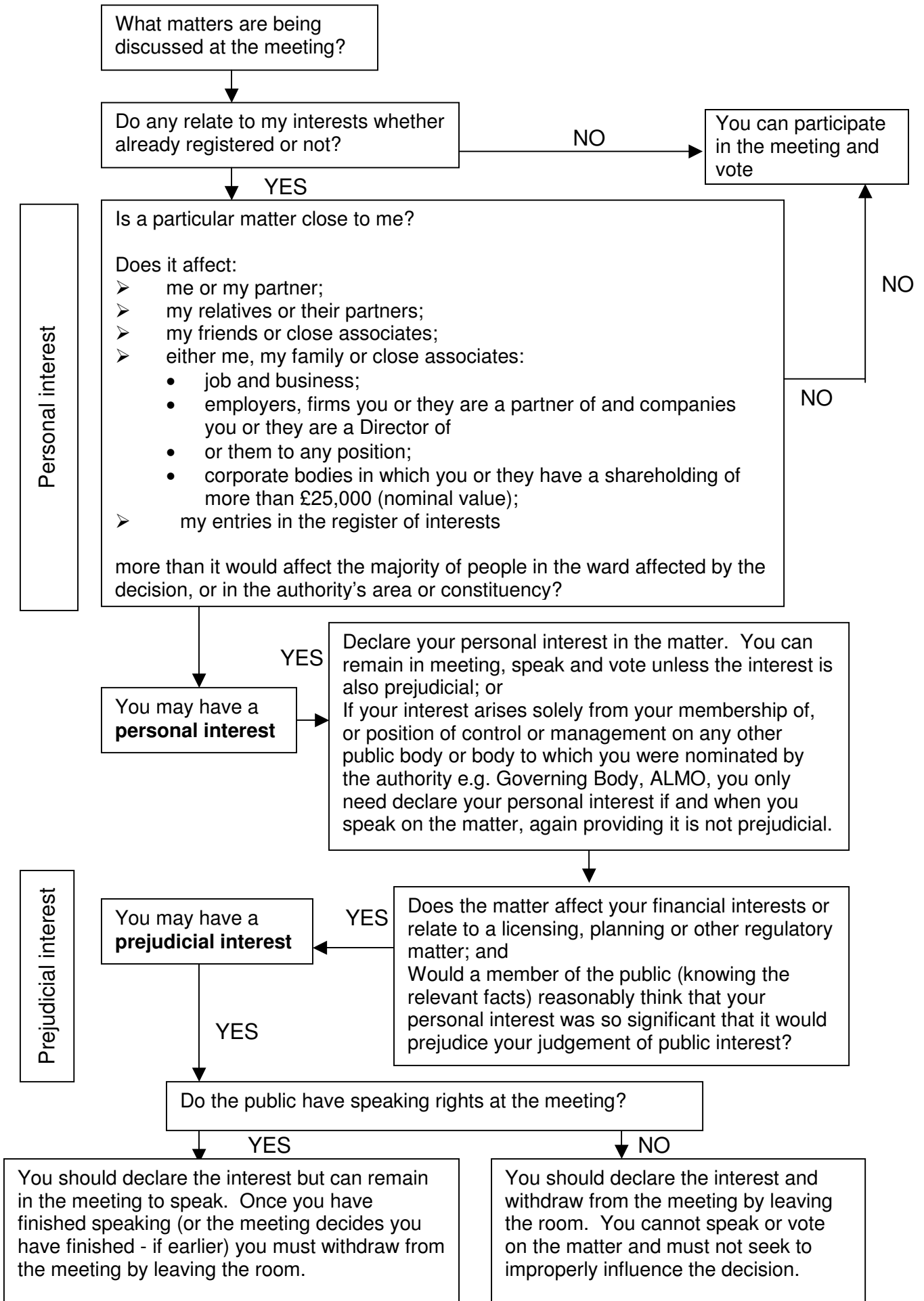
None.

23

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED that the next meeting of the Council was to be held on Wednesday 1 July 2009 at 7.00 p.m. at the Civic Centre.

DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART - QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF



Note: If in any doubt about a potential interest, members are asked to seek advice from Democratic Services in advance of the meeting.

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Opposition business

Openness, Scrutiny, Information, Accountability, Democracy and Engagement.

Politics is about the exercise of power in the interests of the people but when cynicism develops it undermines the very legitimacy of the politics. Britain is experiencing heightened cynicism as demonstrated in the recent European elections results with the 2 major parties polling only 4 out of every 10 votes cast. The 6% vote for the BNP must be considered a dangerous development. The loss of public confidence in politics is a worrying trend and one that needs to be urgently addressed.

Local politics is not inviolable to the problem and we should look to create openness with the electorate that dispels any suggestion that we are out of touch, self serving or corrupt. We need to create new opportunities for civic engagement and accountability – we must bring residents more in to the heart of decision-making, and promote the values of democratic engagement.

As the Ipsos MORI poll of 2007 notes fewer residents feel informed about the work of the Council. Notwithstanding the Council decision to spend increasing sums on the communication function this is an alarming fact. The basis of the Council, the legitimacy of its operations is undermined by increasing unfamiliarity with services and functions.

Having taken soundings from a variety of sources we have identified a number of issues that need to be addressed so that the Council can help restore faith in democracy.

1) Enhanced Role of Scrutiny:

The present themed scrutiny panels are poorly resourced and defined in such a way that they do not allow members to scrutinise certain areas of the Council. Scrutiny needs to be properly resourced and ensure that all areas of the Council are able to be scrutinised by members.

2) Access to information:

Public access to information is far from perfect and leads to members of the public feeling that decisions are made with little understanding as to why. Attempts to ascertain information by the public are sometimes badly handled or not addressed at all.

3) Accountability

Major decisions are taken by bodies such as the Enfield Strategic Partnership, the Waste authority and the Park authority, which the Council barely holds to account, and whose actions are rarely discussed or explained.

4) Local Democracy and Community Engagement

Attendance at area forums is poor and partly because they are designed to have no power and the Council does not effectively consult with individuals, groups and organisations over a variety of issues that effect them ranging from fees, charges and rents to environmental and street scene issues.

We have a number of proposals to address the issues identified above and ensure a greater degree of openness, scrutiny and accountability, which should pervade the entire Council. Here are some our proposals:

This Council therefore resolves:

- a) To establish a scrutiny panel with powers to scrutinise decisions over £250,000 made under delegated powers but which do not go to Cabinet or Council.
- b) To publish monthly lists of freedom of information requests and the actions of the Council in response.
- c) To publish monthly complaints data and actions taken by the Council. The Ipsos MORI poll of 2007 indicated some declining customer service factors.
- d) To publish the salaries of all officer posts earning in excess of £100,000 and all gifts and hospitality received over a value of £25. Residents have a right to be assured about ethics, and understand the level of remuneration paid to senior officers.
- e) To hold twice yearly people's sessions at Council meetings where local residents can directly ask leading councillors questions about the performance of the Council. In addition on a monthly basis each service area will hold an open house session where the lead member and senior officers will answer questions from the local residents and local press.
- f) To hold on a rolling basis at each Council meeting a briefing and questioning session for the Enfield Strategic Partnership, the Waste authority and the Park authority and any other such body.
- g) To publish all expenses claimed by all councillors and their attendance records at Council meetings, and make accessible the register of members interests on-line.
- h) To ensure that the automatic right of opposition motions to be discussed be enshrined in the constitution.

- i) To ensure that there is proper political balance on Council panels, committees and working groups and to respect the will of the people and the role of the opposition.
- j) To fund a political assistant for the opposition.
- k) To engage with local residents on a ward basis on priorities determined by local people and give regular updates and progress reports on those priorities to residents and members.
- l) To fund the youth parliament and local friends of parks groups.
- m) To ensure that there is meaningful and real consultation on all individuals, groups and organisations, which experience an adverse impact with fees, charges and rents in advance of any such impact.

This list is by no means definitive but we believe that only when such measures have been taken will the public begin to have their confidence in local democracy restored.

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Council Constitution: Part 4 Chapter 4.1 – Council Procedure Rules

13. OPPOSITION BUSINESS

(Updated: Council 23/1/08 & Council 1/4/09)

- 13.1 The Council will, at four meetings a year, give time on its agenda to issues raised by the second largest party. This will be at the 1st meeting (June), and then the 3rd, 4th and 6th meetings out of the 7 ordinary meetings programmed each year (unless otherwise agreed between the political parties). A minimum 45 minutes will be set aside at each of the four meetings.
- 13.2 All other Council meetings will also provide opportunities for the second largest party to raise issues either through Question Time, motions or through policy and other debates.
- 13.3 The procedure for the submission and processing of such business is as follows:
- (a) The second largest party shall submit to the Borough Secretary a topic for discussion no later than 21 calendar days prior to the Council meeting. This is to enable the topic to be fed into the Council agenda planning process and included in the public notice placed in the local press, Council publications, plus other outlets such as the Council's web site.
 - (b) The Borough Secretary will notify the Mayor, Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive and the relevant Corporate Management Board member(s) of the selected topic(s).
 - (c) Opposition business must relate to the business of the Council, or be in the interests of the local community generally.
 - (d) If requested, briefings on the specific topic(s) identified will be available to the second largest party from the relevant Corporate Management Board member(s) before the Council meeting.
 - (e) No later than 9 calendar days (deadline time 9.00 am) prior to the meeting, the second largest party must provide the Borough Secretary with an issues paper for inclusion within the Council agenda. This paper should set out the purpose of the business and any recommendations for consideration by Council. The order in which the business will be placed on the agenda will be in accordance with paragraph 2.2 of Part 4, Chapter 1 of this Constitution relating to the Order of Business at Council meetings.
 - (f) The discussion will be subject to the usual rules of debate for Council meetings, except as set out below. The Opposition

business will be conducted as follows:

- (i) The debate will be opened by the Leader of the Opposition (or nominated representative) who may speak for no more than 10 minutes.
- (ii) A nominated member of the Majority Group will be given the opportunity to respond, again taking no more than 10 minutes.
- (iii) The Mayor will then open the discussion to the remainder of the Council. Each member may speak for no more than 5 minutes but, with the agreement of the Mayor, may do so more than once in the debate.
- (iv) At the discretion of the Mayor the debate may take different forms including presentations by members, officers or speakers at the invitation of the second largest party.
- (v) Where officers are required to make a presentation this shall be confined to background, factual or professional information. All such requests for officer involvement should be made through the Chief Executive or the relevant Director.
- (vi) The debate should contain specific outcomes, recommendations or formal proposals that may be put to the vote.
- (vii) Before the Majority party concludes the debate, the leader of the Opposition will be allowed no more than 5 minutes to sum up the discussion.
- (viii) The Majority Group will then be given the opportunity to say if, and how, the matter will be progressed.

London Borough of Enfield

Standards Committee

Draft Annual Report 2008/09

1. Introduction

This is the sixth Annual Report of the London Borough of Enfield's Standards Committee. It sets out the key issues we have dealt with during the past year and looks ahead to our priorities for 2009/10.

2. Membership

The Standards Committee in 2008/09 comprised 9 members as follows:

Three Independent Members

Geoffrey Mills	Chairman
Lawrence Greenberg	Vice-Chairman
Rufus Barnes	(w.e.f. from 28.1.09)

Six Councillors

Councillors: Don Delman, Annette Dreblow, Vivien Giladi, John Jackson (replaced by Alan Barker on 28.1.09), Toby Simon and Doug Taylor.

The committee's lead officers were John Austin (Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer) and Philip Copland (Borough Solicitor) with support from Asmat Hussain (Legal Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer) and Jayne Bott (Standards Committee Secretary).

3. Terms of Reference

Council amended the terms of reference of the committee on 17 September 2008 (Minute 50 refers). The role and purpose of the Committee during 2008/09 was as follows:-

- (a) To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Councillors, Co-opted Members and Church and Parent Governor representatives.
- (b) To assist Councillors, Co-opted Members and Church and Parent Governor representatives to observe the Members Code of Conduct and all other Codes within the Constitution plus any others adopted in the future.
- (c) To advise the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members Code of Conduct and all other Codes within the Constitution and any others adopted in the future.
- (d) To monitor the operation of the Members Code of Conduct.
- (e) To advise, train or arrange to train Councillors, Co-opted members and Church and Parent Governor representatives on matters relating to the Members Code of Conduct.

- (f) To grant dispensations to Councillors, Co-opted Members and Church and Parent Governor representatives from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members Code of Conduct.
- (g) To consider any Standards Board for England reports from an Interim Case Tribunal.”
- (h) To discharge such other functions either general or specific as the Council may from time to time allocate to the Committee.
- (i) To receive monitoring reports relating to members from the statutory officers under the Council’s whistleblowing policy.
(Note: The Council’s whistleblowing policy is within the remit of the Audit Committee.
- (j) To prepare an Annual Report for submission to Council. The Annual Report will contain information on the work done by the Committee over the past year and outline work to be done in the year to come.
- (k) To consider and make recommendations to the Council, as necessary, on ethical issues affecting the whole Council.
- (l) To respond to national reviews and consultations on standards related issues.
- (m) To receive reports and keep a general overview of probity matters arising from Ombudsman investigations, Monitoring Officer reports, reports of the Chief Financial Officer and Audit Commission relating to Members.
- (n) To consider matters related to the registration and declaration of members’ interests and related party transactions.
- (o) To monitor complaints referred under the Members Code of Conduct and to prepare an annual report on this activity each year.
- (p) To consider whether a member’s allowances should be suspended (wholly or partly) if a member is suspended pursuant to Part III Local Government Act 2000.
- (q) To deal, through designated sub-committees, with any complaints of alleged breaches of the Councillor’s Code of Conduct in accordance with the agreed procedures.
- (r) To consider any application received from any officer of the Authority for exemption from political restriction under Sections 1 and 2 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in respect of the post held by that officer and may direct the Authority that the post shall not be considered to be a politically restricted post and that the post be removed from the list maintained by the Authority under Section 2(2) of that Act.
- (s) Upon the application of any person or otherwise, consider whether a post should be included in the list maintained by the Authority under Section 2(2) of the 1989 Act, and may direct the Authority to include a post in that list.

NB: (r) and (s) above are also included in the terms of reference of the Assessment Sub-Committee.

4. Meetings

The committee held two meetings during the year, there were three ad hoc meetings of the Assessment Sub Committee, one ad hoc meeting of the Consideration Sub Committee.

5. The Committee's Work Programme - 2008/09

5.1 The committee adopted a work programme for the year, which focused on two main areas:

- **Recruitment of a Third Independent Member**

On 23 January 2008, Council increased the membership of the committee from six to nine due to the additional work arising from the move to local assessments. This included an additional independent member and two more councillors (minute 96 refers). This change came into effect at the start of this municipal year.

A member level Appointment Panel was set up to undertake the selection process and shortlisting on behalf of the Standards Committee. The panel comprised the Standards Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillors Dreblow and Giladi.

The Appointment Panel met on 14 January 2009 and unanimously agreed to recommend to the Council that Mr John Rufus Barnes be appointed as the third independent member. Council endorsed the recommendation of the panel and Mr Barnes was duly appointed for the duration of the current Council administration (ending May 2010).

- **The Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 – The Local Assessment of Allegations of Misconduct by a Member**

The other main area the committee concentrated on was the introduction of the new Local Assessment Framework. These Regulations came into effect on 8 May 2008 and set out the framework for the operation of a locally based system for assessment, referral, investigation and hearing of complaints of member misconduct. From this date, anyone who considers that a member may have breached the Code of Conduct may make a complaint to that member's local Standards Committee. Each complaint must then be assessed to see if it falls within the authority's legal jurisdiction. The assessment of complaints is a new function for Standards Committees and was previously undertaken centrally by the Standards Board for England.

The committee also approved new procedures for dealing with local assessments, investigations and hearings to reflect the changes to the Standards legislation.

The committee established the following sub committees in order to carry out this process:

- Assessment Sub-Committee
- Review Sub-Committee
- Hearings Sub-Committee

An article about the new arrangements was published in the Enfield Independent newspaper on 2 July 2008. Information on how to make a complaint against elected and co-opted members is available on the committee's webpage.

5.2 Other Issues

- Reference from Council

On 17 September 2008, the Council considered a report seeking approval to revised Terms of Reference for the Standards Committee. Council agreed the report with the exception of Paragraph 4.7.1 and referred this specific issue to the committee for consideration (minute 50 refers).

We considered the reference and agreed that Council be informed that paragraph 4.7.1 of report No.89 regarding the local resolution of complaints could not be deleted because conciliation was in the Standard Board for England (SBE) Regulations and was part of the committee's statutory role.

- Planning Committee Code of Conduct

We considered the revised Planning Committee Code of Practice, which reflected the new Councillors' Code.

We agreed the revised Planning Committee Code of Practice subject to:-

- (a) the comment set out in Planning Committee Minute No.23 - Noted 4, set out below being reflected in the code.

Minute No.23 – Noted 4 (Extract from Planning Committee Minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2008):-

“Members' agreement to a form of wording to allow for such unforeseeable occasions, such that councillors with a prejudicial interest should notify Democratic Services

officers within the specified timeframe "or as soon as the interest is known".

- (b) Paragraph 9 of the code being amended to clarify whether ward members (not on the Planning Committee) can request, attend and speak at site visits.

- Annual Governance Statement

We received the Annual Governance Statement for 2007/08.

- Standards Committee Webpage

The Standards Committee webpage has been updated to include information on making a complaint against members and co-opted members. This webpage will be reviewed on a regular basis.

- Standards Board for England – Guidance and Bulletins

The Bulletins produced by the Standards Board for England are circulated to members of the committee to ensure that all members are fully aware of the latest news and advice.

Members can find additional information at www.standardsboard.gov.uk

6. Training

In July 2008, members of the committee received training from Weightmans Solicitors on the new local assessment procedures for the handling of complaints against councillors to enable them to carry out their new roles.

7. Annual Assembly of Standards Committees

The Standards Board for England holds an Annual Assembly of Standards Committees, which is a two day conference held at the ICC in Birmingham. The purpose of the conference is to gain the latest information from the Government and the Standards Board for England and learn best practice from other authorities across the country. It is seen as an opportunity to develop strong partnerships with all stakeholders through opening up channels of communication and sharing information and experience.

In October 2008, the Standards Committee was represented at the Seventh Annual Assembly of Standards Committees by the Assistant Director of Governance, Councillor Toby Simon and myself. I provided feedback on this event to the committee later that month.

The 2009 Annual Assembly is due to be held on 12 and 13 October at the ICC, Birmingham.

8. The Role of the Standards Board

The role of the Standards Board for England changed from 8 May 2008 to that of a strategic regulator, only investigating the most serious allegations of member misconduct. In this role, the Standards Board have issued comprehensive guidance to Standards Committees on the Local Standards Framework. They have also issued useful training materials on both the assessment and the code of conduct.

9. Complaints Handling

Since May 2008, the Committee has dealt with 2 cases of alleged breaches of the Code. One was referred to the Monitoring Officer for possible conciliation, which proved unsuccessful and there was no further action available. The other case resulted in a decision of no breach of the code.

The Council is now required to make quarterly and annual returns on-line to the Standards Board for England providing information on complaints received about councillors and progress in dealing with them.

10. Quarterly and Annual Returns

The new standards framework has been in place for over a year. The Standards Board collects information, on a quarterly and annual basis, on case activity and the profile of Standards Committees. This information is completed by the Monitoring Officer.

11. Future Work Programme 2009/10

We will agree our work programme for 2009/10, at our first meeting in the new Municipal Year. This will no doubt develop further as the year progresses. The outline work programme will include:

- Draft Annual Report 2009/10
- Draft Annual Governance Statement 2009/10
- Work Programme 2009/10
- Training on the Assessment of Allegations of Misconduct by a Member
- Review of Local Assessment, Investigation and Hearing Procedures
- Councillor Induction Post May 2010 - Local Elections - Code of Conduct & Related Matters
- Feedback from Standards Board Annual Conference - October 2009
- Standards Committee Webpage – Update

12. Conclusion

I am grateful to both members and officers for their help and support and constructive discussions during 2008/09.

Geoffrey Mills
Chairman of Enfield's Standards Committee
2008/2009

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/10 REPORT NO. 27**MEETING TITLE AND DATE:**

Council – 1st July 2009

REPORT OF:Ray James
Director of Health and Adult Social
Care

Agenda – Part: 1	Item: 9
Subject: Safeguarding Adults Strategy	
Wards: All Wards	
Cabinet Member consulted: Cllr. Edward Smith	

Contact officer and telephone number:

Keezia Obi, Head of Safeguarding Adults – 020 8379 5010

E-mail: Keezia.Obi@enfield.gov.uk**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Safeguarding Adults Board (chaired by Ray James, Director of Health and Adult Social Care) identified the need to develop a strategy that would set out the key priorities for Safeguarding Adults work in the borough. The strategy is about preventing the abuse of some of the most vulnerable people in our society, as opposed to the current primary focus of responding to abuse once it has happened. Together with the considerable partnership work and consultation that has been necessary to produce the strategy, this progressive approach sets Enfield aside from most other local authorities.
- 1.2 The strategy is about how the people of Enfield, residents, visitors, businesses or members of organisations providing services, can work in partnership to make the Enfield a safer place. The key aim of the strategy is to prevent abuse and ensure that the most vulnerable people can live full and independent lives, free from harm and abuse, and where their dignity is respected, whatever their circumstances.
- 1.3 Safeguarding Adults is an issue that can affect anyone. The majority of instances of abuse towards vulnerable adults are a crime.
- 1.4 Safeguarding Adults is a high priority for regulators and is a key line of enquiry for the assessments of Council's performance.
- 1.5 The Safeguarding Adults Board is a multi agency partnership, which has the strategic responsibility for overseeing the safeguarding arrangements across the borough. Representatives include senior officers of the Council and its partners, and local people. This report also sets out the importance of Member representation on the Board, as this is a high profile area of the Council's work and an important issue

that can affect any member of the population.

- 1.6 At its meeting of 17th of June 2009, Cabinet discussed this item and agreed the following recommendations to Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 To agree the Safeguarding Adults Strategy which sets out the future direction and priorities of the Safeguarding Adults arrangements in the borough, for which the Council is the lead agency.

2.2 To agree that the Cabinet member for Adult Social Services or their nominee be a member of the Safeguarding Adults Board.

Note: A copy of the Safeguarding Adults Strategy Executive Summary is attached. The final version of the full strategy is available in the Members library and group offices for reference.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In 2000, the Government published a document called 'No Secrets'. This document is guidance for local authorities on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse. The guidance was developed in response to a series of incidents that demonstrated the need for immediate action to ensure that vulnerable adults, who are at risk of abuse, receive protection and support. The key focus of 'No Secrets' was on responding to allegations of abuse.
- 3.2 Since the publication of the 'No Secrets' guidance, the Council and its partners have successfully developed local arrangements including producing a policy for responding to abuse, trained staff, organised events to raise public awareness of what adult abuse is and how to report it, collected and analysed information to learn from its work and implemented safeguarding arrangements across key partner organisations.
- 3.3 The 'No Secrets' guidance has recently been reviewed by government and announcements about the outcome are imminent. As well as widening the requirements for Safeguarding Adults and duties of local authorities, it is widely expected that it will include proposals for some statutory powers to support local arrangements.
- 3.4 The 'No Secrets' guidance describes a vulnerable adult as a person who is 18 years old or over, who may be vulnerable because of their age, illness or disability, and unable to protect him or herself against abuse. Abuse is a violation of a person's human and civil rights and there are different types of abuse, many of which are crimes. These include:

- **Physical abuse** including injuring someone, misusing medication, and using inappropriate rules and punishments.
- **Sexual abuse** such as rape and sexual acts that the person has not or could not consent to.
- **Financial abuse** such as fraud, exploitation, and theft of money or possessions.
- **Psychological abuse** to control someone, which can include humiliation, harassment, intimidation, use of threats and depriving someone of services or contact.
- **Discriminatory abuse** because of someone’s race, gender, faith, age, sexuality or disability.
- **Neglect** such as withholding the necessities of life or ignoring medical, physical, educational or social care needs.
- **Institutional abuse** that occurs where systems within organisations allow, or do not prevent, neglect, poor professional practice or mistreatment.

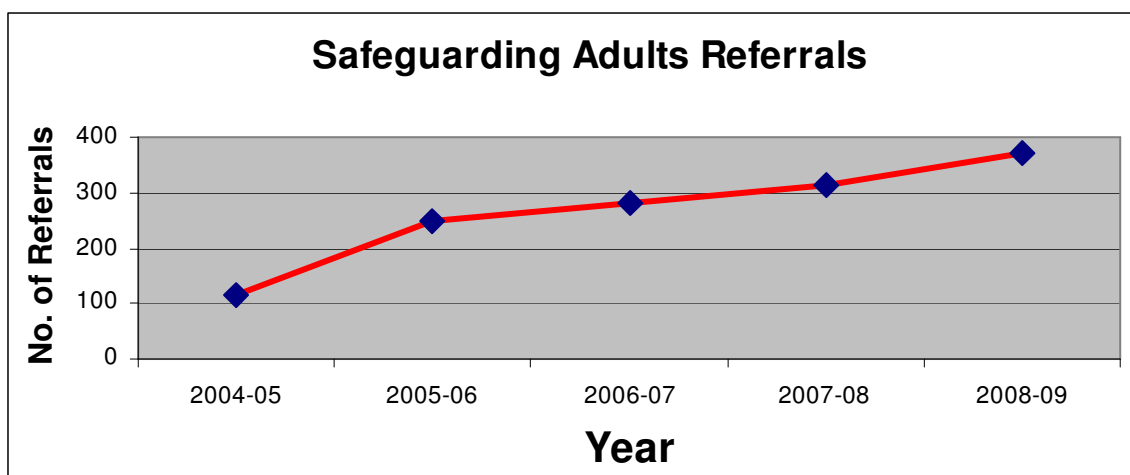
3.5 The term Safeguarding Adults has been introduced since the publication of the ‘No Secrets’ guidance in 2000 and has been adopted by the Association of Directors of Social Services (ADASS) and by most other local authorities. Safeguarding Adults replaced the term ‘adult protection’.

3.6 The term ‘adult at risk’ has recently been introduced and replaces the term ‘vulnerable adult’. An ‘adult at risk’ is the term used in the Safeguarding Adults Strategy.

3.7 The abuse and crimes against adults at risk remains largely under-reported. This is improving with local Safeguarding Adults activities and with high profile campaigns and media reports, such as the recent exposure on the Panorama television programme of the neglect of elderly patients at the Royal Sussex Hospital in Brighton.

3.8 The success of raising awareness in the borough is demonstrated in table 1. This table sets out the number of reports of allegations of abuse towards adults at risk since the publication of the multi agency policy for reporting and responding to allegations of abuse in 2003.

Table 1.



3.9 Despite this success and whilst figures are expected to continue to increase as awareness is raised, as well as ensuring people are protected and supported when an allegation of abuse is made, success must be about preventing abuse and harm occurring in the first place. On this basis, in 2008, a multi-agency project group was set up with the remit from the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) to draft, consult on and publish this strategy.

3.10 A comprehensive consultation process took place between the 1st of October and the 31st of December 2008. The consultation centred on a list of priorities that the multi-agency group and the SAB had agreed in consultation with people who use health and social care services. The priorities were set out in a questionnaire, which was included in the December edition of Our Enfield and sent to local residents. The consultation document was presented at a number of forums and meetings e.g. the Enfield Strategic Partnership, Safer Stronger Communities Board and Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel. Staff from across the Council and its partners also took part in the consultation.

3.11 The suggested priorities set out in the strategy consultation were:

- **A community awareness campaign** - So that Enfield residents will be able to recognise, prevent and report abuse.
- **Self-protection strategies** - Advice, information and training to help vulnerable people set up safeguards to decrease the risk of, or prevent abuse.
- **Standards for agencies and organisations working with vulnerable adults** - To ensure that high quality health and social care services are delivered in a person centred way that respects the dignity of the individual receiving them, and that systems are in place to safeguard vulnerable adults.
- **A safeguarding adults charter mark** - Recognition for the achievement of agreed safeguarding standards, e.g. for businesses and community organisations.
- **People arranging their own care** - People understanding how to protect themselves and knowing where to get help to do this.
- **Access to the justice system** - Working with the police, the Crown Prosecution Service and the courts to ensure vulnerable adults get equal access to the justice system and to increase the number of prosecutions.
- **Improving responses to abuse** - Making it easier to report abuse; supporting and enabling vulnerable adults at risk of abuse to recognise and prevent it; and access to a range of support services including places of safety.
- **Information collection about abuse** - Using information to improve how we plan our work.
- **Working with perpetrators of abuse and those at risk of harming others** - Identifying people at risk of abusing others and finding ways of stopping abuse.
- **Providing a service that meets peoples needs** - We want people to feel they are listened to and most importantly, to feel safe. We need to learn from your experience and continually improve the service.

- 3.12 553 responses to the consultation were received which included strong support for the above priorities. The SAB have since accepted them as the key priorities for the strategy. In response to comments received, supporting has been added to the title of the priority 'people arranging their own care' and the title of the final priority has been changed to 'listening to the voice of people at risk of abuse'.
- 3.13 An easy read version of the strategy consultation document was produced and an easy read version of the strategy will also be published.
- 3.14 As agreed by the Safeguarding Adults Board, the executive summary of the strategy will be reviewed and edited as required by the Plain English Society and published with a Plain English Crystal Mark.
- 3.15 The Safeguarding Adults Board, which was set up in 2003, is a multi agency partnership, which has the strategic responsibility for overseeing the safeguarding arrangements across the borough. Key partners include the police, the Care Quality Commission, NHS Enfield, Barnet and Chase Farm, and North Middlesex NHS Hospital Trusts, the voluntary sector and local people.
- 3.16 Ray James, Director of Health and Adult Social Care chairs the Board and it meets on a quarterly basis usually on a Monday afternoon and dates for this year are Monday 8th of June, Monday 7th of September and Monday 7th of December. All meetings are held between 2pm and 4pm at the Civic Centre.
- 3.17 The involvement of Members is extremely important in ensuring that councils are discharging their responsibilities for safeguarding adults in each local area. In November 2008, the Commission for Social Care Inspection (now the Care Quality Commission) report of 'A study of the effectiveness of arrangements to safeguard adults from abuse' stated that "Local politicians are very interested in how their councils are performing in respect of safeguarding adults but have limited ways of judging this".
- 3.18 Members also have a key role to play in raising awareness and identifying the abuse of adults at risk when undertaking constituency work. At both local and national level the abuse of vulnerable adults is known to be taking place within residents own homes and by perpetrators who are family members, neighbours and friends. Individual Members also have knowledge and influence on areas in the Borough where the Board may need to focus its prevention work.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 The alternative option is to continue to support an approach that has a primary focus of responding to abuse once it has happened. Without detracting from the need to undertake robust investigations when reports of abuse are made, this approach does not support the Council's key aim of 'A safer Enfield' and the related legislative framework for safeguarding adults.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Safeguarding Adults Strategy is a groundbreaking piece of work commissioned by the Safeguarding Adults Board and sets out a new direction for safeguarding adults work in the borough. It is the result of a comprehensive piece of work across the Council and its partners, and has involved, and is supported by local people. Across the country, the focus of safeguarding adults work has historically been to respond to the abuse and crimes perpetrated towards adults at risk. This strategy is about early prevention based on a strong partnership that involves local residents, visitors, businesses or other organisations providing services. It will ultimately help to make the Enfield a safer place for some of the most vulnerable members of our society and reduce the risk and incidences of crime perpetrated against them.
- 5.2 The aforementioned CSCI report (3.15) clearly states local authorities need to 'give more emphasis to prevention', and the outcome of the review of the 'No Secrets' guidance is expected to support this position.
- 5.3 The Personalisation agenda, which will transform the way social care services are commissioned and delivered, will give local people more choice and flexibility about the services they receive. Safeguarding adults and the prevention of abuse is an essential component of Personalisation and one of the priorities of the strategy is about people arranging their own care and understanding how to protect themselves and knowing where to get help to do this.
- 5.4 As noted in 3.15 and 3.16, Members have a key role to play in the prevention of abuse of adults at risk. The SAB has benefited in the past from member representation and the role was beneficial, not only as a representative on behalf of local people but also to act as a champion for safeguarding adults in the borough.
- 5.5 Finally, the Human Rights Act 1998 states that public authorities (and agencies providing services on behalf of public bodies) must be pro-active in protecting people's European Convention rights including the right to life (article 2), freedom from torture or inhuman or degrading treatment (article 3), right to liberty and security (article 5) right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence (article 8). This means not violating people's human rights and also taking active steps to positively enhance people's human rights.

6 COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

- 6.1 **Financial Implications** - There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, the implementation of the strategy and the priorities laid out in the consultation obviously has financial implications. The council's costs relating to the implementation of this strategy will be met from within existing resources.
- 6.2 **Risk Management Implications** - This initiative provides an opportunity for the Council to enhance its duty of care to people in social care by reducing its risks in the following areas:

- Not fulfilling its obligations under the 'No Secrets' guidance;
- Failing to reduce risk of harm to vulnerable adults by prevention rather than cure.

6.3 **Legal Implications** - The legal framework for this Strategy is set out within the body of the report. It is also necessary to note that the 'No Secrets' guidance has been issued under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 which means it is mandatory government guidance which should not be deviated from without good reason'.

6.4 **Property Implications** - the Safeguarding Adults Strategy does not have any property implications.

7 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The development of this strategy has already evidenced an improvement in performance by strengthening the safeguarding adults partnership. The delivery of the strategy will further develop this, including the involvement of local people in decision making and strategic planning for safeguarding adults work in the borough. By applying resources to preventing abuse, it demonstrates a proactive and task orientated approach to reducing crime and improving outcomes for local people.

8 COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The strategy will have a positive impact on all residents as the abuse of adults at risk is an issue that can affect everyone and is everybody's business. The priorities are supported by tasks that will ensure that an inclusive approach is taken to embedding the arrangements across all communities in the borough.

8.2 During the development of the strategy, an equalities impact assessment was completed.

9 PUTTING ENFIELD FIRST

9.1 The Safeguarding Adults Strategy directly supports:

- Aim 3, A safer Enfield - 3a. Work with partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and respond to the fear of crime
- Aim 4, A healthier Enfield where people are able to live independent lives - 4a. Enable the most vulnerable members of the community to have as much choice and control over their quality of life as possible, 4b. Ensure that the most vulnerable are safeguarded and treated with dignity and respect at all times and, 4.g. Work with partners to ensure that older people stay healthy, independent and play an active part in their communities
- Aim 5, Provide high quality and efficient services - 5a. Deliver excellent customer focused services that are accessible to all, 5e. Provide effective community leadership and promote active citizenship and involvement in

decision-making and, 5f. Work with partners to develop multi-agency, integrated, locally focused services tailored to meet the needs of all residents

- Aim 6, Build prosperous, sustainable communities, 6d. Tackle discrimination; promote equality of access and good relations between all groups in the community.

Background Papers

1. Safeguarding Adults Strategy consultation document questionnaire
2. Safeguarding Adults Board Terms of Reference

END OF REPORT

ENFIELD SAFEGUARDING ADULTS STRATEGY

“Putting People First”

**Preventing abuse and
keeping safe**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Image of people here to be inserted on publication

WHAT IS ABUSE?

Abuse is “a violation of an individual’s human and civil rights by any other person or persons” and is often a crime.

An ‘adult at risk’ is a person who is 18 years or over and who is, or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness. It also includes those who are not in receipt of community care services but by definition of the potential abuse, become vulnerable. The adult is, or may be, unable to protect themselves against harm or exploitation. It can take many forms including:

- **Physical abuse** - the threat or the use of force which results in pain or injury or a change in the person’s physical health OR the non-accidental infliction of physical force that results in bodily injury, pain or impairment. This includes, for example, unreasonable restraint, misuse of medication, slapping, beating, pushing, or forcing somebody to do something against their will.
- **Sexual abuse** - when a person has been involved in a sexual activity or relationship which they did not want, have not consented to or consented to under duress OR they did not have capacity or understanding to allow them to have consented OR is against the law. This includes, for example, sexual assault, indecent exposure, inappropriate touching or harassment.
- **Psychological or emotional abuse** is the wilful infliction of mental suffering by others. This includes, for example, swearing, bullying, humiliation, instilling fear, loss of liberty and denial of access to others, outings or important events.
- **Financial or material abuse** is when an adult at risk has not given permission for the use of their property, income or any other resource. It occurs when these resources are being inappropriately used by a third person. It can include the entry of the vulnerable person into contracts or transactions, which they did not fully understand and are to their disadvantage. This includes, for example, taking of money or possessions – theft, coercion or persuasion to offer gifts, inappropriate changes in wills.
- **Neglect and acts of omission** is the repeated deprivation of assistance to an adult at risk that is required to meet their daily living and health and safety needs. This includes, for example, failure to provide personal care, unhygienic living conditions and failure to address medical and other needs.
- **Discriminatory abuse** links to all other types of abuse and is already enshrined in law thus making this abuse a clear criminal offence. It includes discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation or disability, and includes, for example, unequal treatment, discriminatory remarks, inappropriate humour
- **Institutional abuse** is the mistreatment or abuse of an adult at risk by a regime or an individual within an institution. It can be repeated acts of poor or inadequate care and/or professional practice, and can occur when the needs of the institution override the needs of the individual or where placements are not rigorously monitored. This includes, for example, discouraging the involvement of family, rigid/authoritarian management, or too few or poorly trained/supervised staff

IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SOMEBODY OR WANT TO REPORT ABUSE, PLEASE RING THE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS LINE ON: number to be inserted.

Enfield Safeguarding Adults Board – June 2009

Foreword from Ray James, Director of Health and Adult Social Care and Chair of the Enfield Safeguarding Adults Board



Thank you for your interest in this strategy, there can be few issues that define a community more than its attitudes to abuse in all its forms.

This strategy has been developed following extensive consultation with local people and organisations and reflects our shared wish to make Enfield a place where everyone does all they can to both prevent abuse and to offer the best possible care and support to its victims.

Abuse is often a very difficult and complex issue. I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the many courageous people in Enfield who have spoken out in the past and to colleagues who have consistently handled extremely sensitive investigations with such compassion and professionalism.

This strategy aims to help prevent abuse by ensuring many more people who live and work in Enfield know what to look out for and who to contact for advice and support. We must then ensure local organisations respond in a timely and effective way to allegations of abuse, and consistently promote the prevention of abuse.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on Enfield's Safeguarding Adults Board for their contributions to this strategy, we will continue to oversee progress and provide the determined yet considered leadership these most important and complex of issues deserve.

Together I hope we can help our community be defined as one where everyone does all that they can to prevent abuse, and reduce the suffering caused by abuse.

Partner Logo's and signatories to be inserted on publication

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Glossary of terms

NHS – National Health Service

HM – Her Majesty’s (Government)

ISA – Independent Safeguarding Authority

MAPPA – Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

MARAC – Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

INTRODUCTION

This strategy is about preventing the abuse of some of the most vulnerable people in Enfield. It is about how the people of Enfield, whether residents, families and friends, visitors, businesses or members of organisations providing services, can work in partnership to make the borough a safer place. It is about a place where people can live free from harm and abuse, and where their dignity is respected, whatever their circumstances.

In 2000, the Government published a document called 'No Secrets'. This document is guidance for local authorities on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect adults at risk from abuse. The guidance clearly states that: "There can be no secrets and no hiding place when it comes to exposing the abuse of vulnerable adults". The guidance was developed in response to a series of incidents that demonstrated the need for immediate action to ensure that vulnerable adults, who are at risk of abuse, receive protection and support. 'No Secrets' refers to a vulnerable adult, which we refer to in this document as an 'adult at risk'.

In Enfield, we have been successful in implementing the 'No Secrets' guidance, but we strongly believe that, as well as ensuring people are protected and supported, success is about preventing abuse happening in the first place. This strategy will enable us to do this, and sets out a new direction in safeguarding adults. When it is the right thing to do, as well as taking firm action by protecting people from harm, we will focus on preventing abuse, so that we can help stop the unacceptable exploitation and harm towards adults at risk, much of which is a crime.

A 62 year old man suffering with Multiple Sclerosis was supported to live at home by an extensive care package. He looked upon his care worker, Jan, as a close friend as much as a paid care worker. Jan took advantage of this and began to borrow money from him and accept gifts including a DVD, a TV and cash birthday presents for her children. She also withdrew money from his bank account using his PIN number. The man eventually disclosed to another care worker that the loans had not be repaid and that large sums of money had gone missing from his bank account. Jan was eventually dismissed by her domiciliary care agency.

From 'In Safe Hands Update' Welsh Assembly,

Most of us will be familiar with the phrase 'prevention is better than cure'. This cannot be more important than where it involves the most basic of human 'right to life' and 'freedom from torture and degrading treatment'. We know that across the country adults at risk are being harmed, often by the very people they should be able to trust.

Make safeguarding adults your business - it is an issue that can affect any one of us and together we can stop it!

THE PRIORITIES

The vision for safeguarding adults in the borough is that we all work together in partnership, so that adults at risk are:

- safe and able to protect themselves from abuse from abuse and neglect
- treated fairly and with dignity and respect
- protected when necessary
- able to easily access the support, protection and services that they need

It is also about making it everybody's business, which means all the communities that make up the borough of Enfield. We aim to ensure that the people of Enfield know what safeguarding adults is about and:

- **understand** what abuse is and recognise it when it happens
- **know how to stop it** and prevent it happening in the first place
- **feel listened to**, taken seriously and believed when they report abuse
- **know how to report** abuse and receive a quality service and the support they need when they do
- **recognise** when an adult is vulnerable and ensure that they are not discriminated against
- **speak with confidence** about safeguarding matters and know they will be listened to when they speak about it
- **receive services** that are safe and do not cause harm

Enfield is a borough that will not tolerate the abuse of adults at risk.

THE CONTEXT

The local safeguarding arrangements have been developed through strong leadership by the Safeguarding Adults Board. The Board has the strategic

ENFIELD is London's northernmost borough and one of the largest by land and population, being home to about 280,000 people. It is 12 miles from the centre of London. Enfield has a large population of both 0-14 year olds and older people in comparison to the rest of London. Enfield's population is quite diverse – state school pupils have recorded themselves under 87 different ethnic groups and the single largest minority grouping recorded in the 2001 Census was Other White at 13% - this is composed largely of Greek, Turkish and Cypriots.

responsibility for overseeing the local safeguarding arrangements, which includes responding to reports about abuse, and prevention strategies.

Safeguarding adults is a complex area, often fraught with conflict and negative societal attitudes towards vulnerable people.

People can be abused in many different ways and it can occur anywhere.

Both men and women can be at risk and the abuser is usually well known to the person being abused.

Although we know that most people are well cared for, some adults are at risk of abuse and we need to fully understand the risks so that we can do everything we can to minimise them.

This is particularly important with the transformation of Adult Social Care. Known as 'personalisation' and set out in 'Putting People First – A shared vision and commitment to the transformation of Adult Social Care' (HM Government, December 2007); these arrangements mean that people will have maximum choice, control and power over the support services they receive. This will form a key part of our strategy.

KEY ISSUES

There are a number of key issues that underpin this strategy:

- Ensuring our safeguarding arrangements are focused and meet people's needs
- Supporting unpaid carers to keep those they care for safe
- Understanding of abuse in different communities
- Preventing abusers from accessing employment where they will have access to adults at risk, and taking firm action against employees that have harmed adults at risk
- Ensuring that adults at risk have equal access to the justice system and appropriate action is taken with perpetrators
- Learning from peoples' experiences and finding new and improved ways of working
- Ensuring a partnership approach to safeguarding adults in the borough, including joint working with the Safeguarding Children Board.

Steven Hoskin was vulnerable because of his learning disability. His body was found on 6 July 2006 at the base of the St. Austell railway viaduct. In addition to the catastrophic injuries associated with falling 30 metres, a post-mortem examination found that Steven's body bore evidence of abuse consisting of cigarette burns, neck bruises from the dog collar and leash he had been dragged around in, a lethal dose of paracetamol tablets and alcohol, and footprints on his hands which finally caused him to fall to his death. Steven was murdered by people he thought were his friends. The principal perpetrator of Steven's abuse and murder was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

THE PRIORITIES

Our ten priorities were formed by a process of an audit against safeguarding standards, information about the prevalence of abuse, what we know we need to do and an extensive consultation process. Our priorities are:

- **a community awareness campaign** - so that Enfield residents will be able to recognise, prevent and report abuse
- **standards for agencies and organisations working with adults at risk** - to ensure that systems are in place to safeguard adults at risk using their services
- **improving responses to abuse** - making it easier to report abuse; supporting and enabling adults at risk of abuse to recognise and prevent it; and access to a range of support services including places of safety
- **listening to the voice of people at risk of abuse** - we want people to feel they are listened to and most importantly, to feel safe. We need to learn from their experience and continually improve services
- **self protection strategies** - advice, information and training to help vulnerable people set up safeguards to decrease the risk of, and prevent abuse
- **supporting people arranging their own care (Personalisation)** - people understanding how to protect themselves and knowing where to get help to do this
- **access to the justice system** - working with the Police, the Crown Prosecution Service and the courts to ensure adults at risk get equal access to the justice system and to increase the number of prosecutions
- **working with perpetrators of abuse and those at risk of harming others** - identifying people at risk of abusing others and finding ways of preventing abuse
- **information collection about abuse** - using information to improve how we plan our work
- **a safeguarding adults charter mark** - recognising the achievement of safeguarding standards

Our action plan, which is underpinned by the priorities, has been agreed by the Safeguarding Adults Board. These are set out in Appendix 1.

The strategy will be reviewed in three years and new tasks identified throughout the delivery of this strategy will be included in annual plans.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

This document is a result of a year-long project commissioned by the Safeguarding Adults Board. Led by a multi agency project group, it would not have been possible without the cooperation of local partner organisations and agencies, residents and visitors to the Borough, and importantly those who use services.

Producing this document has had a significant impact on raising awareness of the abuse of adults at risk. The consultation process was brought to the attention of hundreds of people through meetings, discussions, leaflets, questionnaires and other means of communication. This enabled the Board to set out a clear direction and focus that is based on the views of local people.

The Board is in no doubt that working in partnership is the only way to eliminate abuse and make our borough a safer place to live, work and do business.

APPENDIX 1: OUR ACTION PLAN

Tasks for year one have been identified. Target dates for all other tasks and new tasks identified, will be agreed by the Safeguarding Adults Board as part of the annual planning cycle.

A community awareness campaign - so that Enfield residents will be able to recognise, prevent and report abuse

- ❖ Articles about the prevention of abuse in a variety of publications and communication - year 1
- ❖ Host an Annual Safeguarding Awareness Week and poster campaign - year 1
- ❖ Article containing key information about abuse and how to prevent it in local educational clubs' and school newsletters Arrange school participation events to promote safeguarding adults and prevention of abuse
- ❖ Produce a regular Safeguarding Adults newsletter - year 1
- ❖ Set up a Safeguarding Adults website page on Enfield Council and partner websites - year 1
- ❖ Identify and use opportunities for using local radio stations to raise awareness of abuse and how to prevent it, including to reach different communities that make up the borough of Enfield
- ❖ Raise awareness of abuse within specific community groups e.g. black and minority ethnic community groups - year 1
 - Improve understanding of the prevalence of abuse and support required to different communities
- ❖ Produce a safeguarding adults protection card about keeping adults safe and reporting concerns - year 1
- ❖ Set up a programme of carer awareness events to (year 1):
 - Improve recognition and reporting of abuse of those they care for
 - Provide appropriate emergency advice and support for carers who may be at risk of abusing, as a result of the pressures of caring for somebody (as part of the development of a Carers Centre)
 - Increase carers' understanding of the possible consequences for people who abuse and the impact on the cared-for person
- ❖ Raise General Practitioners' awareness of abuse and of risk situations that could lead to someone perpetrating abuse - year 1

Standards for agencies and organisations working with adults at risk - to ensure that systems are in place to safeguard adults at risk using the services

- ❖ All partner organisations to have in place procedures that link into the multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Strategy including:
 - procedures for reporting alleged abuse incidents that interface with the multi agency procedure - - year 1
 - procedures for safe recruitment practices
 - procedures for managing risk that interface with multi agency arrangements e.g. Serious Untoward Incidents

- ❖ Produce safeguarding adults standards for partner organisations, which will be created and implemented by a working group of representatives from the Safeguarding Adults Board, the voluntary and independent sector, and Commissioners:
 - produce the Standards Tool - year 1
 - years 2 and ongoing – implement the standards across partner organisations and set up monitoring arrangements
- ❖ Partner organisations to develop quality assurance arrangements that promote a learning culture; lessons to be learnt from Safeguarding Adults practice and improvements to services - - year 1
- ❖ Safeguarding Adults is included in relevant plans e.g. service and business plans, commissioning and strategic plans - year 1 commence process
- ❖ Establish a joint Council and NHS Enfield Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Office - year 1

Improving responses to abuse - making it easier to report abuse; supporting and enabling adults at risk of abuse to recognise and prevent it; and improving access to a range of support services including places of safety

- ❖ Improve the performance for responding to allegations of abuse and safeguarding protection plans, including (year 1):
 - alert to strategy agreements
 - safeguarding protection plans and risk management arrangements
 - safeguarding reviews – individual cases and audits
- ❖ Set up a safeguarding risk management process for identifying those at risk of abuse and those known to be at risk of abuse - year 1
- ❖ Provide and publicise a single safeguarding adults telephone number for reporting abuse - year 1
- ❖ Produce guidance for investigating allegations of financial abuse and its prevention - year 1
- ❖ Agree an annual training plan for staff and agencies, which includes raising awareness of, responding to and preventing abuse - year 1 and ongoing
- ❖ Develop places of safety as part of commissioning arrangements including:
 - as part of the Adult Placement Scheme
 - as part of the development of the commissioning arrangements and options
- ❖ Review the structures in place to support the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board and local arrangements, e.g. Board sub groups

Listening to the voice of people at risk of abuse - we want people to feel they are listened to and most importantly, to feel safe. We need to learn from your experience, as well as continually improving the service

- ❖ Further develop and implement quality assurance processes including:
 - outcomes for Safeguarding Adults work that are informed by people who use services - year 1
- ❖ Set up an organisational learning forum - year 1

- ❖ Set up a reference group of local people, those who use services and carers to inform operational and strategic safeguarding arrangements - year 1
- ❖ Expand the membership of the Safeguarding Adults Board to include local people/those who use services. Support arrangements to be available as required - year 1

Self protection strategies - advice, information and training to help vulnerable people set up safeguards to decrease the risk of, or prevent abuse

- ❖ Provide information and leaflets about self protection and preventing abuse - year 1
- ❖ Provide information and facilitated sessions about strategies for self protection at service user groups
- ❖ Provide awareness-raising sessions about the prevention of financial abuse, including signposting to further information and advice - year 1
- ❖ Produce guidance with, and for, banks and their customers about financial abuse and its prevention (reference to the Safeguarding Adults Charter Mark)

Supporting people arranging their own care (Personalisation) - people understanding how to protect themselves and knowing where to get help to do this

- ❖ Incorporate information and strategies for self protection throughout the assessment and care planning process - year 1
- ❖ Provide information about safeguarding and self protection for people arranging their own care e.g. leaflet and relevant policy information. To include arrangements regarding access to Criminal Records Bureau checks for care workers and personal assistants - year 1
- ❖ Awareness raising sessions with mixed groups of service users, carers and care workers/personal assistants
- ❖ Provide information about services (signposting) to support people arranging their own care to safeguard themselves from abuse - year 1

Access to the justice system - working with the Police, the Crown Prosecution Service and the courts to ensure adults at risk get equal access to the justice system and to increase the number of prosecutions

- ❖ Embed the new Metropolitan Police Safeguarding Adults Protocol in local policy and practice - year 1
- ❖ Set up a monitoring system for the above, including complex case discussion - year 1
- ❖ Joint training to be developed and provided for social workers and the Police Community Safety Unit - year 1
- ❖ New recruits to the Police Community Safety Unit to receive induction sessions about the local Safeguarding arrangements - year 1
- ❖ Information and access to police advocates and intermediaries to be made available to service users, as required - year 1

- ❖ Raise awareness of Safeguarding Adults arrangements and abuse with the Crown Prosecution Service

Working with perpetrators and those at risk of harming others - identifying people at risk of abusing others and finding ways of preventing abuse

- ❖ Raise awareness and produce guidance about the Independent Safeguarding Authority Scheme (ISA) so that referrals and checks are made as necessary - year 1
- ❖ Produce a risk tool to identify those that may be at risk of harming others
- ❖ Work with perpetrators and develop strategies to prevent further abuse:
 - In conjunction with the Community Services section of the Probation Service
 - As part of the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process
 - By identifying and accessing available rehabilitation services

Information collection about abuse - using information to improve how we plan our work

- ❖ Ensure the local data collection system is consistent with the new national data set - year 1
- ❖ Agree an action plan (year 1) that will demonstrate how the data collection and use of data will be improved including:
 - data analysis to include the reporting of trends to inform the Safeguarding Strategy and Annual Action Plans
 - data collection arrangements in key partner organisations

A Safeguarding Adults Charter Mark - recognition for the achievement of agreed safeguarding standards, e.g. for businesses and community organisations

- ❖ Scope the project and agree the partners and organisations for the project group
- ❖ Identify the funding source for the project
- ❖ Design a charter mark symbol (safeguarding adults logo)
- ❖ Develop a range of standards that can be used within a variety of organisations, in order to achieve continuous improvement
- ❖ Agree and implement a marketing strategy and publicity for the charter mark so that the standards are widely publicised to organisations and the general public
- ❖ Design and set up monitoring systems to ensure compliance by those organisations taking part in the scheme

END OF DOCUMENT

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010 REPORT NO. **17**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

Cabinet – 17th June 2009
Council – 1st July 2009

REPORT OF:

Director of Place Shaping
and Enterprise.

Contact officer and telephone number:

Tony Corrigan 020 8379 1559

E-mail: tony.corrigan@enfield.gov.uk

Agenda – Part: 1	Item: 10
Subject: Parks Refurbishment Programme 2009 - 2012	
Wards: ALL	
Cabinet Member consulted: Michael Lavender	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines proposals for the allocation of additional capital investment in parks and open spaces for the period 2009-2012. It is complementary to the Council's Place Shaping objectives and other Corporate and externally funded capital projects, which will contribute to improvement of parks and open spaces during the next three years.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. That Cabinet recommends to Council the addition of £2.75million to the Parks and Open Spaces Capital Programme over the next three years as outlined in Appendix 1.
- 2.2. To Note the existing Parks and Open Spaces Capital Programme as outlined in Appendix 2.
- 2.3. That authority is delegated to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources to agree to the release and spend on individual schemes as they are prepared in more detail.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. In 2007/08 Council approved capital expenditure of £3.715 million for parks and open spaces infrastructure improvements, comprising allocations of £1.215, £1.280 and £1.220 million respectively for the years 2007/8 to 2009/10. After 2009/10, there is no capital allocation for Parks and Open Spaces within the current Capital Programme.
- 3.2. To complement, enhance and extend the current programme into future years, Cabinet is asked to recommend to Council the approval of additional capital expenditure of £2.75 million for parks infrastructure improvements for the years 2009/10 to 2011/12 as shown in Appendix 1.

- 3.3. The recommendations comprise of a series of priority projects which have been identified through feedback from Friends of Parks groups and evaluation of facility provision throughout the Borough having regard to known declining infrastructure and parks usage.
- 3.4. The current 2009/10 programme will be reviewed alongside the additional sum requested, and the opportunity will be taken to combine these allocations into one programme meeting the needs of the Borough within the agreed resources.
- 3.5. The costings identified within Appendix 1 are indicative at this stage. The programme will be adjusted to take into account actual costs and programme revisions, which arise through the need to respond to changing circumstances, opportunities and more detailed consultation and evaluation.
- 3.6. These additional projects will further enhance existing green flag sites and give the potential of additional green flag sites in future years.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 To continue to enhance and extend the 3-year parks infrastructure capital programme, currently due for completion at the end of March 2010 until the end of March 2012.
- 5.2 To improve access to high quality open spaces and respond to the need to maintain parks and open spaces as a valuable and improving resource for all.

6. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Financial Implications

- 6.1 Since the amount of additional capital expenditure proposed exceeds £500,000, the decision to add this to the Capital Programme will require Council approval. There are sufficient resources within the General Fund Capital Reserve to fund the proposed expenditure.
- 6.2 Individual schemes will need to be subject to the usual prioritisation, evaluation, consultation, delegated authority reporting and procurement processes before they will go ahead.

Legal Implications

- 6.3 Under the Local Government Act every local authority has powers to do anything which they consider is likely to promote the economic, social or environmental well being of their area. The recommendations within this report are a correct use of these powers.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Management of the Capital Programme is monitored on a monthly basis through the Place Shaping & Enterprise Capital Board and any variations are reported when identified. There are risks involved in the delivery of projects on time however these will be closely monitored in the new financial year to ensure there is no loss in service delivery.

8. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Council's Improvement Plan 2007-10.

- 8.1 This report sets out the actions to be taken that will meet the following aims and objectives within the council's Corporate Improvement Plan:
- 8.2 The Parks and Open Spaces Refurbishment Programme contributes to the following aims:-
- 8.3 **Provide high quality and efficient services**
Deliver a customer focused approach that helps all people access council services
Increase the efficiency, value for money and quality of services through continuous improvement and performance management
Provide effective community leadership and increase public participation in the Council's decision-making process and local initiatives
- 8.5 **A Healthier Enfield**
By creating healthy opportunities, encouraging physical activity.
- 8.6 **Supporting the delivery of Excellent Services**
By upgrading facilities and striving for continuous improvement in service delivery (e.g. Achievement of Green Flag accreditation)

9. COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 **Positive Impact**
The allocation of additional capital investment in parks and open spaces as proposed will provide for improvement to the infrastructure and facilities within parks for the benefit of all members of the community, and should also assist in increasing their usage in the future. Improvements to the Blind Trail in Trent Park will particularly benefit users with a visual impairment

10. PUTTING ENFIELD FIRST

- 10.1 Projects are only included in the capital programme following a prioritisation exercise that takes account of the extent to which they support the delivery of the Council's aims and objectives.

Appendix 1 – Additional Parks and Open Spaces Infrastructure capital improvements 2009-2012

Planned improvement	2009/10	£K	2010/11	£K	2011/12	£K
Playground refurbishment	Bury Street Park, Bush Hill Park, Cuckoo Hall Open Space Holmesdale Tunnel Open Space	390	Albany Park Durants Park Grovelands Park	325	Weir Hall Open Space, Ladysmith Open Space, Cheyne Walk Open Space, Aylands Open Space	400
Toilet refurbishment	Bury St Bush Hill Park	220				
Green Gyms	Pymmes	50	To be determined	150		
Tennis Courts	Arnos, Oakwood, Durant's	165				
Heritage Centre	Trent Park	120				
Blind Trail	Trent Park	50				
BMX Track			To be determined	200		
CCTV	Queen Elizabeth Stadium	100				
New park café facilities	To be determined	300				
New Waste Bins	Various	30				
New Orchard(s)	To be determined	50				
Project management costs				100		100
Yearly Total	2009/10	£1475K	2010/11	£775K	2011/12	£500K

Appendix 2 - Parks Infrastructure capital improvements 2007-2010

Planned improvement	07/08	£K	08/09	£K	09/10	£K
Toilet refurbishment	Grovelands Tatem Town	260	Trent Oakwood	260	Broomfield	100
Splash Pools			Craig	200	Albany	200
Playground refurbishment			Broomfield, Oakwood	200	Arnos, Pymmes	200
Multi use games areas			Town Oakwood	200	To be determined subject to survey and changing demand	200
*Green Flag improvements to paths, railings, signage, benches, bins, buildings and other features	Jubilee, Grovelands, Oakwood, Pymmes, Town and Forty Hall 2007	300	To be determined subject to survey and inspection results	150	To be determined subject to survey and inspection results	150
Tree / shrub replacement	In accordance with arboricultural strategy. Will create new-planted coppices to improve and replace lost stock using drought resistant species	15	In accordance with arboricultural strategy	10	In accordance with arboricultural strategy	10
Water capture		50	Rainwater 'harvesting' systems installation programme audit to identify key sites and costings.	40		30

Bridge repair /replacement	Essential maintenance arising from planned inspection programme. Bridges selected based upon inspection results but to include Maiden's bridge at Forty Hall in year one	150	100	100
New River Essential repairs contingency		40	30	30
Town Park replacement central feature				Match funding to support new feature providing an attractive focal point and family based leisure use.
Improved car parking provision at Trent Park		300		
Project management costs		100	90	100
		1215	1280	1220

Appendix 3 - Enfield Play Pathfinder - list of Pathfinder Projects taking place within Parks 2009/2010

Enfield is one of 30 Play Pathfinders tasked with leading the way in providing new inclusive and challenging play areas in parks and open spaces.

Focus is on natural environments and enriching the play experience for 8-13 age group with new or substantially refurbished sites and one adventure playground by March 2010.

Year One Park Sites - March 2009

Ward	Park or Open Space
Enfield Highway	Albany Park & Durants Park
Jubilee	Cuckoo Hall Recreation Ground
Ponders End	Ponders End Recreation Ground
Edmonton Green	Craig Park & Montagu Road Open Space
Bowes	Tottenham Recreation Ground
Winchmore Hill	Grovelands Park
Cockfosters	Bramley Road Open Space
Highlands	Boxers Lake Open Space
Southbury	Bush Hill Park
Chase	North Enfield Recreation Ground

Proposed Year Two Park Sites - March 2010

Ward	Park or Open Space
Ponders End	Alma Road Open Space
Edmonton Green	Pymmes Park
Upper Edmonton	Weir Hall
Bush Hill Park	Bury Lodge Gardens
Palmers Green	Hazelwood Recreation Ground
Southgate Green	Arnos Park & High Road Open Space
Cockfosters	Hood Avenue Open Space & Trent Park
Town	Aldersbrook Avenue Recreation Ground
Adventure Playground	
Upper Edmonton	Florence Hayes Recreation Ground

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MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010 REPORT NO. 28**MEETING TITLE AND DATE:**

Council 1/07/09

REPORT OF:Director of
Finance and Corporate Resources

Contact officer and telephone number:

Mike Ahuja 0208 379 5044

E-mail: mike.ahuja@enfield.gov.uk

Agenda – Part:1	Item: 11
Subject: Young peoples Life Opportunities Commission Final Update prior to the full Report	
Wards:	
Cabinet Member consulted: N/A	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides Council with a final update on the Commissions work.
- 1.2 There have been a significant number of events aimed at engaging young people in the Borough.

The Commission is about to produce its draft report and will undertake consultation with those who contributed and were involved with the review. The findings and recommendations will be submitted to Full Council on the 23 September.

The Panel had a total of 9 Formal meetings and 11 events to engage young people, the community and service providers.

The visits and events were undertaken by the Commission members and/or support officers and are listed below:

- Visit to Chance UK
- 6th Form Students Event (attended by over 60 students)
- Community Elders Engagement Event (attended by over 25 people)
- Visit to Edmonton Eagles
- Visit to the Youth Offending Service
- Visit to the Hanlon Centre
- Visit to Behaviour Support Services
- Visit to the Pupil Referral Unit
- Event at Craig Park Youth Centre (attended by over 45 young people)
- Event with the Youth Engagement Panel (attended by over 30 members)
- Community Event involving adults, parents and young people (attended by over 70 young people and adults)

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note that a report detailing the findings and recommendations will be submitted to Council on the 23rd September 2009.

3. Background

- 3.1 Council (26 March 08) considered an issues paper (submitted under Opposition Business) highlighting a need, in view of the recent number of youth fatalities in the Borough arising from violent crime, to investigate different ways of deterring a minority of young people from resorting to violence and crime.

As a result of the debate on this issue Council unanimously agreed that a cross party Scrutiny Commission be established to investigate the issues raised by the murders of young people in Enfield and other parts of London. The Commission would:

- a. Comprise of 6 members (3 majority & 3 opposition);
- b. Have power to co-opt members from the local community with specific expertise in these issues; and

4. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

4.1 Financial Implications

To be set out in the final report of the commission

4.2 Legal Implications

To be set out in the final report of the commission

4.3 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

To be set out in the final report of the commission

5. PUTTING ENFIELD FIRST

Ensure every child matters and provide high quality education for all

A Safer Enfield

A healthier Enfield where people are able to live independent lives

Build prosperous, sustainable communities

Background Papers

Commission minutes

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010 REPORT NO. 29

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

COUNCIL
- 1 July 2009

REPORT OF:

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Agenda - Part: 1	Item: 12
Subject:	
ENFIELD'S SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09	
WARDS: None Specific	
Cabinet Members consulted: N/A	

Contact officer and telephone number:

Mike Ahuja (Head of Corporate Scrutiny Services) or James Kinsella Tel: 020-8379-5044/4041

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council Constitution requires the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to prepare and present an Annual Report to Council detailing the work undertaken by the Council's scrutiny function over the last Municipal Year.
- 1.2 A copy of the Scrutiny Annual Report 2008/09 has been attached (as Appendix 1) for consideration and endorsement, prior to publication.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Council considers and endorses the Scrutiny Annual Report 2008/09 for publication;
- 2.2 That Council notes the areas identified as future challenges for Enfield's scrutiny function within the Annual Report, including the implementation of the new powers for scrutiny contained within the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and Councillor Call for Action.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The 2008/09 Annual Report will be the tenth produced by Enfield's Scrutiny function.

- 3.2 The Annual Report is designed to provide a summary and evaluation of key scrutiny activities over the year, with a focus on its key outcomes.
- 3.3 The report covers the work of each of the Council's six Scrutiny Panels and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, with each Panel providing a summary of the work they have undertaken with a focus around their overall effectiveness and key outcomes. Its structure and content has been designed and approved by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The format of the report has been amended over recent years to include more focus on the key outcomes being achieved by scrutiny as well as to make the publication as cost effective to produce and user friendly as possible.
- 3.4 As well as highlighting the varied work undertaken by individual Panels the Annual Report also has a key role to play in raising awareness and the profile of the Council's scrutiny function, not only within the Authority but also amongst its external partners/stakeholders and with the public.
- 3.5 Significant scrutiny developments during 2008/09 have included:
- (a) Introduction of a Crime & Safety Scrutiny Panel, one year in advance of the formal Regulations within the Police & Justice Act 2006, to focus on the work of the partners on the Safer & Stronger Communities Board. The way in which Enfield's Crime & Safety Scrutiny Panel operates has been cited by the Home Officer as one of ten national hallmarks of effective Partnerships.
 - (b) Introduction of the Councillor Call for Action, with scrutiny being used as means of "last resort" when all other attempts at resolution have been exhausted.
 - (c) the establishment of a Scrutiny Commission to look, in detail, at the life opportunities available to young people in the borough. This has represented a significant piece of scrutiny work involving a wide range of engagement with young people and various community events.
- 3.6 The Annual Report also includes a specific section looking forward and identifying a number of key challenges to be addressed by the Council's scrutiny function over the coming year. Of particular interest will be the need to:
- implement the new powers for scrutiny, in relation to wider partnership working, contained within the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act – including Councillor Call for Action; and
 - develop the role of scrutiny in relation to the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA), as the new performance framework for local public services.
- 3.7 The Annual Report has been presented in draft and, subject to endorsement by Council, will then be published in its final format. Attempts will continue this year to encourage access to the report, wherever possible, via the scrutiny website. Copies will, however, continue to be provided for all libraries.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

To comply with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No other options have been considered, as the scrutiny function is required, under the Council's Constitution, to present an annual report to Council for adoption.

6. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & CORPORATE RESOURCES COMMENTS

6.1 Finance Implications

All costs associated with the production and publication of the Scrutiny Annual Report will be contained within the current budget allocated to the Council's scrutiny function.

6.2 Legal Implications

Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 requires principal local authorities to have at least one overview and scrutiny committee.

Its functions are to:

- review or scrutinise decisions or actions taken by the cabinet or any non-executive part of the council;
- make reports or recommendations to the Council or the Cabinet on any issue to do with the Council's functions; and
- recommend that any decision be re-considered

The Council's Constitution requires the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to present an Annual Report to Council, which includes details of the reviews undertaken and the key outcomes along with any work planned for the coming year.

7. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The key aims for the Council's scrutiny function include:

- to review & assess the delivery and performance of services provided by the Council (along with the health service);
- to assist in the monitoring & development of Council policies and strategies;

7.2 The work undertaken by each Panel, summarised in the Annual Report, is designed to reflect these aims and as such the Council's scrutiny function has a significant role to play in the Council's performance management framework.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Under the terms of the Council's Constitution, Overview & Scrutiny Committee is required (in order to address the risk of non compliance) to produce an Annual Report setting out the work undertaken by the scrutiny function over the last year. Any risks relating to the individual scrutiny reviews that have been undertaken, or are planned for the coming year, will have been assessed through the scrutiny review scoping process.

9. COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

The scrutiny process provides an opportunity for members of the local community to actively contribute towards reviewing the delivery, performance and development of public services provided by the Council and its partners. The work undertaken by scrutiny, in this respect, over the previous year has been summarised within the Annual Report.

10. PUTTING ENFIELD FIRST

The work undertaken by Enfield's Scrutiny Panels during 2007/08 and ongoing into future years can be seen to have an impact on all of the aims within Putting Enfield First:

- Aim 1 – A cleaner greener, sustainable Enfield
- Aim 2 – Ensure every Child matters and provide high quality education for all
- Aim 3 – A Safer Enfield
- Aim 4 – A healthier Enfield where people are able to live independent lives;
- Aim 5 – Provide high quality & efficient services
- Aim 6 – Build prosperous, sustainable communities;

Background Papers:

None

FINAL DRAFT

SCRUTINY PANEL ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09

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Foreword by Chairman of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Welcome to the 2008/09 annual report of Enfield Council's Scrutiny Panels. I hope you find the time to have a look through this report.

Once again this has been a busy year for scrutiny in Enfield. Not only have the Panels continued to look at a large range of issues but we have also successfully introduced a new Panel to look at issues around crime and safety, in advance of formal powers being made available by Government. In addition we have undertaken a major and very topical review around young peoples life opportunities within the borough.

The Annual Report highlights scrutiny's main achievements and successes over the past year and how we have worked with our partners, service users and the local community to achieve them.

I would like to thank all councillors and officers who have contributed to the Scrutiny function over the last year along with the wide range of participants from the local community and other partner/stakeholder groups, without whom we would not have been able to carry out our work.

Councillor Martin Prescott
Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

What is Scrutiny?

The Local Government Act 2000 gave local authorities the power to scrutinise. The aim being to make local government and its decision-making process as open and transparent as possible, with greater public accountability. These powers have now been extended by the Police & Justice Act 2006 and the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, which cover scrutiny of crime and safety and partner organisations.

Scrutiny Panels in Enfield therefore have a key role to play in:

- looking in detail at services that are provided to the residents of Enfield by the Council, local NHS, Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (known in Enfield as the Safer Stronger Communities Board) and wide range of other partners;
- assisting to monitor and develop Council strategy, policy and services;
- holding the Executive (Cabinet), local NHS, Safer Stronger Communities Board and other partners to account;
- assessing the performance and delivery of public services from the perspective of customers and citizens; and
- acting as a route for Members of the local community to voice their comments about service delivery and ensure they are fed into either the Council's, local NHS and other partners decision-making process.

Scrutiny in Enfield

In Enfield the support to scrutiny is provided through the newly established Corporate Governance Division, including an 'independent' scrutiny unit.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) manages the overall scrutiny function. In addition to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee the Council has 6 Scrutiny Panels that cover the following areas:

- Adult Social Services;
- Children's Services;
- Crime & Safety – newly set up in 2008/09;
- Environment, Parks & Leisure;
- Health;
- Housing;

Four out of the six Panels are chaired by councillors from the majority (Conservative) Group and two by councillors from the main (Labour) Opposition Group.

The work undertaken by Scrutiny is based on work programmes set at the start of each year. Each Panel operates with the councillors and other co-opted Members, who form their membership, aiming to gather as much evidence as they can before proposing improvements and changes for the Council, Health Authorities or other partners to consider.

The Panels also seek to encourage public participation and the organised involvement of residents, customers, partner agencies and staff in the Scrutiny process.

Looking Forward: Future Challenges

From April 2009 new roles will be expected of Scrutiny. This is due to two new key pieces of legislation:

- The Police and Justice Act 2006 (PJA 2006) and
- The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIH).

The thrust of the legislation gives new powers to ward Councillors, both individually and collectively through Scrutiny, to scrutinise a wide range of local partners including the Crime and Disorder Partnership in a programmed manner.

There is a new duty for a wide range of public sector partners to respond to Scrutiny in Enfield.

There is also the ability for Ward Councillors to raise local issues of concern formally through scrutiny as a 'Councillor Call for Action' (CCfA). Scrutiny's role in the CCfA process will be as means of "last resort" with issues only being raised through scrutiny once all other resolution avenues have been exhausted. A process for handling CCfAs has been set up, which is designed to sit alongside existing mechanisms for councillors to resolve issues, whilst still meeting the statutory duty placed on scrutiny to consider issues raised and respond in a timely manner.

A number of other key challenges/opportunities for improvement have also been identified for the following and future years:

- Implementation of the new scrutiny powers within the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act regarding more formal scrutiny of a wide range of partner organisations, which will require the development of new two-way relationships and sign up by those partners involved.
- Development of scrutiny's involvement and role in the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) as the new performance framework for local public services. It is anticipated that the involvement of scrutiny will increasingly be linked to the formation of judgements about how public bodies are seen to be delivering outcomes for local residents under the CAA.
- Introduction of CCfA in Enfield with the procedure needing to focus on outcomes and resolutions for councillors and the local community rather than on processes.
- To continue working to set realistic, focussed and well-balanced work programmes with fewer items allowing more detailed review and capacity for any issues raised under CCfA;
- to increase engagement of the public and other interested stakeholders in the work being undertaken by scrutiny;
- to improve how scrutiny engages with the local press and continue to raise its overall profile;
- to continue the very effective collaborative (cross-party) working between Scrutiny Chairman & members;

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- to continue focussing on member development based on the scrutiny member development programme.

Improving local services - Key Achievements for Scrutiny in 08/09

Photo to be inserted

Councillors were interested to see how a range of assistive technologies could be installed to aid independent living. From an original client group of 30, this year saw a marked increase in the numbers of people in receipt of this service.

Photo to be inserted

The Housing Scrutiny Panel gave residents the opportunity to meet with representatives from Transport for London, Enfield Homes, Council Officers and Partners to discuss housing developments around the North Circular Road. The meeting was well attended with a series of presentations followed by constructive and positive debate. One of the recommendations was for the Council to work with the Homes and Community Agency, TfL, Greater London Assembly and Registered Social Landlords on the future of these properties.

The 2-year review of Pupil Mobility was finalised by the Children's Panel this year. A very detailed review produced a number of recommendations including sharing best practice and increased inter-school and cross-council work. A major achievement of the review was to recommend a mobility best practice guide, to be sent to all schools. Also, a review of the school funding formula was recommended.

The Crime and Safety Panel carried out a review of the Fore Street Area, which resulted in a number of recommendations relating to the appearance of the area and the provision of additional parking facilities for disabled people.

This piece of work was an excellent example of partnership working with a variety of other agencies.

Photo to be inserted

The Young Peoples' Life Opportunities Commission met with representatives from the Borough's 6th Form community to hear their opinions on the issues that concern them. The event was very well received and was only one of several community engagement events held as part of the commission's work.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Committee Members:



Cllr Martin Prescott (Chairman)
 Cllr Anne-Marie Pearce (Vice Chairman)
 Cllr Achilleas Georgiou
 Cllr Vivien Giladi
 Cllr Robert Hayward
 Cllr Henry Pipe

Education Statutory Co-optees:

Alicia Meniru & 1 vacancy (Parent Governor)
 Helen Rosen (Other denomination rep)
 Vacancy (Roman Catholic rep)
 Vacancy (CofE rep)

Overview and Scrutiny Committee has responsibility for the leadership, management and co-ordination of the Council's scrutiny function. The Committee approve an annual scrutiny work programme, so as to ensure that each Panel's time is effectively and efficiently utilised and also manage involvement of scrutiny in the Council's annual budget consultation process.

The Committee is also responsible for dealing with the call-in procedure. Call-in is a process, which allows Members of the Council to request that decisions taken by Cabinet, individual Cabinet Members or Directors are suspended to enable further review.

During 2008/09 the Committee has dealt with seven call-ins. Two of these resulted in the decision being referred back for reconsideration with one (shopmobility in Enfield Town) being amended by Cabinet as a result. The other five resulted in the original decisions being confirmed, although this was subject to various conditions that the Committee has continued to monitor throughout the year.

The work programme of the Committee has included progress updates on the delivery & development of the Local Area Agreement, HR Performance Indicators and Equalities Standards for Local Government. The Committee has also been monitoring progress against the Council's Corporate Communications Strategy Action Plan, outcome from the most recent MORI resident satisfaction survey on the Council and use of the Council's urgency procedures.

As part of its management and co-ordination role the Committee has developed an evaluation framework for the scrutiny function with updates now provided on an annual basis. In addition an annual monitoring update is provided on progress being made with the implementation of recommendations from scrutiny reviews, which are being tracked through a monitoring system.

This year has also seen the introduction of Councillor Calls for Action, under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, which will be managed through Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Committee Contacts 2009/10

Chairman: Cllr Martin Prescott Vice Chairman: Cllr Ann-Marie Pearce

Corporate Scrutiny Officer: Mike Ahuja

Democratic Services Secretary: James Kinsella Tel: 0208 379 4041

Full details of the panels full work programme and completed reviews are available on the website www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Adult Social Services Scrutiny Panel



Cllr Henry Pipe (Chairman)

Other Panel members:

Cllr George Savva MBE (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Chaudhury Anwar MBE

Cllr Adrian Croshaw

Cllr Christiana During

Cllr Chris Joannides

Cllr Eric Jukes

Cllr Dino Lemonides

Cllr Eleftherios Savva

The remit of the Panel, Chaired by Cllr Henry Pipe, is to focus on the social services needs of adults. This includes care provided by the Council and our partners (like the Primary Care Trust), provision of homed-based support such as Home Meals and Home Care, implementation of national policy (including the Supporting People programme) and any local issues, which might affect service users.

A review of Adult Carers focused on four particular areas, respite care, recognising carers, carers in employment and carers health. Just some of the recommendations included; ensuring that the voluntary and independent sector providers are supported to provide respite care which is sensitive to the needs of specific communities and offers the flexibility to respond to a carer's changing circumstances; ensuring that a Carer's Centre is established; specific issues around working carers should be recognised as part of the carers assessment; ensuring that local GP's achieve a greater understanding of the needs and health issues relating to carers.

The Assistive Technologies Working Group was established to review the provision of 'Telecare' in the Borough. Members carried out a site visit to Alcazar Court to view the range of equipment available and also visited the Community Alarm Centre to see how calls generated by the use of Telecare equipment are dealt with. The Working Group commended the work carried out to date and recommended that continued funding streams are available and agreed to monitor the roll-out and take-up of service provision.

The Panel held a joint meeting with the Health Scrutiny Panel to hear about the implementation of the Local Involvement Network (LINKs) in Enfield. LINKs have been established to strengthen public involvement in health and social care. LINKs focus on gaps in service provision and suggest improvements. It was agreed that LINKs would work closely with Scrutiny to avoid duplication of work and to share knowledge.

A Working Group was established to review the accessibility and acceptability of mental health services. Following a series of meetings with providers and service users the Working Group has prepared a draft report for consideration in the new Municipal Year.

The Blue Badge Scheme was scrutinised following a number of concerned residents contacting Members of the Panel. Issues relating to the application process and physical assessments were discussed. Members agreed to monitor future developments in service provision.

Following the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) during the previous year, the Panel scrutinised a number of reports reflecting progress against the Action Plan that had been devised to address issues raised. This culminated in a further CSCI inspection with the outcome being an improved 2 star rating.

The Panel were delighted at the award of Beacon Status for supporting independent living for disabled adults. Improvements included over £30m on creating 250 new supported housing units and 169 people helped into employment. The national Beacon Scheme recognises and rewards excellence in local government and public services and the work of the HASC Dept. was considered 'outstanding' in all aspects.

The Panel were able to influence commissioning strategies for physical and sensory disabilities, older people and older peoples mental health.

In addition to these specific pieces of scrutiny work, the Panel have also monitored income collection, debt write-off, home care improvements and Local Area Agreements. The HASC budget was subject of a special meeting in which Members were able to scrutinise the proposed budget in advance of the Budget Commission.

Two areas of review, namely Learning Disabilities Partnership and Personalisation of Care have been provisionally identified as areas of work for the new municipal year. The Modernisation of Care Working Group is to be reconvened to look at the design and implementation of the proposed dual-registered care home.

Panel Contacts 2009/10

Chairman: Cllr Paul McCannah Vice Chairman: Cllr George Savva

Corporate Scrutiny Officer: Linda Leith and Mike Ahuja

Democratic Services Secretary: Jayne Bott Tel: 0208 379 4042

Full details of the panels full work programme and completed reviews are available on the website www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Children's Services Scrutiny Panel



Councillor Vivien Giladi (Chairman)

Other Panel members:

Councillor Elaine Hayward (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Kate Anolue

Councillor Del Goddard

Councillor Eric Jukes

Councillor Henry Lamprecht

Councillor Paul McCannah

Councillor Ayfer Orhan

Statutory Co-optees: Alicia Meniru (Parent Governor Representative), Reverend Knowling (Church of England Diocese), Carmel Tylee (Catholic Diocese) Rabbi Levy/Helen Rosen (representing other faiths /denominations)

Non Voting Co-optees: Lesley Mansbridge (Secondary Headteacher's Conference), Pat Wood (Primary Headteachers' Conference), Jean Carter (Enfield Colleges Principals Group),

Expert Advisor: Ian Lucas (Headteacher Gladys Aylward School)

Sadly Councillor Chris Andrew, who had been a member of this panel for several years, passed away in November 2008. Councillors and Officers paid tribute to the work that he had undertaken both as Vice Chairman on the Children's Scrutiny Panel, and as Children's Champion.

The Panel is responsible for scrutiny in relation to education, schools, the early years service, the youth service and social care services for children and young people.

A highlight of the year was the completion of the panel's two-year review into pupil mobility. Headteachers from schools with high levels of pupil mobility reported that pupil mobility was the biggest single factor affecting children's attainment.

The review found that, although high levels of pupil mobility were likely to be a continuing problem, there are things that can be done to improve the way it is managed and to reduce its impact. Recommendations included better sharing of information and best practice, as well as integrating activity across schools, council departments, and with other local authorities and organisations. A mobility best practice guide was produced and sent to all schools.

The review also proposed a review of the school funding formula to take better account of present mobility levels and to enable schools to respond more effectively to volatility.

Creating stable communities is key to stabilising mobility and further recommendations were made that the review findings be fed into Enfield's place shaping initiatives.

The Early Years and Foundation Stage working group was set-up to review the declining results for the Foundation Stage (3 to 5 years) in Enfield over the last few years and for

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Councillors to gain an understanding of the new Statutory Framework for the Early Years and Foundation Stage (birth to five years). The Enfield results for 2008 showed an improvement in the gap between the lowest achieving 20% of children and the average score. However considerable improvements are still required to achieve target. The objective is to provide all children with appropriate learning environments and equality in education provision.

The working group considered the service to be working well, with a clear vision to drive forward the quality of the Early Years and Foundation Stage provision. They found that was a clear strategy to target providers who required more intensive input and a programme of universal training and communication to raise the profile of the EYFS.

Reviews on Consistency in Schools and Youth Engagement continued.

Schools in similar catchment areas and with similar pupil demographics, can vary significantly in their achievements and results, the consistency in schools working group has been looking at the factors that create the inconsistencies and at examples of best practice. The Youth Engagement Group was looking at ways to improve young people's engagement in the Council's democratic processes. They plan to develop a mechanism to ensure that young people can put forward topics for next year's panel work-programme.

New working groups were set up on health visitors and teenage pregnancy.

On health visitors, the working group heard evidence to suggest that there is a serious shortage of health visitors in Enfield. The review will focus on the consequences this is having for schools: children are arriving without reaching physical, intellectual, social and emotional milestones.

On teenage pregnancy the aim is to understand why teenage pregnancy in Enfield has increased, and what strategies are in place to bring it down. Opportunities available to young people, will be considered to assist in raising their aspirations, undertaking social and economic analysis, looking at employment opportunities for young people and at the services and clinics that offer advice and contraception.

Over the year the panel also examined the changes taking place for 14-19 year olds, the work of the Children's Trust Board, substance misuse and drug treatment proposals and plan and received regular updates on the Local Area Agreement Targets relating to children's services.

Finally they received monitoring reports on adoption, fostering, children's social care complaints, recruitment and retention of social workers, youth service objectives and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board business plan and were kept informed about progress in addressing the recommendations from previous reviews into young carers, exclusions, looked after children and physical education.

Panel Contacts 2009/10

Chairman: Cllr Vivien Giladi Vice Chairman: Cllr Elaine Hayward

Corporate Scrutiny Officer: Claire Johnson

Democratic Services Secretary: Penelope Williams: Tel: 0208 379 4098

Full details of the panels full work programmes and completed reviews are available on the website www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Crime & Safety Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Robert Hayward (Chairman)



Other Panel members:

Councillor Doug Taylor (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Pamela Adams

Councillor Jayne Buckland

Councillor Peter Fallart

Councillor Henry Lamprecht

Councillor Kieran McGregor

Councillor Terence Smith

Councillor Andrew Stafford

Non-Voting Co-optee: Mr Adrian Bishop-Laggett
(Enfield Police Partnership Group – Management Committee)

The Panel was set up, in advance of the implementation of new scrutiny powers within the Police & Justice Act 2006.

This was the first year of operation for the Panel and work has been done in establishing relationships with the key partners involved in tackling crime & safety issues across the borough and in developing members in their new role.

The Panel has reviewed the Safer Stronger Communities Board (SSCB) Partnership Plan and Priorities for 2008-2011, and has also monitored progress on the SSCB annual strategic assessment process during the year, alongside development of the Plan and Priorities for 2009-2012.

The Panel has received a series of briefings including the Safer Neighbourhood Policing arrangements; Street Action for Enfield (SAFE) tasking process; SSCB funding & commissioning arrangement; Positive Diversionary Activities being provided for young people in partnership across the borough and the arrangements to tackle domestic violence (with a further update requested on the safehouse project).

The Panel also reviewed the way the public are able to contact the police and response times for dealing with emergency and non emergency calls with a visit to the 999 emergency call centre for Enfield.

In addition work on reviewing policing and security issues around the major transport interchanges across the borough and at transport for young people/school pupils has started.

The major piece of work undertaken by the Panel has been an area review focussed around Fore Street (south of the A406 North Circular Road), Edmonton. This involved looking at a range of issues covering not only

crime but also anti-social behavior and the overall appearance of the area. A number of recommendations have already been implemented from the review with the Panel keen to see this activity maintained and included within existing programmes of work. Implementation of the recommendations will continue to be monitored by the Panel. This piece of work engaged with the Council and its partners including; the Police; Enfield Homes; Thames Water and a local pub. Outcomes from this review have included:

- Provision of 3 new disabled Parking bays;
- Replacement of Protective bollards;
- Street cleansing & washing;
- Repairs to cellar entrance by local pub;
- Hot wash of Gilpin Bell statue;
- Enforcement notices on a number of retail properties re litter and cleansing

An assessment of the outcome and costs from the review will be undertaken by the Panel, before they look to see whether the approach should be extended across the borough.

Panel Contacts 2009/10:

Chairman: Cllr Robert Hayward Vice-Chairman: Cllr Andrew Stafford

Corporate Scrutiny Officers: Mike Ahuja & Alison Trew

Democratic Services Secretary: James Kinsella Tel: 0208 379 4041

Full details of the panels full work programmes and completed reviews are available on the website www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Environment, Parks and Leisure Scrutiny Panel



Councillor Martin Prescott (Chairman)

Other panel members:

Councillor Chris Bond (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Chris Andrew (replaced by Councillor Adrian Crowshaw February 2009)

Councillor Annette Dreblow

Councillor Norman Ford

Councillor Denise Headley

Councillor Donald McGowan

Councillor Geoffrey Robinson

This panel covers all environmental issues, as well as the parks, open spaces, leisure and recreation.

Councillor Martin Prescott, a new chairman, took over this year. Traffic and parking were key issues. The panel held representatives from the major utility companies to account for digging up streets and causing traffic congestion. They reconvened a working group to scrutinise the council's parking enforcement proposals. Also examining the vexed issue of footway crossovers.

Early in the year Network Rail was invited to explain why they had cut down avenues of trees and destroyed swathes of attractive green corridor along the Winchmore Hill railway embankments. An active group of concerned local residents had brought this issue to the panel's attention.

Recycling and waste were other important areas. A panel sub group fed their views into a new waste strategy emphasising the importance of addressing residents concerns in advance, making a helpful contribution to policy before adoption by Cabinet. Plans for a commercial waste recycling scheme were reviewed and proposals considered for a joint borough scrutiny of North London Waste Authority.

Helping to gain fairtrade accreditation for the Borough was a significant achievement.

The allotments review is nearing completion and recommendations for service improvement will be put forward. Since the start of the review, the lettings and invoicing processes have improved dramatically, new tenancy agreements and a new manual for site secretaries put together and issued and more effective communication between plot holders and officers developed. This year the Councillors visited allotment sites across the borough and gave the site secretaries an opportunity to have their views heard during a special meeting in March 2009. This review would not have taken place without the work and commitment of Councillor Chris Andrew who very sadly, died during the year.

In addition, the panel scrutinised proposals for the borough's parks and open spaces and the work of the Climate Change Board. A group of councillors visited schools to

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meet children involved in the eco detective (junior steet hawk) project. The new parks strategy will be looked at in more depth next year.

Finally the panel monitored a range of other issues including proposals for Local Development Framework and Place Shaping, for Millfield's Arts Centre and Theatre, ransom strips, trading standards, empty shops in town centres, the New River Loop, co-ordination of planning building control and enforcement, animal welfare, pest control and the environmental protection and regulation business plan.



Panel members visit Merry Hills School to meet a group of young eco detectives

Panel Contacts 2009/10

Chairman: Cllr Martin Prescott

Vice Chairman: Cllr Chris Bond

Corporate Scrutiny Officers: Andy Ellis

Democratic Services Secretary: Penelope Williams Tel: 0208 379 4098

Full details of the panel's work programme and completed reviews are available on the website www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Health Scrutiny Panel



Cllr Anne-Marie Pearce (Chairman)

Other Panel members:

Cllr Ahmet Oykener (Vice Chairman)

Cllr John Boast

Cllr Christiana During

Cllr Ruth Hones

Cllr Henry Lamprecht

Cllr Jeff Rodin

Cllr Eleftherios Savva

Cllr Kate Wilkinson

The Panel covers all NHS health services that are provided for the local population.

It was recognised, when setting this year's work plan, that a substantial amount of Councillor time would be required to support the Joint Scrutiny Committee, looking at a London-wide approach to providing stroke and major trauma services.

Two working groups were established to undertake detailed reviews. The first related to the uptake of breast screening services. It was identified that Enfield had a proportionately low number of women presenting for the service. Meetings were held with the Primary Care Trust and Councillors visited the breast screening service at Edgware Hospital.

The second working group involved looking at provision for end of life care. Again, meetings were held with Enfield PCT representatives and Councillors visited North London Hospice to hear about the work carried out at the hospice and in the community.

The Panel were pleased to note the appointment to the post of Specialist Parkinson's Nurse. The Panel had previously facilitated the agreement between Enfield Primary Care Trust and the National Parkinson's Disease Society to fund the post.

The panel has also received and commented on:

- New GP led Health Centre
- The implementation of Local Involvement Networks
- The out of hours Barndoc service
- Foundation Trust Applications from both North Middlesex University Hospital and Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trusts
- Annual Healthcare Commission checks on the 4 local NHS Trusts

Panel Contacts 2009/10:

Chairman: Cllr Ann Marie Pearce Vice Chairman: Cllr Christiana During
 Corporate Scrutiny Officer: Sue Cripps/ Andy Ellis

Democratic Services Secretary: Jayne Bott Tel: 0208 379 4042

Full details of the panels full work programme and completed reviews are available on the website www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Housing Scrutiny Panel

Cllr Achilleas Georgiou (Chairman)



Other Panel members:

Cllr Don Delman (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Gregory Antoniou

Cllr Tony Dey

Cllr Jonas Hall

Cllr Chris Joannides

Cllr Christopher Cole

Cllr Chris Murphy

Cllr Yasemin Brett

Co-optees:

Carol Moore (FECA)

Ian Martin (Christian Action Housing)

The Panel, Chaired by Cllr Achilleas Georgiou, is responsible for the Scrutiny of Housing Strategic, Operations, Technical, Property Services, Enfield Homes and community issues affecting housing in the borough.

The panel reviewed Place Shaping Area Proposals for the North Circular Road, Ladderswood and Ponders End.

The panel arranged a meeting with residents of Transport for London North Circular Road properties with interested parties, stakeholders and partners where conclusions and recommendations were agreed, as to the way forward to resolve issues for funding of properties, residents concerns as to squatters and fly tipping, identifying refurbishment work required for residential and commercial properties to an acceptable standard.

The panel monitored Enfield Homes governance arrangements, overview of the current performance of Enfield Homes against the delivery plan targets, together with an update on the timetable for inspection and efficiency saving improvement plan.

The panel visited three Registered Social Landlord providers, supported residential persons with learning difficulties, shared ownership and rent of property and an 'extra care' scheme to provide independent care and support on site 24 hours a day.

Scheduled programme work and issues considered by the panel.

- The role, value and mapping of registered landlords in the borough.
- Feedback from Strategic Housing Forum, which comprised of LBE, stakeholders, partners and interested parties.
- Community Halls report outlining the status for the usage and maintenance of these establishments.
- Enfield's Homelessness review and homelessness strategy 2008/2013.
- Temporary Accommodation and Homelessness reduction plan.
- Housing Market Assessment, household survey across the borough, from over 3000 responses to understand current and future housing needs and demands.

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- Tackling Youth Homelessness in Enfield, to address the challenge of youth homelessness in Enfield and meet government target to have no 16/17 year olds in temporary accommodation by 2010.
- Key Worker Housing Strategy, the aim of the strategy is to look at how we can encourage key workers such as nurses, teachers, police officers and social care staff to come to Enfield and to remain here.
- Performance Monitoring - challenging low performance and discussing how it would be rectified.
- Tenant Participation Area Boards / Community Housing Partnerships. To empower residents to influence decisions about their homes, communities, and housing services. To continuously improve the way we communicate and engage with tenants and representative tenant groups.
- Local authority and Registered Social Landlord rents calculation, service charges, funding for major works and improvements, repairs fund and how Enfield Homes is funded.
- Enfield annual Housing Equalities report 2007/08 was a requirement for level 3 and above of the Equality Standard for Local Government and the Statutory Code of Practice on Racial Equality in Housing. Enfield Council was required to meet statutory obligations to ensure that no residents face unfair barriers in accessing services.
- Update on Housing Asset Management Plan, to address recommendations from audit commission regarding Housing Asset Management Plan.

Panel Contacts 2009/10

Chairman: Cllr Achilleas Georgiou
Chamberlain

Vice Chairman: Cllr Lee

Corporate Scrutiny Officer: Colin Pullen

Democratic Services Secretary: Stephen Addison Tel: 0208 379 4097

Full details of the panels full work programme and completed reviews are available on the website www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Young People's Life Opportunities Commission

Cllr Martin Prescott (Chairman)



Other members of the Commission:

Cllr Doug Taylor (Vice Chair)

Cllr Annette Dreblow

Cllr Elaine Hayward

Cllr Kate Anolue

Cllr Yasemin Brett

Co-optees:

Adrian Hanstock (Police Borough Commander), Emma Stevenson (Head of Commissioning Children's Health, Enfield Primary Care Trust, Ian Lucas (Headteacher- The Gladys Aylward School), Marva Rollins (Headteacher Raynham Primary school)

In early 2008 there were unfortunately several incidents in Enfield that resulted in the deaths of 5 young people. This prompted Council to commission scrutiny to undertake a review to look at what could be done to improve young peoples life opportunities. The aim was to make a real difference to the chances young people have in their lives and their ability to take those chances.

London Metropolitan University were appointed to assist with this work and to provide an independent prospective.

The engagement of young people was key to this work. The Commission decided that it needed to talk with as many young people about their experiences of life in Enfield as possible, it was evident that the young people that the Commission needed to hear from would not be easy to reach.

Different methods were used to engage with as many young people as possible from one to one conversations, small groups, visits to the service, community events and meetings including the following:

- An all day event involving 60 6th Formers from the schools and colleges
- An Edmonton community event involving community representatives and elders
- Attending a session at Edmonton Eagles Boxing club talking to the staff and club members
- A visit to the Youth Offending service to meet with young offenders and their families including sitting in on the Panels in operation there
- A visit to the Hanlon Centre which is a drop in centre for adults with mental health issues and also provides gym equipment for young people to talk to both the staff and service users
- A visit to the Enfield Secondary Tuition Centre and Fresh Start provision talking to staff and excluded pupils and observing lessons
- An event at Craig Park Youth Centre involving youth club members and youth workers
- A meeting with the members of the Youth Engagement Panel

ENFIELD SCRUTINY

Serving the people

- Individual meetings with the families of two young murder victims
- A well attended Community Event which community members both requested and helped organise involving both young people and adults, parents or carers discussing their concerns together.

The Commission has also heard evidence from the key service providers and talked with some of the staff delivering the services, some of them Council services, some partner agencies and some provided by the community.

The views of young people and adults who live, work, study and do business in Enfield have informed the findings and recommendations of the Commission.

The draft report is due to be produced by the end of April.

Contact Details

Chairman: Cllr Martin Prescott: Vice Chairman: Cllr Doug Taylor

Corporate Scrutiny Officer: Mike Ahuja

Democratic Services Secretary: Felicity Parker Tel: 0208 379 4073

Full details of the completed review will shortly be available on the website www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

The Public: Getting Involved

Scrutiny needs the support and involvement of local people, service partners and community groups to ensure it continues to function effectively and welcomes contributions in any of the following ways:

- Suggesting suitable topics for a future Scrutiny investigation; or
- Getting involved in reviews on particular subjects under Scrutiny
- Visit www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

It should be noted however that Scrutiny's role is not to deal with individual queries, concerns or complaints. These types of issues need to be referred onto the relevant Department, Ward Councillors, dealt with through the Council's complaint procedure or raised at Area Forums.

We would welcome your views and comments on Scrutiny and on the content of this report. If you would like to know more about the scrutiny function please refer to the contact information provided.

Contact:

Mike Ahuja: Head of Corporate Scrutiny Services

Tel no : 020 8379 5044

Mike.Ahuja@enfield.gov.uk

Alternatively you can contact us via the Scrutiny page on the Council's website:
www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Or

Email: scrutiny@enfield.gov.uk

Individual contact are also listed on the individual Scrutiny Panel pages.

Appendix A: Scrutiny- Some Key Statistics

In 2008/09 Scrutiny Committees have:

- Held over 80 meetings, including Public and working group meetings.
- 46 different councillors served on the 6 main Scrutiny Panels
- Called- in 7 Executive decisions. Of these 2 resulted in the decision being referred back for reconsideration with 1 (shopmobility in Enfield Town) amended by Cabinet as a result. The other 5 resulted in the original decision being reconfirmed, although these were subject to various conditions that have been monitored throughout the year.
- Sent 3 in depth reviews to Cabinet for consideration. These will be monitored by the scrutiny tracking system.
- Received evidence from over 50 non-Enfield Council witnesses and stakeholders, including a wide range of young people and community groups linked to the Young People's Life Opportunities Commission.
- Examined the budget proposals for each Council Group and submitted comments to Cabinet.
- Visited various community facilities and front line services including allotment sites, Registered Social Landlord housing schemes, primary health care facilities, Metropolitan Police Call Centre, primary schools, a range of diversionary youth activities and residential care homes.

Appendix B: Engagement of Community/Stakeholders Giving Evidence in 2008/09

Every care has been taken to ensure that all organisations that were involved with scrutiny have been listed. We apologise if any has been omitted your contributions are still very much appreciated.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age Concern • Allotment site secretaries • Alzheimers society • Barnet & Chase Farm Hospital trust • Barnet, Enfield & Haringey Mental Health Trust • Christian Action Housing • Centre for Public Scrutiny • CIDA • Circle Anglia HA • Carey Hall Nursery • Chance UK • Craig Park Youth Club • Croyland Pre School • Dazu • Edmonton Eagles Boxing Club • Edmonton Advice & Service Development Bureau • Enfield Children & Young People Services • Enfield College • Enfield Community Empowerment Network • Enfield Community Police Partnership • Enfield Disability Action • Enfield LINK • Enfield Mental Health Users • Enfield Parent Partnership • Enfield Pupil Referral Unit • Enfield Over 50's Forum • Enfield Racial Equality Council • Enfield Primary Care Trust • Enfield Victim Support • Enfield Voluntary Action • Faber Maunsell Consultants • Fairtrade Steering Group • Faith Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federation of Enfield Community Associations • Federation of Enfield Residents' Allied Associations • Friends of the Parks Groups • Greek and Greek Cypriot Council of England • LB Hammersmith & Fulham • Hanlon Centre • Highlands Village Nursery • Kongolese Childrens Association • Landlords Association • Learning & skills Council • London & Quadrant HA • Metropolitan Housing Association • Metropolitan Police • Metropolitan Police Authority • North Middlesex University Hospital Trust • Oak Tree Care Services • Park Avenue Pre School • Parkinson's Disease Society • Probation Service • Raynham Childrens Centre • Ruff Diamond • Sort It! Lifeline • St Giles Trust • Staff and pupils from Southgate College, Enfield College, Edmonton County, Lea Valley, Highlands, Winchmore & Turin Grove Schools • Stoke Action • St Thomas Nursery • Unison • Voluntary Sector Health & Social Care Group • Youth Assembly & Engagement Panel • Youth Offending Service
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MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010 REPORT NO. **19**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:
CABINET - 17 June 2009

COUNCIL - 01 July 2009

JOINT REPORT OF:

Director of Place Shaping & Enterprise
 Director of Finance & Corporate
 Resources

Contact Officers:

Darren Welsh, extn 4250, DDI 8379 4250

Email: Darren.welsh@enfield.gov.uk

Fiona Peacock, extn 5033 DDI 8379 5033

Email: Fiona.peacock@enfield.gov.uk

Agenda – Part: 1
Item: 13
SUBJECT:
Housing Revenue Account- Amended Rent Increase
ALL WARDS

 CABINET MEMBERS CONSULTED: CLLR MATTHEW LABAN
 CLLR ERTAN HURER

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Cabinet is asked to approve the amended level of rents to be operative with effect from 6th April 2009 for Council tenants and the amendments to HRA budgets to reflect this.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the guideline rents for 2009/10 be increased by 3.1% only in line with amended government guidance. This will result in an average increase of 2.85% for Enfield tenants. This amends the rent increase agreed at Cabinet (11 February 2009) and Council (25 February 2009) whereby guideline rents were increased by 6.2%. This resulted in an average rent increase of 5.74% for tenants for 2009/10 effective from 6 April 2009.
- 2.2 That the weekly reduction in actual rents as outlined above (which is an average of £2.30 per tenant for 2009/10) be backdated to 6 April 2009.
- 2.3 That the HRA budget be amended to reflect these changes.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Each year the Council is required by law to set the level of rents for Council dwellings for the forthcoming financial year after consultation with tenants. This decision was taken at Cabinet and Council and all tenants were consulted. The 2009/10 Government subsidy determinations were based on an average increase of 6.2% applied to the 2008/09 guideline rent.
- 3.2 Since 2003/04 Enfield rents have been calculated using the formula based on the market value of the property, average earnings for London manual workers and the national average council rent. The formula also takes account of the number of bedrooms in the property. Government also said no rent should increase by more than £2 per week after adjustment for the annual guideline increase set by Government.
- 3.3 The rents for 2009/10 were set in accordance with Government's policy. This resulted in an average rent increase of 5.74% for tenants and this was implemented from 6 April 2009.

4. AMENDING DETERMINATION

- 4.1 The Government decided to amend their guidelines on the 2009/10 rent increase. However this happened after the Cabinet and Council decisions and after the notification of the increase to tenants. The CLG asked all councils to consider reducing the level of the increase and base it on the government guideline increase of 3.1% rather than 6.2%
- 4.2 This proposal was sent to all councils in April. The Council responded and said that it would consider implementing the reduction providing there were no financial implications and the proposal was cost neutral. The proposal will make the following amendments to the budgets.

	£ original	£ adjustment	£ amended budget
HRA subsidy repaid	10,173,870	1,423,090	8,750,780
Rent Income from dwellings	51,410,350	1,360,570	50,049,780
Total impact		62,520	

As can be seen from the table above the impact on the council's HRA budgets was favourable.

- 4.3 In addition the CLG indicated it would contribute to general fund costs of revising the rents, estimated to be £60k.
- 4.4 In line with DWP advice, the Housing Benefit overpayment should be netted off against the rent reduction, meaning the authority will receive 100% subsidy against the net amount. No overpayment will need to be recovered as it will be posted directly against the rent account where the rent reduction will be held.

In terms of the Government Return for HB Subsidy this will show as technical Overpayments and these will be netted against the Overall HRA HB expenditure.

5. PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW RENT AND OTHER CHARGES FOR 2009/10

- 5.1 There will be no change to the services charges or to any of the other charges agreed in the original rent setting report.
- 5.2 Appendix 1 gives indicative rents and shows the potential reductions for tenants. The average rent for 2009/10 will now be £81.32.
- 5.3 The formula rents regime sets upper limits on rents for different sized properties. The revised caps on weekly rents are as follows:

6-bed	£147.23
5-bed	£140.53
4-bed	£133.85
3-bed	£127.16
2-bed	£120.46
1-bed & bedsits	£113.77

In cases where the formula rent exceeds the cap level the formula rent is set at the cap level and the actual rent will be moved in stages to the cap level.

- 5.4 A communications plan has been agreed with Enfield Homes, who will act as the first point of contact with tenants. All tenants will receive a rent variation notification letter together with an amended rent notice to make payments. The Council will work closely with FECA and Enfield Homes to provide information on the changes and the Enfield Homes contact centre will be provided with frequently asked questions to respond to any queries from tenants. The Enfield Homes and Enfield Council websites, Housing News, and the press will be used to make sure that tenants are fully informed of the changes and have access to good quality information.
- 5.5 The Council is waiting for further information from its Housing System supplier, Northgate, to confirm the likely implementation dates for the backdated adjustment to the rent accounts. Experience from other local authorities indicates that the changes required are significant and may take around 3 months to fully implement because all of the approximately 11,000 rent accounts on the housing system need to be completely updated, including direct debits and standing orders, and related changes will also need to be made to the Council's housing benefits system.
- 5.6 There will be no impact for tenants on full housing benefit. Tenants on full or part rebated rent will receive a rent credit on their rent account.

6. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

An alternative was considered, this was not reducing the rents in line with amended Government guidelines. This was discounted since the Government was offering to fully fund the reduction.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the implications of the alternatives mentioned in para 6, it is recommended to reduce rents in line with Government guidance.

8. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

8.1 Financial Implications

The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Chief Finance Officer to report on the robustness of estimates and the adequacy of proposed financial reserves.

It is the view of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources that the revised HRA budget is robust and that the balances held are prudent. However, Members will note that a balanced HRA over the medium term is only achieved by assuming significant savings. Action is being taken to reduce costs and achieve savings necessary to maintain a balanced HRA. The HRA Business Plan has been revised and will be updated regularly.

8.2 Legal Implications

Under the Housing Act 1985, as amended by section 162 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 a local authority is to decide on the rent they charge their tenants. Such charge must be reasonable for the tenancy or occupation of the house. The authority is required to review rents and make changes, as circumstances require. There is no methodology laid out for assessment of rents, but the law requires that the rent of houses of any class of description to bear broadly the same proportion to private sector rents. In addition, in preparing the budget for the HRA, all authorities are required to estimate as accurately as possible the total level of income that they need to raise from rents.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

This report proposes a reduced rent increase in line with amended government guidance. In the light of the government's offer to fully fund the reduction, the main risk associated with this proposal would be to the Council's reputation if the change is not implemented.

10. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Setting a balanced budget for 2009/10 should enable the HRA performance targets to be met.

11. COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Providing high quality housing continues to be a priority. Residents' views were sought on the proposed budget as detailed under Putting Enfield First. Rents are set in line with Government guidance and an increase of 2.85% is low when compared to a number of other London boroughs.

12. PUTTING ENFIELD FIRST

In developing the rent proposals for 2009/10 two meetings were specifically arranged to seek residents views. In addition, officers attended Community Housing Partnership (CHP) gatherings in the three housing districts in order to widen tenant involvement. The Tenant Involvement Unit is continuing to develop training for tenants on a range of issues. This consultation and training is consistent with the vision of:

- Quality health and care services for vulnerable people in Enfield
- Supporting the delivery of excellent services
- Economically successful and socially inclusive
- Improving quality of life in Enfield

Background papers:	Where located:	Contact:
Director of Finance & Corporate Resources Dept	Fiona Peacock	
Resources Working Papers	4 th floor, CC	extrn 5033
DCLG Subsidy and Item 8 determinations	“	“
HRA Business Plan		

APPENDIX 1

LB ENFIELD AVERAGE RENTS 2009-10			
	Bedroom size	Actual - original	Actual - amending
		£	£
Bungalows	2	88.21	85.80
Houses	2	88.15	85.74
	3	97.65	94.96
	4	109.26	106.27
Flats – low rise	1	74.40	72.36
	2	85.48	83.14
Flats – high rise	1	67.49	65.64
	2	80.37	78.16
Maisonettes – low rise	2	82.86	80.59
Maisonettes – high rise	2	78.68	76.52
Bedsits		66.29	64.48

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010 REPORT NO. 31**MEETING TITLE AND DATE:**

Council
1 July 2009

REPORT OF:

Director of Finance & Corporate
Resources

Contact officer and telephone number:
John Austin
0208 379 4094

Agenda - Part: 1	Item: 15
Subject: Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 ("The 2007 Act")	
Wards: All	
Cabinet Member consulted: Cllr Rye	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 ("the 2007 Act") gives effect to the Government's proposals for reform of the local government system in England and Wales and, for the reform of the current arrangements for patient and public involvement in the provision of health and social care services. This Act follows on from the responses gathered to the Government's White Paper 'Strong and Prosperous Communities'. The 2007 Act places a mandatory duty on Local Authorities to adopt one of two new forms of executive model.
- 1.2 A report was taken to the Constitution Review Group (CRG) that supported the Leader and Cabinet Model and the adoption of the power to remove the Leader.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Council is asked to review the options in respect of the new executive arrangements and to indicate its preferred option.
- 2.2 Council is asked to confirm whether, if the Leader and Cabinet model is the preferred option, it would also require the adoption of the power to remove the leader prior to the expiry of the term of office.
- 2.3 Council is asked to confirm that the extent and type of consultation being undertaken is acceptable.

- 2.4 Council is asked to agree that the meeting specially convened to pass a resolution following the consultation take place on the same night as the 11th November meeting of full council with a suggestion that the first meeting starts at 7.00 pm and the second meeting commences on the rising of the first meeting.

3. BACKGROUND

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (“the 2007 Act”) was enacted in October 2007 and aimed to strengthen public engagement in local affairs and health. While the 2007 Act details a number of issues including Byelaws, Single Member Wards and the creation of Parish Councils within London Authorities this report deals only with the new Executive Arrangements (Section 4 of the 2007 Act).

4. NEW EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Background

- 4.1 The Local Government Act 2000 (“the 2000 Act”) provided for three forms of executive arrangements. The Government intends to encourage directly elected leadership and Part 3 of the 2007 Act provides for the discontinuance of the three forms of executive and rewrites the 2000 Act introducing 2 choices of executive model: a leader (new-style) and cabinet executive - or mayor and cabinet.
- 4.2 Councils, such as Enfield, already having a Leader and Cabinet executive must choose a new form of executive albeit that this may consist of a leader and cabinet executive under the new provisions. The obligation to choose a new executive is effected by a resolution of the Council that must be passed, in the case of London Boroughs by 31st December 2009 for implementation post May 2010 local elections.
- 4.3 The Act provides for the general procedure that must be followed in drawing up proposals for a change in governance arrangements, including a referendum where required and consultation of the public and other interested persons on the proposals. A resolution must then be passed to make the proposed change. In addition, provision is also made regarding the implementation of the change.

New Style Leader and Cabinet Executive Key Features

- 4.4 Where whole Council elections are used, as in Enfield, the Council members will elect a councillor as leader for a four year term. The Leader can be removed after consideration by full Council, but only if power to remove a leader is adopted. Although this model is broadly the same as that which Enfield is currently operating, the Council must make proposals if it is to adopt this form of executive under the Act and

vary the arrangements so that they differ from the existing arrangements.

- 4.5 As indicated, the Leader can be removed by the local authority before the end of the term of office if its executive arrangements so provide. It will therefore be necessary for the Council to adopt this power if it so requires and this will need to form part of the proposals.

Mayor and Cabinet Executive Key Features

- 4.6 A Mayor directly elected by the local electors will appoint two or more Councillors to the executive. In this form of executive, the Mayor cannot be unelected. This would represent a change to the form of the current executive arrangements. An elected mayor is not a Councillor. He or she does not have an electoral ward to represent and would operate full time as mayor.
- 4.7 The ceremonial role of the Mayor will continue as a separate function and by a separate person to the directly elected Mayor. It is likely that each role will be given a different name to ensure that no confusion is caused to the public.

Common Features

- 4.8 Both the New-Style Leader or Mayor will initially hold all the Council's executive functions under their personal control. The head of the executive (whether New-Style Leader or Mayor), will be responsible for appointing and removing members to the Cabinet (between 2 and 9 members) from the elected councillors and for determining their roles. He or she will also decide which executive functions are delegated to local committees. Members of the executive may be appointed or dismissed at any time during the four year term of the Council, allowing for flexibility to react to changing needs of the Borough.
- 4.9 The Leader or Mayor must appoint a deputy who will hold office until the end of the mayor's / leader's term, but a deputy can be removed or replaced mid-term by the Leader or the Mayor.

Timetable For Implementing New Executive Arrangements

- 4.10 See attached Schedule 1

Consultation Process

- 4.11 The Council is obliged, prior to drawing up proposals to consult with the public on the executive arrangements. This may include consulting on a preferred option. Schedule 2 sets out in detail the consultation process and timetable to which the Council will be working and the format of the suggested consultation. However it is envisaged that the consultation will be on the Internet first on 3 July 2009. In addition, the

Area Forums will be consulted, hard copies of the consultation will appear in the Libraries and an Article will appear in Our Enfield on 17 August with a follow up in September 2009.

Schedule 3 of this report includes the draft wording for the website and paper consultation.

Transitional Period

- 4.12 Schedule 4 of the Act (Part 1, s.2) states that the Local Authority, if they are operating an old-style leader and cabinet executive like Enfield, can continue with this form of executive in the transitional period.
- 4.13 The transitional period is the period from 30 December 2007 (that is when s. 62 (5) came into force) to the third day after the day of the relevant elections. "Relevant elections" means the first ordinary elections of councillors of the local authority after the end of the permitted resolution period i.e. the elections in May 2010.

Drawing Up Proposals

- 4.14 The Council must consider the extent to which the proposal would be likely to assist in securing continuous improvements in the exercise of its functions, having regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 4.15 The Local Authority must draw up proposals for change including a timetable for implementation of the proposals and details of any transitional arrangements, which are necessary for the implementation of the proposal.
- 4.16 If the proposed change is a different form of executive i.e. a change from a leader to an elected Mayor, the proposals may provide for the change in governance arrangements to be subject to approval in a referendum.

Extraordinary Meeting

- 4.17 Any resolution to make the change in governance arrangements must be passed at a meeting that is specially convened for the purpose of deciding the resolution. It must also be during the permitted resolution period, which for London Boroughs is the **period ending 31 December 2009**. In accordance with Enfield's constitution any changes to the constitution have to be taken to Full Council for a decision.

It is proposed that this meeting is held before the ordinary Council meeting scheduled to take place on 11 November 2009 with a possible start time of 7.00 p.m.

- 4.18 The council will be required to agree a timetable with respect to the implementation of the proposals.

Post resolution

- 4.19 The new executive must be in place by third day after the day of the relevant elections, which in Enfield's case will be 11 May 2010 (the election being on 6 May 2010).
- 4.20 After drawing up proposals the local authority must: publish a document setting out proposals; publish a notice in the newspaper stating that the resolution has been made and the date when the new arrangements will begin; ensure that copies of a document setting out proposals are available at reasonable times at the civic centre for the public to inspect; and, publish a notice in one or more local papers that the proposals are available for inspection.

Changes to the Constitution

- 4.21 Following the resolution on which form of executive to adopt, there will be changes to the constitution that must also be approved by full council.

Election of Leader

- 4.22 The election of the Executive Leader would be at the first annual meeting of a local authority following elections, but if it fails to elect a leader then at a subsequent meeting of the Council.

Election of Mayor

- 4.23 A mayor would be elected at the council elections in May 2010.

Increased Members Powers – Now In Force

- 4.24 Prior to the introduction of Executive arrangements, it was not possible to delegate any matter to a single member. Since the 2000 Act this has been possible but only within the executive. One of the purposes of this Act is to enhance the role of individual members.
- 4.25 Subject to provisions that may be made by the Secretary of State excluding certain functions, this section allows the delegation to individual members of functions so far as they relate to their division or ward – that is “all the duties and powers of a local authority, the sum total of the activities Parliament has entrusted to it¹”
- 4.26 The Mayor or Leader has the power to delegate executive functions, but they cannot use this power if the member in question is a member of the executive to whom the power could be delegated under the 2000 Act.

¹ HL, *Hazell v Hammersmith and Fulham* RLBC [1992] A.C 1 p29

- 4.27 This is a discretionary matter for the executive to take a decision on. It is not time limited and under the new arrangements it will be for the new leader/mayor to delegate matters.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The Council has no alternative but to adopt one or other of the new executive arrangements.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To note the proposals in the Act, particularly the Executive arrangements and to recommend a preferred option for public consultation.

7. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

7.1 Financial Implications

The proposals will be met from existing resources.

7.2 Legal Implications

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 imposes a duty on the Council to move to one of the two executive arrangements proposed and to engage the local community in the consultation process. This will therefore meet the obligations contained in the Act.

7.3 Property Implications

None.

7.4 Risk Management Implications

- 7.4.1 Clearly the main risk to the Council would lie in not implementing this legislation as the Council has no alternative but to adopt one or other of the new executive arrangements.

- 7.4.2 There are however some practical considerations that do need to be addressed: Should the New Style Leader option be adopted, it would not be possible for full Council to remove the leader unless the power to remove is adopted. Also, it is essential to monitor progress so that the preferred option is in place for May 2010.

8. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Adopting one of the two new forms of the executive model will have a direct impact on the wider objectives set out in the Council's Business and Improvement Plan:

- Aim 5e - provide effective community leadership and promote active citizenship and involvement in decision-making.
- Aim 5g - ensure the Council maintains strong corporate governance in line with more demanding legislative requirements.

9. COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Positive Impact

- 9.1 Under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Council is required to adopt one of two new forms of executive model – Members of the public will be given the opportunity to give their views on the preferred option during the mandatory consultation period.
- 9.2 If the Council decides to put in place new arrangements for the governance of its area at community level ie parish councils, this would result in more empowerment and decision-making being transferred to local people. Members of the community can initiate a review of community governance by petitioning the Council, but the authority will make the final decision.

Background Papers

Published Papers

SCHEDULE 1

TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS

July 2009

Council meeting on 1 July 2009

Consultation process to begin on Friday 3rd July 2009 and continue for a period of 15 weeks until 16 October 2009.

October 2009 – December 2009

Review results of the Consultation

Report to be prepared to go to Constitution Review Group on 20 October 2009 and full Council on 11 November 2009

Resolution to be passed by **31 December 2009**.

SCHEDULE 2

CONSULTATION PROCESS

Guidance and good practice dictates that we must consult for a minimum of 12 weeks and it is proposed to do this for a 15 week period between 3rd July and 16th October 2009 following the Council meeting on 1st July.

- The form of wording for the Consultation document is attached at Schedule 3.

The Council must determine those groups it wishes to consult being some or all of residents, Members, the Voluntary and Community Sectors and Strategic Partners. It should be noted that the Act requires the Council to “take reasonable steps to consult the local government electors for, and other interested persons in, the Authority’s area”. Accordingly, although it appears unnecessary to consult with all of the aforementioned groups, the Council may nonetheless opt to do this.

It is proposed to consult the electorate and other interested persons using the following methods:

- Questionnaire on Council’s website.
- Publication in the August issue of ‘Our Enfield’ magazine, which is delivered to households on August 17th ; the preferred format and content of the magazine is to be agreed. The editorial deadline for the August edition is 17th July. A shorter, follow-up article, reminding readers of the consultation and the deadline for responses, will feature in the September edition which will be delivered to households on 21st September 2009.
- Consultation at the following Area Forum meetings (hard copy questionnaires to be made available).
 - Tuesday 14 July - Chase, Southbury and Town
 - Wednesday 15 July - Edmonton Green, Haselbury and Upper Edmonton
 - Wednesday 22 July - Enfield Highway, Enfield Lock and Turkey Street
 - Tuesday 8 September - Cockfosters, Grange and Highlands
 - Wednesday 30 September - Jubilee, Lower Edmonton and Ponders End
 - Tuesday 13 October - Bowes, Southgate and Southgate Green
 - Thursday 15 October - Bush Hill Park, Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill

- Hard copies of the questionnaire will be provided at the Area Forums and at the main libraries and civic offices. (Freepost will be included for returning questionnaires.)
- Memo to partners/stakeholders,
- Consultation with the Council's strategic partners, the Voluntary and Community sector and race forum.

Hard copy responses will be sent to Democratic Services who will input and collate information. The consultation will include an equal opportunities form but copies in additional languages will not be provided.

Draft Consultation Document

For help with this document, call 020 8379 5119, minicom 020 8379 5119 or email enfield.council@enfield.gov.uk

Have Your Say On How The Council Takes Decisions

New governance arrangements for Enfield - Consultation

Why are we consulting now?

Under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Council is required to make changes to its current governance arrangements (the way in which the Council is run and takes decisions). It is therefore important that the views of local residents and other interested parties help inform the final decision as to which new governance model Enfield Council should adopt in future.

How the council currently works

Enfield has 63 locally elected councillors (who are also known as 'Members') from 21 wards, that is three members in each ward. The councillors are elected to make decisions to improve local services on behalf of local people.

Since May 2002, Enfield has operated a Cabinet and Leader model of decision-making. We were one of the first councils to modernise our decision making process. The Cabinet is made up of 8 councillors, plus the Leader, from the leading political party in the borough.

Enfield has a Ceremonial Mayor. The Mayor chairs full Council meetings and has a ceremonial role opening events or otherwise representing the Council as a whole.

Cabinet members are given powers to agree matters within their own portfolio areas.

What are the new proposals?

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires Councils to choose between one of two models:

Option 1 - Leader and Cabinet

This is similar to the council's current arrangements whereby the Leader of the Council is elected by full Council (This is a meeting of all the 63 Councillors from the 21 Wards in Enfield). However, under the new proposal the Leader will be elected for a four-year term rather than being elected annually. The Leader will be able to appoint up to nine other Councillors, including a deputy leader who will form the Cabinet. Currently Cabinet is appointed by full Council. Full Council will have the power to remove the Leader from office.

Option 2 - Directly elected Mayor and Cabinet

This is an alternative form of Leadership in which a Mayor would be directly elected by voters for a four-year term. An elected Mayor is not a Councillor and does not necessarily have to be a member of a political party. He or she does not have an electoral ward to represent and would operate full time as Mayor. The Cabinet would consist of up to 9 elected councillors, chosen by the Mayor.

The Council's preferred option is ?????.

Have your say....

We would like to hear your views on how Enfield Council should be run in the future.

Please tell us what you think by completing our short questionnaire. [Click the link below to access the questionnaire:](#)
Questionnaire

The Council will consider the results of this consultation when deciding which of the two options for new executive arrangement will be adopted in Enfield at a specially convened Full Council meeting to be held on 11 November 2009.

If you would like further information about the consultation on New Governance Arrangements please email Stephen Addison or telephone 020 8379 4097

The closing date is 16 October 2009.



For help with this document, call 020 8379 5119, minicom 020 8379 5119 or email enfield.council@enfield.gov.uk

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010 REPORT NO. 32

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

COUNCIL – 1 July 2009

REPORT OF:

Director of Finance & Corporate Resources

Agenda – Part: 1**Item: 16****Subject:**

Proposed changes to the Council's Constitution

Wards: Not ward specific

Contact officer and telephone number:

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report sets out proposed changes to the Council's Constitution agreed by the Constitution Review Group (CRG) at their meeting on 10 June 2009. The issues considered by CRG and the recommendations to Council are highlighted below.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

To approve the following changes to the Council's Constitution:

- 2.1 That the proposed changes to the Conservation Advisory Group (CAG) membership as detailed in paragraph 3.1.1 be approved.
- 2.2 That the proposed new Terms of Reference and change of name to the Tourism & Town Twinning Working Party be approved.
- 2.3 To approve an administrative change in the Constitution in respect of the Licensing Committee, by removing the 'title' of Licensing Panel and confirming that all licensing matters will continue to be discharged by the Licensing Committee, including the delegation to the Licensing Sub Committee.
- 2.4 To approve to the merger of the Constitution Review Group and the Members Service Working Group, with revised Terms of Reference and to agree that the group be renamed the Governance Working Group.
- 2.5 To agree the abolition of the Local Joint Group as a standing body, to be replaced by a steering group of 5 members (3 nominated by the majority and 2 by the opposition parties) who would be available to meet with trade union representatives in the event that a dispute over a corporate issue relating to terms and conditions were to arise which could not be resolved at officer level.

3. BACKGROUND

The Constitution Review Group considered the following issues at its meeting on 10 June 2009.

3.1 Restructuring of the Membership of Conservation Advisory Group (CAG)

3.1.1 Approval is sought to support a change in the CAG membership to allow reallocation of up to six unoccupied places from the national amenity societies and regional organisations to conservation area study groups representing new conservation areas designated by Cabinet on 5th November 2008 and any further conservation areas created under Phase III of the current review, subject to the total number of co opted members not increasing from that presently existing.

3.1.2 The reason for the recommendation is to ensure that the Council continues to meet guidance and best practice in the ongoing management of its conservation areas and to ensure CAG remains fully able to fulfil its remit in this regard.

3.1.3. The proposal is consistent with the Enfield First objectives, particularly Aim 5, 'Supporting the delivery of excellent services' and 5e) to 'Provide effective community leadership and promote active citizenship and involvement in decision making'.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the proposed changes to the Conservation Advisory Group (CAG) membership be approved.

3.2 Twinning Working Party

3.2.1 Approval is sought to approve a change of name and terms of reference to the above working party. At its meeting on 28 April 2009 the group agreed a need to change its name and terms of reference. Members wished to maximise the opportunities posed by the Olympics and combat the challenges of the current economic climate. An Officer has been appointed to work with international partnerships through Town Twinning and to develop tourism services within the borough. Members would like a working group to act as the overseer and developer of these issues and to bring social and regeneration benefits to the borough.

3.2.2 The recommended changes are as follows:

Town Twinning Working Party - current constitution

35. Twinning Working Party

MEMBERSHIP

Three majority party councillors and three opposition party councillors

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To oversee, co-ordinate, develop and champion the Council's Twinning Activities, including agreeing the annual programme of events and monitoring the budget. Any necessary decisions arising from the meeting of the Working Party will be made as operational decisions by the Director of Finance & Corporate Resources.

Proposed new constitution and change of name

Tourism & Town Twinning Working Party

MEMBERSHIP

Three majority party councillors and three opposition party councillors

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Champion the borough as a tourist destination within London. Oversee and coordinate the development of sustainable tourism services for the borough to maximise inward investment, promotional and regeneration opportunities such as the 2012 Games.

To oversee, co-ordinate, develop and champion the Council's Twinning Activities, including agreeing the annual programme of events and monitoring the budget.

Any necessary decisions arising from the meeting of the Working Party will be made in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation. The membership can call upon local organisations for input to help meet their objectives as and when is required.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the proposed new constitution and change of name to the Tourism & Town Twinning Working Party be approved.

3.3 Licensing Committee

3.3.1 Approval is sought to agree an administrative change to the Constitution in respect of the Licensing Committee.

3.3.2 The Licensing Committee and Licensing Panel are in fact a single entity, which has merely operated under two separate titles. Licensing Sub-Committees have discharged all licensing functions delegated to them by the Committee Panel with no adverse operational consequences.

3.3.3 The administrative change sought is to simply remove the 'title' of Licensing Panel and to confirm that all licensing matters will continue to be discharged by the Licensing Committee, including the delegation to the Licensing Sub Committee as referred to above

RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL to approve the administrative change by removing the 'title' of Licensing Panel and confirming that all licensing matters will continue to be discharged by the Licensing Committee, including the delegation to the Licensing Sub Committee

3.4 Merger of the Constitution Review Group and the Members Service Working Group.

3.4.1 Approval is sought to merge these working groups with the following terms of reference:

MEMBERSHIP

5 Members of the Council, which may include Cabinet members.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

(i) To oversee and co-ordinate the new political management arrangements and the agenda for democratic renewal in Enfield and to make recommendations to the full Council.

(ii) To consider issues and develop proposals in relation to all aspects of member support, including:

- administrative support
- research and Members' enquiries
- support to Cabinet & Scrutiny Chairmen
- accommodation
- training and development
- Members' allowances

RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL that the group is renamed the Governance Working Group with Terms of Reference as above.

3.5 Review of Local Joint Group

3.5.1 The Local Joint Group (LJG) was originally established to provide a forum for consultation and negotiation between the Council and its employees on corporate issues and for the resolution of disputes when these arose.

3.5.2 Since the LJG was originally established changes in employment law have placed many obligations on employers to consult directly with their employees over a wide range of issues as well as establishing statutory procedures for the resolution of disputes.

3.5.3 In addition the maintenance of good employee relations, which is primarily an officer responsibility, has resulted in all of the meetings of the Local Joint Group scheduled over the past 2 years being cancelled because neither the trade union nor Members side had any issues of principle to raise.

3.5.4 Consequently it is proposed to abolish the Local Joint Group as a standing body and replace it with a steering group of 5 Members (3 nominated by the majority and 2 by the opposition parties) who would be available to meet with trade unions representatives in the event that a dispute over a corporate issue relating to terms and conditions were to arise which could not be resolved at officer level.

3.5.5 This proposal has been discussed with and is acceptable to the trade unions

3.5.6 The cycle of regular monthly meetings between officers and trade union representative will continue to take place.

RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL the abolition of the Local Joint Group as a standing body, to be replaced by a steering group of 5 members (3 nominated by the majority and 2 by the opposition parties) who would be available to meet with trade union representatives in the event that a dispute over a corporate issue relating to terms and conditions were to arise which could not be resolved at officer level.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To agree recommended changes to the Constitution.

5. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

5.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

5.2 Legal Implications

The Constitution sets out how the Council operates within legal requirements.

It is necessary to review the documents periodically to reflect changes in circumstances or to introduce more effective working practices as evidenced in the recommendations.

6. PUTTING ENFIELD FIRST

Aim 5 – Provide high quality and efficient services.

Background Papers

None

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COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS
1 JULY 2009

Question 1 from Councillor G Savva to Councillor Kaye, Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture, Olympics 2012 and Voluntary Sector

Why is there not a library service for the infants of Haselbury School at a time when the mobile library stops for one hour but there is not provision for the infants.

What steps has he taken to ensure that the library service gives equal access and opportunity to the community apart from closing them?

Reply from Councillor Kaye:

"The mobile library stops at Haselbury Junior School every Monday afternoon from 2.30-3.45pm. Although on a school site any member of the public is welcome to use the mobile library while it is there. Haselbury Infant School is catered for as the site specifically allows access to the mobile library for three schools, Haselbury Junior School, Haselbury Infant School and West Lea School.

With regard to equality of access Enfield is well served by public libraries. We have the second highest number of branch libraries in London and statistics show that 99% of the Enfield population are within a mile of a branch library or mobile library stop. One mile is the standard for community access by which libraries are measured nationally. (Statistics are taken from CIPFA Public Library Actuals 2007-08, the latest published edition)

The mobile library timetable is kept under constant review and can be flexible to meet service priorities."

Question 2 from Councillor John Boast to Councillor Michael Rye, Leader of the Council

"Would the Leader of the Council confirm the number of votes cast for each party in the European Election on 4 June and comment on this result?"

Reply from Councillor Rye:

"The number of votes cast for each party in the European election on 4th June were

Conservative	20,345	31.1% of the votes cast
Labour	15,385	23.5% of the vote cast
UKIP	7,916	12.1% of the vote cast
Green	5,876	8.9% of the vote cast
Lib Dem	5,398	8.2% of the vote cast

BNP 3,145 4.8% of the vote cast

Total number of votes cast 65,439

Turnout 33.15%

This result demonstrated a collapse of the Labour party vote of well below any reasonable threshold set by their own party and suggests that Gordon Brown was extremely fortunate to survive the coup from among his own ranks.

The sooner the country has a general election and the opportunity to choose a new Conservative government, the better it will be for all residents of the London Borough of Enfield.”

Question 3 from Councillor Tony Dey to Councillor Laban, Cabinet Member for Housing and Community Safety

“What has been the results and outcome following the use of ANR (Automatic Number Recognition) system in the borough?”

Reply from Councillor Laban:

“Enfield Council secured £300k from the Home Office last year for the installation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) CCTV cameras at the locations of significant major trunk roads within Enfield (seven sites). These cameras capture vehicle and number plate details from passing vehicles and match them with information contained on the police national computer system, in particular for lost and stolen vehicles (LOS), alerting the CCTV operators of a "hit" on the system. CCTV operators then check the images to confirm number plate match before alerting the Metropolitan Police of the hit alert who will agree and authorise resources for intercepting the vehicle.

Since October 2008 when the ANPR sites started operating up to May this year, the use of ANPR cameras has led to the recovery of 38 vehicles totalling an approximate value of £360,700 and has resulted in 87 arrests. These arrests are not just for stealing vehicles but also for other offences such as driving whilst disqualified and handling stolen goods.

Another six potential ANPR sites have been identified and costed in preparation for placing in other parts of the borough to create a "ring of steel" in order to deny career criminals use of public roads in Enfield to conduct their criminal activities.”

Question 4 from Councillor Lee Chamberlain to Councillor Henry Pipe, Cabinet Member for Customer Focus, Communications & Corporate Improvement

“Would Councillor Pipe update council on the progress to improve the council’s website?”

Reply from Councillor Pipe:

“Enfield Council is clear that the internet plays an increasingly important role in providing information and access to a range of services for customers, engaging local people on key issues through consultation and feedback and in promoting the reputation of the local area and local services.

We recognised that the website was looking dated and the quality of content needed improving. In order to develop a 21st century website with all the functionality internet users expect, the council decided it had to update its content management system.

The council procured JADU, one of the leading local authority providers, and I'm delighted to say that phase 1 of the project went live on Monday 15 June.

The new website has been completely redesigned, both in the way it looks and also its navigation structure. This follows consultation and a series of focus groups with residents, young people, older and disabled groups, staff and councillors.

The vision is for a site that is clear, clean and concise and offers the user a pictorial navigation. Ease and speed of access to our services and transactions are key drivers for the new site alongside a more intuitive search functionality through 'Google'. It is called Access Enfield because the aspiration is for the site to become a major source of information about the whole borough and all local services.

The site will be the platform for delivering Enfield's web 2.0 technology, delivering a site that moves beyond customer engagement and into involvement. It is truly accessible and available across multiple platforms –PC/ Mac / other devices regardless of browser type.

The design is based on the 'iphone' concept of reducing unnecessary text and using icons to navigate. A web content editor has been working with services to improve the quality of content and plain language used on the site, with the council aiming to achieve 'Plain English Crystal Mark' for its new site.

New facilities have been incorporated into the phase 1 website. In particular online services are more clearly signposted including the ability to pay online, report a range of issues including enviro crime and waste, renew library books and search for and submit planning applications.

We have also launched the '**Ask a question**' section where frequently asked questions are available but also web users can pose a question that will be answered via email. '**Have your say**' enables people to comment on a range of consultations and register interest in forthcoming surveys. Multi-media is available on the site including a range of downloadable media clips.

However the most significant development has been the '**My property**' and '**My borough**'. In 'My Property', web users can enter their postcode and find out a range of information including their ward councillor, their council tax band, their day of waste and recycling collection. They can also search for a range of 'find

my nearest' services including nearest park, school, library and partner information such as doctors surgeries and police stations.

The new content management system is based on enabling people within services to manage their content directly thereby ensuring that the information is kept up to date and new pages can be loaded quickly and easily.

Phase 2 of the website development (2009-2010) will see more opportunities for web users to engage with the council through online blogs and discussion forums and the introduction of customer registration. This will enable people to customise the site so that they see information relevant to them and their interests as well as pre-populate online forms and services so they do not have to enter their details each time. We will be using social media as an integrated part of our online presence.

The quality and range of content and online transactions will also be extended as we enable more customers to use the website as a major source of information and access to services. We will also be discussing with partners and members how we can extend the use of our content management system to enable them to upload information directly and achieve our aspiration for Access Enfield to be a resource for all."

Question 5 from Councillor Peter Fallart to Councillor Matthew Laban, Cabinet Member for Housing and Community Safety

"Would Councillor Laban update council on the progress made reducing the number of households housed in temporary accommodation?"

Reply from Councillor Laban:

"The number of households currently housed in temporary accommodation has dropped to the lowest number since 2003 and is currently 2868. The reduction in the numbers is currently continuing month on month.

This drop has represented a significant investment by the council in services to prevent households from becoming homeless and entering temporary accommodation.

Housing remains a key priority in Enfield and we are now using the private rental sector to provide homeless families with a home to live in, and are one of the most successful boroughs in London in terms of opening up the private sector to meet the needs of local people.

Last year 180 households were helped to keep their home having been under threat of eviction and 560 households were given financial assistance to access accommodation in the private sector.

In addition a new supported housing arrangement was put in place to support 16/17 year olds ejected from home by their parents to avoid housing them in temporary accommodation which has included a needs assessment for most of the young people supported and an accommodation package."

Question 6 from Councillor Robert Hayward to Councillor Terence Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene

“Would Councillor Neville comment on the transport implications of “A New Plan for London” which was recently published for consultation by the Mayor for London?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

“The Mayor is currently reviewing both the London Plan and his Transport Strategy. “A New Plan for London” sets out how the Mayor intends to review the London Plan to deliver his vision of how London’s development should be shaped in the period up until 2021. Whilst this document is formally to allow the London Assembly and GLA family to comment on the Mayor’s proposals, informal comments have also been invited from other organisations. A full draft of the new London Plan will then be published in the autumn as part of the formal consultation process.

The overarching transport objective in A New Plan for London is to “create a city where it is easy, safe and convenient for everyone to access jobs, opportunities and facilities”.

Chapter 6 of A New Plan for London includes several specific proposals relating to transport, including proposals for matching development to transport capacity; safeguarding land for transport; providing transport infrastructure and services to aid regeneration in Outer London; and reducing congestion.

In addition to the specific transport proposals set out in the transport chapter, many of the other proposals have significant transport implications, including those relating to housing, population and employment growth and the measures to address climate change.

The approach in general appears to be far more balanced than that of the previous Mayor, and recognises the importance of meeting local objectives and in particular the difficulties faced by outer London boroughs.

Question 7 from Councillor Alan Barker to Councillor Terence Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene

“Will Councillor Neville inform council of progress made in connection with the provision and encouragement of the use of electric vehicles?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

“The Climate Change Act 2008 introduces tough new limits on carbon emissions which we fully support. There is much to be done to achieve these and the encouragement of the use of electric vehicles is but one tool in the armoury. At the present time I want to encourage fleet users to look at the options to change from the traditional diesel vans to an alternative fuelled option, which includes electric vehicles. We have registered our interest with Cenex to apply for funding

to set up the infrastructure to support the increased use of Electric Vehicles (EV's) and other alternative fuelled vehicles in the council's fleet. We are committed to reducing emissions from our own activities and National Indicator 185 which deals with this is one of our top priorities.

Electric vehicles are only suitable for certain tasks undertaken by this authority due to their limited daily mileage, however this should improve as these vehicles develop over time. All fleet vehicle specifications now include a request for suppliers to quote for an alternative fuelled option. The benefits to Enfield to operate EV's are zero emissions, nil road fund licence, reduced fuel costs and reduced noise pollution. We have installed two types of charging systems at Carterhatch Lane Depot for our commercial fleet to trial suitable EV's that are currently available.

Turning to facilitating public use of electric vehicles in Enfield we are installing two EV charging points in two parking bays in Genotin Road car park and are awaiting EDF to connect the electricity supply. We have a further two bays in Palace Gardens multistorey car park which will have EV charging points fitted as part of the refurbishment due to be completed by this autumn. The parking bays will be dedicated to those with electric vehicles and will allow the users to charge their vehicles free of charge."

Question 8 from Councillor Henry Lamprecht to Councillor Terence Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene

"Will Councillor Neville comment on the effects of the recent 48 hour strike by London Underground workers on residents of the borough?"

Reply from Councillor Neville:

"This 48 hour stoppage by London Underground members of the RMT whilst not gaining universal support, had a particularly bad effect on the many thousands of commuters who use the Piccadilly line to go to and from their place of work because the line was effectively closed down from between Arnos Grove and Acton throughout the strike.

This caused considerable inconvenience to commuters across London who were trying to get to and from work and was yet another example of Londoners being held to ransom by the RMT and its leader Mr Bob Crow. It was in my view, a totally unnecessary strike designed to cause maximum inconvenience to the travelling public and hence to the London economy.

I commend those London Underground employees who defied the strike and managed to keep parts of several lines working, including the Piccadilly line between Cockfosters and Arnos Grove."

Question 9 from Councillor Jonas Hall to Councillor Ertan Hurer, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

"Would Councillor Hurer inform council of what action has been taken to make small businesses aware of the Small Business Rate Relief?"

Reply from Councillor Hurer:

“Enfield Council takes a very proactive role in promoting the benefits of Small Business Rate Relief (SBRR) to small businesses within the borough. To maximise SBRR take up:

- Applications are sent to every property in Enfield before the start of the financial year;
- New occupiers are automatically sent a SBRR application;
- Information about SBRR is on the back of every bill, reminder, final notice and summons sent;
- SBRR forms and information are available on the council’s new website.
- SBRR forms are handed out by Rating Inspectors as they visit properties.

I would also like to mention the very productive meeting councillors held with small businesses in Edmonton recently, which was promoted for us by Enfield Business Retailers Association (EBRA) and the Angel Edmonton Traders Association. At that meeting, we discussed a number of issues and agreed actions to resolve them wherever possible. We also provided information about SBRR, and have made subsequent contact with EBRA to ensure they have the information they need readily available.

In addition, the Business Rates help line is answered by Rates Officers who can offer specialist advice regarding SBRR. Any of the borough’s businesses that would like to find out more can ring 0208 379 4766 for further information.

Question 10 from Councillor Robert Hayward to Councillor Terence Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene

“Would Councillor Neville comment on the introduction of the date change for refuse collection?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

I am pleased to tell council that the overall impression is that the day change has gone very well, although with any change of this magnitude there have been some inevitable teething difficulties. The majority of residents however, have responded positively to the change of day and feedback from the council’s Contact Centre has revealed very few complaints. The council’s new web site launched on 15 June enables addressees to be looked up by postcode and property number, which has greatly assisted residents in independently checking and confirming their new collection day.

Fine-tuning of the service will continue over the coming weeks to maximise efficiency and deliver an integrated high quality standard of service.

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