

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 24  
SEPTEMBER 2015**

**COUNCILLORS**

**PRESENT** Patricia Ekechi (Mayor), Bernadette Lappage (Deputy Mayor), Abdul Abdullahi, Ali Bakir, Dinah Barry, Yasemin Brett, Alev Cazimoglu, Nesil Cazimoglu, Erin Celebi, Lee Chamberlain, Bambos Charalambous, Jason Charalambous, Katherine Chibah, Dogan Delman, Nick Dines, Guney Dogan, Sarah Doyle, Christiana During, Nesimi Erbil, Peter Fallart, Krystle Fonyonga, Achilleas Georgiou, Alessandro Georgiou, Christine Hamilton, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Ertan Hurer, Jansev Jemal, Doris Jiagge, Eric Jukes, Nneka Keazor, Joanne Laban, Michael Lavender, Dino Lemonides, Derek Levy, Mary Maguire, Donald McGowan, Andy Milne, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykenner, Anne-Marie Pearce, Daniel Pearce, Vicki Pite, Michael Rye OBE, Toby Simon, Alan Sitkin, Edward Smith, Andrew Stafford, Claire Stewart, Jim Steven, Doug Taylor, Ozzie Uzoanya and Glynis Vince

**ABSENT** Daniel Anderson, Chris Bond, Lee David-Sanders, Turgut Esendagli, Robert Hayward, Suna Hurman, Adeline Kepez, George Savva MBE and Haydar Ulus

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**ELECTION (IF REQUIRED) OF THE CHAIRMAN/DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF  
THE MEETING**

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

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

Linda Davis from the Quakers gave the blessing.

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

The Mayor thanked Linda Davis for the blessing and made the following announcements:

**1. Death of a former Councillor**

The Mayor advised that it was with regret that she had to inform members of the sad death of former councillor, Peter Perryman.

She asked members to join her in observing a minutes silence in his memory.

## **2. Update on Mayoral Engagements**

The Mayor updated members on the range of engagements she had undertaken since the last meeting. This had included a visit to Gladbeck in Germany and meeting Her Majesty the Queen at an event to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham.

At the successful Enfield Town Show she had visited many stalls and hosted a tea party.

She had also enjoyed attending the Mayor's Annual Fun Run, which this year had been attended by over 600 people. She congratulated everyone who had taken part and all those who had helped to organise the event.

## **3. Future Events**

The Mayor reminded members that she was hosting a fundraising Summer Party on Saturday 26 September 2015 at noon. Tickets (£15 each) were available from Alison Brookes, in the Mayor's Office.

Members were also reminded about the Arctic Convoy Commemoration Event, which was to be held at 2:45pm on 14 November at the Civic Centre. Members were asked to let Lisa McEwan (Members Services) know if they were able to attend.

Finally she advised members that she would be happy to receive invites to local events in their ward areas.

## **63 MINUTES**

**AGREED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 24 June 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **64 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Daniel Anderson, Chris Bond, Lee David-Sanders, Turgut Esendagli, Robert Hayward, Suna Hurman, Adeline Kepez, George Savva MBE and Haydar Ulus.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillors Nick Dines and Ozzie Uzoanya.

## **65 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Joanne Laban declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Agenda Item 12.1 (Motion in the Name of Councillor Brett – reduction to PCSOs) as a result of her employment in the office of one of the deputy

mayors of London (non-policing). She remained in the meeting and participated in the debate but was not present for the final decision on this item. (Min.71 refers)

**66**

**CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Taylor seconded a proposal, under paragraph 2.2(b) of the Council Procedure Rules, to change the order of items on the agenda so that the following was dealt with as the next item of business:

- Item 11: Councillors Question Time

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

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

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**COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME (TIME ALLOWED - 30 MINUTES)**

1.1. Urgent Questions

There were no urgent questions.

1.2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED

- 1 The fifty one questions on the Council agenda and written responses provided by the relevant Cabinet Member.
- 2 The following supplementary questions and responses received for the questions indicated below:

**Question 1 (Cost to the Council of Temporary Accommodation) from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council:**

"I thank Councillor Taylor for his response but can I ask him to elaborate on the response to point (c) in my question regarding the action taken to raise the matter with London Councils and the Government in terms of the need to review Homeless Person legislation and guidance, given the increasing pressure being faced by the Council."

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

"In my answer I have tried to address the issue not only from the perspective of the Borough, but across London as a whole which I think is a more appropriate focus for any response.

There is clearly a link between the worsening housing position across London and the impact of the Governments Housing Policy and Welfare Reforms including changes in Housing Rent Policy; the decision to extend the Right to Buy to Housing Association properties; the enforced sale of Council owned housing, introduction of the welfare benefits cap and changes in Local Housing Allowance. Supply has been further affected by Inner London boroughs now looking to secure cheaper property in Outer London in order to place their households in temporary accommodation.

This position has been created as an outcome of the current Government's Housing Policy and I therefore feel it would be more appropriate if Councillor Neville were to join me in questioning whether the Government has the right policy and priorities, which I feel will be a more effective way to address the current position."

**Question 2 (Insurance Premium Tax) from Councillor Levy to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council:**

"Does the Leader not agree that despite this "stealth tax" in combination with the wider regressive fiscal policy and cuts, which are impacting disproportionately on the most vulnerable, the Government is still failing to control the deficit and what impact does he feel this is having on the residents of Enfield?"

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

"Members may be surprised to hear that tax receipts fell in August whilst the deficit continues to rise. I do worry about the extent and impact of the next round of cuts the Government are planning given their ongoing failure to manage the economy and failure to control the deficit. It strikes me that the impact of this failure will result in more cuts to public sector services and will also damage the welfare and income of residents across Enfield."

**Question 4 (Impact of the Government's Austerity Measures on Children's Services) from Councillor Barry to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection:**

"I thank the Cabinet Member for sharing some of her concerns and would ask if she could clarify further what impact she feels the Government's welfare reforms will have on children and young people?"

**Reply from Councillor Orhan**

"What I did not mention in my written response was the prevailing pressure on social housing in London and impact of welfare reform to date, which means that our borough is seeing a regular picture of rehoused families, unsettled and requiring significant support, from school places through to help to manage behavioural issues and social care interventions. The evidence seen on a daily basis by our front-line of support services is that many of the

newest arrivals to the Borough are bringing with them additional needs for support to maintain family health and wellbeing.

I am proud of our ability to date in developing services to meet changing needs; work to enable families to build on their strengths to tackle their issues where they can, and our endeavour to keep families together, keep children safe, healthy and achieving to the best of their potential. We have done this whilst also improving our standard of work to the satisfaction that Ofsted deem us to be a "Good" Authority.

However, Enfield runs a "lean" team. Efficiency measures have already been taken over the previous year's covering each part of Children's Services. The on-going demands for savings over the coming years will cut deeper than ever before and therefore I am concerned that we will be in the unenviable position of having more need and more demand but significantly less resource. Children's Services have an enormous number of statutory duties that we simply must meet to comply with legal regulation. The diminishing resources mean that once such statutory duties are met, there will be little to nothing left to help those who find themselves on the edge of crisis and we will be unable to be the essential support so many turn to when they become overwhelmed by their economic and social situation. Without such targeted support before a crisis, more families could fracture, more children will need care at the critical end of the support spectrum, less children will achieve to their greatest educational potential and all of this will create a vicious cycle of vulnerability and demand for our most intensive and expensive services. That to me is the critical factor, of the devastating impact, that these reforms are having."

**Question 5 (Elizabeth House Re-provision) from Councillor Rye to Councillor A Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

"Can the Cabinet Member say who she feels is to blame for the 5 year delay in this development being progressed on-site? Is it the previous Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, the Cabinet Member for Finance or will Cabinet take collective responsibility?"

**Reply from Councillor A Cazimoglu:**

"I was hoping that this issue would not be treated as a political football as I feel I have already provided a full and transparent response to the question. You will appreciate that we were required to ensure that due process was followed in terms of the procurement process and I am delighted to confirm that having appointed a construction partner, work began on-site on 10 August 2015, with the new facility scheduled to be completed and open towards the end of 2016.

In terms of blame for the delay, Councillor Rye might want to consider the fact that Elizabeth House was the subject of a report to Cabinet in 2007 when he was Leader of the Council, at which stage the decision was made to close the facility. Councillor Rye was quoted in the minutes of the meeting as saying that he accepted re-provision would be a difficult and challenging process.

This might explain why his Administration did nothing when they were in power and were awash with money.”

**Question 6 (Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) & Benefit Sanctions) from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture.**

“Can I ask the Cabinet Member how many sick and disabled people were sanctioned by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) last year and what can be done about it?”

**Reply from Councillor Brett:**

“Nationally, at least 10,000 sick and disabled people have been sanctioned in the last year. Some have lost their benefits for up to 3 years.

It is one thing to apply sanctions at a level to improve chances of employment: it is another to apply them to the point where a number of those to whom sanctions are being applied meet untimely deaths, as has been recently reported and recognised by the DWP themselves. Regulations are in place to protect those classified as vulnerable and a safeguarding audit should be undertaken before sanctions are applied. As a minimum people are entitled to a face to face interview, including a home visit.

In my role as Cabinet Member, I recently held a teleconference with representatives from the DWP and Council officers to outline my concerns and share information with them.”

**Question 7 (Elizabeth House Re-provision) from Councillor Rye to Councillor A Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care.**

“As there have been three failed procurements since 2010, what guarantees can you give as Cabinet Member, that the 2016 deadline will be met and will you undertake to report back to Council and Cabinet on any further slippage on the scheme?”

**Reply from Councillor A Cazimoglu:**

“I am glad that Councillor Rye has recognised the difficulties with the procurement process. Changes in market conditions have meant that it is now more difficult to attract interest than it used to be. One of the main reasons for this are Government cuts which have caused delays to investment decisions and concerns about the longer term sustainability of the care system.

A former Care Minister has warned that, without more cash, the health care system could collapse within 2 years. Many of the biggest care home providers are seriously considering pulling out of the market and are not expressing interest in tendering. The Kings Fund estimate that there is a £1.1

billion gap between the cost of care and funding being made available, which is a position created by the current Government.

Our objective is to be able to provide safe good quality care at good value for money. If Councillor Rye is looking to apportion blame for these problems he may therefore want to look closer to home.”

**Question 8 (Silicon Enfield Initiative) from Councillor Lemonides to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development**

“Given the cuts in grant being made by the current Government, can the Cabinet Member tell us how the Council intends to fund on an ongoing basis the excellent Silicon Enfield Initiative?”

**Reply from Councillor Sitkin**

“Due to this Government’s swingeing and draconian cuts, the Council is short of the internal resources it needs to progress the Silicon Enfield initiative as quickly as we would like. Having to rely on external sources of funding slows down the speed at which we can progress while also causing a partial loss of control. Having said that, the Business and Economic Development department’s novel way of engaging proactively with businesses and community stakeholders – the very same approach that explains the very rapid improvement in Enfield borough’s employment performance – means we are very hopeful of succeeding in this endeavour as we have elsewhere. The project is broken down into several stages (including premises, training, community outreach and entrepreneurship), each of which is at a different stage of advancement. At this stage of the negotiations it would be counterproductive to release detailed information but it is clear that the deals in question are going to be of great benefit to Enfield’s economy and all of its communities.

Can I also take this opportunity to clarify the information given in my written response to the original question by highlighting that we are looking at the creation of tech hubs in both the Winchmore Hill and Edmonton Green libraries, as well as at Meridian Water. Note that these latter two sites will ensure greater access to these economic development opportunities to some of our borough’s less affluent communities, a philosophy very much in line with this Administration’s One Enfield value system.”

**Question 9 (Future Nursing and Residential Care Provision at Honeysuckle House) from Councillor Rye to Councillor Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care.**

“The back history of this issue is interesting as the Council has only had one care contractor for more than 20 years. During my time as leader this was not a distressed contract. Given that the Cabinet Member has only answered part of my original question, can she now advise how she intends to guarantee that the Council will avoid incurring the unfavourable financial penalties arising

from any potential closure of Honeysuckle House should the new provision not be achieved within the three year timeframe set under the contract?"

**Reply from Councillor Cazimoglu**

"I have been clear in my previous answer in explaining where the difficulties have occurred. We are currently reviewing future options with Cabinet already having received a report and another scheduled for the October meeting. Existing residents at Honeysuckle House will be moved to a new home, with the site to be agreed. **(Post Meeting Note: The response has been updated to reflect clarification provided to Councillor Rye by the Cabinet Member after the meeting).** Let me assure you that I certainly will not allow the Council to enter into contracts that do not provide value for money."

**Question 10 (OFSTED judgements of Enfield Schools) from Councillor N Cazimoglu to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection**

"I congratulate the department for its success in terms of getting Enfield Schools into this good or outstanding position and also for the good Ofsted rating for Children's Services and safeguarding. Can the Cabinet Member also update us on the outcomes from more recent inspections?"

**Reply from Councillor Orhan:**

"I am pleased to advise Council of a further successful inspection outcome following a recent Ofsted and HMIP thematic inspection that focussed on how well we support young offenders living away from home. The Inspectors from both inspectorates were very complimentary about the governance, strategic direction and day to day delivery of the services for this particularly vulnerable group of young people. All services were considered very good and have further improved following the inspection in February 2015, particularly the services for Looked After Children. They will be highlighting some areas that they consider best practice to inform national recommendations when the report is published next Spring, and one of those areas is the partnership working in the Single Point of Entry (SPOE).

This national thematic review will be published in Spring 2016 and Enfield will be highlighted as an area of best practice. I would like to pay tribute to our staff for this achievement and I am delighted that their extraordinary efforts have been recognised in this way."

**Question 11 (Primary School - Chase Farm Hospital site) from Councillor Anne Marie Pearce to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection.**

"Can the Cabinet Member confirm whether any nearby alternative sites have been identified for consideration should the current negotiations to secure land for a school development on the Chase Farm Hospital site fail?"

**Reply from Councillor Orhan:**

“Thank you for your interest. I can confirm that negotiations with the Royal Free Hospital Trust are continuing but we are at a sensitive stage of a complex negotiation process so cannot provide any more detailed information at this stage. I will ensure members are kept informed, but you can be assured that a range of options are under consideration and have been since 2010.”

At this stage the Mayor advised that the 30 minute deadline for Council Questions was due to expire. Members were asked if they wished to extend the time available for Council Questions and Councillor Neville subsequently moved and Councillor Rye seconded a motion to extend the time available by a further 30 minutes.

The motion was put to the vote without discussion and was lost with the following result:

For: 19  
Against: 31  
Abstentions:0

Councillor Stewart advised that the Majority Group were minded to extend the time available to continue consideration of Council Questions but in view of the other business on the agenda only by a period of 15 minutes. She subsequently moved a motion to extend the time available by 15 minutes, which was seconded by Councillor Taylor and approved unanimously without a vote.

The Mayor then continued consideration of Council Questions, with the following supplementary questions raised:

**Question 12 (Budget Cuts) from Councillor Chibah to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency**

“By 2018/19 Council budgets have been and are projected to be cut by a total of £110m, which represents 60% of the revenue budget. Can the Cabinet Member explain why he feels these savage cuts to the public sector continue, when the Chancellor originally stated that he would be able to balance the books by 2015?”

**Reply from Councillor Stafford:**

“I am mystified like many others, given the Chancellors commitment to balance the books. I feel there are two reasons why we are still waiting for this commitment to be fulfilled. The first relates to the Conservative Party nationally, supported by the right wing media, convincing people of the lie that the recession was caused by Gordon Brown, when infact we were in the midst

of a global recession caused in the main by activity within the USA. I am not sure how the demise of Lehman Brothers was caused by Gordon Brown.

The global recession has resulted in real pressure on income and other tax receipts impacted on economic growth. As an example where is the third runway at Heathrow, the new container port in London and HS2? The truth is that George Osborne, as Chancellor, cannot balance the books and has resorted to using the "Ladybird" book of economics. There is no growth, meaning the assault on the public sector will continue. I fear we will see further evidence of this in the coming weeks when the latest cuts to the police are announced."

**Question 13 (FOUND event - Trent Park) from Councillor Lavender to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

"Will Councillor Anderson agree to a time bound response from officers regarding consideration of the various issues I have raised and will he ensure that I am informed of the outcome and that officers will then ensure the necessary actions are delivered?"

**Reply from Councillor Taylor in Councillor Anderson's absence:**

"I would agree that the request within the supplementary question is reasonable and will ensure that Councillor Anderson is advised accordingly."

**Question 14 (Enfield CCTV Station) from Councillor During to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture?**

"Enfield has been proactive and shown good leadership in setting up a CCTV monitoring station, with credit to our former late colleague Lynn Romain for her work in this respect. Can the Cabinet Member give us a recent example of how the images provided by the cameras have been useful?"

**Reply from Councillor Brett:**

"I am happy to share a recent example from June when there was an attempt from men dressed as railway engineers to break into a cash machine located at a local station. The attempt was captured on the boroughs CCTV with the footage used by the police to assist them with their enquiries. I only wish that the quality of the CCTV cameras operated by TfL on the North Circular Road and A10 was as good as those operated by the Borough."

**Question 15 (Highways Contractor) from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for the Environment**

"Will the Cabinet Member provide an undertaking that if this Highways Contractor continues failing to deliver on schemes the Council will look to end its relationship with them and seek an alternative provider?"

**Reply from Councillor Taylor in Councillor Anderson's absence:**

“As Councillor Anderson has submitted his apologies for tonight’s meeting I will ask him to ensure a written response is provided.”

**Post meeting Update: A written response has been provided for Councillor Laban.**

**Question 16 (Adult Social Care) from Councillor Jigge to Councillor A Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

“Can the Cabinet Member tell the Council how the savings in Adult Social Care have been managed?”

**Reply from Councillor A Cazimoglu:**

“In 2013-14 and 2014-15 over £20m worth of cuts have been made in terms of Adult Social Care, achieved mainly by cutting back office costs, while looking to maintain the quality of services. We are now awaiting the outcome from the Government’s autumn spending review to see if and where any further savings will be needed.

I hope that social care will be protected and can assure you we are continuing to look at all options to ensure that any funding gap can be bridged in a way that will still enable residents needs to be met and value for money to be provided. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank staff for the excellent job they are doing in continuing to deliver services.”

**Question 20 (Pension Tax Relief) from Councillor Jemal to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

“The Treasury are consulting on changing the tax treatment for pension contributions. Is there a risk in this for pension saving, both in the Council’s scheme and for Enfield residents more widely?”

**Reply from Councillor Taylor**

“These matters will be discussed by the Council’s Pension Policy & Investment Committee in due course. It is not yet clear whether the proposed changes will affect people in defined benefit pension schemes. It is being proposed that the tax exempt status for pension contributions will be removed and replaced with tax exemptions on the money paid out. This could mean that people’s pension pots will be smaller and there may be a potential need to increase employers’ contributions to make up the shortfall.

These proposed changes are out for consultation and it may be that they do not affect defined benefit schemes. I will ensure that these changes along with their potential impact on Enfield are something the Pension Policy & Investment Committee continues to keep under review.”

**Question 22 (Lane Closures on the M25) from Councillor Pite to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

“Can Councillor Taylor advise if he is aware of Connect Plus having undertaken any assessments into the effectiveness of the new traffic management scheme on the M25?”

**Reply from Councillor Taylor**

“Connect Plus have advised there will be a post opening project evaluation report into the effectiveness of the new scheme. This will look at the first year’s operation to identify any problems that need to be addressed, or highlight any improvements that have been made as a result of the new all lanes running scheme. Clearly any problems experienced on the M25 will impact on roads within the borough so there will be a need for the Council to analysis the outcome of the evaluation report and make representatives as appropriate.”

At this stage, the Mayor advised that the time available for Council Questions (as extended) had expired and the meeting moved on to consider the next item of business.

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**SCRUTINY ANNUAL WORKPROGRAMME & WORKSTREAMS 2015/16**

Councillor Levy moved and Councillor Smith seconded the report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (No.54A) setting out the Scrutiny Annual Work Programme and workstreams identified by Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) for 2015/16.

NOTED

1. The work programme and workstreams had been referred onto Council for formal approval following consideration by Overview & Scrutiny Committee (2 June 2015) and consultation with Cabinet on 16 September 2015.
2. The work programme proposed by OSC included programmes for both the Standing Panels on Health & Crime as well as a list of the agreed workstreams prioritised for 2015/16 (Appendix 2) and additional list of potential workstreams identified by Members (Appendix 3).
3. The important role of scrutiny with the context of the Council’s governance arrangements and also in relation to member development.
4. The more outcome based, balanced and flexible approach towards scrutiny provided through the workstreams and need identified to ensure consistency in membership in order to allow members to develop their knowledge and expertise in the areas being reviewed.

5. Cabinet, in considering and recommending the work programme and work streams to Council had noted their wide ranging and flexible nature, alongside the need:
  - a. to ensure that Cabinet Members were invited to engage in reviews relating to services within their portfolio as well as with OSC on a more systematic basis outside of the formal work programme; and
  - b. to ensure, subject to available resources and time, that OSC were encouraged to take as wide a view as possible in terms of scrutiny's role around policy and service development including looking at areas of service not currently being provided and the justification for this.
6. Despite initial concerns expressed by the Opposition Group regarding the recent changes introduced to the scrutiny function it was felt that a lot of valuable work had been undertaken on a cross party basis under the new scrutiny model. Concerns were however recognised in relation to the need to ensure that members from both groups were encouraged to attend, participate and engage in the scrutiny process.
7. The thanks expressed by members to the officers involved in supporting the scrutiny function for their help in delivering a comprehensive and well balanced scrutiny programme.

The recommendations in the report were then put to the vote and agreed unanimously, without further debate or a vote.

**AGREED** to approve adoption of the 2015/16 scrutiny work programme and workstreams for the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

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### **AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15**

Councillor Lemonides moved and Councillor Maguire seconded the Audit Committee Annual Report 2014/15, which set out the key issues dealt with by the Committee over the past year.

#### NOTED

1. The report had initially been considered by the Audit Committee on 9 July and had subsequently been approved for recommendation on to Council by the Committee on 23 September 2015.
2. The importance in ensuring that the Council maintained a robust audit function and governance arrangements in order to protect the interests of the Council and wider community.
3. The key areas of work undertaken by the Committee during the past year in order to ensure that the Council's internal control environment

was kept under review and was relevant and proportionate. Full details of the areas covered had been set out in Appendix A of the report, with specific reference made to work around the management of risk, risk awareness and counter fraud activity.

4. The close working relationship between the Committee and Council's external auditors, Grant Thornton.
5. The role of the Committee in holding the Executive to account, which had been demonstrated throughout the year by the attendance of senior officers at its meetings and through the work undertaken to review the use of Contract Procedure Rule waivers and changes made to the procedure as a result. Concerns in relation to this issue were highlighted by the Leader of the Opposition who, whilst recognising the changes in procedure, felt the Committee would need to continue monitoring the use of these waivers.
6. The cross party nature of the work undertaken by the Committee, which was supported by the Leader of the Opposition. Councillor Lemonides, as chair, felt that the Committee had covered a wide range of issues and undertaken its role effectively against a background of increasing pressure on resources and thanked all members and officers involved for their ongoing support.

The recommendations in the report were subsequently agreed unanimously, without further debate or a vote.

**AGREED** to approve the Audit Committee Annual Report for 2014/15.

## **70**

### **CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Taylor seconded a proposal, under paragraph 2.2(b) of the Council Procedure Rules, to change the order of items on the agenda so that the following was dealt with as the next item of business:

- Item 12: Motions

The change in the order of the agenda was put to the vote, without further debate, and agreed as follows:

For: 32

Against: 15

Abstentions: 0

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

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**MOTIONS**

1.1 Councillor Brett moved and Councillor B.Charalambous seconded the following motion:

“Enfield Council regrets the recent statements regarding cuts to PCSOs at a time when reported violent crime is increasing in Enfield.”

Following a debate, the motion was put to the vote and agreed, with the following result:

For: 32  
Against: 0  
Abstentions: 19

Councillor Laban declared a non-pecuniary interest in the above motion. She left the chamber, after the debate, but before the vote took place and took no part in the decision.

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**CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Given the limited time remaining to complete the business listed on the agenda Councillor E.Hayward moved and Councillor Neville seconded a proposal, under paragraph 2.2(b) of the Council Procedure Rules, to change the order of items on the agenda so that the following was dealt with as the next item of business:

- Item 10: Review of Political Balance and Council Proportionality Arrangements

The proposal to change the order of the agenda was put to the vote and not approved.

In accordance with section 15.4 of the Council Procedure rules the Opposition Group requested a roll call vote, with the result as follows:

For 20

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 Ertan Hurer  
Councillor Eric Jukes

Councillor Joanne Laban  
Councillor Michael Lavender  
Councillor Andy Milne  
Councillor Terry Neville  
Councillor Anne Marie Pearce  
Councillor Daniel Pearce  
Councillor Michael Rye  
Councillor Edward Smith  
Councillor Jim Steven  
Councillor Glynis Vince

Against: 33

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi  
Councillor Ali Bakir  
Councillor Dinah Barry  
Councillor Yasemin Brett  
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu  
Councillor Nesil Cazimoglu  
Councillor Bambos Charalambous  
Councillor Katherine Chilbah  
Councillor Guney Dogan  
Councillor Sarah Doyle  
Councillor Christiana During  
Councillor Nesimi Erbil  
Councillor Krystal Fonyonga  
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou  
Councillor Christine Hamilton  
Councillor Ahmet Hassan  
Councillor Jansev Jemal  
Councillor Doris Jiage  
Councillor Nneka Keazor  
Councillor Bernadette Lapage  
Councillor Dino Lemonides  
Councillor Derek Levy  
Councillor Mary Maguire  
Councillor Don McGowan  
Councillor Ayfer Orhan  
Councillor Ahmet Oykenner  
Councillor Vicki Pite  
Councillor Toby Simon  
Councillor Alan Sitkin  
Councillor Andrew Stafford  
Councillor Claire Stewart  
Councillor Doug Taylor  
Councillor Ozzie Uzoanya

Abstentions: 0

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

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**MOTIONS**

1.1 Councillor Maguire moved and Councillor Georgiou seconded the following motion:

“Enfield Council notes the desperate plight of refugees fleeing Syria and seeking safety in the countries of the EU.

This Council will work with other London Councils to play a part in the national response to the crisis.

This Council, however, insists that the Government must fully fund the national response for as long as it takes and not just for one year”

Following a short debate on the motion, Councillor Dines moved and Councillor Neville seconded the following amendment to the motion:

To delete the last paragraph of the original motion and replace it with the following paragraphs:

“This Council recognises that the Government has contributed over £1.1billion in aid in response to the crisis in Syria/Iraq, the UK’s largest ever response to a humanitarian crisis. The Council also acknowledges the role and commitment of the Royal Navy, which has rescued over 6,700 people making the perilous journey across the Mediterranean.

This Council acknowledges and welcomes the Government’s decision to resettle 20,000 refugees over the lifetime of this current Parliament and requests that the cost of local authorities of this be borne by the National Government, not putting financial pressure on local authorities.”

Following a further debate, the amendment was put to the vote and lost with the following result:

For: 20  
Against: 32  
Abstentions: 0

The substantive (un-amended) motion was then put to the vote without any further debate, and agreed with the following result:

For: 32  
Against: 20  
Abstentions: 0

**74**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8 - DURATION OF COUNCIL MEETING**

The Mayor advised, at this stage of the meeting, that the time available to complete the agenda had now elapsed so Council Procedure Rule 8 would apply.

NOTED that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8 the remaining items of business on the Council agenda were considered without debate.

**75**

**APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Council was asked to confirm the appointment of Mrs Chaitali Roy as Independent Member of the Audit Committee.

NOTED that the appointment had been recommended by the Audit Committee following a selection process undertaken by an Appointment Panel established by the Committee.

**AGREED** that Council formally approve and confirm the appointment of Mrs Chaitali Roy as an Independent Member of the Audit Committee for a two year term of office to expire on 24 September 2017.

**76**

**REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY ARRANGEMENTS**

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 that have been set up for discharge of the Council functions.

**AGREED** to note the changes in political balance and proportionality on the Council and to agree the revised allocation of seats as set out in the briefing note.

The Leader of the Opposition asked for it be recorded that the Opposition Group would have voted against the above recommendation, given concerns regarding the ongoing status of the councillors named within the briefing paper.

**77**

**MOTIONS**

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

12.3 In the name of Councillor Orhan:

“Following the campaign in the Londra Gazette and my letter to the Schools Minister urging him to intervene and force the AQA and OCR exam boards to reconsider the decision to scrap “A” levels and GCSEs of certain community languages such as Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Polish and Turkish, it has been disappointing that other than a reprieve of a year no firm announcement of a commitment has been made by the Government that a u-turn has been achieved. It begs the question who is in charge of education in the UK and if this Government is committed to providing language skill opportunities much in demand in business and much in need by an outward facing country.

As this is of a huge interest for Enfield residents I ask the Council to fully support me in a letter urging the government to make a public statement that community languages will be taught in school beyond 2017.”

12.4 In the name of Councillor N.Cazimoglu:

“The country, particularly London, is facing a housing crisis and residents in Enfield are feeling the effects. This Council believes that the only real solution is to build more homes.

House building is at its lowest since the 1920’s; private rents have increased by 37% in the past five years and the government continue to use billions of pounds of public money to subsidise private landlords through housing benefit.

This Council believes that government is complacent about the housing crisis which is affecting many of our residents in Enfield.

We call on the government to grant local authorities the powers and financial ability to increase the supply of housing for our residents. The government should go further than they already have in lifting the cap on borrowing for Housing Revenue Accounts. Council’s must be given the financial flexibilities they need to be able to scale up housing development, both in partnership and directly.”

12.5 In the name of Councillor Laban:

“Enfield Council does not support any proposal for female only train carriages on trains. The idea amounts to nothing more than gender segregation and does nothing to address any of the issues of sexual harassment - those people travelling within the borough of Enfield should feel safe on trains, isolating women and treating them as the problem is not the answer.”

**78**

## **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 along with the reason for urgency. The decision 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.

- Housing Quarterly Electricity Contract Renewal

**79**

**MEMBERSHIPS**

**AGREED** the following change to committee memberships:

**(1) Public Transport Consultative Group**

Councillor Laban to be replaced by Councillor R Hayward.

**80**

**NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

No changes to the nominations on Outside Bodies were notified.

**81**

**CALLED IN DECISIONS**

None received.

**82**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING & CHANGE IN DATE FOR JANUARY 2016 MEETING**

**NOTED** the next meeting of the Council would be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 11 November 2015 at the Civic Centre.

**AGREED** that due to a clash with an event arranged to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day the Council meeting which was scheduled to have taken place on Wednesday 27 January be moved to Thursday 28 January 2016 at 7:00pm.