

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2012**

**COUNCILLORS**

**PRESENT** Achilleas Georgiou (Deputy Leader), Bambos Charalambous (Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure), Christine Hamilton (Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing and Public Health) and Doug Taylor (Leader of the Council)

**OFFICERS:** Rob Flynn (Corporate Policy and Research Manager, Communities, Communications, Policy and Performance), Sally McTernan (Assistant Director Community Housing Services), Kate Robertson (Assistant Director for Customer Service, Communications and Business Change), Alison Trew (Head of Corporate Policy and Performance) and James Rolfe (Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services) Penelope Williams (Secretary)

**1  
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Charalambous.

**2  
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3  
URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items.

**4  
OVERVIEW OF THE KEY POINTS OF THE 2011 CENSUS INFORMATION  
RELEASED TO DATE AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE CENSUS  
RESULTS ON THE COUNCIL**

The Committee received a briefing paper from Robert Flynn, Policy and Research Manager containing information on the key points of the 2011 Census released to date and the implications for Enfield.

He highlighted the following from his paper:

- The rise in population in Enfield is 6% higher than the Officer for National Statistics 2010 estimate.

## POLICY CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE - 26.9.2012

- Enfield has a young age profile. The number of people aged 10-34 is much higher than previous estimates while the number over 70 is lower.
- People in Enfield are living in larger households, than the average for the rest of London, and the UK as a whole, which may signify many living in overcrowded situations.
- The census information has implications for how the Council shapes services, particularly for children and younger people. As well as for how the Council can lobby Government in terms of the impact the population rise has on services and whether the Council is getting the right level of funding for its population.

NOTED questions and comments as follows:

1. The financial settlement from Government is likely to be based on 2011 mid year population estimates.
2. The Office for National Statistics had previously erred in not realising that people coming into the borough had larger families than the indigenous population.
3. Household size has increased across London, but more so in Enfield. This has implications for housing and partly explains why Enfield has been so badly affected by the benefit cap.
4. It is difficult to assess the transient population, but Corporate Policy was doing some research on this which could be brought back to the Committee.
5. Councillor Taylor asked that a small pocket sized card be produced for councillors containing key facts and figures about Enfield.
6. Work had already begun on drawing together information on the changes in Government and Enfield policy and the impact on Enfield.
7. It would be possible to put together a state of Enfield report including comparative data from London Councils which could be endorsed by external auditors.
8. Information would be needed by November 2012, if it were to be used to influence Enfield's next financial settlement from Government.
9. James Rolfe agreed to lead on a project to gather this information by the end of November 2012 to fit in with the budget round for the 2013/14 financial year.
10. Most of the relevant Census Information will be available by December 2012.

**POLICY CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE - 26.9.2012**

11. The rise in the number of 10-34 year olds adds to arguments about the need for more primary school places.
12. Census figures have been circulated to Directors.
13. It was suggested that a presentation on the Census figures be made to the whole Labour Group. The facts and figures card could be produced in time for distribution at this meeting.

**AGREED** to note the briefing paper on the 2011 Census.

**5**

**POLICY GRID - AN ASSESSMENT OF NEW LEGISLATION, STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES**

The Committee received the current policy grid assessing new legislation strategies and programmes.

**NOTED**

1. There had been no change to the grid since the last meeting.
2. The Council had made objections to the Government's proposed changes to planning legislation.
3. A report on the planning changes was requested for a future meeting, including information about the current situation as regards planning and house-builders in Enfield.
4. A report updating the committee on plans for individual voter registration and the bill to equalise constituencies was requested for a future meeting.
5. The Council had unanimously agreed that, in their view, constituency boundaries should remain unchanged.
6. Information on whether London Councils planned to sponsor a private members bill this year, and if so, what it would be about would be obtained and circulated to committee members.

**AGREED** to note the policy grid.

**6**

**MP'S BRIEFING**

**NOTED**

1. The next meeting with the borough's MPs is due to take place on 5 October 2012.

## **POLICY CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE - 26.9.2012**

2. The Sony Distribution Centre had made an application for a business rates holiday following the disruption to their business when their building was burnt down during the August 2011 Disturbances. Last year, the Council had allowed some small businesses to have a rates holiday, because of the disruption, but there was no business case for Sony. Any support could be seen as providing state aid which was illegal under European Law.
3. Councillor Hamilton asked that MPs be asked to lobby, on behalf of Enfield, for an increase in the numbers of police allocated to the Borough.
4. Kate Roberston reported that she would be attending the meeting to update MPs on the welfare reform changes.

### **7**

#### **MINUTES - 21 JUNE 2012**

**AGREED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2012 be agreed as a correct record.

### **8**

#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None.

### **9**

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**NOTED** the dates agreed for future meetings of the Policy Cabinet Sub Committee:

- Wednesday 21 November 2012
- Wednesday 6 March 2013