



LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD

**AGENDA FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH,
2015 AT 7.00 PM**

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

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Date: 17 March 2015

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, 25th March, 2015 at 7.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the business set out below.

Yours sincerely

Armat Hussain

Assistant Director Legal & Corporate Governance

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

2. MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

The Mayor's Chaplain to give a blessing.

3. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) IN CONNECTION WITH THE ORDINARY COUNCIL BUSINESS

4. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 24)

To approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 25th February 2015.

5. APOLOGIES

6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members of the Council are invited to identify any disclosable pecuniary

other pecuniary or non pecuniary interests relevant to items on the agenda.

7. OPPOSITION BUSINESS - THE COST OF TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION AND WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT (Pages 25 - 32)

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

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

8. UPDATE ON THE STRATEGY FOR THE PROVISION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES (Pages 33 - 46)

To receive a report from the Director of Schools and Children's Services providing an update on the strategy for provision of secondary school places across the borough. (Report No.205)

Members are asked to note that the update was requested by Council (8th October 2014) as one of the outcomes of the debate on the strategy and approach towards the delivery of school places in Enfield, with agreement that the update be provided before the end of the current Municipal Year.

9. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION TASK GROUP - TERMS OF REFERENCE & OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

To receive a report from the Director of Schools & Children's Services setting out the draft Terms of Reference and operating arrangements for the Child Sexual Exploitation Task Group, established by Council on 25th February 2015. **TO FOLLOW**

(Report No.206)

Members are asked to note that in establishing the Task Group, Council requested that a further report be submitted setting out the detailed Terms of Reference and operational arrangements for the Group, following initial consideration by members of the Task Group.

10. ESTABLISHING A LOCAL PENSIONS BOARD (Pages 47 - 62)

To receive a report from the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services regarding the introduction of a new pension governance structure, for implementation with effect from 1 April 2015. (Report No.207)

Members are asked to note that the report was considered and recommended on to Council in order to approve the changes required to the Constitution, by the Members & Democratic Services Group on 18 February 2015. Council is therefore being asked to approve the establishment of a Pension Board and a Pension Policy and Investment Committee, as detailed within the report.

**11. REFERENCES FROM MEMBERS & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES GROUP:
(A) AMENDMENT TO THE POLICY ON FILMING AT MEETINGS; (B)
ADOPTION OF A PROTOCOL OF MEMBER APPOINTMENT PANELS
AND UPDATE TO APPOINTMENT PANEL TERMS OF REFERENCE AND
PROCEDURE RULES (Pages 63 - 72)**

To receive a report from the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services seeking approval to:

- (a) amend the Council's policy on filming at meetings; and
- (b) adopt a protocol for Member Appointment Panels and update to Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules.

(Report No.208)

Members are asked to note that both of the above were considered and approved for recommendation on to Council by the Members & Democratic Services Group on 18 February 2015.

12. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2015/16

The Members' Allowances Scheme forms Part 6 of the Constitution. Paragraph 6.3 (c) states that "Annual Increases in allowances will be linked to average earnings, for the period ending the previous March of each year. New rates will be effective from the new Municipal year."

When considering the Scheme for the 2014/2015 financial year, Council resolved: "That the current Members Allowances Scheme is re-approved and that the automatic increase in allowances by the average earnings as at March not be implemented for the 2014/15 financial year. At the same time it be acknowledged that following the elections in May 2014, the Administration may wish to review allowances within the overall budgetary figure and in accordance with the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel."

There is a need to consider the level of allowances payable under the scheme for 2015/16, with Council asked to consider the following recommendation.

Recommendation

Council is invited to re-approve the current Members' Allowances Scheme for the 2015/2016 financial year, as set out in Part 6 of the Constitution, and to confirm that the automatic increase in allowances by the average earnings as at March be not implemented again.

**13. COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME (TIME ALLOWED - 30 MINUTES)
(Pages 73 - 106)**

13.1 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.”

Submission of urgent questions to Council requires the Member when submitting the question to specify why the issue could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the deadline and why it has to be considered before the next meeting. A supplementary question is not permitted.

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

The list of sixty one questions received and their written responses are attached to the agenda.

14. MOTIONS

14.1 In the name of Councillor Neville:

“It has recently come to light that Councillor Nesimi Erbil was convicted of two fraud related offences in relation to his license to drive a London taxi (black cab), the convictions having occurred last September.

The council is of the view that these offences, being offences of dishonesty render Councillor Erbil unfit to serve on the council and accordingly calls upon him to resign his seat forthwith.”

14.2 In the name of Councillor Laban:

“The Council calls upon the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety to improve its relationship with the Friends of the Parks Groups by agreeing to consult them on council projects and decisions that relate to the parks in our borough in recognition of their status as a key partner in the delivery of our parks service.”

14.3 In the name of Councillor Laban:

“In light of recent events in relation to consultation, the Council calls

upon the Leader of the Council to implement a review across all departments in order to provide residents with greater confidence in the way Enfield Council conducts consultation.”

14.4 In the name of Councillor J.Charalambous:

“In light of uncertainty over the future ownership of the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park and overwhelming public support for the Save Trent Park Campaign, Enfield Council will take immediate steps to fulfil the requirements of the petition set up by the campaign group , which currently has over 3500 signatures – namely to grant the former Middlesex University campus the status of an Asset of Community Value (as per the application submitted by the Friends of Trent Country Park and Christ Church Cockfosters); amend planning rules to grant permanent public access across the grounds (as enjoyed for decades during Middlesex University’s ownership); actively encourage a long term public use for the listed mansion and grounds which will also promote the important role the Estate played in World War II; and re-evaluate the management and strategic vision of Trent Country Park as a whole.

14.5 In the name of Councillor Stewart:

“This Council believes that, since the General Election in 2010, the current Government has presided over one of the most devastating attacks on our society. Our communities in Enfield have felt the effect of the Conservative-led Government’s destructive policies and ideology to shrink the state and rely on market forces. We now live in a borough that has over 1,000 claimants affected by the bedroom tax, two foodbanks operating in the borough to feed the rising number of hungry families, and an increase in homelessness. These are just some of the indicators of a failed Government. Enfield Council has often been left to pick up the pieces, while facing increasing financial pressures imposed by central Government.

This Council calls upon the next Government elected on 7th May 2015 to put an end to this callous way of governing and to take responsibility for supporting the vulnerable and rebuilding our society.“

14.6 In the name of Councillor Sitkin:

“Under this pro-enterprise Labour Administration, Enfield Council commits to remaining open for business.”

14.7 In the name of Councillor Maguire:

“This Council calls on Conservative Members and Enfield Conservative MPs Nick De Bois and David Burrowes to exert maximum pressure on the Conservative led Government to reverse its tax cut for millionaires.

This Council believes that the decision to cut the top rate of tax from 50p to 45p was misguided and irresponsible.

This Council agrees that the money raised from reinstating the 50p top rate of tax should be used to invest in Council and Health Services that would benefit all the people, including the many thousands in Enfield who rely on them.”

15. MEMBERSHIPS

To confirm any changes to committee memberships:

Please note any changes notified once the final agenda has been published will be tabled on the Council amendment sheet at the meeting.

16. NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

To confirm the following change to nominations on outside bodies:

(a) Lee Valley Heat Network Ltd

Councillor Lemonides to be replaced by Councillor Oykener. Chief Executive and Director-Regeneration & Environment to be added and Assistant Director Legal & Governance to be removed from membership list.

Please note any further changes notified once the final agenda has been published will be tabled on the Council amendment sheet at the meeting.

17. CALLED IN DECISIONS

None received.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 13 May 2015 at 7.00 p.m. at the Civic Centre. This will be the Annual Council Meeting & Mayor Making Ceremony.

19. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider, if necessary, passing a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 excluding the press and public from the meeting for the item of business listed on the part 2 of the agenda on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in those paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

No Part 2 items have currently been identified for consideration.

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25
FEBRUARY 2015**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT

Ali Bakir (Mayor), Patricia Ekechi (Deputy Mayor), Abdul Abdullahi, Daniel Anderson, Dinah Barry, Chris Bond, Yasemin Brett, Alev Cazimoglu, Erin Celebi, Lee Chamberlain, Bambos Charalambous, Jason Charalambous, Katherine Chibah, Dogan Delman, Nick Dines, Guney Dogan, Sarah Doyle, Christiana During, Peter Fallart, Krystle Fonyonga, Achilleas Georgiou, Alessandro Georgiou, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Robert Hayward, Ertan Hurer, Jansev Jemal, Doris Jagge, Eric Jukes, Nneka Keazor, Adeline Kepez, Joanne Laban, Bernie Lappage, Michael Lavender, Dino Lemonides, Derek Levy, Mary Maguire, Donald McGowan, Andy Milne, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykenner, Daniel Pearce, Vicki Pite, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Toby Simon, Alan Sitkin, Edward Smith, Andrew Stafford, Claire Stewart, Jim Steven, Doug Taylor, Haydar Ulus and Glynis Vince

ABSENT

Lee David-Sanders, Nesimi Erbil, Turgut Esendagli, Christine Hamilton, Suna Hurman, Anne-Marie Pearce, Rohini Simbodyal and Ozzie Uzoanya

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ELECTION (IF REQUIRED) OF THE CHAIR/DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE MEETING

The election of a Chairman/Deputy Chairman of the meeting was not required.

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MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

The Mayor informed Members that the person who had been invited to give the blessing at the Council meeting tonight had unfortunately been unable to attend. It was therefore not possible to offer any blessing at the meeting.

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MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) IN CONNECTION WITH THE ORDINARY COUNCIL BUSINESS

The Mayor made the following announcements:

(a) Update on Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Engagements

The Mayor reported that although the last Council meeting had only been a month ago, this had been another busy period for himself and the Deputy Mayor in terms of engagements. Particular highlights had included:

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- The “Speak Out” challenge at Kingsmead School
- An awards ceremony for Greater London North Scouts
- A fundraising event with the Rotary Club in Southgate
- An induction ceremony at Cockfosters and New Southgate Synagogue
- The UK Youth Parliament Elections
- The Adoramous Valentine’s Concert

(b) Mayors Charity Ball

The Mayor was also pleased to be able to confirm that his charity fundraising ball was being held on Saturday 18 April 2014. Invitations had now been issued and he hoped to see as many Members as possible supporting the event.

**138
MINUTES**

AGREED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 28 January 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**139
APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lee David-Sanders, Turgut Esendagli, Christine Hamilton, Suna Hurman, Anne-Marie Pearce, Rohini Simbodyal, Ozzie Uzoanya.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillors George Savva MBE and Haydar Ulus.

**140
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Mayor invited John Austin (Assistant Director – Governance Projects) to make a short statement relating to the declaration of interests in respect of Agenda Item 7 (Budget 2015/16 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2015/16 to 2018/19 – General Fund) and Agenda Item 8: (Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2015/16 and Rent Setting – HRA & Temporary Accommodation).

Council noted:

1. Under guidance issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government members would not be required to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPA) in relation to the budget or setting of the Council Tax. This was on the basis that Council Tax liability would apply to the borough’s population as a whole, with councillors not having any unique position in that regard. The requirements within Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 would, however, still apply, which required any Member who was two or more months in arrears on

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their Council Tax to declare their position and not vote on any issue that could affect the calculation of the budget or Council Tax.

2. The Councillor Conduct Committee (May 2013) had also granted a dispensation for all members in terms of the declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests relating to the setting of housing rents

Subject to the requirements within Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, this would allow all members to participate in the debate and vote on decisions relating to the setting of the Council Tax and Housing Rents.

Having noted the advice provided, the following declaration of interests were made at the meeting:

Agenda Item 10: Review & Adoption of Statutory Pay Policy Statement – the following members declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest:

- Councillor Maguire as a full time employee of UNISON.
- Councillor Stewart given the interest declared by Councillor Maguire as a close family member.
- Councillor Lemonides as his spouse was a full time employee of the Local Authority.
- Councillor Orhan as a relative was an employee of the Council.

Agenda Item 11: Exercising Discretion under the Local Government Pension Scheme

(a) the following members declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest:

- Councillor Maguire as a full time employee of UNISON.
- Councillor Stewart given the interest declared by Councillor Maguire as a “close family member.
- Councillor Lemonides as his spouse was a full time employee of the Local Authority.
- Councillor Orhan as a relative was an employee of the Council.

(b) As a result of clarification provided at the meeting regarding the scope of the report, the following members declared Non-Pecuniary Interests:

- Councillor Achilleas Georgiou – as a member (not within Enfield) of the Local Government Pension Scheme.
- Councillor Anderson – as a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Agenda Item 13: The Care Act 2014 – having noted that the item had only been submitted for information, Councillor Oyken declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest given his role in an organisation operating within the domiciliary care sector.

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Agenda Item 15.6: Motion in the name of Councillor Taylor on Free School provision – Councillor Laban declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest given that a close family member was employed as a headteacher at a Free School operating within the Borough.

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BUDGET 2015/16 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2015/16 TO 2018/19 (GENERAL FUND)

Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Stafford seconded the report of the Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services (No.158A) presenting for approval the Budget for 2015/16 and Medium Term Financial Plan (General Fund).

NOTED

1. The recommendations within the report 2.2 - 2.10 had been endorsed and referred to Council for formal approval by Cabinet on 11 February 2015.
2. The report would need to be considered in conjunction with Report No.166A on the Part 2 Council agenda (Min.159 refers).
3. The significant response to the budget consultation process undertaken on the proposals for 2015/16 and outcome, as detailed within section 4 and Appendix 1 of the report.
4. The Leader of the Council's thanks to James Rolfe (Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services) and his officers for the preparation of the budget and to all those who had taken part in the consultation process.
5. The ongoing pressures on the Council's budget as a result of the reduction in local government funding and continued austerity measures by Central Government, increasing level of demand on services and the negative impact of the funding allocation damping mechanism. As a result the Leader informed Council that the Authority was considering mounting a joint legal challenge against the Government with a number of neighbouring boroughs in relation to the damping mechanism.
6. The approach highlighted by the Leader of the Council towards management of the Council's resources and delivery of a balanced budget. Despite ongoing austerity, cost shunting measures, reductions in funding and pressures created locally by the current economic climate, significant efficiencies had been achieved, front line services protected with the long term sustainability of key services maintained alongside a further freeze in the level of Council Tax and ongoing investment in key projects and priorities.

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7. The approach towards management of the Council's resources in both the short term and through the Medium Term Financial Plan had been designed to:
 - a. reflect the Administration's key priorities, commitments and core aim of making Enfield a better place to live and work by delivering Fairness for All; Growth & Sustainability and Strong Communities;
 - b. ensure that the Council continued to provide quality services that would meet the changing and growing needs and expectations of service users, support and safeguard the most vulnerable within the local community as well as keeping the borough safe and clean as opposed to only focussing on the provision of statutory services.

8. The need to recognise:
 - a. the ongoing financial pressure on the Council given the reduction in resources available to meet increasing service demands, which would continue to require difficult and tough decisions in relation to service provision and delivery of the Council's priorities.
 - b. the progress being made under the Enfield 2017 transformation programme towards the delivery of sustainable, integrated, efficient, cost effective and local services available to access when needed and supported through assisted self-service.
 - c. that borrowing in relation to the Capital Programme had increased but remained affordable and within the required prudential indicators.

9. The thanks to Council officers for their support and efforts in delivery of the budget proposals alongside the key achievements made by the current Administration, as highlighted by individual Cabinet Members.

10. The concerns highlighted by the Opposition Group in relation to:
 - a. the lack of recognition at what was felt to be an improving position in relation to the national economic climate with a fall in inflation and increasing rates of employment, although it was noted at the same time that unemployment in Enfield remained higher than the London average.
 - b. the impact of the previous Labour Governments management of the economy and contribution towards the economic crash.
 - c. the limited recognition of the funding support being provided by central Government and further reduction in the Mayor for London's budget to assist with the freeze in Council Tax levels.

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- d. the significant increase in the level of Council borrowing and debt under the current Labour Administration and impact in terms of the additional pressure created on the Council's revenue budget as a result of the associated debt and interest repayments.
- e. the ongoing investment in the Housing Gateway scheme, capitalising of certain revenue items, lack of progress made on delivery of other major housing and regeneration schemes such as Meridian Water and failure to utilise additional funding streams available for initiatives such as the Free School programme.
- f. what was felt to be the lack of financial planning required to identify and delivery the level of savings required to address the challenging financial position faced by the Administration since 2010.
- g. at the increased level of the Council's revenue spending on areas such as temporary accommodation when compared with other London Boroughs and at the focus on Enfield 2017 as the main strategy for delivery of efficiencies and savings given what was felt to have been the lack of alternative options and progress to date.
- h. at the failure of the Labour Administration to make the significant and difficult decisions required to address the budget gap moving forward.

As a result of the concerns expressed Councillor Neville moved and Councillor Hurer seconded reference back, under Council Procedure Rule 12.7 (a) (i) of the budget report to Cabinet for reconsideration, in order to apply the following principles, on the basis that the proper application of the measures identified would produce a reduction of 1% in Council Tax:

1. review borrowing and the current borrowing commitments.
2. amend the Housing Gateway project to purchase houses outside of London.
3. embrace more free schools and academies.
4. bring forward the 2017 project.
5. reduce the budget for temporary accommodation.
6. abandon the Landlord Licensing Scheme.

Whilst open to debating alternative budget proposals, the Leader of the Council highlighted what the Majority Group felt to be a lack of detail in the principles that had been outlined for consideration under the reference back. Following a lengthy debate the reference back was put to the vote and lost with the following result:

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For: 17

Councillor Erin Celebi
Councillor Jason Charalambous
Councillor Don Delman
Councillor Nick Dines
Councillor Peter Fallart
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor Elaine Hayward
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Ertan Hurer
Councillor Eric Jukes
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Andy Milne
Councillor Terence Neville OBE JP
Councillor Michael Rye OBE
Councillor Edward Smith
Councillor Jim Steven
Councillor Glynis Vince

Against: 34

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi
Councillor Daniel Anderson
Councillor Dinah Barry
Councillor Chris Bond
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu
Councillor Bambos Charalambous
Councillor Katherine Chibah
Councillor Guney Dogan
Councillor Sarah Doyle
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Pat Ekechi
Councillor Krystle Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Jansev Jemal
Councillor Doris Jiagge
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Adeline Kepez
Councillor Bernie Lappage
Councillor Dino Lemonides
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Mary Maguire
Councillor Don McGowan
Councillor Ayfer Orhan
Councillor Ahmet Oykenner
Councillor Vicki Pite

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Councillor George Savva MBE
Councillor Toby Simon
Councillor Alan Sitkin
Councillor Andrew Stafford
Councillor Claire Stewart
Councillor Doug Taylor
Councillor Haydar Ulus

Abstention: 0

Consideration of the budget report and recommendations (unamended) then continued and after a further lengthy debate Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Taylor seconded closure motion 12.12 (ii) "that the question be now put". This was agreed unanimously, without a vote.

The recommendations in the report were then put to the vote and approved with the following result:

AGREED

- (1) With regard to the revenue budget for 2015/16:
 - (a) The council tax requirement for Enfield be set at £100.917m in 2015/16.
 - (b) Subject to final pupil count data, to approve expenditure of £307.837m in 2015/16 for the Schools budget, funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.
 - (c) To set the Council Tax at Band D for Enfield's services for 2015/16 at £1,100.34 (as detailed in para 8.1 of the report), there being no increase over the 2014/15 Council Tax.
 - (d) To approve the statutory calculations and resolutions set out in Appendix 10 of the report.
- (2) That the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection and Cabinet Member for Finance be authorised to take the decision on the schools budget for 2015/16, taking into account the comments of the Schools Forum on 4 March 2015 and any relevant decisions which the Forum make under the DfE regulations (as detailed in section 5.8 of the report)
- (3) To approve, subject to consultation, the Fees and Charges for Adult Social Care Services for 2015/16, as detailed in section 10.17 and Appendix 11 of the report.
- (4) To approve the continuation of the existing policy for the calculation of Minimum Revenue Provision (as detailed in section 9.16 of the report)

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In accordance with the Standing Order Regulations 2014, the vote recorded in relation to decisions **(1)** – **(4)** above was as follows:

For: 52

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi
Councillor Daniel Anderson
Councillor Dinah Barry
Councillor Chris Bond
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu
Councillor Erin Celebi
Councillor Lee Chamberlain
Councillor Bambos Charalambous
Councillor Jason Charalambous
Councillor Katherine Chibah
Councillor Don Delman
Councillor Nick Dines
Councillor Guney Dogan
Councillor Sarah Doyle
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Pat Ekechi
Councillor Peter Fallart
Councillor Krystle Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Elaine Hayward
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Ertan Hurer
Councillor Jansev Jemal
Councillor Doris Jiagge
Councillor Eric Jukes
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Adeline Kepez
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Bernie Lappage
Councillor Michael Lavender
Councillor Dino Lemonides
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Mary Maguire
Councillor Don McGowan
Councillor Andy Milne
Councillor Terence Neville OBE JP
Councillor Ayfer Orhan
Councillor Ahmet Oykenner
Councillor Vicki Pite
Councillor Michael Rye OBE
Councillor George Savva MBE
Councillor Toby Simon

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Councillor Alan Sitkin
Councillor Edward Smith
Councillor Andrew Stafford
Councillor Jim Steven
Councillor Claire Stewart
Councillor Doug Taylor
Councillor Glynis Vince

Against: 0

Abstention: 0

- (5)** With regard to the Prudential Code and the Capital Programme:
- (a)** To note the requirements of the Prudential Code (as detailed in section 9 of the report)
 - (b)** To approve the Approved Capital Programme for 2015/16 to 2018/19 (as detailed in Table 9 and Appendix 9 of the report) and note the indicative Capital Programme, which it was also agreed would be reviewed in the light of circumstances at the time.
 - (c)** To approve the Prudential Indicators, Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Statement and criteria for investments (as detailed in section 9 and Appendices 4 and 5 of the report).
- (6)** To note, with regard to the Medium Term Financial Plan, the forecast for the medium term as set out in section 10 of the report and adopt the key principles set out in paragraph 10.13 of the report.
- (7)** With regard to the robustness of the 2015/16 budget and the adequacy of the Council's earmarked reserves and balances:
- (a)** To note the risks and uncertainties inherent in the 2015/16 budget and the Medium Term Financial Plan (as detailed in sections 10 & 11 of the report) and also agree the actions in hand to mitigate them;
 - (b)** To note the advice of the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services regarding the recommended levels of contingencies, balances and earmarked reserves (as detailed in section 12 of the report) and have regard to the Director's statement (as detailed in section 13 of the report) when making final decisions on the 2015/16 budget;
 - (c)** To approve the recommended levels of central contingency and general balances (as detailed in section 12 of the report);

In accordance with the Standing Order Regulations 2014, the vote recorded in relation to decisions **(5)** – **(7)** above was as follows:

For: 33

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Councillor Abdul Abdullahi
Councillor Daniel Anderson
Councillor Dinah Barry
Councillor Chris Bond
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu
Councillor Bambos Charalambous
Councillor Katherine Chibah
Councillor Guney Dogan
Councillor Sarah Doyle
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Pat Ekechi
Councillor Krystle Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Jansev Jemal
Councillor Doris Jiagge
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Adeline Kepez
Councillor Bernie Lappage
Councillor Dino Lemonides
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Mary Maguire
Councillor Don McGowan
Councillor Ayfer Orhan
Councillor Ahmet Oykener
Councillor Vicki Pite
Councillor George Savva MBE
Councillor Toby Simon
Councillor Alan Sitkin
Councillor Andrew Stafford
Councillor Claire Stewart
Councillor Doug Taylor

Against: 19

Councillor Erin Celebi
Councillor Lee Chamberlain
Councillor Jason Charalambous
Councillor Don Delman
Councillor Nick Dines
Councillor Peter Fallart
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor Elaine Hayward
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Ertan Hurer
Councillor Eric Jukes
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Michael Lavender

COUNCIL - 25.2.2015

Councillor Andy Milne
Councillor Terence Neville OBE JP
Councillor Michael Rye OBE
Councillor Edward Smith
Councillor Jim Steven
Councillor Glynis Vince

Abstention: 0

- (8)** To approve the fees and charges for Environmental Services for 2015/16 (as detailed in section 10.16 and Appendix 12 of the report). Report No.166A on the Part 2 agenda also refers (Min 159).
- (9)** That the New Homes Bonus be allocated to maintain regeneration and homelessness services in accordance with paragraph 5.7 in the report.

In accordance with the Standing Order Regulations 2014, the vote recorded in relation to decisions **(8)** – **(9)** above was as follows:

For: 33

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi
Councillor Daniel Anderson
Councillor Dinah Barry
Councillor Chris Bond
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu
Councillor Bambos Charalambous
Councillor Katherine Chibah
Councillor Guney Dogan
Councillor Sarah Doyle
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Pat Ekechi
Councillor Krystle Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Jansev Jemal
Councillor Doris Jiagge
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Adeline Kepez
Councillor Bernie Lappage
Councillor Dino Lemonides
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Mary Maguire
Councillor Don McGowan
Councillor Ayfer Orhan
Councillor Ahmet Oykener
Councillor Vicki Pite
Councillor George Savva MBE
Councillor Toby Simon

COUNCIL - 25.2.2015

Councillor Alan Sitkin
Councillor Andrew Stafford
Councillor Claire Stewart
Councillor Doug Taylor

Abstentions: 19

Councillor Erin Celebi
Councillor Lee Chamberlain
Councillor Jason Charalambous
Councillor Don Delman
Councillor Nick Dines
Councillor Peter Fallart
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor Elaine Hayward
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Ertan Hurer
Councillor Eric Jukes
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Michael Lavender
Councillor Andy Milne
Councillor Terence Neville OBE JP
Councillor Michael Rye OBE
Councillor Edward Smith
Councillor Jim Steven
Councillor Glynis Vince

Against: 0

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DURATION OF COUNCIL MEETING

Given the length of debate on the 2015/16 budget item and amount of business to be completed on the agenda members were asked to consider whether they wanted to extend the time of the meeting beyond the designated time of 10:15pm.

As there were still a number of items that members were keen to debate Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Taylor seconded a procedural motion under Council Procedure Rule 11 (m) to extend the time of the meeting for an additional period of 15 minutes. This was agreed unanimously without a vote.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councillor Stewart then moved and Councillor Taylor seconded a proposal to change the order of business on the agenda under paragraph 2.2 (page 4-6) of the Council Procedure Rules to enable the meeting to take the following as the next item of business:

COUNCIL - 25.2.2015

Item 9 – Responding to the DCLG Report Inspection of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

The change in the order of the agenda was agreed, without a vote.

Please note the minutes reflect the order in which the agenda items were dealt with at the meeting.

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RESPONDING TO THE DCLG REPORT INSPECTION OF ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Councillor Orhan moved and Councillor Jemal seconded the report of the Director of Schools and Children's Services (No.169A) making recommendations to strengthen the robust governance and political oversight of safeguarding to vulnerable children and young people.

NOTED

1. That the report proposed the establishment of a specialist task group on Child Sexual Exploitation and its allied issues (of children who are missing or unaccounted for). This to be alongside the regular reporting to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. The following changes to the recommendations within the report, proposed by the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection when moving the item:
 - a. recommendation 2.2 (a) to be amended so that the proposed Task Group be made up of 6 Members which would be split 4:2 in terms of membership, in order to comply with the proportionality requirements, with names to be notified by each Group.
 - b. recommendation 2.2 (b) to be amended so that whilst the membership of the Task Group would still be set up in accordance with the requirements of political proportionality its detailed terms of reference and working arrangements would be subject to further consideration by the Group itself, and would then be reported back to Council for formal approval.
3. Whilst supportive of the amendments in outlined in 2. above the Opposition Group were concerned to ensure that membership of the Task Group excluded members of the Executive, given the need for it to be able to develop an appropriate challenging role of the Executive.
4. The work of the Task Group would be reported to Council on a biannual basis. The intention underpinning the recommendations was for the continuous drive for improvement by the Council and its partners in relation to the support and improved outcomes for vulnerable children.

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During the debate on the report members were reminded that the meeting was due to end at 10:30pm. As there was still a number of members who had indicated they wanted to speak on the item and a need to consider the 2015/16 Housing Revenue Account and Rent Setting report and Part 2 Budget Setting report Councillor Stewart moved and Council Taylor seconded a further extension of the meeting by 15 minutes under Council Procedure Rule 11 (m). The extension was unanimously agreed without a vote.

Following a further period of debate the recommendations in the report (as amended) were agreed unanimously, without a vote.

AGREED

- (1) To note that Cabinet had agreed to support Scrutiny's focus on children's and young people's issues and recommend that Overview and Scrutiny Committee include a standing item on every Overview and Scrutiny Committee agenda regarding children and young people's issues.
- (2) The establishment of a specialist dedicated Task Group with a strong focus on Child Sexual Exploitation and associated risks for children and young people. The task group to comprise 6 Members to be split 4:2 in terms of membership in order to comply with the proportionality requirements, with names to be notified by each Group.
- (3) The detailed terms of reference and working arrangements for the Task Group would be subject to further consideration by the Group itself, and would then be reported back to Council for formal approval.
- (4) The Task Group would report on its work to Council on a bi-annual basis along with any recommendation on tackling on Child Sexual Exploitation and the associated risks for children and young people.

145

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ESTIMATES 2015/16 AND RENT SETTING (HRA & TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION)

Councillor Oykener moved and Councillor Taylor seconded the report from the Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care and Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services (No.159A) setting out the proposed detailed budget for the Housing Revenue Account for 2015/16.

Given the time remaining to complete consideration of the agenda, the recommendations in the report were put straight to the vote and agreed unanimously without a vote.

AGREED

COUNCIL - 25.2.2015

- (1) To approve the detailed revenue estimates of the Housing Revenue Account for 2015/16
- (2) The rents be increased in line with Government guidance and Enfield Council Rent Policy. This would result in an average increase of 2.2% for Enfield tenants.
- (3) To approve the level of service charges for 2015/16, as set out in paragraph 6.1 of the report, for those properties receiving the services.
- (4) To approve the proposals for increases in other income for 2015/16 as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.
- (5) The Temporary Accommodation rents as set out in Appendix 6 of the report, for 2015/16 and that the authority to review in the event of any changes be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Management and the Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services.
- (6) To approve the total HRA capital programme of £52.7m for 2015/16 and a further 4 years.
- (7) That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration and the Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care to approve tenders for Decent Homes and General Works.

146

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8 - DURATION OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

The Mayor advised, at this stage of the meeting, that the time available to complete the agenda (following the various extensions agreed) was shortly due to elapse. Given the need to allow time for a recorded vote on the Part 2 agenda item he advised that Council Procedure Rule 8 would therefore need to apply for the remainder of the agenda.

NOTED that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8 (page 4-8 – Part 4), the remaining items of business on the Council agenda were considered without debate.

147

REVIEW & ADOPTION OF A STATUTORY PAY POLICY STATEMENT

RECEIVED the report of the Assistant Director Human Resources (No.149A) presenting the Council's Annual Statutory Pay Policy Statement for consideration and approval.

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NOTED that the Pay Policy Statement had been considered and approved for recommendation on to Council by the Remuneration Committee on 26 January 2015.

AGREED to adopt, as recommended by the Remuneration Committee, the Statutory Pay Policy Statement attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Councillors Lemonides, Maguire, Orhan and Stewart declared Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in this item. As the matter was dealt with under the guillotine they did not withdraw from the meeting but took no part in the decision made on the report.

148

EXERCISING DISCRETION UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

RECEIVED a report from the Assistant Director Human Resources (No.150A) detailing the new discretions available to the employers introduced under the Local Government Pension Scheme 2014 and putting forward recommendations on how the Council would exercise these discretions.

NOTED that the report had been considered and agreed for recommendation on to Council by the Remuneration Committee on 26 January 2015.

AGREED the recommendations in respect of the discretions detailed in 3.2.1 to 3.5.1 of the report to apply with effect from 1 March 2015.

Councillors Lemonides, Maguire, Orhan and Stewart declared Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in this item. As the matter was dealt with under the guillotine they did not withdraw from the meeting but took no part in the decision made on the report.

Councillors Anderson and Achilleas Georgiou declared non-pecuniary interests in this item.

149

AMENDMENTS TO CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

RECEIVED a report from the Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services (No.139A) proposing changes to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, part of the Council's Constitution, to reflect best practice in procurement, reduce bureaucracy and comply with the forthcoming Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

NOTED that the revised Contract Procedure Rules had been considered and approved for recommendation on to Council by Audit Committee on 8 January 2015.

AGREED

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- (1) To approve (as recommended by Audit Committee) the changes to the Contract Procedure Rules for inclusion within the Council's Constitution.
- (2) To note that implementation of the changes would take place immediately after the forthcoming Public Contract Regulations 2015 were implemented by UK Government on 26 February 2015.

150

THE CARE ACT 2014

RECEIVED a report from the Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care (No.161A) summarising progress on local implementation of the Care Act 2014.

NOTED

1. Cabinet had considered and approved the report at its meeting on 11 February 2015. In approving the report, they had also referred it on to Council for information.
2. The progress made to implement the Care Act in Enfield and the key risks associated with implementation and the mitigating actions.
3. The financial modelling to understand the impact of the Care Act would continue at both local, regional and national level including through ADASS and London Councils, as advised at July Cabinet and October Council meetings. This would include ensuring a robust response to the government consultation on the funding reforms due in February. As previously reported, when the Government introduced the Care Bill it advised that any new burdens on local government would be funded. Until clear funding allocations were made available, there was a risk that this cost would not be fully funded, although at present it was not possible to form an opinion.
4. The major change taking place within Enfield 2017 which had provided a positive framework for Care Act implementation, in particular changes to the Gateway Services and assessment hub.

Councillor Oykener declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item. As the matter was dealt with under the guillotine he did not withdraw from the meeting but took no part in the decision made on the report.

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COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME

1.1. Urgent Questions

None received.

1.2. Questions by Councillors

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NOTED the sixty five questions on the Council agenda and written responses provided by the relevant Cabinet Member, Associate Cabinet Members.

**152
MOTIONS**

The following motions listed on the agenda lapsed due to lack of time:

1.1 In the name of Councillor Barry:

“This Council is proud of the support it has given to the North London Credit Union and commits itself to continue to support their ethical financial work which places affordability and fairness at the heart of its efforts to provide affordable banking for local people and local businesses both existing and new.”

1.2 In the name of Councillor Cazimoglu:

“The Council should reaffirm its commitment to the NHS and its opposition to privatisation in Enfield.

The NHS should be at the centre of all decision making as a preferred provider. The private sector should only be used in a supporting role and never when it destabilises a local NHS institution or fragments care. ‘Not for Profit’ organisations should be favoured where profits are reinvested into the NHS and not profits for shareholders.

When commissioning services, as far as possible we should endeavour to give the NHS the first chance to deliver and improve services”.

1.3 In the name of Councillor Neville:

“It has recently come to light that Councillor Nesimi Erbil was convicted of two fraud related offences in relation to his license to drive a London taxi (black cab), the convictions having occurred last September.

The council is of the view that these offences, being offences of dishonesty render Councillor Erbil unfit to serve on the council and accordingly calls upon him to resign his seat forthwith.”

1.4 In the name of Councillor Laban:

“The Council calls upon the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety to improve its relationship with the Friends of the Parks Groups by agreeing to consult them on council projects and decisions that relate to the parks in our borough in recognition of their status as a key partner in the delivery of our parks service.”

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1.5 In the name of Councillor Laban:

“In light of recent events in relation to consultation, the Council calls upon the Leader of the Council to implement a review across all departments in order to provide residents with greater confidence in the way Enfield Council conducts consultation.”

1.6 In the name of Councillor Taylor:

“Currently, the Government is spending money on new Free Schools in areas where there are surplus places. This simply makes no sense when demand for places is so high, particularly in London.

By ending the scandalous waste of money from building new schools in areas of surplus places, more places can be created where they are needed.

Class sizes for 5, 6, and 7 year olds will be capped by a future Labour Government at no more than 30 pupils.

Enfield Council welcomes funding proposals that could improve the life chances of Enfield children.”

1.7 In the name of Councillor Sitkin:

“Under this pro-enterprise Labour Administration, Enfield Council commits to remaining open for business.”

153

REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY ARRANGEMENTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

1.1 Review of Council Proportionality Arrangements, following a change in political balance on the Council

RECEIVED a briefing paper from the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services advising members of a change in the political balance of the Council and associated review of the proportionality arrangements relating to the allocation of seats on the committees, joint committees and panels.

AGREED to note the change in political balance on the Council as follows – Labour: 39 members; Conservatives: 22 members & Independent (Labour): 2 members and revised proportionality arrangements in terms of the allocation of seats on Committees and other relevant bodies, as detailed in the briefing paper. which would involve the Majority Group vacating a seat on the following bodies:

- Licensing Committee; and
- Staff Appeals Panel;

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1.2 Committee Memberships

AGREED the following membership change:

- (1) Planning Committee - Councillor Hurman to be replaced by a vacancy (replacement name to be notified).

154

NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND USE OF URGENT ACTION PROCEDURE

1.1 Use of Council Urgent Action Procedure

NOTED the following decision taken by the Leader of the Council (4 February 2015), under the Council Urgent Action Procedure (in accordance with section 30 of the Council Procedure Rules) along with the reason for urgency, as detailed on the agenda:

Decision: To appoint Councillor Levy as Deputy Member on the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority (LVRPA) for a term of office to run until the Annual Council Meeting in May 2018.

1.2 Nominations to Outside Bodies

No changes were notified.

155

USE OF COUNCIL'S URGENCY PROCEDURE

NOTED the details provided of the following decision taken under the Council's urgency procedure relating to the waiver of call-in and the requirements for notice on the Key Decision List along with the reasons for urgency. The decisions had been made in accordance with the urgency procedures set out in Paragraph 17.3 of Chapter 4.2 (Scrutiny) and Paragraph 16 of Chapter 4.6 (Access to Information) of the Council's Constitution.

- Terms to bid for purchase of 30-38 London Road, Enfield, EN2 6EF at auction.

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CALLED IN DECISIONS

None received.

157

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED that the next meeting of the Council would be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 25 March 2015 at the Civic Centre.

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158

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the item of business listed on the part 2 agenda on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) as listed on the agenda.

159

BUDGET 2015/16 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (GENERAL FUND)

RECEIVED a report from the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services (No.166A) detailing commercial sensitive information relating to the Environmental Services fees and charges for 2014/15.

NOTED the report had been submitted in conjunction with Report No158A on the Part 1 agenda (Min.141 refers). The recommendation in the report had been endorsed and recommended onto Council, at the Cabinet meeting held on 11 February 2015.

AGREED that the Pest Control, Commercial Waste, planning pre application service, sports pitches, golf special offers, events, Passenger Transport Services and Schools Health and Safety Fees and changes for Environmental Services for 2015/16 be approved, as detailed in section 3.1 and Appendix 12b of the report.

(Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended)

In accordance with the Standing Order Regulations 2014 the vote recorded in relation to above decision was as follows:

For: 32

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi
Councillor Daniel Anderson
Councillor Dinah Barry
Councillor Chris Bond
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu
Councillor Katherine Chibah
Councillor Guney Dogan
Councillor Sarah Doyle
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Pat Ekechi

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Councillor Krystle Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Jansev Jamal
Councillor Doris Jiagge
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Adeline Kepez
Councillor Bernie Lappage
Councillor Dino Lemonides
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Mary Maguire
Councillor Don McGowan
Councillor Ayfer Orhan
Councillor Ahmet Oykenner
Councillor Vicki Pite
Councillor George Savva MBE
Councillor Toby Simon
Councillor Alan Sitkin
Councillor Andrew Stafford
Councillor Claire Stewart
Councillor Doug Taylor

Abstentions: 19

Councillor Erin Celebi
Councillor Lee Chamberlain
Councillor Jason Charalambous
Councillor Don Delman
Councillor Nick Dines
Councillor Peter Fallart
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor Elaine Hayward
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Ertan Hurer
Councillor Eric Jukes
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Michael Lavender
Councillor Andy Milne
Councillor Terence Neville OBE JP
Councillor Michael Rye OBE
Councillor Edward Smith
Councillor Jim Steven
Councillor Glynis Vince

Against: 0

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Opposition Priority Business –Council meeting 25th March 2015

The cost of temporary accommodation and what can be done about it.

Background

We make no apology for returning to this topic because the spiralling cost of temporary accommodation (TA) is the single largest cost pressure facing the council next financial year. The Director of Finance estimates that the burgeoning cost of TA will cost the Council £7.7m in 2015/16. The total number of households in TA in Enfield stands at 2,698 of which 1,102 are housed in emergency accommodation. This is the 4th highest in London.

The cost of TA is the difference between the housing subsidy the council receives from the Government (calculated as 90% x local housing allowance (LHA) per week +£40 management fee per unit) and the rents the Council has to pay local private landlords to secure temporary accommodation. The LHA is the 30th decile of the private sector rented market rent level for the Broad Market Rental Area (BMRA). The BRMA boundaries are set by the Government and cover Barnet, Enfield and parts of Haringey. The local BRMA rent levels are the second highest in outer London, which may explain the attraction of Edmonton to private landlords.

The reason the Council places people in temporary accommodation is that the Council has a legal duty to house households that are eligible for homelessness status. This duty was introduced in the 1960s and hasn't been changed substantially by governments of either colour. In days gone by, councils would place homeless families in council or housing association properties. Since the introduction of the Localism Act in 2011, Councils have been able to discharge their duty by placing homeless households in private rented property, whether those households agree or not.

Enfield introduced a new allocations policy three years ago to take advantage of this new power. It had little choice because the demand from, non-homeless households in housing need (primarily decants from its regeneration scheme, overcrowded households, and the disabled, etc) was using up the available supply of new lets of permanent rented accommodation.

The Council is now faced with a major problem in trying to find enough suitable homes for homeless households in the private rented sector in the Borough. Although the private rented sector has grown to be almost a third of the housing stock, these properties are being competed for by increasing numbers of working households that can no longer afford to buy and also by other local authorities who are trying to find homes for their homeless households.

This demand caused by London's magnetic attraction to the rest of the world and within the Country is pushing up house prices and rents across the Capital. The Council (and other councils are increasingly having to place new homeless households in emergency (or what is often termed nightly paid or bed and breakfast) accommodation. Typically, the rent for emergency accommodation in Enfield is about 40% higher than the Local Housing Allowance. Broadly speaking, this difference has to be found from the Council's own resources.

The increasing procurement of rented property by other boroughs is largely due to the unintended consequences of the benefits cap (£500 per week for adult households). This cap is set by the Government at the median national household income and is not subject to tax. Households where an individual works for more than 16 hours a week are exempt from the cap. Although this policy has resulted in large numbers of people obtaining work, the vastly higher living costs in the Capital mean that households in temporary rented accommodation that cannot find employment and live in expensive central areas have to be moved to cheaper areas. This policy doesn't affect most council and housing tenants who live in Central London who do not work because their rent level are much lower than in the private sector.

The majority of households who do not work are lone parents (some 65% of the families in temporary accommodation in Enfield) but also people with mental and physical health disabilities. Whilst the Government has exempted child care from the cap, success in encouraging these groups to take up work has been slow in coming and may not be practicable for a significant proportion of such households.

Reducing the number of households accepted as homeless

Households that present themselves as homeless to the council face several tests laid down by the Government before they can be accepted and the Council becomes responsible for finding them a home. (It is interesting to note that the Homelessness duty was first introduced in the 60s by the then Government of Harold Wilson because several householders in a Welsh town were flooded out and the Council refused to re-house them. The Homelessness duty is now the tail that wags the dog and before the Localism Act virtually all new council and housing association lets were given to homeless families).

The number of households accepted as homeless has steadily risen as a percentage of the numbers who have presented themselves to the Council. 56% were refused in 2011/12 reducing to 28% in 2013/14.

Under Government Guidelines, families presenting themselves must demonstrate that they have no accommodation in the UK or abroad; they must be British or EU citizens or be entitled to live in the UK; they must be in priority need, e.g. have dependent children or be pregnant; they must not have made themselves intentionally homeless, e.g. failed to pay the rent; and finally they must have a local connection, e.g. having lived in the borough for 6 out of the last 12 months or 3 out of the last 5 years or have family connections.

Therefore to take a simple imaginary case: a pregnant EU citizen who claims to have worked in the past and has left her home country because of domestic violence and has a cousin in Enfield would be entitled to be re-housed by the Council. Officers would find it difficult to disprove any of these claims, apart from pregnancy, particularly if the woman didn't speak English.

We argue that the Council must take a far more sceptical and rigorous approach to homeless applicants. The burden of proving claims under the homelessness guidelines should rest with the claimant. Proper documentary proof should be provided that demonstrates the household has no living accommodation in their country of origin. Family

relationships need to be proved by the production of birth certificates, etc. Work records need to be produced by applicants, etc. This may sound harsh but Enfield must not be seen as a soft touch if this problem is going to be contained.

The Council has to have the courage of its convictions and face up to legal challenges that this tougher stance may generate.

Provide greater financial incentives to private landlords

Most new homeless households are being placed in emergency accommodation by the Council because there is no permanent private rented accommodation and the cheaper forms of TA have dried up. Current rent levels in Enfield are shown below for 2 bed and 3 bed properties:

	2 bed	3 bed
LHA	£246 p.w.	£303 p.w.
Median private rent	£278 p.w.	£321 p.w.
Emergency accommodation	£340 p.w.	£400 p.w.

The Council offer financial assistance with deposits in the form of cash payments or guaranteed bonds. It also provides one off non-refundable payments of £1000 to landlords and agents to secure rented properties. Brent Council is said to be willing to offer £5,000 per property in Enfield to secure it. The Council's incentive payments are funded by the Homelessness Prevention Grant (£547,000 in 2015/16). Inner London local authorities receive much higher amounts.

Enfield policy currently is to pay landlords at LHA rent levels on which housing subsidy is based.

We advocate a more targeted approach to landlords who have in the past provided TA on a leased or leased annexe basis but may be considering evicting homeless households in order to re-house them later on an emergency basis at higher rent levels.

Emergency accommodation may generate higher rents, but there are some disadvantages to landlords. There tends to be a rapid turnover of tenants (or licensees to be precise) and consequential void and cleaning and other costs and general uncertainty. We feel that a better and more cost effective balance could be achieved by agreeing higher rents than LHA levels in return for longer term security and lower turnover. We advocate that Officers should put together a revised tenure package that sets out the financial and other benefits of staying with the private sector leasing model.

Moving homeless households in TA beyond the Borough boundaries.

Enfield received more homeless families from other Councils last year than any other borough in London, except for Lewisham and Croydon (approx 1550 compared with 1,900

and 1800). The main placing authorities as far as Enfield is concerned are Barnet, Haringey and Waltham Forest.

The London Council's Pan London Agreement on Inter-Borough Accommodation placements signed in April 2011 states that placing boroughs should not offer private landlords more than the receiving Borough would. This agreement like the previous version is now pretty much a dead letter. Moreover, the private landlords have recently given notice that a case will be brought to prevent anti-competitive behaviour by Enfield in placing households in TA.

Officers in Enfield are currently trying to reach a bi-lateral partnering agreement with an adjacent council to enable them both to procure substantial numbers of properties for rent at lower fixed cost to avoid some of the problems described above. We look forward to receiving further detailed information on the progress of this initiative.

Notwithstanding the efforts to mitigate the costs of TA by the Council, the cost continues to spiral ever upward. In Q2 2014/5 Enfield placed 94 households in other London boroughs. Barnet placed 304 and Southwark placed 437. More importantly, 423 households in total were placed out of London in Q2 2014/15. Barnet moved 64 households out of London, the highest number in London. Enfield have moved no (or very few) households out of London.

DCLG has issued detailed guidance on the definition of suitable rented property. We recognise local authorities need to take into account that accommodation should be found as close as possible to where the applicant was living previously; disruption to employment; caring responsibilities and the need to minimise disruption to children's education.

Officers have looked at the cost saving that could be achieved by moving households in TA to areas on the other side of the M25. The cost saving is achieved by moving households to an area where the difference between rental cost and the LHA is lower than in Enfield. Several promising areas have been identified, such as Hatfield and Welwyn. Officers need to also look at other areas in Essex.

Councillor Oykener has indicated that the Council will not move households outside the M25 if they do not want to go. In our view this is unrealistic. Households need to be identified, who meet the DCLG guidance and who live currently in expensive emergency accommodation. It is absurd to think that properties in Enfield often in tower blocks are more desirable than properties in more rural areas, particularly for families with small children. We are looking for evidence that the Administration is serious about pursuing this approach.

Conclusions

We acknowledge that this is a complex area with no simple solutions. It is also a problem for which the Council is not wholly responsible. However, the Council will be held to account if it does not take the difficult decisions needed and implement them vigorously. We are informed by officers that the council is looking at all of the options listed described above.

This report does not deal with the most obvious solution of all which is for the private sector and the Council to build more housing for owner occupation, for private rent, and for social housing because that is common ground between the parties locally and nationally.

This paper also doesn't deal with losses of Council stock through Right to Buy because this is currently government policy that the Council cannot alter and also the Council is seeking ways to replace these losses with new stock on a one to one basis. We will monitor its success in this regard.

Finally, the paper doesn't cover the Council's main initiative to deal with the cost of Temporary Accommodation, i.e. the Gateway project (spending £100m over 5 years on purchasing private housing in the Borough to alleviate the TA crisis). We think this will make it even more difficult for first time buyers to purchase a property and that the money would be much better spent increasing the social housing stock or purchasing properties in cheaper areas outside London.

Recommendations

We urge the council to:

- Reduce the number of households being accepted as homeless by placing the burden of proof on claimants to demonstrate that they meet the tests laid down in Government guidelines.
- Incentivise private landlords to let to Enfield Council at rents that more closely reflect market levels in order to reduce the use of more expensive emergency accommodation.
- Take steps to move significant numbers of households currently in emergency accommodation to cheaper areas outside the M25.

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13. OPPOSITION BUSINESS

(Updated: Council 23/1/08 & Council 1/4/09 & Council 11/11/09 & Council 29/1/14)

13.1 The Council will, at four meetings a year, give time on its agenda to issues raised by the Official Opposition Party (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 Council meetings will also provide opportunities for all parties and individual members to raise issues either through Question Time, motions or through policy and other debates.

(Updated: Council 11/11/09)

13.3 The procedure for the submission and processing of such business is as follows:

- (a) The second largest party shall submit to the Assistant Director, Corporate Governance 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 Assistant Director, Corporate Governance 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 Assistant Director, Corporate Governance 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) That Party Leaders meet before each Council meeting at which Opposition Business was to be discussed, to agree how that debate will be managed at the Council meeting. (Updated: Council 11/11/09)
- (g) 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 thorough the Chief Executive or the relevant Director.
- (vi) The issue paper should contain details of any specific actions or recommendations being put forward for consideration as an outcome of the debate on Opposition Business.
(Updated: Council 22/9/10 & Council 29/1/14)
- (vii) Amendments to the recommendations within the Opposition Business paper may be proposed by the Opposition Group. They must be seconded. The Opposition will state whether the amendment(s) is/are to replace the recommendations within the paper or be an addition to them.
- (viii) 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.
- (ix) The Majority Group will then be given the opportunity to say if, and how, the matter will be progressed.
- (x) If requested by the Leader of the Opposition or a nominated representative, a vote will be taken. (updated Council: 22/9/10)

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/2015 REPORT NO. **205**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:Council – 25th March 2015**REPORT OF:**

Director of Schools and Children's Services

Contact Officer:Michael Toyer, telephone: (020) 8379 5485
e-mail: michael.toyer@enfield.gov.uk**Agenda – Part: 1****Item: 8**Subject: Update on the strategy for the provision of secondary school places
Wards: AllCabinet Members consulted:
Cllr Ayfer Orhan**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 At the 8th October 2014 Council meeting the annual report on the Council's strategy to meet the demand for school places was discussed and a further report requested on the plans to provide sufficient secondary school places.
- 1.2 The Council has a duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet demand. The demand for, and supply of, school places is assessed each year in the Spring using the Greater London Authority (GLA) school roll projections and information on school capacity.
- 1.3 Analysis of the demand for secondary school places is that it will continue to rise until 2020 followed by five years of slightly lower demand then a steady increase from 2025.
- 1.4 There is sufficient spare capacity in secondary schools and agreed plans to provide additional capacity that will enable demand to be met up to and including September 2018.
- 1.5 Initial plans for the delivery of additional secondary capacity for September 2019 and 2020 will be developed and included in the annual report to Cabinet in June or July on pupil places and how demand will be met. Funding allocations from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) to provide additional places for 2018/19 and beyond are not yet known and the amounts available to the Council will depend on how many free schools or academies are approved for either establishment or expansion.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Council is asked to note the update provided.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the 8th October 2014 Council meeting the annual report on the Council's strategy to meet the demand for school places was discussed and a further report requested on the plans to provide sufficient secondary school places.
- 3.2 The Council has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet demand.
- 3.3 Each year the projected demand for school places is reviewed and compared with current available capacity in schools and any plans in place to provide additional capacity in future years. The Council uses the GLA produced school roll projections for this and they are generally made available in April. The assessment is done over a four to six week period culminating in a report to Cabinet in June or July on the supply and demand of places and any required capital works to expand schools to ensure that demand is met. For secondary schools the capacity is based on the number of forms and places of year seven intake. The report also contains information on costs and is referred from Cabinet to Council for any necessary amendment to the Capital Programme.
- 3.4 The GLA school roll projections for secondary school intake are increased by 3% to allow for fluctuations in population projections. This increase has been validated by the Department for Education (DfE) through the annual statutory returns made in the School Capacity Collection to the EFA. It should be noted that the GLA secondary age roll projections can fluctuate by up to 12% for some years at borough level. For secondary school provision the demand assessment is now done on a borough-wide basis as many young people are willing and able to travel some distance to attend a school of their choice.
- 3.5 In recognition of the Council's aspiration to provide an element of parental choice in school places, programme delivery aspires to provide a surplus of up to 5% of places in each pupil place area for both Primary and Secondary. This is in line with DfE Guidance published in September 2010 that recommended a minimum provision of 5% surplus of school places to allow for parental choice. Previous guidance suggested a range of between 5% and 10% surplus whilst the Audit Commission recommended a 10% surplus to achieve the best balance between use of resources and supporting parental choice.
- 3.6 There are two main routes to meeting demand, one being Council delivered provision and the other being academy or free school provision. For the latter the provider applies directly to the DfE and has to make a case that there is sufficient local demand but the Council is not formally consulted and has little influence over the amount or location of provision. Around half of secondary school provision in the borough is now through academies for free schools.

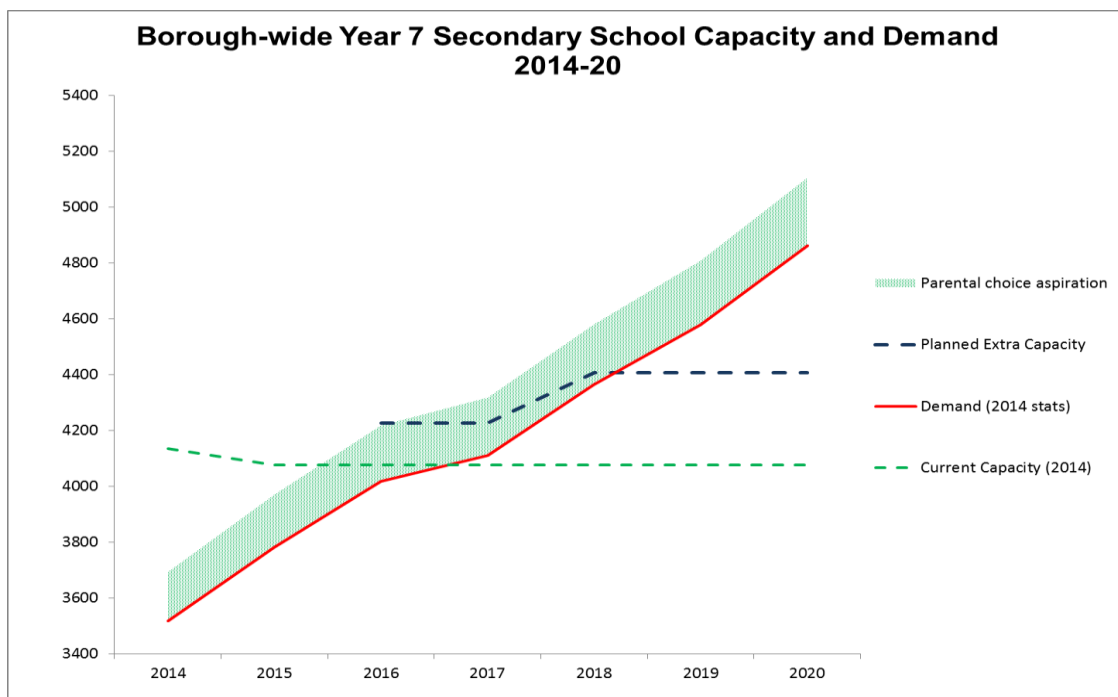
4. CURRENT DEMAND AND AVAILABLE CAPACITY IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- 4.1 In recent years there has been a significant increase in the provision of secondary school places from new academies and free schools in the

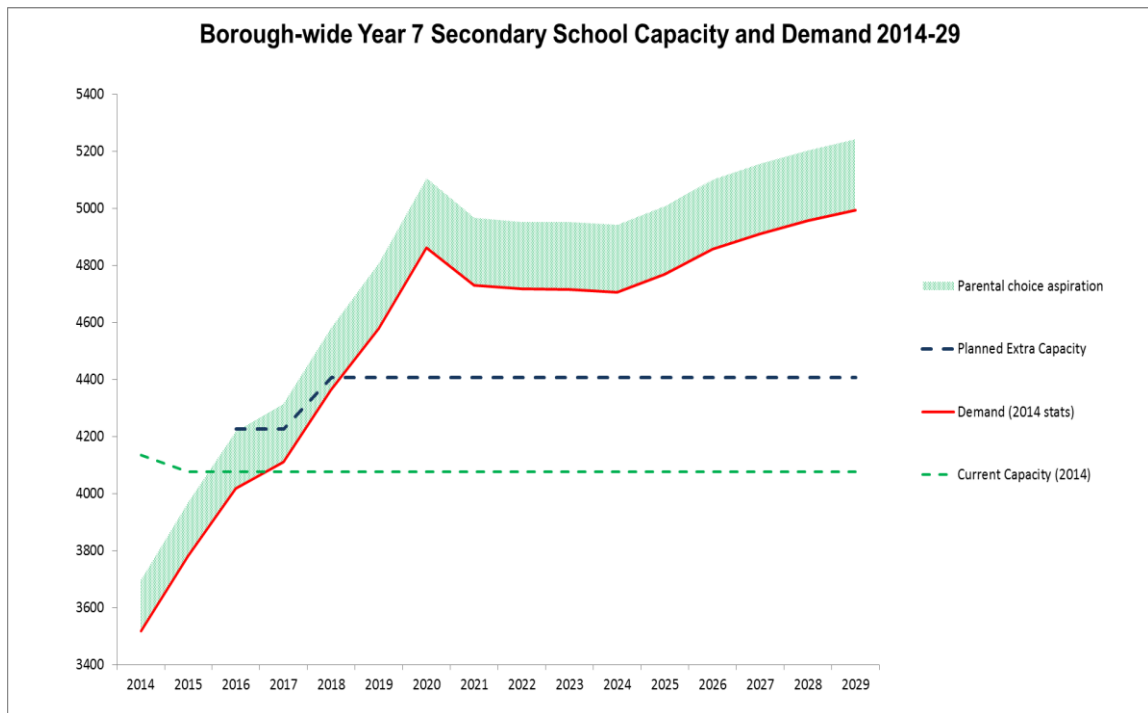
borough. This has resulted in provision for September 2014 of just over 4,130 year seven places with the October 2014 school census recording 3,630 pupil on the year seven roll. New academy and free school provision has created 500 places of spare capacity, which at 12% of overall capacity is quite high. Whilst this means there should be a large degree of choice for pupils about which secondary school to attend it requires schools to promote their offer sufficiently to ensure they can attract enough pupils to maintain financial viability.

5. FUTURE DEMAND AND CAPACITY IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- 5.1 The assessment of future need over the short to medium term (up to 2020) is based on the GLA school roll projections. These are uplifted by 3% to allow for fluctuations between each annual statistical release. The Council also aims to provide up to 5% surplus capacity to provide an element of parental choice and allow for in-year movements.
- 5.2 The picture of current capacity, planned extra capacity (projects that are confirmed either by the Council or EFA) and projected demand for the borough over the short to medium term are set out in the graph below where the current levels of spare capacity are quite clear.



- 5.3 Over the period, the demand for year seven secondary school places will rise and by September 2016 spare capacity will have fallen to within the 5% aspiration. The fall in capacity from 2014 to 2015 is a result of Oasis Hadley reducing its secondary intake as part of a plan to increase primary aged provision.
- 5.4 Over the medium to long-term the significant increases experienced in primary school rolls will work through the school years and impact on demand for secondary school places. This will result in five continuous years of sustained rises in demand up to 2020 followed by five years of slightly lower demand and a steady increase from 2025.



- 5.5 By 2020 an additional 26 forms of secondary entry will be required to meet demand, compared to the available capacity due to be available in September 2015. Confirmed schemes will deliver an additional 11 forms of entry up to September 2018 but that year will see a low level of additional capacity to support parental choice. The slight fall and levelling off of demand between 2020 and 2025 means that as long as demand in 2020 is met then no additional secondary capacity will then be required until 2026 but this is subject to review of subsequent releases and analysis of the GLA population and school roll projections.

6. THE APPROACH TO MEETING DEMAND

- 6.1 The high cost of providing additional secondary school capacity compared to the low levels of government grant available makes it difficult for the Council to directly deliver additional secondary school capacity. Government policy still prevents Councils establishing new schools. The Council will continue to work with the EFA plus academy and free school providers that want to work pro-actively with other schools in the borough to consider options to increase capacity when required.
- 6.2 The 2015 review of places and capacity will consider demand requirements from the GLA statistics due to be available from April. The focus will be on the 2018 to 2020 period and will need to consider the EFA's plans for any new free schools and academies, or expansions, that could provide the further 15 forms of entry required. If there is little evidence of suitable academy or free school led additional capacity, options will be developed for expansions of local authority maintained secondary schools to ensure the Council's duty to provide sufficient places continues to be met.
- 6.3 As part of the Council's ongoing engagement with secondary school head teachers there will be discussions about the future increase in secondary

demand and the approach to providing additional capacity to meet that demand.

6.4 Where it is clear that the Council needs to provide additional secondary school capacity then the following sequential assessment of local authority maintained secondary schools will apply:

- The school must be Ofsted rated good or outstanding and level one from the most recent Enfield Intervention and Support annual review;
- The school management and governing body should be supportive of pre-feasibility assessment and a subsequent consideration of an expansion once more detail is available;
- A capacity assessment of the site and available buildings that points to enough available space to meet with current EFA baseline designs for schools;
- A curriculum analysis of additional space required for expansion and consideration of options for potential sixth form expansion if required; and
- A cost analysis based on estimated costs from the feasibility work, available funding, site context, site conditions and building requirements must show that the expansion represents value for money when compared with available relevant benchmarks.

7. PLANS TO MEET FUTURE DEMAND

7.1 As previously stated, by 2020 an additional 26 forms of secondary entry, compared to the available capacity due to be available in September 2015, need to be provided in a phased way to meet projected demand. The table below sets out the confirmed schemes that are due to deliver an additional 11 forms of entry up to September 2018 and a number of proposals at an earlier stage of consideration for the delivery of a further 15 forms of entry by 2020.

Demand for places	Current known plans that meet demand
An additional ten forms of entry by September 2018	<p>5 additional forms of entry (FE) will be provided through Heron Hall's permanent building and is due to be available from September 2016.</p> <p>6 additional FE will be provided through ARK North Enfield's building due to be available from September 2018 in the East of the borough.</p> <p>These two schemes will provide one FE more than is required to meet demand.</p>
A further 16 forms of entry to be available between September 2019 and September 2020	<p>Two new schools could provide between 12 and 16 additional forms of entry by 2020.</p> <p>EFA funded options will be investigated with the best case scenario being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision in the South East as part of the Meridian Water development proposal; and • Provision in central Enfield or to the West to balance out the significant levels of provision in the East.

- 7.2 As part of the 2015 assessment of demand and capacity (to be reported to Cabinet by July 2015), options to deliver a further 15 forms of entry between 2019 and 2020 will be developed then assessed in terms of their viability and likelihood of success. This will inform the consideration of whether expansions of existing secondary schools will be required to provide the remaining three forms of entry required to meet demand in 2019 and 2020.
- 7.3 These options will be further developed through 2016 and once funding is confirmed form part of delivery plans to ensure building works can commence in 2017/18 to ensure delivery by 2019 for some provision and 2020 for the remainder.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 This is an update report and as at this stage a decision is not being sought as there are no alternative options to the proposed decision. As stated in previous reports on school expansions, Enfield Council has a statutory responsibility to provide the necessary school places and the School Expansion Programme (SEP) is the mechanism to achieve that. Failure to provide enough school places is not an option and for secondary schools, where free school or academy provision will not meet projected demand then the Council will have to develop plans, and secure funding, to deliver those places.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 There are no recommendations in this report. This report updates Full Council on the plans to provide enough secondary school places to meet projected demand.

10. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, RESOURCES AND CUSTOMER SERVICES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

10.1 Financial Implications

10.1.1 The current known plans that enable demand to be met up to September 2018 are based on EFA funded schemes, which mean the construction costs are directly funded by the EFA and new schemes delivered by the EFA. If Enfield Council is required to expand our secondary schools to meet a shortfall in places then this will need to be built into the Council's capital programme with the expectation that additional capital funding is provided by the EFA through either the annual Basic Need Funding rounds or one-off capital bidding rounds.

10.1.2 The funding of additional permanent primary and secondary school places is through the annual Basic Need Funding grant with a three-year formula-based allocation announced each year. We have recently been advised of our allocations up to 2017/18. The number of additional places required is based on data returns from the Council

to the EFA. The amount of funding is on a per pupil basis with the revised standards for the Priority Schools Programme as the cost reference. These costs assume off site construction on straightforward sites that have no challenges around ground conditions, additional planning requirements (such as conservation areas) or the need to “link” with existing buildings as in the case of an expansion. In Enfield it is rare that there are no site based issues which has in many cases resulted in costs higher than the DfE funding allocation. Where there is a funding gap then this has to be addressed through the use of other capital resources including Section 106 receipts, Community Infrastructure Levy allocation, capital receipts from asset disposals or unsupported borrowing within the Prudential Code.

10.1.3 Funding allocations for the provision of any required additional primary and secondary school places in the 2018/19 period are expected to be announced between December 2015 and February 2016. When the funding is announced the options for any Council provision of places will be reviewed to assess their financial viability.

10.2 Legal Implications

10.2.1 Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 requires that an authority ensures that sufficient school places are available within its area for children of compulsory school age. Case law upon this statutory duty confirms that compliance with the duty requires an education authority to actively plan to remedy any shortfall. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, includes the power to do anything ancillary to, incidental to or conducive to the discharge of any of its statutory functions.

10.2.2 Each Council-led school expansion will be subject to the statutory consultation process prescribed by Section 19 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013. There is also statutory and non-statutory guidance (School Organisation – Maintained Schools) issued by the DfE in January 2014. The decision on each Council-led statutory expansion will be made by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

10.2.3 Where Planning Permission is required in respect of any school expansion that proceeds beyond feasibility considerations and initial consultation with schools such will be accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). This will require statutory and public consultation. Pursuant to the Council’s constitution such will be required to be considered at planning committee. Works should not commence until such time as approval is given and any pre-commencement conditions (if required) by the planning permissions are discharged. Once planning permission is gained Building Regulations will need to be adhered to as part of the enabling and construction works.

10.2.4 All procurements of goods/services/works will be in accordance with the Councils Constitution, in particular Contract Procedure Rules (“CPRs”). In particular, the Council is able to utilise a range of EU compliant frameworks to engage the services of construction contractors or technical support staff such as architects or quantity surveyors in full compliance with the CPRs. Any use of a framework must be in accordance with the framework terms.

10.2.5 All legal agreements will need to be in a form approved by the Assistant Director of Legal Services.

10.2.6 Any acquisition or disposal of land will need to be in accordance with the Council’s Property Procedure Rules.

10.3 **Property Implications**

10.3.1 Where there is a requirement for a Council-led expansion, existing Council assets will be reviewed in the first instance. Where an acquisition may present itself, in order assist the SEP delivery, these opportunities will be need to be assessed in more detail with feasibility and due diligence studies.

10.3.2 Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT), transactional costs (legal, surveyors and disbursements), potential VAT, holding costs including security and vacant premises rates will need to be considered when acquiring a property and a suitable strategy will need to be enabled to limit the Council’s exposure to these cost items

10.3.3 If land acquisitions are required. The site values will depend upon the prevailing market conditions at the time, and external valuations may be required to support the acquisition of land. Internal and external approvals will be required and the Council will need to ensure appropriate consents are obtained or in place.

10.3.4 If existing Council assets are to be brought in to assemble land for an expansion then Appropriation to the correct holding department will be required. If Appropriation from the Housing Revenue Account to the General Fund is required then all transactions will be undertaken at current existing use value.

10.3.5 Initial consultations regarding acquisitions should require the Assistant Director of Strategic Property Services to be either present or informed. Relevant stakeholder consultation will be required from the outset to support either acquisition or disposal of land and gaining planning permissions. Depending on the site and land-use designation, consultees could include English Heritage, the GLA, Sports England and the appropriate Secretary of State.

10.3.6 The use of modular or system build techniques can assist with speeding up the construction process, but requires significant investment upfront in the design process. Additionally it has the

potential to lower costs as compared with the traditional build routes but this requires assessment of the prevailing market conditions and recent tender returns. Modular construction can significantly improve a buildings environmental performance and overall sustainability.

10.3.7 To meet statutory requirements it is vital to ensure that the Council's financial accounts do not include buildings (or parts of buildings) that have been demolished. To ensure we have high quality records and meet our statutory obligations Education Asset Managers will complete a demolition notification form and return to Property Services.

10.3.8 An inventory list of any material procured and produced will need to be kept. In the event of failure, appropriate arrangements will need to be made for these supplies to be retained and secured for the Council until a decision is made on how best to dispose of them.

10.3.9 Property Services will need to be aware and sent the new data being generated for the expansion of these schools. These include floor plans with room data for the purposes of the Asset Management System, Atrium. Property Services is involved in the programme management structure and is able to advise on acquisition, disposal and other land development issues.

11. KEY RISKS

School capacity and contingency

11.1 This report provides the detail behind the 2014 assessment of the supply and demand of pupil places. The next set of school roll projections will be available from the GLA shortly and will be reviewed to inform the annual update to the strategy for providing school places and subsequent report to Cabinet in the summer. The Council's aim is to improve parental choice, and minimises the risk of providing insufficient pupil places.

11.2 There is a risk that if popular and successful Enfield schools near the borders of neighbouring boroughs are expanded then this could encourage an influx of pupils from those boroughs if they have not been successful in expanding their own provision. Conversely popular schools in other boroughs that are easily accessible from Enfield can have the opposite effect and result in a net outflow of children.

11.3 Actual pupil numbers will be carefully monitored against projections, to ensure that secondary school places are provided in the most appropriate areas but there has to be an acceptance that there is no control over where EFA funded academies and free schools are provided. Officers will also continue to engage in regional and bilateral discussions about the provision of places to assess provision in other boroughs.

Concerns about school expansions

11.4 Experience to date suggests that the three most significant factors likely to cause concern to some stakeholders are car parking, increased traffic flows and the exterior treatments of outward facing structures. However, this is

more of a risk for primary school expansion as secondary school pupil generally walk or use public transport to travel to school. The programme and project team members will work closely with schools and Governing Bodies to ensure that designs are of the highest quality possible given the funding constraints and that issues of concern are addressed in the design proposals, including traffic management once technical information is available.

- 11.5 Both the informal and statutory rounds of consultation will be managed in a way that makes them accessible to stakeholders, including residents, to maximise opportunities for input.

Delivery timescales

- 11.6 Each school year the Council will have to fulfil its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places. Programme and project milestones will be clearly identified and progress monitored closely by the Programme Executive. Cabinet member decision-makers and key stakeholders such as Headteachers and Governors are engaged regularly through existing mechanisms.

Planning consent

- 11.7 Each school expansion will require planning consent. During the initial design and pre-planning processes, architects will carefully follow pre-application advice that has been provided, so that designs presented to the Planning Committee will be of a high quality and best placed for approval. However, there is clearly a risk at this stage. Some flexibility regarding pupil numbers will be provided within the programme to ensure that the Council meets its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places.

Basic Need Funding

- 11.8 The annual submission to the DfE is based on identifying existing capacity in the system. Thus, close monitoring of pupil numbers and a review of projections will ensure that the Council is best placed to maximise any Basic Need Funding for the provision of school places.
- 11.9 There is wider commentary on the fact that the per pupil amount of Basic Need Funding is flawed as it has not kept pace with construction inflation, does not allow for site challenges and does not make any allowance for acquisition of additional land to support expansions. A combination of the Local Government Association, London Councils and local authorities continue to lobby the DfE to recognise the reality of delivering additional school places when most straightforward school sites have already been expanded and that in most urban areas land is at a premium due to housing pressures.

Construction costs

- 11.10 If future analysis of EFA led provision of additional secondary school capacity through free schools and academies shows a need for Council intervention to ensure the statutory duty to provide sufficient school places continues to be met then the cost of delivering additional school buildings on

challenging sites could well become an issue. This could place a strain on wider Council finances.

- 11.11 If Government grant funding is not forthcoming, or is insufficient, and other sources such as Section 106 payments or Community Infrastructure Levy are also insufficient then prudential borrowing might have to be a route to funding school expansion but this would have a significant impact on revenue budgets. Currently, for every £1 million of borrowing, an additional pressure of £80k will need to be added to the annual revenue budget to address repayments.
- 11.12 Costs for each established Council-led project will be managed through the already established School Expansion Programme governance arrangements and will be subject to the Council's usual due diligence and value for money tests. Changes in estimated costs, established budgets and the spend profile will be managed through the Capital Programme via the quarterly Capital Monitor updates.
- 11.13 Wider economic and market conditions are likely to be a major factor in terms of contract costs. As previously stated, EFA Basic Need Funding does not reflect actual delivery costs. Additionally, construction market conditions suggest ongoing inflation in both the sector as a whole and the education sub sector. This is due to a combination of the increase in housing delivery and the scale of school expansions required to address demand across London and the South East.
- 11.14 Statutory requirements around the provision of places and guidance around teaching space sizes limit options on reducing the quantity of provision. Options on aligning the specification of materials in Enfield delivered projects with the EFA baseline designs, which form the basis of their projects, are being investigated to consider any impact on maintenance costs over the lifetime of the buildings. However, changes in specification to more cost effective options will not be able to counter balance a buoyant construction market. Additionally increasing the risk of higher maintenance costs could have a negative impact on school Head Teachers' and Governors' willingness to support expansions in the first place. Additionally they may even form a negative view of the Council as a stakeholder.

12. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Fairness for All

- 12.1 This proposal will result in pupil places being created across the Borough in order to meet demand in the relevant geographical areas which will also create employment opportunities for teaching and support staff. Further improvement and investment in school buildings will provide greater opportunities for enhanced community use.

Growth and Sustainability

- 12.2 By ensuring that places are provided in areas of highest demand, this will ensure that pupil mobility across the Borough is kept to a minimum. This therefore means that increased road travel is minimised and families can be encouraged to walk to school.

Strong Communities

- 12.3 The proposals outlined in this report will provide additional places in parts of the Borough where pressure on local schools is forecast to be greatest. The extra places provided in the neighbourhoods of highest demand will help satisfy demand in these specific areas and will ensure that young children will not have to travel unmanageable distances to and from school.
- 12.4 The proposals in this Strategy will allow the Authority to have greater control over the provision (and potential future reduction) of pupil places, allowing more opportunities to stabilise local communities and ensure that there are local places for local children.

13. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 An equality impact assessment was completed for approval of the overall strategy in June 2012. The strategy was developed to ensure that there are sufficient places across the Borough to meet demand, that these places are not discriminatory and to ensure that all children have access to high quality education. The delivery of the strategy is updated annually following a review of pupil place projections. In accordance with the publication of statutory notices, full consultation with residents and parents on each proposed school expansion will be conducted.

14. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 The provision of additional places at the schools identified in this report will enable the Council to meet its statutory duty to ensure the availability of sufficient pupil places to meet demand. The programme management arrangements are established and this provides the mechanism for both programme and project monitoring to ensure objectives are met.
- 14.2 The strategy presented in this report is consistent with the national agenda for expanding popular and successful schools.

15. HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 As all of the school expansion projects will involve contractors working on existing school sites, the Council will ensure that contractors provide the highest level of Health and Safety on site and meet Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) requirements.
- 15.2 There are no specific health and safety implications other than the impact of additional traffic, generated by increased numbers at the SEP schools. Working with Highways, funding has been included in the cost summary to allow for traffic mitigation measures on each of the schemes. As part of the planning approvals process, traffic impact assessments have to be submitted for each scheme, and the Planning Committee considers that as part of the approval process.

16. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

- 16.1 Providing school places in the areas where there is demand will encourage parents and carers to walk to school. This will impact on the health and well-being of the public in Enfield. Walking to school will encourage healthy lifestyles, and reduce pollution caused by traffic.

Background Papers: None

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MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/2015 REPORT NO. **207**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

Council – 25 March 2015

REPORT OF:

Director of Finance, Resources
& Customer Services

Contact officer and telephone number:

Paul Reddaway – 020 8379 4730

email: paul.reddaway@enfield.gov.uk

Agenda – Part: 1	Item: 10
Subject: Establishing the Local Pension Board	
Wards: Non specific	
Cabinet Member Consulted: N/A	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is concerned with the introduction of new pension governance structures.
- 1.2 The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 provides the platform for a number of changes to public service pension schemes, including the introduction of the new benefit structure from 1 April 2014 and a number of key changes impacting on the governance of public service pension schemes. The key governance elements included in the Act are:
- The new local roles of Scheme Manager and Pension Board which must be established by 1 April 2015.
 - The requirement to have a National Scheme Advisory Board
 - The extension of the Pension Regulator's role into the public sector.

The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations have recently been amended to implement these requirements.

- 1.3 Council is recommended to establish a Pension Board as now required with a largely supervisory role and a Pension Policy and Investment Committee to take decisions on behalf of the Council as Administering authority for the LBE Pension Fund.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

To approve the establishment of the Pension Board and Pension Policy and Investment Committee with the terms of reference set out at Appendices 1 & 2 and to amend the Council's Constitution accordingly.

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 The requirement to establish a Pension Board was enshrined in the Public Service Pensions Act and as such will become a regulatory requirement from April 2015. Ensuring that the Pension Board is established in time and able to fulfil its regulatory functions along with any associated statutory guidance, is not without some cost. However, in the context of a £760 million Pension Fund, the costs are not expected to be significant and should help to further demonstrate the good governance of the Fund.
- 3.2 Members of the Pension Board will be asked to attend training to ensure they are able to demonstrate the necessary understanding and capacity required by the regulations.
- 3.3 Other costs are likely to arise in terms of ensuring that there are sufficient resources to be able to service the Board and that where required, costs of training are met by the Fund. Again, in the context of the Fund, these additional costs are not expected to be significant.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 sets out the need for Pension Boards for all public sector pension schemes, including the unfunded ones such as the Teachers' Pension Scheme, as well as the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).
- 4.2 The Act sets out that this will need to be operational from 1st April 2015. The governance regulations have been published, setting out the requirements for LGPS Pension Boards.

5. REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD.

- 5.1 The regulations require a minimum of four members, with equal numbers of scheme member and employer representatives. Elected members or officers of an administering authority who are responsible for the discharge of any function under the Regulations may not become a member of that authority's Local Pension Board.
- 5.2 The Board, as per the Public Sector Pensions Act 2013 (PSPA 2013), will have a compliance role. The Board will not be a decision making body, but instead will assist the Council in securing compliance with the PSPA 2013 and other relevant legislation; with meeting any other requirements placed on the Fund by the Pensions Regulator; & with the efficient and effective administration of the Pension Fund. The Board will not be a committee of the Council in terms of the Local Government Act 1972
- 5.3 The Council, as an administering authority, is required by the draft regulations to be satisfied that all members of the Local Pension Board have the 'relevant experience and capacity to perform their respective roles'. It is expected that the level of understanding required will be further clarified by statutory guidance.

Members of the Board will therefore be required to attend training to ensure that this requirement is met.

6. PROPOSED COMPOSITION FOR THE BOARD AND COMMITTEE

6.1 Following discussion with the Staff Side, the existing Pension Board, and the Member & Democratic Services Group, it is now recommended that Board should consist of 8 voting members, with up to 3 additional non-voting (co-opted) members as follows:

- (a) 4 scheme members appointed by the Staff Side after a nomination and selection process with a view to representing all scheme members (including, as far as practicable, those employed or formerly employed by admitted and scheduled bodies) and after consultation with the recognised trade unions;
- (b) 4 Employer Representatives, 3 of whom shall be Councillors appointed by the Council and the remaining member shall be appointed by the Administering Authority from nominees of admitted and scheduled bodies.
- (c) Up to 3 other members, who are not entitled to vote, appointed to the Board by the agreement of both the Administering Authority and the Board.

6.2 Guidance on the creation and operation of Local Pension Boards issued by the Shadow Scheme Advisory Board notes that “the methodology for appointing employer and member representatives is not prescribed by the Regulations. It will therefore fall to each Administering Authority to establish an appropriate process. Options may includeselecting member representatives through existing representative organisations for example recognised trade unions...”. This accords with the Authority’s practice that employee relations are conducted through the trades unions and the staff side is considered to represent the whole workforce.

6.3 It is also desirable to retain the present member expertise on investment and actuarial issues. It is therefore proposed to form a 6-member Pension Policy & Investment Committee which will be based on the current Investment sub-Committee practice.

7. TERMS OF REFERENCE

7.1 Establishment of the Local Pension Board will require the following changes to the Council’s Constitution.

- (a) Adoption of the Local Pension Board Terms of Reference as detailed in Appendix 1.
- (b) Replacement of the Pension Board and Investment Sub Committee with the Pension Policy & Investment Committee and the Terms of Reference detailed in Appendix 2.

8. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, RESOURCES AND CUSTOMER SERVICES

8.1 Financial Comments

All costs to train the Local Pension Board members and to administer the Board will be financed through the Pension Board. The annual budget will be agreed at the first meeting of the new board.

8.2 Legal Implications

- 8.2.1 The recommendations set out in this report will help meet the Council's statutory duties and obligations for the governance and administration of pensions.
- 8.2.2 The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 ('The Act') introduces a new governance structure for the governance and administration of public service pension schemes to take effect from 1 April 2015.
- 8.2.3 The Act provides for a local Pensions Board to be established, consisting of a proportionate number of employer and member representatives - a minimum of 4 in total - with responsibility for assisting the scheme manager in (a) securing compliance with legislation relating to the governance and administration of the fund and requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator and (b) ensuring the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Scheme.
- 8.2.4 The Act also provides for explicit regulatory oversight of pension schemes by the Pensions Regulator. The Board must have regard to the Code of Practice: Governance and Administration of Public Service Pension Schemes issued by the Pensions Regulator, which provides practical guidance in relation to the governance, standards of conduct and general practices expected of local government pension schemes.
- 8.2.5 The terms of reference of the Board must comply with The Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2014.
- 8.2.6 The Council, as the administering authority, has a legal obligation to secure that persons appointed to the board have the relevant experience and capacity to represent employers and members on the board. Pension board members must be conversant with the rules and relevant policy administering the scheme and have knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions and any other prescribed matters.
- 8.2.7 There is no prescribed methodology for appointments to the board. All employers and members within a fund should have equal opportunity to be nominated via an open and transparent process for appointments. Where scheme members are not able to apply to be members of the panel or put forward their own suitably qualified representatives, there is a risk of challenge..

- 8.2.8 Any changes to the Council's Constitution arising as a result of these legislative changes must be approved by full Council.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 The Council is required to establish a Board. This papers outlines the options chosen for the set-up and administration of the Board and Committee.

10. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To meet the provisions of The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and DCLG regulations.

11. KEY RISKS

- 11.1 The key risk is the failure to have a properly appointed Local Pension Board in place by 31st March and to have an adequate training programme for the members of the Board.

12. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 12.1 Fairness for All – The recommendations in the report fully accord with this Council priority.
- 12.2 Growth and Sustainability – The recommendations in the report accord with this Council priority.
- 12.3 Strong Communities – The recommendations in the report fully accord with this Council priority.

13. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Council is committed to Fairness for All to apply throughout all work and decisions made. The Council serves the whole borough fairly, tackling inequality through the provision of excellent services for all, targeted to meet the needs of each area. The Council will listen to and understand the needs of all its communities.
- 13.2 The Council does not discriminate on grounds of age, colour, disability, ethnic origin, gender, HIV status, immigration status, marital status, social or economic status, nationality or national origins, race, faith, religious beliefs, responsibility for dependants, sexual orientation, gender identity, pregnancy and maternity, trade union membership or unrelated criminal conviction. The Council will promote equality of access and opportunity for those in our community who suffer from unfair treatment on any of these grounds including those disadvantaged through multiple forms of discrimination.
- 13.3 The use of Equality Impact Assessments helps the Council to analyse and assess the impact of services and policies which will help achieve its aims. The Council recognises that undertaking full assessments will help to improve the efficiency

and effectiveness of the Council by ensuring that residents and service users' needs are met

14. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The establishment of the Local Pension Board will ensure there is proper oversight of the London Borough of Enfield Pension Fund.

15. HEALTH & SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None.

16. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

All Local Pension Fund members will be have a full training programme with regular reviews of their knowledge.

17. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

None.

ENFIELD COUNCIL LOCAL PENSION BOARD

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Introduction

1. This document sets out the terms of reference of the Local Pension Board of Enfield Council (the 'Administering Authority') which is a scheme manager as defined under Section 4 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013. The Local Pension Board (hereafter referred to as 'the Board') is established in accordance with Section 5 of that Act and under regulation 106 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended).
2. The Board is established by the Administering Authority. It operates independently of the Pension Policy and Investment Committee. The Board is not a committee constituted under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and therefore no general duties, responsibilities or powers assigned to such committees or to any sub-committees or officers under the constitution, standing orders or scheme of delegation of the Administering Authority apply to the Board unless expressly included in this document.

Interpretation

3. The following terms have the meanings as outlined below:

'the Act' means the Public Service Pensions Act 2013.

'the Code' means the Pension Regulator's Code of Practice No 14 governance and administration of public service pension schemes.

'the Committee' means the Pension Policy and Investment Committee, which has delegated decision making powers for the Fund in accordance with Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 .

'the Fund' means the Fund managed and administered by the Administering Authority.

'the Guidance' means the guidance on the creation and operation of local pension boards issued by the Shadow Scheme Advisory Board.

'the Regulations' means the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended from time to time), the Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended from time to time) including any earlier regulations as defined in these regulations to the extent they remain applicable and the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009 (as amended from time to time).

'Relevant legislation' means relevant overriding legislation as well as the Pension Regulator's Codes of Practice as they apply to the Administering Authority and the Board notwithstanding that the Codes of Practice are not legislation.

'the Scheme' means the Local Government Pension Scheme in England and Wales.

Statement of purpose

4. The purpose of the Board is to assist the Administering Authority in its role as a scheme manager of the Scheme. Such assistance is to:

- (a) secure compliance with the Regulations, any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme, and requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme and;

- (b) to ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Scheme.

Duties of the Board

5. The Board should at all times act in a reasonable manner in the conduct of its purpose. In support of this duty Board members should be subject to and abide by the code of conduct for Board members.

Establishment

6. The Board was established, with effect from 1 April 2015, by Council on 25 March 2015. The Board may establish sub-committees.

Membership

7. The Board shall consist of 8 voting members, as follows:

- (a) 4 scheme members appointed by the Staff Side after a nomination and selection process with a view to representing all scheme members (including, as far as practicable, those employed or formerly employed by admitted and scheduled bodies) and after consultation with the recognised trade unions;

- (b) 4 Employer Representatives, 3 of whom shall be Councillors appointed by the Council and the remaining member shall be appointed by the Administering Authority from nominees of admitted and scheduled bodies.

- (c) Up to 3 other members, who are not entitled to vote, appointed to the Board by the agreement of both the Administering Authority and the Board.

- (d) Substitutes shall not be appointed.

8. No person who is responsible for the discharge of any function of the Administering Authority under the Regulations may serve as a member of the Board.
9. All representatives should be able to demonstrate their capacity to attend and complete the necessary preparation for meetings and participate in training as required.

The Chair

10. The chair shall be appointed by the Board and
 - (a) Shall ensure the Board delivers its purpose as set out in these Terms of Reference,
 - (b) Shall ensure that meetings are productive and effective and that opportunity is provided for the views of all members to be expressed and considered, and
 - (c) Shall seek to reach consensus and ensure that decisions are properly put to a vote when it cannot be reached. Instances of a failure to reach a consensus position will be recorded and published.

Terms of Office

11. The term of office for Board members is until the Annual Council Meeting in 2018 and thereafter for terms of four years, subject to para 12 below. A Board member may be appointed for further terms of office.
12. Board membership may be terminated prior to the end of the term of office if:
 - (a) A Board member is no longer able to demonstrate to the Administering Authority their capacity to attend and prepare for meetings or to participate in required training.
 - (b) The representative is withdrawn by the nominating body and a replacement identified.
 - (c) A Board member has a conflict of interest which cannot be managed in accordance with the Board's conflict policy.
 - (d) A Board member who is an elected member becomes a member of the Committee.
 - (e) A Board member who is an officer of the Administering Authority becomes responsible for the discharge of any function of the Authority under the Regulations.
 - (f) The member resigns.

Conflicts of interest

13. All members of the Board must declare to the Administering Authority on appointment and at any such time as their circumstances change, any potential conflict of interest arising as a result of their position on the Board. A conflict of interest is defined as a financial or other interest which is likely to prejudice a

person's exercise of functions as a member of the Board. It does not include a financial or other interest arising merely by virtue of that person being a member of the Scheme.

14. On appointment to the Board and following any subsequent declaration of potential conflict by a Board member, the Administering Authority shall ensure that any potential conflict is effectively managed in line with both the internal procedures of the Board's conflicts policy and the requirements of the Code.

Knowledge and understanding (including Training)

15. Knowledge and understanding must be considered in light of the role of the Board to assist the Administering Authority in line with the requirements outlined in paragraph 4 above. The Board shall establish and maintain a Knowledge and Understanding Policy and Framework to address the knowledge and understanding requirements that apply to Board members under the Act. That policy and framework shall set out the degree of knowledge and understanding required as well as how knowledge and understanding is acquired, reviewed and updated.
16. Board members shall attend and participate in training arranged in order to meet and maintain the requirements set out in the Board's knowledge and understanding policy and framework. They shall also participate in such personal training needs analysis or other processes that are put in place in order to ensure that they maintain the required level of knowledge and understanding to carry out their role on the Board.

Meetings

17. The Board shall meet at least twice each year.
18. The chair of the Board with the consent of the Board membership may call additional meetings. Urgent business of the Board between meetings may, in exceptional circumstances, be conducted via communications between members of the Board including telephone conferencing and e-mails.
19. A meeting is only quorate when at least three representatives are present, including at least one scheme member representative and one Councillor employer representative.
20. The Chair shall agree with the Board Secretary an agenda prior to each Board meeting. The agenda and supporting papers will be issued at least 5 working days (where practicable) in advance of the meeting except in the case of matters of urgency.
21. Draft minutes of each meeting including all actions and agreements will be recorded and circulated to all Board members within 15 working days after the meeting. These draft minutes will be subject to formal agreement by the Board at their next meeting. Any decisions made by the Board should be noted in the

minutes and in addition where the Board was unable to reach a decision such occasions should also be noted in the minutes.

22. The minutes may with the agreement of the Board, be edited to exclude items on the grounds that they would either involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act and/or they represent data covered by the Data Protection Act 1998.
23. The Board Secretary shall ensure that Board members meet and maintain the knowledge and understanding as determined in the Board's Knowledge and Understanding Policy and Framework and other guidance or legislation.

Public access to Board meetings and information

24. The Board meetings shall be open to the general public (unless there is an exemption under relevant legislation which would preclude part (or all) of the meeting from being open to the general public).
25. The following will be entitled to attend Board meetings in an observer capacity and may speak at the discretion of the Chair.
 - (a) Members of the Committee,
 - (b) Any person requested to attend by the Board.
26. The Administering Authority shall publish on the Council's website, as part of the Fund's Annual Report or the Governance Compliance Statement as appropriate, information about the Board to include:
 - (a) The names of Board members and their contact details.
 - (b) The representation of employers and members on the Board.
 - (c) The role of the Board.
 - (d) These Terms of Reference.
 - (e) Agendas and minutes
 - (f) Training and attendance logs
 - (g) An annual report on the work of the Board to be included in the Fund's own annual report.
27. Information may be excluded on the grounds that it would either involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act and/or they represent data covered by the Data Protection Act 1998.

Finance

28. The Administering Authority may meet the expenses of Board members in line with the Administering Authority's policy on expenses. The Administering Authority will not pay allowances for voting Board members.

29. The Board shall be provided with adequate resources from the Fund to fulfil its role. The Board will seek approval from the staff of the s151 officer for any expenditure it wishes to make.

Core functions

30. The first core function of the Board is to assist the Administering Authority in securing compliance with the Regulations, any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme, and requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme. Within this extent of this core function the Board may determine the areas it wishes to consider including but not restricted to:

- a) Review regular compliance monitoring reports which shall include reports to and decisions made under the Regulations by the Committee.
- b) Review management, administrative and governance processes and procedures in order to ensure they remain compliant with the Regulations, relevant legislation and in particular the Code.
- c) Review the compliance of scheme employers with their duties under the Regulations and relevant legislation.
- d) Assist with the development of and continually review such documentation as is required by the Regulations including Governance Compliance Statement, Funding Strategy Statement and Statement of Investment Principles.
- e) Assist with the development of and continually review scheme member and employer communications as required by the Regulations and relevant legislation.
- f) Monitor complaints and performance on the administration and governance of the scheme.
- g) Assist with the application of the Internal Dispute Resolution Process.
- h) Review the complete and proper exercise of Pensions Ombudsman cases.
- i) Review the implementation of revised policies and procedures following changes to the Scheme.
- j) Review the arrangements for the training of Board members and those elected members and officers with delegated responsibilities for the management and administration of the Scheme.
- k) Review the complete and proper exercise of employer and administering authority discretions.
- l) Review the outcome of internal and external audit reports.
- m) Review draft accounts and Fund annual report.
- n) Review the compliance of particular cases, projects or process on request of the Committee.
- o) Any other area within the statement of purpose (i.e. assisting the Administering Authority) the Board deems appropriate.

31. The second core function of the Board is to ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Scheme. Within this extent of this core function the Board may determine the areas it wishes to consider including but not restricted to:

- a) Assist with the development of improved customer services.

- b) Monitor performance of administration, governance and investments against key performance targets and indicators.
- c) Review the effectiveness of processes for the appointment of advisors and suppliers to the Administering Authority.
- d) Monitor investment costs including custodian and transaction costs.
- e) Monitor internal and external audit reports.
- f) Review the risk register as it relates to the scheme manager function of the authority.
- g) Assist with the development of improved management, administration and governance structures and policies.
- h) Review the outcome of actuarial reporting and valuations.
- i) Assist in the development and monitoring of process improvements on request of Committee.
- j) Assist in the development of asset voting and engagement processes and compliance with the UK Stewardship Code.
- k) Any other area within the statement of purpose (i.e. ensuring effective and efficient governance of the scheme) the Board deems appropriate.

Relationships

- 32. In support of its core functions the Board may make recommendations and requests for information to officers or to the Committee with regard to any aspect of the Administering Authority's function, which shall be responded to as soon as practical
- 33. The Board should report any concerns over a decision made by the Committee to the Committee which must, within a reasonable period, consider and respond to the Board. Where the Board is not satisfied with the response received it may require that a notice of its concern be placed on the website and in the Fund's annual report.
- 34. Where the Board is satisfied that there has been a breach of regulation, which has been reported to the Committee under paragraph 33 and has not been rectified within a reasonable period of time, it is under an obligation to escalate the breach. The appropriate internal route for escalation is to the Monitoring Officer and/or the Section 151 Officer (as appropriate).
- 35. The Board may report concerns to the full Council or the LGPS Scheme Advisory Board for consideration subsequent to, but not instead of, using the appropriate internal route for escalation.
- 36. Board members are also subject to the requirements to report breaches of law under the Act and the Code and the whistleblowing provisions set out in the Administering Authority's whistle blowing policy.

Review of terms of reference

- 37. These Terms of Reference shall be reviewed on each material change to those part of the Regulations covering local pension boards and at least every 4 years.

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PENSION POLICY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

6 Members of the Council

Committee Responsibilities

The Committee acts with delegated powers from the Council as Administering Authority for the Pension Fund and accordingly;

- takes key policy decisions in relation to the Pension Fund
- reviews the performance of the Fund's investments and funding strategies;
- approves admissions into the Fund.

The Committee is accountable to:

- Full Council and the Pensions Board.

Committee Structure

- For any matters relating to investments the Independent Professional Adviser appointed by the Committee (if available) and the Fund's Investment Advisers shall be in attendance.
- For matters relating to the triennial valuation, the Fund's Actuary shall be in attendance.
- The Committee shall meet at least once each quarter

Terms of Reference

The Committee shall:

1. Keep under review the fund's long-term strategic asset allocation.
2. Approve the appointment and removal of the actuary, investment managers and investment advisers, following appropriate procurement and selection procedures.
3. Set performance benchmarks and investment guidelines for the investment managers, supervise their activities and monitor their performance and risk against the benchmarks and guidelines.
4. Give directions to the actuary, investment managers and investment advisers with regard to any matter requiring the consent of the Authority or on which directions are sought.
5. Agree the Statement of Investment Principles
6. Ensure compliance with all relevant best practices for institutional investors and LGPS pension funds.
7. Commission and consider actuarial valuations and set contribution rates;
8. Consider any other policy or investment issue as the Committee see fit.

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MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/2015 REPORT NO. 208

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

Council – 25 March 2015

REPORT OF:

Director of Finance
Resources & Customer
Services

Contact: James Kinsella (020 8379 4041)

E mail: James.Kinsella@enfield.gov.uk

Agenda – Part: 1	Item: 11
Subject: References from Members & Democratic Services Group: (a) Amendment to policy on filming at Council meetings; and (b) Member Appointments Protocol	
Cabinet & Other Members consulted: n/a	

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents two items that were considered and agreed for recommendation on to Council by the Members & Democratic Services Group on 18 February 2015.
- 1.2 The first of these relates to an amendment to the policy agreed by Council on 9 October 2013 in relation to the filming of Council meetings in order to ensure that the Council is fully complying with changes introduced as a result of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations introduced in 2014.
- 1.3 The second of these seeks approval to the introduction of a protocol to govern the way that Member Appointment Panels operate and associated amendments to the Terms of Reference for these Appointment Panels and the Officer Appointment Procedure Rules.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Council is asked to approve:

- 2.1 the amendment to section (c) of the policy for filming at Council meetings, as set out in para 3.1.7 of the report and to the administrative change in terms of how the policy is cross referenced within the remainder of the Constitution, as detailed in section 3.1.8 of the report
- 2.2 Adoption of the Member Appointment Panel protocol and amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Appointments Panel and Officer Appointment Procedure Rules as detailed in section 3.2 and Appendix 1 of the report.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Policy on filming at meetings of the Council

- 3.1.1 Regulation 4 (6) (Part 2) within the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings & Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 included the provision that “while the meeting is open to the public, any person attending the meeting for the purpose of reporting the proceedings is, so far as practicable, to be afforded reasonable facilities for taking their report.” Supplemental guidance issued by the Department for Communities & Local Government (June 2013) “Your council’s cabinet – going to its meetings, seeing how it works: A guide for local people” specifically addresses the issue of filming at Council meetings.

The guidance says:

“Council meetings are public meetings. Elected representatives and council officers acting in the public sphere should expect to be held to account for their comments and votes in such meetings. The rules require councils to provide reasonable facilities for any member of the public to report on meetings. Councils should thus allow the filming of councillors and officers at meetings that are open to the public.

The Data Protection Act does not prohibit such overt filming of public meetings. Councils may reasonably ask for the filming to be undertaken in such a way that is not disruptive or distracting to the good order and conduct of the meeting. As a courtesy, attendees should be informed at the start of the meeting that it is being filmed; we recommend that those wanting to film liaise with council staff before the start of the meeting.

The Council should consider adopting a policy on the filming of members of the public speaking at a meeting, such as allowing those who actively object to being filmed not to be filmed, without undermining the broader transparency of the meeting.”

- 3.1.2 As a result Council, following consideration by the Members and Democratic Services Group in September 2013 agreed to adopt the following policy on filming at meetings of the Council:
- (a) The filming and recording of the public sessions of any Council, Cabinet, Committee, Panel or Area Forum meetings through any audio, visual or written methods will be allowed, providing this does not disturb the conduct of the meeting.

- (b) The Chair of the relevant meeting will have the power to withdraw this permission should it prove necessary due to the nature of the meeting or if the conduct of the meeting is disturbed, for example through flash photography, intrusive camera or lighting equipment or the behaviour of the person filming the meeting
- (c) Anyone wishing to record or film at a meeting must contact the relevant meeting administrator normally no less than 3 working days before the meeting in question so that the Chair, other councillors and any members of the public present can be informed and the necessary arrangements made.
- (d) All those visually recording a meeting must remain in designated areas within the meeting room and are requested to only focus on recording councillors, officers and the public directly involved in the conduct of the meeting. Should any member of the public participating in the meeting object to being filmed then the chair will make arrangements for that individual to be excluded from the recording.
- (e) Covert recording/filming at meetings will not be permitted and the person filming will be asked to provide an assurance that (a) recordings will include sound and vision; (b) the original version will be available to the Council on request and (c) that recordings will not be edited in a misleading way.
- (f) If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the press and public then all rights to record the part of the meeting to which the exemption applies will be removed.

3.1.3 The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 expand on the 2013 Regulations by specifying that any person attending a meeting must, so far as is practicable, be afforded reasonable facilities for reporting and may use any communication method, including the internet, to publish, post or otherwise share the results of their reporting activities. Publication and dissemination may take place in the meeting or afterwards.

3.1.4 Reporting is defined in the Regulations as:

- Filming, photographing or making an audio recording of proceedings at a meeting;
- Using any other means for enabling a person who is not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later; or
- Reporting or providing commentary on proceedings at a meeting, orally or in writing, so that the report or commentary is available as the meeting takes place or later if the person is not present;

- 3.1.5 The Council has already adopted a policy which allows filming to take place at meetings through any audio, visual or written methods, providing this does not disturb the conduct of the meeting. Having reviewed the policy against the requirements within the 2014 Regulations the one issue highlighted is the fact that section (c) of the Council's policy requires anyone wishing to record or film at a meeting to provide no less than three days notice prior to the meeting.
- 3.1.6 As the 2014 Regulations have created a legal right to record and film meetings open to the public it is no longer possible for the Council to impose a requirement for advance notice to be provided. In practice, the Council has been operating within the spirit of the Regulations by allowing anyone who turns up to film or record a meeting without advance notice to do so, but the policy needs to be amended to reflect the current practice and ensure compliance with the most recent Regulations.
- 3.1.7 The following amendment to section (c) of the filming policy is therefore recommended for consideration:
- (c) Subject to (a) and (b) above, reasonable facilities will be provided for anyone wishing to record or film at a meeting. Whilst notice is not formally required anyone intending to film or record at a meeting is asked to contact the relevant meeting administrator in advance of the meeting, so that the Chair, other councillors and any members of the public present can be informed and the necessary arrangements made."
- 3.1.8 Members and Democratic Services Group approved the proposed amendment for recommendation on to Council for formal approval and adoption within the filming policy contained in the Council Procedure Rules (Chapter 4.1 of the Constitution – para 33). At the same time they also agreed, as an administrative change to the Constitution, that inclusion of the complete filming policy wording within the Cabinet, Scrutiny and Committee Procedure Rules in the Constitution is replaced by cross reference to the relevant section in the Council Procedure Rules, as a means of avoiding duplication and streamlining content.

3.2 Protocol for Member Appointment Panels

- 3.2.1 Members and Democratic Services Group were also asked to consider the adoption, as part of the Officer Appointment Procedure Rules, of a protocol relating to the way in which Member Appointment Panels operated. The protocol had been designed to ensure that Appointment Panels were able to operate in a consistent way.

- 3.2.2 In developing the protocol the opportunity was also taken to review and update the Terms of Reference for the Appointment Panel and associated Procedure Rules relating to Officer appointments. The protocol and amendments recommended to the Procedure Rules and Terms of Reference have been set out in Appendix 1 of the report. A version of the appendix showing the amendments as “tracked” changes is available on request from Democratic Services.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 No other options have been considered in relation to amendment of the policy on filming at meetings as this has been designed to ensure the Council complies with the requirement in the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.
- 4.2 None – in relation to the protocol for Member Appointments.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 To ensure the Council complies with the requirements in the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 in relation to the policy on filming at meetings.
- 5.2 The protocol for Member Appointments had been designed to ensure that Appointment Panels operate in a consistent way, with the associated amendments to the Panel Terms of Reference and Officer Appointment Procedure Rules having been recommended in order to update the existing arrangements.

6. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, RESOURCES AND CUSTOMER SERVICES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

6.1 Financial Implications

None – the changes required to the Constitution will be met from within existing resources.

6.2 Legal Implications

The recommendation in the report has been designed to reflect, within the Council’s Constitution, the requirements within the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 as they apply to the Council’s policy on filming at meetings and to update the Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules relating to member appointments.

7. KEY RISKS

The Council has adopted a policy on filming at meetings of the Council which has been designed to recognise the increased use of social media and mobile technology. The amendment outlined in the report has been

recommended to ensure that the Council complies with the most recently introduced Regulations and to ensure a clear and consistent approach in the way the Council operates both its filming and Member Appointment policy and procedures.

8. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

8.1 Fairness for All & Strong Communities

The change in the policy on filming at meetings (required as a result of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations) and development of a protocol relating to Member Appointments have been designed to increase transparency and openness in relation to the Council's decision making process.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

It has not been necessary to carry out an Equalities Impact Assessment in relation to this proposal.

10. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The changes introduced to the Council's governance and decision making procedures have been designed to assist the Council in managing its business in as efficient and effective a way as possible.

11. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific public health implications arising from the proposals within this report.

Background Papers

None

Appendix 1: Protocols for Member Appointment Panels

- All panel members must have received the Council's Recruitment & Selection training or a refresher session within the last three years.
- All panel members must have due regard to the Council's Equality in Employment Policy.
- At the first shortlisting meeting, the panel must appoint a Chair and a Deputy Chair.
- The Deputy Chair will take over as Chair should the Chair be unavailable at short notice for the interviews.
- Should any panel member be unavailable for any panel meetings, including the interviews, an alternative Member (who has received the appropriate training) should be sought by the relevant Party and fully briefed by HR.
- The Executive Search & Select Agency will compile a longlist from which it will invite candidates for initial interview and assessment and will then compile a recommended shortlist.
- At the initial shortlist meeting, the panel will be presented with the recommended shortlist by the Recruitment Consultant representing the Executive Search & Select Agency together with details of the unselected candidates (these will be very brief for candidates not on the longlist). The panel will decide on the final shortlist, which may include any candidates that have not been recommended. Candidates will not be stood down until the final shortlist has been decided. Any candidates that the panel decide to bring forward to shortlist that were not part of the original recommendation will need to complete all selection assessments which will add to time and cost considerations.
- The panel will agree a set of core interview questions prior to the interviews commencing. These questions should reflect the key requirements of the post and the Council's competency framework. These questions should be asked of all candidates. Panel members should follow these up with probing questions tailored to each candidate. Sufficient time should be afforded to enable panel members to ask a number of such probing questions to ascertain the candidate's suitability for the post. To assist this process, the Chief Executive and/or Director (if appropriate) will also be able to ask questions.
- The panel will score the candidates' responses to each question using the agreed scoring criteria which will assist members to make a judgement but will not be determinative.
- At the end of the interviews, the Chair will allow for a full discussion on the merits of each candidate.
- Within the discussion, the panel will seek the views of the Recruitment Consultant representing the Executive Search & Select Agency, the Chief Executive and the Director (if appropriate) before making a final decision.
- Members should make every reasonable attempt to achieve a consensus (including consideration of the option to re-advertise the position), before moving to a vote. If this is not

possible, decisions will be made in accordance with the Constitution's rules for Committee decision-making.

CONSTITUTION

Part 2

Appointments Panel

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of each panel is dependent upon the level of the post being filled. Please see paragraph 1.9 of the Officer Employment Procedure Rules (Part 4, Chapter 4.12).

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- (i) To be responsible for making appointments to all posts at Director and Assistant Director level and for making a recommendation for the appointment of the Head of the Paid Service to the Full Council.

Chapter 4.12

Officer Employment Procedure Rules

1. Recruitment and Appointment of Officers

1.1 Where the Council propose to appoint any Officer, the Council shall:

(a) draw up in accordance with the Council's Recruitment Policies and Procedures; a:

(i) job description; and

(ii) person specification

(b) make arrangements for the post to be advertised in such a way as is likely to bring it to the attention of persons who are qualified to apply for it.

1.2 Where a post has been advertised as provided in paragraph 1.1 (b) above, the Council shall shortlist and interview all applicants who meet the requirements of the person specification.

1.3 Where no applicant meets the person specification, the Council shall make further arrangements for advertisement in accordance with paragraph 1.1 (b) above.

1.4 The steps to be taken under paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 above shall be taken in accordance with the Council's Recruitment Policies and Procedures and Policy on Appointment of the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive), Directors and Assistant Directors.

1.5 Declarations

- (i) The Council will draw up a statement requiring any candidate for appointment as an Officer to state in writing whether they are the parent, grandparent, partner, child, stepchild, adopted child, grandchild, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece or close associate of an existing Councillor or Officer of the Council; or of the partner or spouse of such persons.

- (ii) No candidate so related to a Councillor or an Officer will be appointed without the authority of the relevant Chief Officer or an Officer nominated by him/her.

1.6 Seeking Support for Appointment

- (i) Subject only to paragraph (iii), the Council will disqualify any applicant who directly or indirectly seeks the support of any Enfield Councillor for any appointment with the Council. The content of this paragraph will be included in any recruitment information.
- (ii) Subject only to paragraph (iii), no Enfield Councillor will seek to influence Panel Members to support one candidate over another and Panel Members should not take into account any such approaches in making their decision.
- (iii) Nothing in paragraphs (i) and (ii) above will preclude a Councillor or the Mayor from giving a written reference for a candidate for submission with an application for appointment

1.7 Arrangements for Appointments

(1) Head of Paid Service

- (a) The full Council will approve the appointment of the Head of Paid Service following the recommendation of such appointment by an Appointments Panel. The Panel will include the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, the Leader of the Opposition, and up to 3 other Councillors (split 2 Majority:1 Opposition).
- (b) The full Council may only make or approve the appointment of the Head of Paid Service where no well-founded objection has been made by any member of the executive within 7 days of notification.

(2) Director and Assistant Director:

- (a) Appointment to be made by a panel of 5 Members of the Council (3 majority and 2 opposition Members).
- (b) An offer of employment as a Director and Assistant Director shall only be made where no well-founded objection from any member of the executive has been received within 7 days of notification.

(3) Other appointments:

To be made by officer panels convened in accordance with the Council's Recruitment and Selection Procedure.

Policy Framework

All appointments to be made in accordance with the Council's Recruitment Policies and Procedure and Selection Procedure. The quorum for a Member level appointment panel is a minimum of 3 Members which must always include a Member of the Cabinet.

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Council Questions – Wednesday 25 March 2015**Section 1 - Questions to Cabinet Members****Question 1 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety**

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety present a breakdown of fly tipping levels per ward from May 2014?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The information is not available on a ward basis.

Question 2 from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please tell the Council about the work being done to build the Meridian Water Train Station?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

In partnership with Network Rail, Greater London Authority (GLA) and Transport for London (TfL), the Council has reached agreement for a £122m scheme to provide three tracking from Stratford to Angel Road station (S.T.A.R.) increasing rail provision at Meridian Water from the existing 0-2 trains an hour up to four trains an hour from 2018.

Angel Road station forms the central public transport hub for Meridian Water. It is a key element of the Mater Plan around which proposed new neighbourhoods have been planned and will be built to access via Meridian Boulevard to the east and directly from the Meridian Angel neighbourhood to the west. It's delivery is therefore essential to unlocking large scale housing developments and access to the employment opportunities in the Lee Valley.

A package of funding was approved at Cabinet (subject to call in) on 11 March 2015 to progress the project to the next stage of technical design to be delivered by Network Rail appointed consultants, Volker Fitzpatrick. It is anticipated that GLA funding approval will be secured by May 2015. It is expected that works will start on site during Summer 2016 and complete early 2018.

Question 3 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please list to date the Friends of the Parks Groups whom you have met as part of the consultation process in relation to not locking parks at night?

Reply from Councillor Bond

All Friends of Parks Groups that are affected by the proposal have been offered a meeting. Those that have taken up the offer are:

Aldersbrook Rec.
Town Park
Albany Park
Jubilee Park
Broomfield Park
Bury Lodge Gardens
Hazelwood Sports Ground
Oakwood Park
Trent
Forty Hall
Enfield Playing Fields
Grovelands Park
Pymmes
Tatem and Weir Hall

All other Friends of Parks Groups have been invited to put forward their views as part of the consultation.

Question 4 from Councillor Doyle to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

On average students from Enfield are likely to graduate with a debt of £44,000 and write offs are set to jump to £21bn over the next three decades. Does the Leader agree that the Government's system is not only bad for students but bad for Government debt?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Labour plans to cut tuition fees to £6,000 – a great boost for Enfield's young people. I am worried about the huge public debt that will never be repaid and I am surprised by the lack of awareness or any apparent concern shown by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Question 5 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

A Friends of the Parks Group has contacted me regarding their consultation meeting with you. They felt that the meeting was unconstructive and they were not talking to a representative from an organisation that was willing to listen to concerns raised.

Please could the Cabinet Member explain to the chamber whether or not his department is truly listening to the views of the Friends of the Park's Group in relation to not locking parks?

Reply from Councillor Bond

They are.

Question 6 from Councillor Barry to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety give the Council an update on Cycle Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Bond

In December 2014, Transport for London's Surface Board approved the release of Mini Holland funding for design and implementation in 2015/16.

In January/February 2015, inaugural meetings were held for all three of the Cycle Enfield Partnership Boards. These cover Enfield North, Enfield West and Enfield South East.

In February 2015, we started a series of exhibitions at local venues to update local residents and businesses about the Cycle Enfield project and enable them to comment on emerging designs. These exhibitions were held at Palmers Green, Enfield Town and Edmonton Green. A further exhibition will be held at Freezy Water on 2 April 2015. The drawings at these exhibitions showed how road space could be reallocated to accommodate cycle lanes. A further round of exhibitions is planned for June, followed by a 12 week public consultation.

Work is continuing with the preliminary design and modelling of main road cycle routes at A105, Green Lanes; A110, Southbury Road; Enfield Town and A1010, Hertford Road. Various surveys have been undertaken to gather the information needed for design. These include topographical surveys, traffic surveys, parking and loading surveys, town centre surveys and surveys to establish the locations of buried pipes, cables and ducts. Base models have also been submitted to Transport for London.

Work is also continuing with the Enfield Town to Meridian Water Quietway (due for completion by October 2015) and a network of Greenways.

Question 7 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

The week commencing 2nd March 2015 had lots of road works near the town centre area and some retailers commented that it was a very low footfall week. Can the Cabinet Member advise what action will be taken to better plan and co-ordinate these types of works in future in order to avoid causing disturbance and difficulty accessing the Town Centre?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The Opposition Group should note that UK Power Networks undertook connection works in Silver Street for the whole week starting on Monday 2 March 2015. This was a planned operation and the temporary traffic management arrangements, which prevented access from London Road/Church Street into Silver Street, involved diverting traffic along Southbury Road and Parsonage Lane, all of which was agreed with the Council's New Roads and Streetworks Team. The traffic signals timings were adjusting accordingly and temporary traffic signals were installed at the Silver Street/Parsonage Lane junction to control the traffic.

During these works, on the Wednesday, Thames Water had to undertake an emergency repair to a burst water main in Slades Hill. This was an 'unplanned' emergency operation, which could not be avoided. As a condition of the Streetworks Permit, the Council required Thames Water to manually control their temporary traffic signals in order to minimise traffic backing up during peak periods. The Council has issued fixed penalty notices to Thames Water for not manually controlling their signals and also for not having adequate attendance on site.

Thames Water also closed a lane in Genotin Road for a few hours during the middle of the one day (thereby avoiding the peak times) to replace a manhole cover. This work was also undertaken as an emergency operation.

The Council will continue to co-ordinate street works within its legislative powers, in order to minimise the impact on road users, particularly by imposing conditions on permit applications. It holds regular planning and coordination meetings and refuses applications for streetworks operators where it considers that there will be a conflict. However there will undoubtedly be delays to road users due to the temporary traffic arrangements, especially where emergency works take place.

Question 8 from Councillor Lappage to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please explain why, contrary to Councillor Neville's comments at last Council, the gap between Enfield's unemployment rate and the London average has diminished since 2010, after widening in the years beforehand?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

This reduction has been a direct result of the Council's strong partnership working with a number of key local agencies including Job Centre Plus, our further education colleges, voluntary sector partners and the business support agencies. The Council is focusing on the root causes of unemployment and making efforts to address these to alleviate the issue of entrenched worklessness. The number of Job Seeker's Allowance claimants is now at the lowest level for Enfield since early 2008. Working more closely with local businesses to identify employment opportunities continues to benefit local unemployed residents.

Question 9 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety, set out how he plans to enforce those who do not conform to the time-banded waste collection guidelines?

Reply from Councillor Bond

This information was been set out in Report No.163 agreed by Cabinet on the 11 February 2015.

Question 10 from Councillor Stewart to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Anthony Hilton in the Evening Standard on 4 March 2015 wrote ‘...the figures for the recovery certainly do not support the idea that the economy has been well managed.’ For Enfield residents, does the Leader believe that the economy has been as well managed as it could have been?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

2010-2014 will be seen in retrospect as Britain’s wasted years. Lack of growth, depressed consumer demand and failed deficit reduction will be the Chancellor’s epitaph.

Question 11 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety set out how many people attended the three recent Cycle Enfield public exhibitions?

Reply from Councillor Bond

To date, a total of 590 people attended the Cycle Enfield exhibitions as follows:

Location	Number of visitors
The Fox Public House, Green Lanes, Palmers Green	320
Dugdale Centre, London Road, Enfield	235
Community House, Fore Street, Edmonton Green	35
Total	590

To ensure a good turnout at the next exhibition on 2 April 2015 at Ordnance Unity Centre, Hertford Road, Freezy Water we are planning a higher level of publicity. This will involve delivering letters to all properties along the A1010 Hertford Road (North) and placing larger adverts (at least half page) in local papers.

Question 12 from Councillor Dogan to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Given the huge success of green gyms in Enfield, can the Cabinet member for Environment and Community Safety tell the Council of any plans to increase the number of such amenities?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The locations of the green gyms in the borough have been mapped and areas have been identified to target for additional green gyms when funding becomes available.

Question 13 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Residents of Fyfield Road have contacted me about the business Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) bays in their road. They would like those bays to be for dual use, for example resident and business CPZ permit bays. The rationale being that a large office block on the corner of that road is being converted into flats so therefore there will be a reduction in those needing the business CPZ bays. In view of the comments raised, will the Cabinet Member advise of the action he will now take to investigate changing the business bays, in Fyfield Road, into dual use parking bays.

Reply from Councillor Bond

In addition to shared use bays the lead resident on this matter has also asked that the CPZ be extended to include Sundays. Officers have written to the resident advising him that he needs to raise a petition to show that the majority of residents in this area support this proposal in principle. If this petition is forthcoming resources will be committed to design and consult on these changes.

Question 14 from Councillor Esendagli to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please explain why contrary to Councillor Neville's comments at last Council, youth unemployment in Enfield is the lowest it has been since records began in January 2006?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

This reduction has been a direct result of the Council's strong partnership working with a number of key local agencies including Job Centre Plus (JCP), our further education colleges, voluntary sector partners and the business support agencies. The number of young people aged 18-24 claiming Job Seeker's Allowance claimants are now at the lowest level for Enfield for over 15 years. At the same time the Council's targeted approach to businesses and partner agencies including JCP regarding young people has led to a marked decrease in claimant figures.

Question 15 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm whether our parking warden contractor has been informed of the Government announcement, that in the very near future, a 10 minute grace period, after the paid for time has expired, will be introduced before a parking ticket can be issued?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Yes, our contractors are aware of this decision. It may not be a coincidence that this comes out so close to a General Election. Some people might suggest this has more to do with electoral politics than good decision making and is nothing more than a shamefaced tactic by a coalition government that lacks any imagination.

Question 16 from Councillor Jemal to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Enfield residents often call for more police on the streets. Do you think they would support the Labour proposal on the Mayor of London budget to fund an extra 33 officers in every London borough?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Between July and September last year Enfield Council successfully lobbied the Mayor of London for additional officers (26), which had a significant impact on the crime levels in the Borough. At the October meeting of the Safer Stronger Communities Board (SSCB) it was noted that an overall reduction in those 7 crimes measured by Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) was 2.3% during the relevant period (when compared with the same period in the previous year).

The crime reductions achieved in this period alone are broken down as follows:

- Robbery **-1.9%** (-14.0% to -15.9%)
- Theft from Motor Vehicles **-7.7%** (-8.5% to -16.2%)
- Theft of Motor Vehicles -11.6% (+9.8% to -1.8%)
- Theft from Person -2.4% (-14.3% to -16.7%)
- Violence with Injury **-0.6%** (+17.9% to +17.3%)
(burglary and criminal damage were not reduced)

It is proven here that the impact of 26 officers for just a short period (two months) can really reduce crime and improve the safety of local people. The additional officers also kick started an improvement for Enfield as compared with other London Boroughs. We have now moved from 31st out of 32 to 7th best improved. We would very much welcome the proposal. More police would be welcome and all of the Chamber should support the Labour proposal.

Question 17 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm whether or not the allotments at the back of Ladysmith Road are statutory allotments?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Non statutory.

Question 18 from Councillor Hasan to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please update the Council on the progress with the Lee Valley Heat Network?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Following the successful launch of the Lee Valley Heat Network at City Hall in July 2014, work is progressing well. The team of expert consultants is in place, with the project on track for its main investment decision this summer. It will then go live, with the first 40 customers at Ladderswood set to receive heat in September 2015.

Question 19 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

The Corporate Performance Report was tabled at the last Cabinet meeting for Quarter 3. It stated that residual waste was still rising. Please set out what action plan has been put in place to combat this issue?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The main sources of waste impacting on this indicator are the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) and the kerbside tonnages from households. To this end a new HWRC contract has been let with challenging key performance indicators to address this. On the kerbside services options are being reviewed which will take into account reducing waste arisings and increasing recycling.

Question 20 from Councillor Jiage to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

An illegal encampment has been brought to the Council's attention. Can the Cabinet member for Environment and Community Safety tell the Council what action has been taken to remove this?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Councillor Jiage is referring to Hermitage Lane. The Council deals quickly and

decisively with illegal encampments, working with landowners and using local bylaws to ensure a smooth and effective result. This has now been fully cleaned up by the Council.

Question 21 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety update the chamber on when lights will finally be installed in Forty Hall car park?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The installation of the lighting in the Forty Hall car park is being delivered through the Heritage Lottery Fund project, via leisure. The lighting will require a planning application which will be submitted in April 2015, with works commencing in the summer and ready for next winter.

Question 22 from Councillor Maguire to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Sir Hue Orde, President of the Association of Chief Police Officers, has warned that the risk to citizens of the Tory plans to cut a further 20% from police budgets would rise exponentially. Will Enfield be safe under a future Tory Government?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Enfield is never safe under a Tory Government. Public services require a Government that values them.

I feel that Enfield's police allocation should be greater than the current 558 (this is the revised figure for police officers- now that some core functions such as custody are managed centrally) - loss of 112 (as an average cost/rank) potentially would surely make the already challenging role of the police extremely difficult.

It is worth noting that Community Safety budgets have also been cut by this Government which would leave the partnership with less flexibility to provide extra support for our local officers. Enfield Council continues to support policing levels by funding additional Police Community Support Officers (PCSO)s.

With extra demands on the police around ensuring domestic security and tackling serious and organised crime, such a reduction would place strains on local areas which will not go unnoticed by local residents.

Question 23 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

I was informed that Enfield Council was present at the February 'Sitematch London' event. This was described as 'putting developers in touch with councils and public bodies to discuss London's priority development sites'. However I am very confused

as you made great play in the local press about Enfield Council's refusal to go to MIPIM UK towards the end of 2014, an event geared towards putting councils in touch with developers. Can I ask what has caused you to change your mind, or did you not know that officers were going to the Sitematch London event?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Sitematch is a different proposition to MIPIM. It is supported and hosted by the Greater London Authority to facilitate meetings between development partners and public sector bodies. It does not carry the expense of MIPIM and it is not a place where deals are struck.

Question 24 from Councillor During to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please update the Council regarding land assembly at Meridian Water?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

A delegated authority report has been approved which authorises the acquisition of the three National Grid sites; contract completion is scheduled for early April 2015. The Council's agent is currently negotiating the acquisition of two further sites at Meridian Water with a view to reaching a deal by the summer.

Question 25 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Sitkin Cabinet Member for Economic Development

How many conversations has he had with anyone involved with Tech City to see how Enfield can look to emulate the growth of the technology sector in and around Shoreditch/the Olympic Park

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Overlooking Councillor Dines' further confusion about Enfield's distance from the Central London cluster, to which he refers, this administration is indeed working with counterparts to develop the high-tech capabilities that will benefit Enfield's future. Conversations are being planned with Tech City to identify how Enfield can benefit from this model. Actions in this area range from the work we are doing to improve broadband connectivity borough-wide; specific technology investors we have been targeting; and the excellent progress we are making in building up our workforce's STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) capacities. Likewise and working with London and Partners, the Greater London Authority (GLA) and UK Trade and Investment we are looking at a range of other sectors for growth to ensure Enfield is well positioned and has a good balance of sustainable industry sectors for the future.

Question 26 from Councillor Chibah to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Many complaints have been received from schools about parking outside schools at drop off and pick up times, can the Cabinet Member advise the Council what action is to be taken outside the schools to combat this?

Reply from Councillor Bond

There are a minority of parents that continue to flout parking and traffic restrictions which can be a danger to parents, children and residents. We currently enforce outside of schools using our current resource. In the coming weeks we will also be introducing a more targeted enforcement approach to deter motorists from parking inconsiderately at problem schools.

Question 27 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Oykenner, Cabinet Member for Housing & Estate Regeneration

Do you lead on the Meridian Water development, or is it Councillor Sitkin?

Reply from Councillor Oykenner

If Councillor Dines reads the cabinet papers/decisions closely, he will know who is responsible for the Meridian Water project and who is accountable for each element of it.

Question 28 from Councillor Levy to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader believe that Enfield residents would like to see the Prime Minister debate on TV with Ed Miliband or is he chicken, as suggested by a National newspaper, for appearing unwilling to debate?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

As a highly paid servant of the people the Prime Minister should make himself available to debate with the Leader of the Opposition during the General Election campaign. The public will draw their own conclusions if he refuses to meet what I consider to be a democratic requirement.

Question 29 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Do you lead on the Meridian Water development, or is it Councillor Oykenner?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

If Councillor Dines reads the cabinet papers / decisions closely, he will know who is responsible for the Meridian Water project and who is accountable for each element of it.

Question 30 from Councillor Pite to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Given reports in the local press about 'racers' on the A10 on Sundays, can the Cabinet member for Environment and Community Safety advise what has happened recently to combat this activity?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The issue on the A10 has been occurring on and off for around the past six years. The section of the A10 primarily affected on Enfield is between the junction with Lincoln Road and the M25, in both directions. Transport for London (TfL) have primacy for this section of road and they are also responsible for the cameras in this location, for this reason the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Traffic Unit are scheduled to meet with TfL.

In response to recent complaints, Enfield Police supported by colleagues from the MPS Traffic Unit have been providing additional patrols at the location. This has resulted in a number of arrests, speeding tickets and court summonses being issued. Several cars have also been seized for not having insurance. In addition, over the past few years the Local Neighbourhood Policing Team have worked with businesses on the local retail parks to identify what can be done to prevent large numbers of drivers gathering into car parks, for unofficial car cruising events and have successfully disrupted planned gatherings.

We are aware that Automatic Number Plate Recognition is being put in by the retailers and the Council welcome this.

Question 31 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Given the seeming inability of either Councillor Oykenor or Councillor Sitkin to deliver the Meridian Water development shouldn't someone else be leading on it?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

I have confidence in the ability of the Cabinet Members to deliver a successful development.

Question 32 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Taylor Leader of the Council

Does Councillor Taylor agree with the Leadership of Greater Manchester that devolution of the NHS Budget to the Council is a good thing or does he agree with Andy Burnham, Shadow Secretary of State for Health, that is a bad thing? If he thinks it is a good thing, will he be lobbying the Shadow Health Secretary to change his mind and look at what powers can be devolved to Enfield Council?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Councillor Dines appears to have not followed the Shadow Secretary of State's comments with the required rigour if he is to make assertions about the tenor of those statements. Mr Burnham did not question the principle of integration but raised questions about NHS reorganisation which the current Government have totally botched.

For my part more devolution of public services to borough and sub-regional partnerships without costly additional bureaucracy are to be welcomed.

I, with Mayors and Leaders of other boroughs, will be encouraging a public debate on this issue.

Question 33 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance

Do you agree with Ed Balls (Shadow Chancellor) that a Labour Government would be correct to cut £3.3bn from Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in 2015/16? If not, have you written to him to explain that in your opinion this is a bad idea? If you do think this is a bad idea but have not written to him, why haven't you given your Leader's endless comments that Coalition cuts have been too excessive to date? If you haven't written to him, is this for political reasons?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

Whilst Mr Balls and indeed Ms Cooper have both been to Edmonton Green to assist me, I would never presume to advise them on how to do their respective jobs. As we all know Mr Balls will shortly be running the nation's finances. This administration will continue to run Enfield.

Question 34 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Taylor

Can you give a categorical assurance that through the strategic review of the Green Belt Portfolio that I understand the Council is soon to begin, Enfield Council will not be looking to alter the categorisation of any Green Belt land in the Borough, making some of it available for development?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

The strategic review of the Green Belt will form part of the review of the Council's Local Plan. In advance of public consultation on the key issues and options for the Plan, it would be premature to determine the extent to which this review will encompass.

Question 35 from Councillor Rye to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

Following the judgement by Care Quality Commission (CQC) on North London Asian Care (NLAC) - extract shown below:

The report concluded the centre failed to provide safe, effective, caring and responsive care, and was not well led.

In their report, inspectors wrote: "Not all staff at the agency could demonstrate that they understood their responsibilities in relation to some areas of their work and therefore this indicated that training was not always effective.

"This included a lack of understanding around the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and staff responsibilities in relation to supporting people to make their own decisions."

Detailed assessments of people's conditions were not always provided and direction for staff was not always clear.

Sally Warren, deputy chief inspector of adult social care in London, said: "Although we saw some improvements from our last inspection it is concerning that North London Asian Care have failed to take further action to deal with the concerns which we identified; this is not acceptable as people are not being provided with a service which is safe.

"It is positive that staff feel supported but it is essential that people have comprehensive care plans and that when an incident happens there is a process in place for staff to learn from it in order that people are protected in the future.

"Our inspection report sets out the action the provider and the registered manager are required to take to address the concerns we have identified. We will inspect again and if action has not secured improvements we will have no alternative but to take further enforcement action."

Would the Cabinet Member inform the Council how much council money has been allocated to this organisation in the past three financial years? In addition would he inform the council what due diligence was undertaken on this organisation if any monies were awarded?

Reply from Councillor McGowan

North London Asian Care (NLAC) provide personal care, sitting services to allow breaks for carers, domestic assistance, live in care and activities aimed at providing information and advice about healthy living as well as social activities. The Council has been working with NLAC through the provision of grants since 2008 and through directly commissioned services since 2002.

Over the last three years Adult Social Care has, either through voluntary sector grants or directly commissioned arrangements, spent £791,000 with this

organisation. There will be additional spend with this organisation through direct payment arrangements where service users and their families choose to contract directly.

The Council undertakes regular reviews of people who use services in order to determine whether the services provided are meeting the needs and goals identified within assessments and support plans.

Following the CQC Inspection in July 2014, Enfield Council instigated the Provider Concerns Process to support NLAC to improve standards of care from August 2014. An improvement plan was set out by NLAC, which is regularly monitored.

Question 36 from Councillor Rye to Councillor Don McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

Former Labour councillor and Ex Mayor Chaudhury Anwar Chief Executive Officer of North London Asian Care stated to the local press on Monday 16th February <http://www.northlondon-today.co.uk/news.cfm?id=24609> “that in fact when Enfield Council carried out an inspection they found that 98 per cent of the users were very satisfied with the service and the Care Quality Commission findings in fact related to the administration and paperwork of the company.

“We provide care for a very hard to reach group of people – those older people who speak very little English and who would otherwise not get a good service.”

“The inspection itself was carried out eight months ago and in that time we have made major improvements to our paperwork processes.”

Could the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care make the Council’s report available?

Reply from Councillor McGowan

The Council does not inspect Domiciliary Care agencies. The regulator for Domiciliary Care is the Care Quality Commission and they have responsibility for regular inspections and publishing their inspection reports.

Question 37 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

The Save Trent Park Campaign has garnered wide ranging public support, with thousands of Enfield residents expressing their concern over the future of the former Middlesex University campus by signing the online petition.

What steps are they/Enfield Council taking to ensure the demands in the petition are met – namely:

1. For Enfield Council to grant the former Middlesex University campus the status of an Asset of Community Value (as per the application submitted by

the Friends of Trent Country Park and Christ Church Cockfosters).

2. For Enfield Council to amend planning rules to grant permanent public access across the grounds (as enjoyed for decades during Middlesex University's ownership).
3. To actively encourage a long term public use for the listed mansion and grounds which will also promote the important role the Estate played in World War II.
4. To re-evaluate the management and strategic vision of Trent Country Park as a whole with a focus on improving public amenity and promoting the Park's historic and natural qualities?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

1. The Council can only formally consider a nomination for an Asset of Community Value if it is submitted by an eligible organisation with appropriate supporting information. The burden to provide information rests with the eligible organisation making a nomination. You will be aware this is the process designed by the current Government.

The Council received two nominations for Trent Park on the 4 March 2015, and officers are currently evaluating the nominations in accordance with legislative requirements, national guidance and the Asset of Community Value process that Cabinet approved in January 2014. Officers will need to systematically review the nominations to ensure they meet the necessary criteria, and if the nomination meets these criteria, then can it be added to the successful nominations list.

2. The importance of public access is recognised with the adopted Planning Statement and continued access will be considered when looking at any proposals regarding the re use of the site. However, the Council does not have planning powers to confer public access across the site.
3. The Trent Park Campus Planning Statement adopted in 2012 states that 'The Council's foremost priority is to secure an appropriate long term use for the site that delivers the protection and enhancement of both the site's built and landscape heritage'. Any discussions with prospective or new owners will follow the agreed planning statement.

One of the Planning Statement's overarching principles, that will govern the Council's considerations for the site, is Heritage Value. Paragraph 3.2 of the statement refers to 'The Council's requirement for heritage led redevelopment to preserve *and* enhance the Borough's heritage'.

It also states that 'Redevelopment opportunities should aim to:

- Conserve and improve the heritage value of the Mansion and its setting.

- Repair and enhance the structures, features and statues that characterise the Mansion and Park, with priority given to those heritage assets that are At Risk.
- Restore key landscape features both structures and designed landscape.
- Explore appropriate uses for the Mansion and associated buildings, including potential demolition of inappropriate recent buildings to ensure long term conservation and enhancement.
- Improve management, maintenance and security of the Mansion and the Park as a whole.
- Increase the range of park visitors and audiences.
- Improve greater understanding and accessibility to the heritage value of the Mansion and Park.

The Council seek to conserve the heritage asset, which includes all significant phases of the heritage assets history from the Jebb Mansion, through the C20th Sassoon house to the important role the Estate played in World War II.

The planning statement also acknowledges at paragraph 3.8 'Coupled with the heritage element is the continued expectation to secure public access to the heritage assets for future enjoyment. The University currently offers permissive public access arrangements throughout the grounds, albeit with restrictions in place overnight. The Council would look positively at any future uses that would continue such arrangement, and would also wish to extend opportunities by way of negotiating managed access arrangements to some of the key assets such as the Orangery, Lido, Mansion and daffodil lawn, possibly through potential annual 'open house' events. Measures such as reinstating existing footpaths together with the creation of new footpaths and bridleways, links to other green networks and, where appropriate, urban fringe areas should also be explored to help promote the creation of wider green infrastructure, and ensure compliance with the Council's planning policies.

3. The park is of green flag status and as such has a comprehensive management and maintenance plan in place.

Question 38 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Will he ensure Enfield Council grants the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park the status of an Asset of Community Value as per the application submitted to Enfield Council by the Friends of Trent Country Park and Christ Church Cockfosters?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

A successful nomination for Asset of Community Value status is dependent on the strength of the bid received, which will need to provide a cogent argument demonstrating that the asset is of community value as defined by national legislation.

Subject to the nomination being judged by officers to meet the necessary criteria, the

asset will indeed be added to the successful nominations' list.

Legislation suggests that the evaluation panel and indeed the appeals panel should consist of officers. The evaluation panel consists of officers from Property Services, Neighbourhood Regeneration, and Communities and External Relations. Officers will be using the criteria and procedures stipulated in legislation to evaluate nominations.

The Council has published information on its website

<http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/1000000236/property/2756/assets>

The website includes an overview of the process, the nomination form and the evaluation criteria that will be applied to a nomination.

Question 39 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

There is considerable concern over the condition of the heritage assets at the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park. The terrace of the Grade II listed mansion together with the listed landscape is on English Heritage's "At Risk" Register and English Heritage (at the time of writing) have confirmed they are seriously considering adding the house to the "At Risk" Register too and that this site is top of their list of priorities. Since Middlesex University moved out in 2013 the condition of the assets have rapidly deteriorated due to:

- A lack of maintenance and attention.
- Commercial activity including filming that is taking place on a regular basis across the site.
- A lack of electricity to the site which suggests damp may be prevalent (which, if the case, suggests potential structural risk and potential damage to the Rex Whistler murals). and
- Concerns over the condition and (at the time of writing) the whereabouts of some of the valuable and listed statues.

What has Enfield Council done since the campus was sold in 2013 to date to ensure that the heritage assets will be protected from future harm; and what steps will Enfield Council take to mitigate any future harm or damage?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

English Heritage categorise entries on their at risk register against a rate of deterioration identified as A – F (with A being Immediate risk of further rapid deterioration or loss of fabric: no solution agreed, to F, repair scheme in progress and (where applicable) end use or user identified; functionally redundant buildings with new use agreed but not yet implemented. Officers from English Heritage have arranged to inspect the buildings before the end of the month and will form their own

view.

The commercial filming does not appear to have caused any physical damage to the fabric of the buildings to the best of our knowledge.

When officers inspected the Mansion at the end of last year (Nov 14), the electricity supply was still connected. There was no evidence of structural failure or decay to the Whistler murals. There was an area of water ingress on the upper floors (to the west of the Mansion) which needs to be investigated and addressed. Again, English Heritage has arranged to inspect the buildings before the end of the month and will form their own view.

In regards to your point about statues, can I please refer you to the response to question 41.

Since vacated by Middlesex University, the site has been visited by various Council officers on numerous occasions and an ongoing dialogue with the owners representatives has taken place.

Question 40 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Due to the very vulnerable state of the heritage assets at the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park, in particular the subsiding terrace at the rear of the mansion which appears on English Heritage's At Risk Register - will Enfield Council issue an Urgent Works Notice to ensure repairs are carried out to prevent future harm and damage? If not, what assessment and evidential conclusions is the decision based on?

Reply from Councillor Bond

In terms of the Terrace, there is a need to treat vegetation rooting in the building fabric, treat and clear vegetation from around the structure to facilitate inspection access and to prevent moisture penetrating the brickwork and check against further growth. The temporary props should be checked to ensure continued support to the defective retaining walls until such time that permanent repairs are undertaken. The doors to the storage rooms beneath the external steps should be secured to prevent theft.

English Heritage is visiting with a specialist structural engineer to advise if any urgent works are required. The owner will be asked to do them. If the owner fails to do them the Council can consider serving an Urgent Works Notice (and the associated identification of funds to undertake the works in default should the owner fail to do so). This is restricted to the minimum works that are urgently necessary to preserve the structure, rather than repair. It would be necessary to follow due process to pursue an Urgent Works Notice.

Question 41 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please list all Enfield Council enforcement visits, including the dates of such visits, to the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park since the site was sold to ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD in 2013, and please state:

1. What prompted each visit?
2. What conclusions were drawn?
3. What actions were demanded and of whom? And
4. What actions were taken to ensure compliance by the owners or any other party?

Please also confirm:

5. Whether planning permission was sort to demolish the wooden class rooms in the Stable Block yard, which is in a conservation area and Green Belt?
6. Whether enforcement have visited the site to ensure the services to the demolished block have been correctly and safely terminated and whether any visit is scheduled and when? And
7. Whether any debris from the demolition has or will be been removed from the site in accordance with Enfield Council requirements?

Reply from Councillor Bond

August 2014 –

1. Complaints from residents and users of the Park.
2. Visit carried out with regards to the alleged hoarding off of the site to prevent access to the general public.
3. No breach found.
4. No actions required.

November 2014 –

1. Complaints from residents.
2. Visit carried out to fully assess the condition of Listing and impact on the site due to filming.
3. No damage to the Listing due to the filming on site, however it was noted that remedial works would be required to repair certain areas of the Listing.
4. The managing agents were requested to provide regular updates on times of filming and proposed activity on site. Regular contact with the managing agents has been established to arrange inspections and to obtain updates on activity.

November 2014 –

1. Concerns were raised with regards to the statues.
2. Visit carried out to catalogue the statues, their location and current condition.
3. All Statues were accounted for except for 2. Further investigations are ongoing and will be concluded as part of the English heritage site meeting in March 2015.
4. No action has been taken at this time pending a final visit with English Heritage.

February 2015 –

1. Concerns from Councillors and local residents regarding ongoing filming and graffiti.
2. Visit carried out to establish the extent of filming on the site and record locations of all graffiti.
3. It was established that the filming was taking place in the main house and externally adjacent to the old campus buildings. Graffiti was found on the listed wall at the west entrance and on signage located on Snakes Lane. The Graffiti Action Team subsequently removed all graffiti from the western entrance and signage on Snakes Lane. The managing agents of the site removed all graffiti from the film set on completion of the filming.
4. No further action was required.

March 2015 –

1. Concerns from councillors and local residents.
2. Visit carried out to review the collapsed listed wall and the erection of scaffolding to the stable block.
3. The site visit established that part of the listed wall has collapsed and works are required to re-instate the wall including attention to the condition of wall still in place. The scaffolding was no longer in place and was removed after filming had been completed. The scaffolding was not attached to the fabric of the listing, therefore no damage had occurred. Further investigations are ongoing and will be concluded as part of the English heritage site meeting in March 2015.
4. No action has been taken at this time pending a final visit with English Heritage.
5. The hut that formerly stood in the centre of the yard has now been removed. Heritage officers have reviewed the demolition of the hut. Its removal is acceptable as it did not form part of the original listing, returning the court yard to its original context, albeit Development Management records do not show any prior agreement of these works.
6. I can confirm that no services or cabling had been left open at the location.
7. The hut had already been removed from site and therefore the location was clear of all resulting materials and therefore no further action was required.

Question 42 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please list all visits by Enfield Council conservation officers, including the dates of such visits, to the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park since the site was sold to ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD in 2013, and please state:

1. What prompted each visit?
2. What conclusions were drawn?
3. What actions were demanded and of whom? and
4. What actions were taken to ensure compliance by the owners or any other party?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The campus site and buildings have been visited on numerous occasions by various staff, including officers from English Heritage, the conservation / heritage officers and planning enforcement officers. A major internal and external site inspection of the heritage buildings and grounds took place at the end of 2014. The Council share the local community's concerns to ensure that the heritage assets are safeguarded whilst the site is unoccupied and it is this that prompted the visits.

The planning enforcement team (assisted by other relevant conservation, heritage and planning officers) have been leading on inspection and dialogue with the owner's representatives. However, Officers from the Council's heritage team and English Heritage will be meeting the owner before the end of March to take stock of the current condition of the heritage assets and discuss management, maintenance and safeguarding arrangement for the historic buildings and landscape. In particular:

- Terrace To ensure continued support to the defective retaining walls until such time that permanent repairs are undertaken.
- The Mansion The cause of the water ingress needs to be investigated and remedial action programmed.
- Filming What safeguards the Managing Agent has put in place to ensure that film crews using the site do not damage the listed buildings and structures and are made aware of the legal protections governing them.
- Former Kitchen Garden Wall and Wisteria Walk. The former kitchen garden wall is heavily overgrown and has partially collapsed. Lead caps to the marble pillars at the head of Wisteria Walk (also listed Grade II) are now missing, exposing them to the possible effects of freeze thaw action.
- Registered Historic Landscape Details of any movement plans the Managing Agent has agreed with film crews as a condition of their use of the site. This is in order to ensure that key elements of the landscape are not damaged by the movement of heavy vehicles and equipment and associated ground compaction.
- Listed Statuary The Managing Agent will be asked to identify ongoing arrangements for the safekeeping and protection of the statues.
- Site Security The ongoing security of the overall site is of serious concern. The Managing Agent will be asked to set out what the ongoing security arrangements are for the Mansion, other listed buildings and structures within the grounds to

protect them whilst the site remains unoccupied.

Agreed actions will be followed up by monitoring by Council and English Heritage officers.

Question 43 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please list all Enfield Council health and safety visits, including the dates of such visits, to the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park since the site was sold to ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD in 2013, and please state:

1. What prompted each visit?
2. What conclusions were drawn?
3. What actions were demanded and of whom; and
4. What actions were taken to ensure compliance by the owners or any other party?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The Health & Safety Executive are responsible for health and safety at educational establishments.

Question 44 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor Leader of the Council

Please confirm what contact Enfield Council has had with ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD, the current owners of the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park, or any of their agents or representatives (and if so please state the name of any such party) since the Enfield Independent reported in November 2014 that they would be forced to sell the building due to financial problems. Please also confirm what Enfield Council knows about the recently reported potential sale, including who the potential new buyers are and what their intentions are for the site?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

I am not aware of any contacts and I have no knowledge of any new buyers of this private land. However I intend to check further if any junior officers have had any contacts.

Question 45 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please confirm how the repairs to the very well used, but dangerous and badly potholed Snakes Lane (which forms part of the estate owned by ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD) have recently come about including:

1. Who the repairs were carried out by?
2. Who paid for the repairs and their cost?

3. The terms of any agreement between Enfield Council and any other party to carry out the repairs?

Reply from Councillor Bond

As previously advised to Councillor J Charalambous

1. The Council commissioned the works through our highway works contractor, Ringway Jacobs, to undertake the repairs to the large potholes near the start of Snake Lane and also the larger patches further along;
2. The Council has invoiced First Call Secure Group (FCSG), the management company currently responsible for the site for the cost of the works, approximately £10,000.
3. The work was agreed between Highway Services officers and FCSG.

Question 46 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Please confirm whether Enfield Council has made any agreements with First Call Secure Group Limited (or any of its agents), which is based at the former Middlesex University Campus in Trent Country Park and please confirm the terms of any such agreement.

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Please see response to question 45.

Question 47 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Based on the recent commercial filming taking place on a regular basis at the former Middlesex University Campus in Trent Country Park could he confirm that this will not result in any change of use for the site? Could he also confirm whether any permits/permission from Enfield Council would have been required for such activity and if so if any have been obtained?

Reply from Councillor Bond

No planning permission is required for the current level of filming activity. There is no statutory definition of 'material change of use'; however, it is linked to the significance of the change and the resulting impact on the use of land and buildings. Whether a material change of use has taken place therefore is a matter of fact and degree to be determined on the individual merits of a case.

In assessing this, it will be necessary to judge the impact of the filming on the use of the land or building including frequency, through an assessment of its effect on amenity, the character of an area or of course, the setting of a listed building. Impact can also be measured taking account of intensification of use as well as cumulative impact, and the character of place. The permanence of associated works /

operations will also be a factor.

In this case, although there has been an increase in filming activity, no material change of use has occurred because of the temporary /transient nature of the works and the limited impact. However, the situation is being kept under review.

Question 48 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Could he confirm why the graffiti I discovered on the listed gates at the entrance to Trent Park on Cockfosters Road was not discovered sooner by Enfield Council despite being plainly visible from the Park side and appeared to have been there for some time? And in the event that it was discovered, before I reported it, could he confirm why it was not removed sooner?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Although we do proactive surveys throughout the borough's streets and in our parks and open space it is challenging to cover the entire borough regularly. Whilst the majority of our graffiti removal is proactive, we focus on main roads, areas where there is a high footfall and visible from the public highway. We also rely on the eyes and ears of the community to report these incidents to us. This particular piece of graffiti was first brought to the Graffiti Action Team's attention 2nd February 2015 and removed 4th February 2015. This is within our five day response target for non-offensive graffiti.

Question 49 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance

Could he confirm if Enfield Council is in receipt of business rates or other dues from the owners of the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park, ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD, or from any other party relating to this site? If not please confirm when Enfield Council was last in receipt of such dues and what steps have been taken to recover any debt?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

The Council has not received payment in respect of Trent Park since the ACMS acquired the site. The Council has instigated recovery action and is currently pursuing insolvency proceedings against the ratepayer.

Question 50 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

What steps is Enfield Council proposing to take to improve public amenities in Trent Country Park, namely what proposals currently exist for:

1. The unused and overgrown tennis court near the animal sanctuary.

2. The promotion of fishing and other sporting pursuits.
3. Infrastructure improvements to car and pedestrian roads or paths.
4. Improving signage promoting the natural and historic qualities of the Park.
5. Cycling.
6. Ensuring the commercial activities in the Park such as Go Ape and the café operate sympathetically to the environment including (but not limited to) in relation to their visual appearance.
7. Reducing litter which is often commonplace, particularly on weekends. And
8. Any other proposed improvements to public amenity.

Please outline the proposals for each of the above items, the budget and the timescale.

Reply from Councillor Bond

- Introducing BBQ facilities.
- The unused and overgrown tennis court near the animal sanctuary - The courts are not Council assets
- The promotion of fishing and other sporting pursuits - We have worked with a volunteer who has run angling sessions as part of the Council's support of Love Parks Week introducing many people to angling within the park. The Parks Service also works with a range of organisations e.g. Trent Park Running Club to facilitate sporting activity within the park.
- Infrastructure improvements to car and pedestrian roads or paths - Repairs have been completed on a reactive basis and there are no planned infrastructure improvements at present
- Improving signage promoting the natural and historic qualities of the Park - We are currently reviewing all of the signage within the park and have recently delivered new signage for the entrance to the park. We have also supported the delivery of a very successful programme of free walks within the parks that have given residents the opportunity to learn more about the natural and historic qualities of the park.
- Cycling - Cycling is currently controlled within Trent Park through the Park Byelaws. However, this will be reviewed ahead of the extension of the greenway cycling route towards Trent Park.
- Ensuring the commercial activities in the Park such as Go Ape and the café operate sympathetically to the environment including (but not limited to) in

relation to their visual appearance - this is managed through the lease and working with the leaseholders

- Reducing litter which is often commonplace, particularly on weekends - Increased staff will be allocated to weekend litter clearance starting this weekend. These resources will be reviewed as park usage increases.
- Any other proposed improvements to public amenity - A range of short, medium and long-term improvements are being considered. These can be viewed within the park's management plan, which is available on the Council's website.

Question 51 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

The Hadley Wood Association through the establishment of the Hadley Wood Neighbourhood Planning Forum has commenced the process of establishing a Neighbourhood Plan under the Localism Act 2011. David Burrowes MP and I have offered our full support to this effort and I would like to know what steps Enfield Council is taking to promote Neighbourhood Planning Forums to other parts of Enfield which could clearly benefit from this valuable and powerful community lead initiative.

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

There is one constant in the questions that Conservative councillors are asking me tonight, and it is their confusion. On one hand, Councillor J Charalambous correctly calls Neighbourhood Planning Forums community led initiatives. On the other, he is asking me what the Council is doing to lead on them. I suggest that Councillor J Charalambous clarifies things in his mind and then revert. What I can say is that Enfield Council responds to any such initiatives in accordance with the letter and spirit of the law.

The Council over time has received a number of enquiries in relation to Neighbourhood Planning including the establishment of neighbourhood forums. Council officers have met and advised organisations interested in proceeding with Neighbourhood Planning and assisted as necessary in explaining processes and guiding them through the application stages. The Council has a Neighbourhood Planning page on its website to assist with making advice available on this subject.

Question 52 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Traffic along Cockfosters Road is often at a standstill due to poor traffic management by Enfield Council. With the scheduled arrival of 231 new homes at the former Middlesex University campus at Cat Hill in 2016 what steps is Enfield Council taking and proposing to take to ensure congestion along Cockfosters Road is better managed before the arrival of the new homes?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The government's poor track record on an integrated transport policy that underpins our already congested roads is to blame for congestion on our roads.

As I have previously advised Councillor Charalambous, the traffic impact of the Cat Hill development was considered in detail as part of the determination of the planning application and, bearing in mind the traffic that would have been generated by the previous university use, the Planning Committee concluded that the application could not reasonably be refused on transport grounds. This view was reached having to take account of both the coalition government's National Planning Policy Framework and the Core Strategy developed by the last Conservative Administration. Last time Councillor Charalambous asked the same question I made it clear that I would be interested to hear his specific ideas on what he thinks can be done to ease traffic flow – I am still waiting for his response. However, one thing guaranteed to make the situation worse is to encourage more commuters into the area, so I am a little surprised by Councillor Charalambous's question about the need to provide more parking for commuters driving to Cockfosters station.

Question 53 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

With the loss of a considerable number of parking spaces at the Cockfosters tube station car park due to the recent emergence of a new Transport for London building, what steps are being taken by Enfield Council to increase parking provision around Cockfosters tube station?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Please make up your mind. Do you want less congestion in Cockfosters or not? More parking provision will encourage more cars and therefore more congestion. Good quality housing situated close to tube stations i.e. Cat Hill development, will reduce it.

Question 54 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

The street scene and pavement at the Hadley Wood shopping parade is in a very poor state of repair and needs urgent attention. What steps are Enfield Council proposing to take to carry out improvements and when are any works scheduled to take place?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The publicly adopted footway along Hadley Wood Shopping Parade is asphalt. Its overall condition does not justify inclusion in the footway renewal programme when compared with many other higher priority locations. It should be noted that the paved area immediately outside the shops is privately owned and not publicly adopted highway.

The adopted highway area is inspected on a monthly basis. It was last inspected on 26/02/15 and is due to be inspected again on 28/03/15. Two defects were found during the inspection and have been issued to our highways contractor Ringway Jacobs.

Question 55 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Will he support a minimum of 20 minutes free parking across all of Enfield high streets and parades of shops?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Another suggestion by the Opposition Group to encourage yet more congestion on our roads.

We have no plans to introduce a minimum free parking period across all the borough. We are however, currently trialling stop and shop bays in the borough's main shopping areas which allow for motorists to park for 15 minutes for free.

Question 56 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Residents along Duchy Road and surrounding roads have been demanding Enfield Council introduce parking restrictions at the top of Duchy Road, close to the junction with Lancaster Avenue, since 2013. This is due to dangerously parked vehicles, mostly commercial, parked close to the junction which makes turning in and out by car extremely dangerous and creates considerable pedestrian and public safety risks.

Furthermore, as a well used junction for the school run (due its close proximity to Hadley Wood Primary School) this highlights the extra serious safety concerns for young children.

After a year of demands a consultation was issued in November 2014 to which 96% of 103 respondents expressed their desire for double yellow line parking restrictions as outlined in the consultation. We have now reached March 2015 and there has been no indication when these simple and inexpensive measures will be introduced that will dramatically improve public safety.

I understand that the report has now been presented to him for approval, so will he urgently approve the works and seek that they are carried out as soon as possible?

Reply from Councillor Bond

I think Councillor Charalambous is rather overstating his case. There have been no road casualties recorded on Duchy Road in the last 5 years and the current parking is only causing some fairly minor delays. His statement that 96% of respondents

support the extensive double yellow lines consulted on is rather misleading as there was considerable disagreement on how long the yellow lines should be. However I have now approved a report that introduces double yellow lines at the junction of Duchy Road and Lancaster Avenue. These will improve visibility, keep the pedestrian crossing point clear and reduce congestion at this junction.

Section2 – Questions to Associate Cabinet Members

Question 57 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Savva, Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield South East

Could the Assistant Cabinet Member please tell the council what meetings he has attended and with whom since last Council meeting?

Reply from Councillor Savva

I would like to thank Councillor Chamberlain for his question and interest about what I have been doing over the last 4 weeks or so, although I did include a note of these as part of my answer to the same question at the last Council meeting.

If he is interested, I'd be happy to offer Councillor Chamberlain a role as my diary keeper, so he can gain first-hand experience of the varied engagements, activities and people that I meet in my role as an Associate Cabinet Member.

Since the last Council meeting, I would like to inform you that I have been to a variety of interesting activities, engaging with officers and the community, associations and organisations and have been invited along with Cabinet Members to visit a number of organisations. Other engagements were as follows:

Edmonton Councillors advice surgery, CAPE meeting with police and safer neighbourhood groups.

Cycle Enfield Exhibition at Community House along with the Council officers and TfL reps met residents and explained what the scheme is all about.

Part of the consultation exercise there will be another exhibition around Cycle Enfield soon in the South East Area.

Have met Ian Davis, Andrea Clemons, Neil Isaac, Peter George, Mo Lais, Cabinet Members to have updates on crime and to discuss various issues concerning Edmonton.

Met the North London Credit Union reps and the African Women's Association.

Met the Leader of Young Farmers of Edmonton.

A tour with the voluntary sector representatives of various sites in Edmonton.

Have helped a group in asking Transport for London for bus diversion due to an event which will see over 5,000 people participating. This event will take place on Friday 10th of April and Saturday 11th April 2015 in the Lower Edmonton Ward.

Watch this space for future activities.

Question 58 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Uzoanya, Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield North

Could the Assistant Cabinet Member please tell the Council what meetings he has attended and with whom since last Council meeting?

Response from Councillor Uzoanya

Since the last Council I have attended the following meetings:

26/02/15 - Overview & Scrutiny - whilst my name does not appear in the minutes of this meeting I did attend for the purposes of observing an important item on the meeting's agenda, the introduction of the Care Act, which will have a significant impact on residents in Enfield North.

16/3/15 - DJMC Academy to discuss employment and training opportunities for young people

NB: On 3/3/15 I was due to attend a Strategic Leadership Forum, but did not attend due to an error in the calendar invitation sent which failed to appear in my Outlook Calendar. I raised this with the relevant parties and the matter has been resolved.

Question 59 from Councillor Neville to Councillor B Charalambous Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield West

Could the Assistant Cabinet Member please tell the Council what meetings he has attended and with whom since last Council meeting?

Reply from Councillor Charalambous

Since the last Council meeting I have attended the following meetings:

3 March 2015 - Winchmore Hill Community Forum

11 March 2015 - Cabinet

16 March 2015 - Broomfield House Partnership Board

17 March 2015 - Southgate Green Community Forum

18 March 2015 - Palmers Green Community Forum

I have also had a number of informal briefings on a range of matters concerning issues relevant to Enfield West from senior officers of the Council.

Question 60 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Uzoanya, Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield North

Nearly one year in to your well remunerated position as Associate Cabinet Member, do you think that the governance of Enfield would come crashing down if the position of Associate Cabinet Members was abolished, saving tens of thousands of pounds of taxpayers money in the process?

Reply from Councillor Uzoanya

I think the creation of the post of Associate Cabinet Members (ACM) for Enfield has so far been of benefit to residents in that it provides immense value to residents by supporting Enfield Council (officers and cabinet members) to roll forward strategic plans to improve Enfield's infrastructure across the borough, which under two successive Labour administrations has begun to take shape: namely Enfield's transport strategy and Enfield's area partnership strategy of which the ACMs have a key role in championing.

Both of these strategies to which I have alluded (above) will provide substantial social and economic benefits to Enfield residents and will make Enfield a more fairer and sustainable place to live, work, visit and do business.

I know Councillor Dines is keen to see that ACMs provide value for money evidenced by a second invitation I have received from him and his two fellow ward Councillors to attend Chase Ward Forum. Sadly, however, I cannot say the same for the majority of his other Conservative colleagues (elected members) from whom I have received no invitations to attend their ward forum to meet residents and discuss the strategies above.

May I congratulate Councillor Dines in showing the type of diligence that is needed in local politics and continuing to pay an interest in the work of ACMs, which will be reviewed by Full Council in due course. Only then will Council know the full benefit of ACMs.

Section 3 Questions to Scrutiny Workstream Chairs

Question 61 from Councillor Barry to Councillor Smith, Chair of Temporary Accommodation Scrutiny Workstream

Given the situation with temporary accommodation in Enfield and the number of councils placing people in the borough, does Councillor Smith agree with the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, when he criticised councils that are moving housing benefit claimants out of the capital, saying he will not have "Kosovo-style social cleansing" of the poor in London?

Reply from Councillor Smith

No. The basic principle is that people should live where they can afford to live. Many of us might like to live in the smarter areas of Camden or Chelsea but we can't

afford to. The idea that the state should subsidise at huge expense large numbers of the often workless poor in such areas is absurd.

That is not to say that we don't need any subsidised housing in central London. The life of large urban areas depends on a multitude of workers to provide necessary services, many of whom are low paid. These families need subsidised rented housing to prevent the areas in which they live turning into slums and because it is the right thing to do.

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