

FINAL DRAFT

SCRUTINY PANEL ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

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Foreword by Chairman of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Welcome to Enfield's Scrutiny Annual Report for 2010/11.

This year we have introduced a slimmed down format for the Annual Report. The aim is to highlight the work undertaken by scrutiny in Enfield over the last year and - more importantly - the outcomes being achieved as a result.

As you will see we have continued to look at a wide range of services provided not only by the Council, but also by a range of partner agencies.

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

I hope you enjoy reading this report and look forward to your continued involvement with the scrutiny function over the next and future years.

Councillor Toby Simon
Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

ENFIELD **SCRUTINY**

Serving the people **What is Scrutiny?**

The Local Government Act 2000 gave local authorities the power to scrutinise, in order to make local government and its decision-making process as open and transparent as possible, with greater public accountability. These powers have now been extended by the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 along with the Local Democracy Act 2009 to cover a wide range of partners.

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

- providing a critical friend challenge to the executive policy makers and decision takers;
- providing a mechanism for the voice and concerns of the public and other local stakeholders to be heard;
- contributing towards the development of Policy & Strategy;
- driving improvement in public services;
- conducting robust evidence based reviews carried out by independent minded governors who lead and own the process.

Scrutiny in Enfield

In Enfield the support to scrutiny is provided through the Corporate Governance Division, which includes the specialist scrutiny support unit.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) manages the overall scrutiny function, with 6 Panels which from May 2011 will cover the following areas:

Children & Young People
Crime and Safety & Strong Communities
Health & Wellbeing
Housing, Growth & Regeneration
Older People & Vulnerable Adults
Sustainability & Environment

Two of the Panels are chaired by members of the Opposition Group on the Council.

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

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

Looking Forward: Future Challenges

The new powers introduced from April 2009 have added to the role expected of the scrutiny function. We have new powers to scrutinise a wide range of local partners, accompanied by the introduction of a duty for these public sector partners to respond.

2009/10 saw introduction of the Councillor Call for Action (CCfA). This gives ward councillors the ability to raise local issues of concern formally through scrutiny. Scrutiny's role in the CCfA process is a "means of last resort", with issues only being raised through scrutiny once all other resolution avenues have been exhausted. The process for dealing with CCfAs has been designed to focus on outcomes and resolutions for councillors and the local community rather than on processes. It sits alongside existing mechanisms for councillors to resolve issues, whilst still meeting the statutory duty placed on scrutiny to consider issues raised and respond in a timely manner.

The Council is also required, as a result of the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009, to appoint a Statutory Officer for Scrutiny (the Head of Corporate Scrutiny Services) and to introduce a Statutory Petition scheme, which includes an online petition scheme (introduced in December 2010). This allows petitioners to formally refer the matter to Full Council or scrutiny dependent on numbers on the petition and/or satisfaction with response. This petition scheme covers local service providers not just council services.

A number of key challenges as well as opportunities for improvement have been identified for the following and future years:

- Introduction of the revised remits of Scrutiny Panels (agreed following Council on 4 May 2011) along with the proposal to integrate a single theme running through the scrutiny work programme each year;
- Implementation of new legislation in particular the Health and Social Care Bill and the Localism Bill as and when agreed by Parliament
- Continuing to work with and scrutinise a wide range of local partners;
- To continue working to set realistic, focussed and well-balanced work programmes with fewer items allowing more detailed review and capacity for any issues raised under CCfA and call-in;
- To increase engagement of the public and other interested stakeholders in the work being undertaken by scrutiny;
- To continue the very effective collaborative (cross-party) working between Scrutiny Chairs & members;
- To continue focussing on member development based on the scrutiny member development programme;
- To continue working to raise the national and regional profile of Enfield's scrutiny function as an example of good practice;

Improving local services - Key Achievements for Scrutiny in 2010/11

Following a Councillor Call for Action, which raised difficulties with lack of space at a GP premises in Enfield Lock, a new purpose built centre will be constructed on council-owned land, replacing the existing facility currently operating from a terraced house.

Housing Scrutiny Panel members undertook site visits of Council Housing estates to view Social Housing, Estate Renewal and Regeneration developments. Members also visited Christian Action property portfolio for independent living, housing for rent, supported and retirement housing, leaseholder, single homeless and temporary social housing, to consider the developments made.

In order to reduce paper consumption the Environment Scrutiny Panel submitted a report to the Governance Review Group, advocating a system whereby Members must opt-in to receive hard copies of documents, rather than opt-out. In addition, the report recommended double sided copying being set as a default on all copiers. Both recommendations were agreed and have been implemented.

The Crime and Safety Scrutiny Panel organised events for those with Learning Disabilities, Physical Disabilities including Sensory Impairment and Older People and their carers to ascertain their concerns on crime and safety in the Borough.

An Adult Social Services Panel Working Group has been reviewing Personalisation of Care and the many work streams involved, such as information advice and guidance, resource allocation, direct payments and workforce planning. The Working Group has valued the contributions at each meeting from five voluntary sector co-optees, representing vulnerable groups within Enfield.

The Children's Services Scrutiny Panel has been reviewing Under 18 Conceptions. This group has developed a programme of information and training to Governors in recognition of the importance of the role of Schools and Governors in enabling access to education for teenage mothers, and having a greater understanding of the role of sexual health services to young people.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Committee Members:

Cllr Toby Simon (Chairman)
Cllr Kate Anolue (Vice - Chairman)
Cllr Ingrid Cranfield
Cllr Martin Prescott
Cllr Michael Rye OBE
Cllr George Savva MBE
Cllr Alan Sitkin

Education Statutory Co-optees:

Alicia Meniru & 1 vacancy (Parent Governor)
Simon Goulden (other faiths/denomination)
Vacancy (Roman Catholic rep)
Vacancy (CofE rep)

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

The Committee is also responsible for dealing with the call-in procedure. This allows Members of the Council to require that the implementation of decisions taken by Cabinet, individual Cabinet Members or Directors be suspended to enable further review.

During 2010/11 the Committee has dealt with ten call-ins (the largest number ever in a municipal year). Whilst all of these call-in's have resulted in the original decisions being confirmed, this has been subject to conditions in some cases which the Committee continues to monitor. This process included, at the start of the year, a reference being made to the Council's Corporate Management Board (CMB), seeking assurances about the provision of information to members and in relation to the procedure set out within the Council's Constitution concerning the need to ensure that any decision called-in for review remained suspended from implementation, pending consideration of that issue. As a result these assurances were provided by CMB.

The Committee also has responsibility for initial consideration of any Councillor Calls for Action (CCfA) referred to scrutiny. CCfA provides members with an opportunity to formally raise issues of local concern with scrutiny where other methods of resolution have been exhausted. Whilst no issues have been referred onto the Committee for consideration this year, this reflects the successful role played by Corporate Scrutiny as "gatekeeper" in seeking to resolve issues, without the need for referral onto scrutiny. The success achieved under Enfield's CCfA continues to be recognised nationally, particularly in terms of the support to members in their representational roles.

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In addition the Committee now has responsibility, under the Council's new petitions scheme, for dealing with any appeals on the steps the Council has taken in response to the submission of a petition. No appeals have been received this year, for consideration by the Committee.

The Committee also convened as the Budget Scrutiny Commission in January to review the outcome of the budget consultation. Detailed analysis of the substantial savings proposed focussed on the robustness of the estimates and their consistency; and on the risks they posed in implementation.

The general work programme of the Committee has included monitoring performance of the Council's Revenues & Benefits Service, including the progress being made against their Service Inspection Action Plan. The Committee has also kept a "watching brief" on the outcome of the Council's review into the use of consultants, interim and agency staff, linked to its wider interest in development of the Council's budget and consultation process. Regular updates also continue to be provided monitoring use of the Council's urgency procedures.

A particular area of interest for the Committee this year has been in monitoring the progress being made with implementation of the various recommendations agreed as a result of the Young People's Life Opportunities Scrutiny Commission. The Committee has not only reviewed the progress being made, but has also looked to actively assist in unblocking areas where limited progress had been identified and will continue to keep track of the progress being made in delivering the Action Plan.

Another significant area of review over the last year has involved consideration of activities designed to reduce inequalities and create more stable communities across the borough. The Committee received a briefing paper providing details on population and migration trends along with the key indicators of inequalities and how they currently applied across the borough, which was referred onto all scrutiny panels for consideration. As a result of the feedback received, the Committee will be considering the setting up of a more detailed review, as part of its work programme planning process for 2011/12.

As part of its management and co-ordination role the Committee has undertaken an annual evaluation of the scrutiny function as well as monitoring the progress being made with the implementation of recommendations from scrutiny reviews, which are being tracked through a monitoring system.

2011/12 will see the introduction of revised remits and support arrangements for the Council's scrutiny panels, which the Committee will monitor and coordinate in relation to ongoing management of the scrutiny function.

2011/12 Panel Contact Details

Chairman: Councillor Toby Simon

Vice Chairman: Councillor Alan Sitkin

Scrutiny & Outreach Officer: Mike Ahuja & Koulla Panaretou

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

Adult Social Services Scrutiny Panel

Panel Members:

Cllr George Savva MBE (Chairman)
Cllr Chris Joannides (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Caitriona Bearryman
Cllr Chris Cole
Cllr Patricia Ekechi
Cllr Elaine Hayward
Cllr Eric Jukes
Cllr Geoff Robinson
Cllr Glynis Vince

Co-opted Member:

Irene Richards (Over 50's Forum)

The remit of the panel is to consider adult social care provided by the Council and partners (such as the NHS), implementation of national policy and local issues which might affect service users.

In July 2010 the Panel co-opted a non-voting member from the Over 50's Forum for the municipal year.

A briefing on the award and early implementation of the new Home Care Contracts was received at the first meeting. It was felt important to receive an update at each of the following meetings to monitor the transition.

In October the panel undertook safeguarding training and also received a safeguarding update following the Annual Review of the Safeguarding Adults Board 2009-10.

The panel were asked to comment on the LBE and NHS Draft Dementia Strategy and the Draft Joint Intermediate Care and Re-ablement Strategy due to go out to public consultation. The panel agreed to keep a watching brief on commissioning intentions and implementation of these strategies.

Members attended a Health Scrutiny Panel meeting to consider the Barnet Enfield and Haringey Joint Commissioning Strategy for Adult Mental Health Services. The panel will maintain an interest in the implementation of this strategy.

Budget consultation proposals for 2011-12 were presented to the panel in December, prior to the January Scrutiny Budget Commission. Members raised concerns about the impact of the budget reductions on elderly and vulnerable people.

Members visited the Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust's Mental Health Unit at Chase Farm Hospital in September. This was an informative visit to the inpatient wards, day hospital and older people's services. The Chairman also visited

the Forensic Services at the Chase Farm site with members of the Health Scrutiny Panel.

Members visited the newly opened Carers Centre in October and met Trust Board members, staff and Carers in the refurbished premises. Members who had attended the opening of the refurbished Formont Centre congratulated the staff on the excellent facilities.

Following an update, in December, on the new dual registered care home for people with dementia, the panel established a working group look at the planning, tender, consultation and implementation of the project.

An informative presentation by the Learning Disabilities Service and the Joint Service for Disabled Children was received where the arrangements for young people with disabilities transferring from children's to adult services were outlined. All staff involved were commended on their work.

In February 2011 the panel received for comment a presentation on the Joint LBE and NHS Enfield Voluntary Sector Review and Draft Commissioning Strategy.

The Personalisation of Care Working Group was re-established at the beginning of the year. In addition to reviewing the progress of the many strands involved in the transformation of care agenda, such as information advice and guidance, resource allocation, direct payments and workforce planning, the working group also continued to review the home meals service.

Regular monitoring items included the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) annual inspection, recruitment and retention of qualified social workers and social services income collection and debt write-offs. The CQC annual performance assessment of Enfield's Health and Adult Social Care department for 2009-10 resulted in an overall assessment of grade 3 (performing well) and included an excellent score in 2 outcomes. The Panel thanked all staff involved in achieving this standard for the second year running.

2011/12 Older People & Vulnerable Adults Panel Contact Details

Chairman: Councillor George Savva MBE

Vice Chairman: Councillor Chris Joannides

Scrutiny & Outreach Officers: Linda Leith & Koulla Panaretou

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

Children's Services Scrutiny Panel

Panel Members:

Councillor Ingrid Cranfield (Chairman)
Councillor Jon Kaye (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Kate Anolue
Councillor Chris Deacon
Councillor Marcus East
Councillor Nneka Keazor replaced Alev
Cazimoglu (December 2010)
Councillor Simon Maynard
Councillor Eleftherios Savva
Councillor Rohini Simbodyal

Statutory Co-optees: Alicia Meniru (Parent Governor Representative), Vacancy (Church of England Diocese), Vacancy (Catholic Diocese) Simon Goulden (representing other faiths /denominations)

Non Voting Co-optees: Vacancy (Primary Headteachers' Conference), Vacancy (Secondary Headteachers' Conference), David Byrne (Enfield Colleges Principals Group),

The Children's Services Scrutiny Panel carries out scrutiny in relation to education, schools, early years, youth and social care services for children and young people.

This year the panel set up three working groups: Pupil Places, Under 18 Conceptions, and Youth Issues: all carrying on work begun last year.

Enfield has a growing child population and a severe shortage of pupil places. The Pupil Places Working Group, in partnership with officers in the Schools and Children's Services Department, examined the projections for future numbers and looked at new ways to provide more space. Suggestions included, as well as expanding schools and using IT rooms for bulge classes, creating small half sized classes in temporary buildings under the supervision of successful schools – the village school concept. The working group also considered the proposals for Merryhills School. Recommendations were then made to Cabinet.

Under Eighteen Conceptions in Enfield are at a higher level than other London boroughs. At their two meetings this year the working group received information on the range of services available to tackle the issue. They looked at ward by ward data, sexual health education in schools, the Teenage Pregnancy Young Persons Advisory Group, links with educational underachievement, and the work of the Parent Engagement Panel. The group is supporting the funding submission to the Education and Children's Services Department for training provision. A 13 week training programme can transform children's lives by giving struggling parents key parenting skills.

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A Youth Issues Group was set up with the aim of maximising the amount of funding available to the Council and its partners in the voluntary and community children's and young people's organisations and enabling young people to participate in decision making and the wider thinking of the Council. The group has looked at the funding available for next year in the light of budget cuts to many government grants and the council's own budget. They will be considering current and future arrangements for young people's participation and involvement.

In the full meetings, the panel examined other topical issues, including academies and free schools and considered the new strategies for addressing the high levels of infant mortality, child poverty, special needs and speech and language therapy.

Budget reductions were a major concern. A detailed analysis of the spending cuts to children's services was requested including a detailed breakdown of all children's services grants, what they were used for and how the services could be maintained in spite of reductions in funding. The panel were able to feed in their views on this, before final decisions were signed off by the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services.

Brief reports were presented on the provision for gifted and talented children and English as an Additional Language teaching.

Over the year panel members were also kept informed about progress in addressing the recommendations from previous panel reviews into pupil mobility, health visitors and early years. Most of the pupil mobility recommendations had now been fulfilled although pupil mobility was still an issue. It was felt that it could be time to take a fresh look at it, particularly in light of the Government changes to housing benefit which could result in many more families moving into Enfield from more expensive parts of London. NHS Enfield provided feedback on the pilot scheme for universal health visitor checks for two year olds. This has been a success and will be rolled out across the borough. The panel also heard how the new proposals for the Green Towers Nursery in Edmonton were progressing.

Finally regular updates were received on the work of the Children's Trust Board as well as monitoring reports on adoption, fostering, children's social care complaints, recruitment and retention of social workers, youth services and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board Business Plan.

2011/12 Children & Young People Panel Contact Details

Chairman: Councillor Rohini Simbodyal

Vice Chairman: Councillor Jon Kaye

Scrutiny & Outreach Officers: Claire Johnson & Stacey Gilmour

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

Crime & Safety Scrutiny Panel

Panel Members:

Councillor Martin Prescott (Chairman)
Councillor Yusef Cicek (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Kate Anolue
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Jonas Hall
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Paul McCannah
Councillor Ozzie Uzoanya
Councillor Glynis Vince

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

The Crime and Safety Scrutiny Panel covers all aspects of crime and safety issues including fear of crime, anti social behaviour, drug and alcohol misuse and emergency planning. This year the Panel has continued to work in partnership with the Metropolitan Police and a range of other stakeholders on the Safer Stronger Communities Board (Enfield's local Community Safety Partnership).

In its third year of operation, the panel has had further success in carrying out a specific area review, focussed around Edmonton Green. The panel looked at how issues relating to crime, anti-social behaviour together with the appearance and safety of the area, as a whole, were being addressed. This has resulted in environmental and general maintenance improvements, including street lighting and foliage.

A highlight again this year, has been the community engagement work undertaken by the Panel to support the Safer Stronger Communities Board with consultation around its Partnership Plan and priorities. This has involved specific consultation events being arranged for hard to reach sections of the community including carers, young people and those with physical and mental disabilities as well as parents. The involvement of the Panel in arranging these sessions has been formally recognised by the SSCB and as part of a recent SSCB peer challenge. The priorities identified in the SSCB Partnership Plan for 2011/12 will be used to inform the panel's work, next year.

Other specific reviews undertaken by the Panel include:

- (a) Safer Travel to and from School: This followed on from a 2009/10 review around safer transport interchanges and was designed to link in with a project already being undertaken through the Executive.

Work to date has included a meeting with the pupils and teachers on the School Council at Broomfield School in order to highlight issues of concern. A

number of issues were picked up as a result of this meeting, which are currently being progressed.

- (b) Gangs, young people and knife enabled crime: The Panel set up a small Working Group to consider how issues related to gangs, young people and knife enabled crime are being tackled within the borough. As part of the review members have looked at various initiatives already in place across the borough and within other parts of the country to address these issues. Arrangements have been made for members of the Working Group to meet with the Parent Engagement Panel in May 2011, with the outcomes to be carried forward as part of next years Panel work programme.

The activity being co-ordinated through Enfield's Public Safety Centre within the borough to develop and monitor the performance of CCTV in tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and in dealing with other enforcement activities has also been reviewed by the Panel. This included a member visit to the monitoring centre, which result in the Panel observing the wide range of locations and CCTV systems currently being monitored through the Centre. The Panel was keen to support the planned development of these initiatives, having recognised the success being achieved, in terms of number of incidents assisted with and arrests contributed towards. In looking to keep these developments under review, the Panel has also been made aware of the role of an Independent Advisory Group set up to monitor the operation and activity undertaken through the Centre.

The Panel has also kept a watching brief on the development of arrangements to tackle domestic violence across the borough and was pleased to hear that Enfield had become the first London Borough to receive White Ribbon Authority status. The Panel were also keen to support the "FonforSafety" scheme, and as a result has recommended to the Cabinet member for Environment, Street Scene and Parks that a mobile phone recycling point for the scheme is set up at the Civic Centre. The Panel will continue to receive updates on the progress being made in this area, as part of its ongoing work programme.

Other issues considered over the year have included the future arrangements for funding and operation of road traffic safety cameras across the borough. The Panel has also looked at the changes being introduced to the funding arrangements for community safety initiatives, involving the creation of a community safety fund. The Panel are keen to keep this issue under review, given concerns raised about the potential impact these new arrangements may have on the future allocation of funding for community safety initiatives.

A new role for the Panel introduced during this year has involved the monitoring of progress being made against key priorities and targets within the SSCB performance framework. Two monitoring reports have been provided over the year, from which the Panel has begun to outline key trends it wishes to keep under review.

The Panel is also aware that as a result of the deletion of targets within the Local Area Agreements and national indicator set, that SSCB will now have much greater

flexibility to set its own performance framework. It is felt that this will allow a more meaningful and realistic local framework to be set up, with the Panel keen to play an active role in this process and any ongoing monitoring arrangements.

The Panel has looked to maintain its strong links with the SSCB, as its role has developed over the last year, and provides regular updates on its scrutiny activity for the Board. Looking forward the Panel remain committed to retaining and building on these links over the coming year.

2011/12 Crime & Safety and Strong Communities Panel Contact Details

Chairman: Councillor Michael Rye OBE

Vice Chairman: Councillor Ingrid Cranfield

Scrutiny & Outreach Officers: Susan Payne & Kasey Knight

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

Environment, Parks and Leisure Scrutiny Panel

Panel Members:

Councillor Alan Sitkin (Chairman)
Councillor Ann Zinkin (Vice Chairman)
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Paul McCannah
Councillor Ozzie Uzoanya
Councillor Lionel Zetter

This year the panel has scrutinised mainly environmental policy alongside fields such as parks/open spaces, leisure and recreation.

The 2010-2011 work programme was divided into three sections. The first emphasized sustainability concerns, focusing specifically on LBE's climate change action plan, air quality monitoring processes and carbon emission behaviour. Clean Technology related to work on air quality monitoring. The latter chapter featured a visit to the Building Research Establishment (BRE) facilities and a subsequent presentation of retro-fitting energy conservation schemes affecting LBE buildings as well as the borough's housing stock. The panel decided to support the integration of BRE principles into Enfield planning processes and to propose to cabinet that a pilot scheme be launched in collaboration with this partner.

Note additionally that a visit to Suffolk County Council was arranged under this section's remit to analyse the use of wood-chips as an alternative fuel source. This study is a prelude to the energy micro-generation work programme in which the panel is expected to engage in 2011-2012 and beyond.

The second section, called "Road and Travel", delved into issues such as winter maintenance, 20 mph zones, and contractor performance. The year concluded with a presentation of DIY Streets, following on from an earlier visit to Sustrans. The principle of expanded bicycle use across Enfield was one of the outcomes affirmed as a result of this section's work.

The final section attended to a variety of pressing issues, including briefings on flood management, cemeteries, allotments and street lighting (with support being given to the Cabinet proposal that LBE reduce energy costs and carbon emissions by investing in dimming infrastructure). In a similar vein, consideration was given to the Council's total paper consumption, culminating in a reference being submitted to the Governance Review Group advocating a system whereby members and officers must opt-in to receive hard copies rather than opt-out; double sided copying being set as a default on all photocopiers, etc. Lastly, the Dugdale Centre was the subject of a presentation, with the decision being taken to monitor the effectiveness of this facility's use.

The total work programme was underpinned by a series of values and principles fitting, with the Administration's sustainability and fairness agendas. The former focus materialised, for instance, in the panel's ongoing support for policies whose net effect is to reduce Enfield's environmental impact. The latter was embodied in panel members' attention to Enfield's east-west balance, with members having organised, for instance, a trip to view Pymmes Park, Ponders End Recreation Ground and Albany Park so as to note the range of facilities and standard of maintenance marking each of these locations.

Lastly, as part of the budget consultation process, members and public were asked to provide comments on the proposals for Environmental Services. The comments received were reported to the Annual Budget Commission.

Looking forward, the major waste minimisation campaign announced during 2010/11's final session heralds one of the primary working groups in 2011/12 and beyond. The panel is already moving to organise a cross-borough scrutiny event in conjunction with neighbouring North London boroughs with a view towards inviting local and national retailers to discuss reductions in packaging. This and other themes to be determined will drive the environmental scrutiny panel's agenda in the year(s) to come.

2011/12 Sustainability & Environment Panel Contact Details:

Chairman: Councillor Alan Sitkin

Vice Chairman: Councillor Joanne Laban

Scrutiny & Outreach Officers: Andy Ellis & Elaine Huckell

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

Health Scrutiny Panel

Panel Members:

Cllr Mike Rye OBE (Chairman)
Cllr Christine Hamilton (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Catriona Bearryman
Cllr Alev Cazimoglu
Cllr Christiana During
Cllr Patricia Ekechi
Cllr Denise Headley
Cllr Anne Marie Pearce
Cllr Tom Waterhouse

The Panel covers all NHS health services that are provided for the local population and this year with many new Members joining the Panel it was appropriate to undertaking a series of site visits to see services in action.

The Health Panel continues to review the provision of stroke services. With experience of working on the pan-London JHOSC on Hyper-stroke and Major Trauma Centres, a working group was established to look at the level of care to be found in Enfield. Members met with clinicians at North Middlesex Hospital and Chase Farm Hospital and a further visit is arranged to view the hyper-stroke unit at University College London Hospital. Scrutiny was invited to comment upon the draft strategy for The New Model of Care for Stroke Services. In addition, Members were told of the improvements to rehabilitation provision in the borough, following the report of the Care Quality Commission.

A number of reviews have been instigated this year. A working group has been established to consider GP provision in the borough, similarly, a review of substantial variation protocols with the NHS was implemented. Family planning for young people is a review in the very early stages. Each of these important areas will form part of the work-plan for the new municipal year.

The transition plan for Mental Health Services was considered by the Panel this year. Members welcomed the opportunity for to see the care and support given at both the Mental Health Unit and the Forensic Unit. In addition, it was noted that the Mental Health Team were successful in their bid to manage Enfield Community Services.

The re-development of North Middlesex Hospital has been on-going for some time and a tour of the new facility was arranged for the Panel. The re-vamped Accident and Emergency Dept and X-Ray facilities were only two of the many areas that impressed Members.

The White Paper on Health (now the Social Care Bill) was considered in detail and a special meeting of the Panel was held in September to facilitate comment from both Members and the public.

The Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Clinical Strategy was a standing agenda item at each Panel meeting. Various presentations were made, allowing the Panel to comment. Scrutiny was also very involved in the work relating to the referral to the Secretary of State.

Another standing item was the financial position of NHS Enfield. This was particularly relevant this year, with the transition from borough based Primary Care Trusts to the North Central London Sector. At the beginning of the year, both Hospital Trusts presented their savings plans to the Panel.

Within the remit of the Councillor Call for Action process, the future of the GP Surgery in Ordnance Road was discussed on a regular basis. Finally, after protracted debate with NHS Enfield, an alternative site for a health care centre was agreed. Work is to commence on the site of a derelict public house in Ordnance Road. The Health Scrutiny Panel will monitor progress with great interest.

The panel has also received reports and commented on:

- The role of the Care Quality Commission
- Bush Hill Park Medical Practice -closure
- Parkinson's Disease Nurse Specialist Service

2011/12 Health & Wellbeing Panel Contact Details:

Chairman: Councillor Alev Cazimoglu

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Ann Marie Pearce

Scrutiny & Outreach Officers: Sue Cripps, Linda Leith & Kasey Knight

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

Housing Scrutiny Panel

Panel Members:

Cllr Kate Anolue (Chairman)
Cllr Edward Smith (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Ali Bakir
Cllr Christopher Cole
Cllr Ertan Hurer
Cllr Dino Lemonides
Cllr Chris Murphy
Cllr Daniel Pearce
Cllr Michael Rye OBE

Co-optees

Nigel Homer (FECA)
Sarah Thompson (Christian Action Housing)

The Panel, Chaired by Cllr Kate Anolue, is responsible for the Scrutiny of Housing Strategy, Operations, Technical, Property Services, Enfield Homes, local people's homes and environment affecting housing in the borough.

A joint bid between Enfield Homes and Enfield Council of £68.5 Million for Decent Homes funding have been successful in receiving an allocation of £58.5 Million over 4 years. £32 Million will be 'front loaded' committed expenditure for the first two years.

The panel received a progress report with Enfield's current Allocations Scheme and recommending principles for a revised Allocations Scheme for Enfield.

Received Community Housing Services (Housing Needs Services) End of Year Performance Report April 2009 to March 2010. There had been fewer households in Temporary Accommodation, Homeless Preventions had increased by 45% and there was a decline in tenants with arrears of £5000 or more.

Considered proposals for Housing Revenue Account Self Financing, to reform funding system. The offer to Enfield is to take on additional debt of £53M. The financing cost for new borrowings under this proposal will be met from future HRA income, and the Council will cease paying 'housing subsidy' to Central Government. It is expected that the Council would keep future income from rents and decisions on how resources are spent would be made locally.

Enfield Homes provided an update of the Management and reporting of Health and Safety review of systems and practices, particularly Auckland Close and Dendridge Close to remove damaged asbestos from properties and fire risk assessment of housing stock following tragic fire in Southwark.

There was a positive performance of the Decent Homes programme for 2010/2011, contracts have delivered measurable value for money, potential savings and encouraging response to Customer satisfaction.

Panel members received a briefing of Housing Estate Renewal and visited Highmead Upper Edmonton, Ladderswood New Southgate, Coverack Close Southgate and North Circular Road Notting Hill Housing trust developments housing estates to view development plans for Estate Renewal and the Regeneration Place Shaping Programme and had been impressed by the excellent approach to refurbish these areas.

Received a report outlining deepening deprivation that would be influenced by changes to benefit system that will have an impact on people who claim Income Support, Employment Support Allowance, Job Seekers Allowance, Housing Benefit, Local Housing Allowance, These changes will likely result in people moving to cheaper property in outer London, deepening deprivation, have an affect on people with disabilities, those with large families and those experiencing difficulty obtaining employment.

The panel received a report on significant developments and improvements in Customer Service, Customer Relationship Management, Communal Services, Concierge, Tenancy & Estate Management Services and Environmental issues.

Panel members undertook a site visit of Council Housing estates to view Social Housing, Sheltered Housing, Estate Renewal and Regeneration developments. Also members visited of Christian Action property portfolio from independent living, Housing for rent, supported and retirement housing, leaseholder, single homeless and temporary Social Housing, to consider the developments made.

Received a briefing paper describing the Comprehensive Spending Review Government announcements and the impact on Housing services, housing rents set at 80% of the market rent and £2billion fund for decent homes.

Received an update on 'Making Enfield A Place to Call Home' event to develop the aims for a new 15 year Housing Strategy for Enfield, with involvement of Enfield's Housing Strategic Partnership Thematic Action Group (TAG).

A report was presented to the panel detailing how performance had improved for repairs, maintenance, voids, Contractors and areas where remedial actions have been taken to address poor performance.

The panel received a report detailing initiatives being undertaken to help tenants, improve estates, develop community partnerships and financial inclusion, at Lychet Way, Probation service, Shires Community Garden, Tulip and Enfield Connect, Christian Action and Enfield Homes.

Report from Enfield Homes Income Collection in partnership with Enfield Council Revenues and Benefit teams consider a policy of managing debt in occupation, an approval of early intervention and enforcement is only used as a final resort.

2011/12 Housing, Growth & Regeneration Panel Contact Details:

Chairman: Councillor Edward Smith

Vice Chairman: Councillor Ozzie Uzonaya

Scrutiny & Outreach Officers: Andy Ellis & Ann Redondo

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

Place Shaping and Enterprise Scrutiny Panel

Panel Membership:

Councillor Toby Simon (Chairman)
Councillor Henry Lamprecht (Vice Chairman)
Councillor Alan Barker
Councillor Yusuf Cicek
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Michael Lavender
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Rohini Simbodyal
Councillor Ozzie Uzoanya

The Place Shaping and Enterprise Scrutiny Panel covers all issues relating to regeneration, enterprise and employment.

Worklessness is a growing concern in the borough: some parts of Edmonton suffer from 50% unemployment. This led the panel to set up a working group “Getting People into Work”. The group will have met five times and gathered information on the effectiveness and co-ordination of programmes run by statutory agencies, the private sector, voluntary bodies, employers and individuals to help people into work. Final recommendations will include measures to improve the employability of young people and the long term unemployed.

At the full panel meetings the panel looked at what the council was doing to stimulate inward investment, receiving reports on the property portfolio considering how it could be used more effectively to encourage work creation, the changes to section 106 planning regulations and the new community infrastructure levy. On infrastructure, discussions took place on improving transport connections across the borough including proposals for running more trains along the Lee Valley corridor.

In January, a new council department was created bringing together regeneration, leisure and culture. Councillor Goddard, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Improving Localities and Neil Rousell, the new director, set out their plans for the future, encouraging increasing investment, bringing jobs and development in a way that will create sustainable communities.

Funding uncertainty was a major issue this year; the panel made comments on the council’s 2011/12 budget proposals and wrote to the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, expressing concern about how he intended to implement the European Social Fund (ESF) and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) programmes in London following the decision to rationalise the operations of the Local Development Agency. A further report on external funding sources was discussed at the March meeting.

Regular updates were also received on the activities taking place in the key place shaping areas: Enfield Town, New Southgate, Central Leaside, Ponders End and Edmonton.

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The Public: Getting Involved

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

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

It should be noted however that Scrutiny's role is not to deal with individual queries, concerns or complaints. Individual service issues or complaints need to be referred onto the relevant Department, ward councillors, dealt with through the Council's complaints or petitions procedures or raised at Area Forums or as Councillor Call for Actions.

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

Contact:

Mike Ahuja: Head of Scrutiny & Outreach

Tel no : 020 8379 5044

Mike.Ahuja@enfield.gov.uk

Alternatively you can contact us via the Scrutiny page on the Council's website:

www.enfield.gov.uk/Scrutiny

Or

Email: scrutiny@enfield.gov.uk

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

Appendix A: Scrutiny- Some Key Statistics

In 2010/11 Scrutiny has:

- Held over 110 meetings, including Public and working group meetings
- Over 40 different councillors serve on the 7 Scrutiny Panels
- Dealt with 10 Call-In's compared to 8 during 2009/10.
- Received 7 requests for new Councillor Calls for Action and formally heard 1 at the Health Scrutiny Panel
- Examined the budget proposals for each Council Group and submitted comments to Cabinet
- Visited various community facilities and front line services including Community Link, Carers Centre, Jobsnet, Epping Burial Park, Forensic Unit at Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust, Formont Centre, Park Avenue Disabilities Resource Centre, and North Middlesex University Hospital Stroke Unit.

ENFIELD SCRUTINY

Serving the people

Appendix B: Engagement of Community/Stakeholders Giving Evidence in 2010/11

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

- Age Concern
- Allotment site secretaries
- Alzheimers Society
- Avenue Residents Association
- Barnet & Chase Farm Hospital Patients & Public Involvement Forum
- Barnet & Chase Farm Hospital Trust
- Barnet Enfield Haringey Maternity Committee
- Barnet, Enfield & Haringey Mental Health Trust
- Bowes Primary School
- Brimsdown Infants School
- Broxbourne Councillors
- Carers and Parents of Enfield
- Carey Hall Nursery
- Carterhatch Infant & Junior School
- Centre for Public Scrutiny
- Chace Secondary school
- Chesterfield Primary School
- Christian Action Housing
- CIDA
- Circle Anglia HA
- Civic Society Forum
- Craig Park Youth Club
- Crossroads
- Croyland Pre-School
- Dazu
- Ebony Peoples Association
- Edmonton Eagles Boxing Club
- Enfield Asian Carers Consortium
- Enfield Asian Welfare Association
- Enfield Business & Retail Association
- Enfield Children & Young Peoples Service
- Enfield College
- Enfield Community Empowerment Network
- Enfield Disability Action
- Enfield Homes
- Enfield Link
- Enfield Mental Health Users
- Enfield Primary Care Trust Patient & Public Involvement Forum
- Enfield Primary Care Trust
- Enfield Racial Equalities council
- Enfield Rotary Club
- Enfield Saheli
- Enfield Voluntary Action
- Faber Maunsell Consultants
- Faith Forum
- Fairtrade Steering Group
- Federation of Enfield Community Associations
- Federation of Enfield Residents' Allied Associations
- Fleecefield School
- Friends of the Parks Groups
- Hanlon Centre
- Hazelbury Infant school
- Hertsmere Councillors
- Highfield Primary School
- Highlands Village Nursery
- JMP Consulting
- Keys Meadow Primary School
- Kongolese Childrens Association
- Landlords Association
- London Ambulance Services Patient & Public Involvement Forum
- Learning & Skills Council
- London Borough of Haringey
- London & Quadrant HA
- Metropolitan Housing Association
- Metropolitan Police Authority
- Mind in Enfield
- NHS Enfield
- Network Rail
- North Middlesex University Hospital Patient & Public Involvement Forum
- North Middlesex University Hospital Trust
- Oak Tree Care Services
- One-to-One
- Over 50's Forum
- Parent Engagement Panel
- Park avenue Pre-School
- Parkinson's Disease Society
- Reservoir Residents Association
- Royal College of Nursing
- St Thomas Nursery
- Starksfield Primary School
- Stroke Action
- Total Healthcare Groups
- Tottenham Infants School
- Transport for London
- Unison
- United Nations Association
- Victim Support
- Voluntary Sector Health & Social Care Group
- Youth Assembly
- Youth Engagement Panel