

SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13

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Foreword by Chairman of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

I am pleased to introduce the Annual Report for 2012/13 on the work of Enfield's Scrutiny function. The aim of this report 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

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 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 councillors 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 and outreach support unit.

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

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

*These two 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, NHS bodies, the 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.

Councillor Call for Action (CCfA)

Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) is a service that provides ward councillors with the ability to raise local issues of concern formally through scrutiny. These are issues which members have tried to resolve without success. 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.

A major success for this year through CCfA is the agreement has been reached to redevelop a local library to accommodate a 'Joint Service Centre' that will provide a new GP practice, dentist practice, library and community space. A CCfA was raised following identification of the unsuitability of local GP premises following problems with primary care infrastructure both in terms of capacity and delivery. There was an urgent need to deliver improved primary care facilities in the locality to address the current limitations. This was evidenced by the investigation carried out for the CCfA. This work also highlighted the need for a new dental practice and improved community and library facilities. The new GP surgery is planned to be opened in 2013/4.

Petitions

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has responsibility, under the Council's petitions scheme, for receiving petitions with 1,562 or more signatures and for dealing with any appeals on the steps the Council has taken in response to the submission of a petition. The petitions dealt with are reported below. Between September 2010 and March 2013 we have dealt with 68 petitions.

Officer Support

The Scrutiny function now also supports the Council's outreach work, including in particular the Area Forums, thus bringing together all our citizen involvement work. This is particularly important in relation to major issues such as the budget where the Annual Budget Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee enables all the comments on budget proposals to be brought together for review.

Looking Forward: Future Challenges

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

- Continuing to work with and scrutinise a wide range of local partners;
- Implementing the new powers for Health Scrutiny



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- 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 2012/13

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

The Sustainability and the Living Environment Panel made a successful recommendation to Cabinet this year, relating to a £10m retrofitting contract signed with British Gas, negotiated and prepared by the "New Directions" project team. A successful joint meeting was held with the Health and Well Being Panel and considered, sports in parks, school meals and planning regulations relating to fast food.

The Crime and Safety and Strong Communities Scrutiny Panel organised events for the Parent Engagement Panel and young people and adults with disabilities to ascertain their concerns on crime and safety in the Borough.

As a pilot authority, the Housing, Growth & Regeneration Panel scrutinised the introduction of the welfare reforms including the benefit cap and under-occupancy proposals.

The Older People and Vulnerable Adults Scrutiny Panel has continued to champion the dignity code. The Panel values the contributions from members of the public and voluntary sector co-optees representing vulnerable groups within Enfield.

The Children's Services Scrutiny Panel has been reviewing Primary Pupil Places, and has made a number of recommendations in a report that went to Cabinet; these included evaluation of the strategy for partner schools to ensure the strategy is having a positive impact on school attainment results, and to identify and engage with schools early in the expansion process and discuss solutions to potential difficulties such as concerns over traffic and parking.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Committee Members:

Cllr Toby Simon (Chairman)
Cllr Alan Sitkin (Vice - Chairman)
Cllr George Savva MBE
Cllr Alev Cazimoglu
Cllr Rohini Simbodyal
Cllr Michael Rye OBE
Cllr Edward Smith

Education Statutory Co-optees:

Alicia Meniru & 1 vacancy (Parent Governor)
Simon Goulden (other faiths/denomination)
Mr Tony Murphy (Catholic Diocese 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 manages the scrutiny of the Council's annual budget consultation.

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 2012/13 the Committee dealt with 8 call-ins, two of which were referred back to the decision maker for reconsideration.

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 the Corporate Scrutiny officer team 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..

The Committee has responsibility, under the Council's petitions scheme, for receiving petitions with 1562 or more signatures and for dealing with any appeals on the steps the Council has taken in response to the submission of a petition.

The Committee held its Annual Budget Meeting in January to review the outcome of the budget consultation. Detailed analysis of the substantial savings proposed

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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 around the Welfare Reforms. 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.

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.

2013/14 Overview & Scrutiny Committee Contact Details

Chairman: **Cllr Toby Simon**

Vice Chairman **Cllr Alan Sitkin**

Head of Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach: Mike Ahuja

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Secretary Koulla

Panaretou Tel 0208 379 4835

Older People and Vulnerable Adults Scrutiny Panel

Panel Members (Councillors): George Savva MBE Chair
Chris Joannides Vice-Chair (until Feb 2013
vacancy thereafter)
Christopher Cole
Ahmet Hasan
Elaine Hayward
Denise Headley
Eric Jukes
Chris Murphy
Geoffrey Robinson

Co-optees: John Lynch (Enfield LINK) until 2012
Chris Rash (Over 50s Forum)
Rasheed Sadegh-Zadegh

The remit of the Panel is to consider adult social care provided by the Council and partners, implementation of national policy and local issues affecting service users, older people and vulnerable adults in the borough.

Three co-opted members have attended Panel meetings and Working Groups. Representatives of voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations also contributed to the work of the Panel.

Health, Housing and Adult Social Care (HHASC) consulted the Panel on the Strategic Commissioning Framework. The analysis of responses to the consultation was discussed with the Panel prior to seeking Cabinet approval in January 2013. The Framework involves the new way funds are provided to VCS organisations for projects and services to support adults with health and social care needs.

The Carers Strategy Consultation was brought to the Panel in July 2012, followed later by a progress update. The strategy sets out to improve the range and quality of local services for carers. The Panel have been invited by the Chief Executive of the Carers Centre to visit and meet carers and staff. Individual Members have visited the Centre and have noted the good services being provided there.

The Safeguarding Adults Board 2011-12 Annual Report and Action Plan followed a consultation on the Safeguarding Adults Strategy 2012-15. The aim is to prevent abuse and to ensure an effective response to reports of abuse. A safeguarding training session was arranged for the Panel in October 2012.

The Panel considered the 2013-14 Budget Consultation proposals and the potential impact of budget reductions on HHASC services to elderly and vulnerable adults. The Chairman attended the annual Scrutiny Budget Commission.

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Volunteers from the Quality Checker Programme were invited to attend and explain their role in this innovative Enfield scheme. Service user and carer volunteers undertake training and visit adult social care services to report on aspects of care – compassion, choice and control, food and activities. They will shortly begin reporting on care received in people's homes. The scheme was highly commended by the Panel.

The National Pensioners Convention Dignity Code was endorsed by the Panel in April 2012 and aims to uphold the rights and dignity older people who are less able to care for themselves. This Dignity Code (and the wider Dignity code adopted by the Council) has continued to be promoted by the Panel. A co-optee member attended the National Pensioners Convention event in January 2013 on the Panel's behalf.

A demonstration was provided on the developing 'E market place', part of the wider personalisation of care changes. The Personalisation Working Group also met to review the progress in transformation of care agenda.

The Panel was pleased to note continued improvements to the stroke pathway, rehabilitation services and improved information for stroke survivors following an update on implementation of the Joint LBE and NHS Stroke Strategy. Progress on the implementation of other joint strategies - End of Life Care, Intermediate Care and Enablement, and Dementia – was noted. The quality of dementia care in care homes and hospitals and services for sufferers were of particular interest. Unfortunately the Modernisation of Care (for People with Dementia) Working Group was unable to meet due to the Elizabeth House re-provision procurement schedules.

The final meeting covered mental health services. Members were particularly pleased to receive a briefing on new proposals by HHASC to raise awareness of dementia in the community and develop partnership working within the borough to promote this.

The Panel also received reports on:

Home Care Support Performance and Electronic Monitoring System
Recruitment and Retention of Qualified Social Workers and Managers
Social Services Income Collection and Debt Write-off
Enfield's Local Account (HHASC performance)

The Chairman would like to thank all those who have contributed to the Panel meetings this year including HHASC officers, voluntary and community sector representatives, service users, carers and interested members of the public.

2012/13 Older People & Vulnerable Adults Panel Contact Details

Chairman: **Councillor George Savva**

Vice Chairman:

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Officer: Linda Leith

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Secretary: Elaine Huckell

Tel 0208 379 3530

Dignity Code

The purpose of this Dignity Code is to uphold the rights and maintain the personal dignity of older people, within the context of ensuring the health, safety and well being of those who are increasingly less able to care for themselves or to properly conduct their affairs.

This Code recognises that certain practices and actions are unacceptable to older people, such as:

- Being abusive or disrespectful in any way, ignoring people or assuming they cannot do things for themselves
- Treating older people as objects or speaking about them in their presence as if they were not there
- Not respecting the need for privacy
- Not informing older people of what is happening in a way that they can understand
- Changing the older person's environment without their permission
- Intervening or performing care without consent
- Using unnecessary medication or restraints
- Failing to take care of an older person's personal appearance
- Not allowing older people to speak for themselves, either directly or through the use of a friend, relative or advocate
- Refusing treatment on the grounds of age

This Code therefore calls for:

- Respect for individuals to make up their own minds, and for their personal wishes as expressed in 'living wills', for implementation when they can no longer express themselves clearly
- Respect for an individual's habits, values, particular cultural background and any needs, linguistic or otherwise
- The use of formal spoken terms of address, unless invited to do otherwise
- Comfort, consideration, inclusion, participation, stimulation and a sense of purpose in all aspects of care
- Care to be adapted to the needs of the individual
- Support for the individual to maintain their hygiene and personal appearance
- Respect for people's homes, living space and privacy
- Concerns to be dealt with thoroughly and the right to complain without fear of retribution
- The provision of advocacy services where appropriate

Written by: NPC, Walkden House, 10 Melton Street, London NW1 2EJ
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Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Rohini Simbodyal (Chairman)
Councillor Jon Kaye (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Glynis Vince
Councillor Chris Deacon
Councillor Marcus East
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Ali Bakir
Councillor Ann Zinkin
Councillor Derek Levy

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: Sally Moore (Primary Headteachers' Conference), Bruce Goddard (Secondary Headteachers' Conference), David Byrne (Enfield Colleges Principals Group), Enfield Youth Parliament representatives (EYP).

This panel deals with the scrutiny of the full range of children services including education, schools, early years, youth services and social care services for children and young people.

New Developments

Engagement and the views of young people are particularly important to the Panel, therefore, this year we have implemented a standing item on the agenda of an update from the Enfield Youth Parliament (EYP). The Panel have found this item very useful to feed into the work they are undertaking particularly on the working Group 'Getting Young People into Employment Education and Training' and the links with the Enfield Youth Parliament have really developed this year, through the engagement work undertaken.

The panel has also attended two of the Enfield Youth Parliament meetings to discuss and hear their views on particular items that are joint priorities. The Panel arranged for the Enfield Youth Parliament to receive a display of stop and search by the Police as one of the joint priorities was young peoples relationships with the police. This was considered to be a major concern amongst young people, and the police were able to demonstrate why they conduct the searches in the way that they do, this hopefully enabled a better understanding, and the EYP could relay these messages back to their peers.

Next year the Panel aims to make these same links with the Youth Engagement Panel, so that they have the opportunity to feed their views into the Scrutiny Panel business.

Working Groups

Primary Pupil Places

Due to the ongoing high demand for Enfield School places, the panel has continued its work on the Primary Pupil Places working group, keeping informed of new developments on the strategy, and monitoring the recommendations that the Panel proposed in late 2011:

- 1.To evaluate the strategy of the partner school initiative/satellite sites by measuring pupil attainment and standards.
- 2.That in future revised strategies present data which shows whether the objective to reduce mobility has been successful,
- 3.That in future early discussions should take place when schools are identified for potential expansion around best practice for traffic management.

Getting Young People into Employment Education & Training.

Not in Education Employment and Training (NEETS)

As of January 2013, there were 479 young people NEET in Enfield, this is out of a cohort of 11783 in academic years 12 – 14.

Councillors wanted to investigate what was preventing these young people accessing education employment or training by looking at the provision and support available, and barriers that they may face following their journey from school, through to college, or employment.

The Panel held a very interesting meeting with the Principals of all the local colleges and Headteachers and gained some valuable feedback from them on the barriers that effect young people, these views and the evidence collated over the year from other officers and young people will be fed into the final report and recommendations.

Pupil Attainment

The working group had some initial meetings with the School Improvement Team, and visited a headteacher of one of the boroughs outstanding schools. Work will continue into the next municipal year, however the main aim of the group is to understand the different factors that create inconsistencies with the schools in the Borough. To look at different cohorts of pupils to see what factors affect attainment. The working group will explore the factors that contribute/stop pupils gaining good outcomes and high levels of attainment and how the best performing schools enable pupils to reach their full potential.

Panel Meetings

In the full Panel meetings, the panel received detailed reports and presentations examining issues such as, mentoring, Change and Challenge, Young People's relationships with the police (joint meeting with EYP), Young Care leavers, and a joint meeting with the Health Scrutiny Panel on Childhood obesity. The Chairman was very

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concerned about the impact on families and children from Welfare reform and what actions the Council was taking so very early on in the year Officers came to Panel and presented information and the figures related to Enfield, and members raised their own concerns with officers.

Budget reductions were a major concern. Proposals were put forward by the Panel as part of the budget consultation rounds on ways in which the Council could save money but preserve valued services in the Children's services area. These views were fed into the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Budget Consultation.

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

2012/13 Children & Young People Panel Contact Details

Chairman: **Cllr Rohini Simbodyal**

Vice Chairman: **Cllr Jon Kaye**

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Manager: Claire Johnson &

Corporate Scrutiny & Outreach Secretary: Stacey Gilmour Tel: 020 8379 4187

Panel Members:

Councillor Michael Rye (Chairman)
Councillor Ingrid Cranfield (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Chaudhury Anwar
Councillor Ali Bakir
Councillor Lee Chamberlain
Councillor Patricia Ekechi
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Simon Maynard
Councillor Glynis Vince

Non-Voting Co-optees: Mr Brian Waters (Enfield Police Partnership Group – Management Committee), Rasheed Sadegh-Zadeh.

The Crime and Safety and Strong Communities 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. The Panel has had a further community member as co-optee in addition to the Enfield Police Partnership Group – Management Committee member.

The Panel has continued to engage with and support the Safer & Stronger Communities Board (SSCB, Enfield's Community Safety Partnership) with consultation around its Partnership Plan and priorities. This has involved specific consultation events being arranged for harder-to-reach sections of the community including parents, through the Parent Engagement Panel (PEP) crime champions, young people and adults with disabilities. The priorities identified in the SSCB Partnership Plan for 2013/14 will be used to inform the Panel's work next year.

The Panel has commented and provided a monitoring overview on the performance of the SSCB. The Panel now receive a briefing at each meeting on local police numbers.

Specific reviews undertaken by the Panel include:

1. Metal theft

The review involved meeting officers from Environmental Crime, Licensing, Highways, Parks and the Metropolitan Police to collect evidence on the issue. The working group also met a scrap metal dealer to learn how metal theft affects scrap metal dealers and the challenges this crime causes.

Metal theft is a national issue due to the large increase in prices of metal, driven by increased global demand. The Council has suffered significant financial losses as a result of metal theft from parks and of gullies.

The final report was agreed by the Panel on the 18th April, providing a number of recommendations. Two of the key recommendations were:

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- When a new application for registration is received from an address where there is already a registration in place under a different surname, the system should automatically flag this as a potential issue for investigation.
- Local police should undertake training on metal theft in the same manner as the British Transport Police. Currently this training is provided by Metal & Waste Recycling Limited.

2. Risks to young women from violence in relation to gangs

This work followed on from the review undertaken last year by the Crime & Safety & Strong Communities Scrutiny Panel on gangs, young people and weapon enabled crime

The review looked at work currently undertaken on this issue and included briefings from the Youth Engagement Panel lead for vulnerable girls and from one of the co-authors on an Interim Report produced by the Office of the Children's Commissioner (OCC) into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups. Three of the scrutiny recommendations have been taken directly from the OCC report.

An interim report was agreed by the Panel providing a number of recommendations. Two of the key recommendations were:

- Consideration should be given by Enfield's Safeguarding Children Board to using the self assessment tool produced by the University of Bedfordshire to conduct an audit of child sexual exploitation based on the early warning signs and vulnerabilities described in the report
- The Panel would look at these issues again in December 2013, after the publication of the OCC's final Inquiry Report

Other issues considered over the year have included arrangements to tackle domestic violence and Enfield's Troubled Families programme, known locally as Change and Challenge. They have also considered the SSCB Peer Review and received updates on the development of a gangs strategy and the Local Policing Model.

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

Panel Contact Details 2013/14:

2013/14 Crime & Safety & Strong Communities Scrutiny Panel

Chairman: **Cllr. Michael Rye**

Vice Chairman: **Cllr. Ingrid Cranfield**

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Officer: Sue Payne &

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Secretary: Koulla Panaretou. Tel: 020 8379 4835

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Sustainability and Living Environment Scrutiny Panel

Panel members

Councillor Alan Sitkin (Chairman)
Councillor Joanne Laban (Vice Chairman)
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Jayne Buckland
Councillor Yusef Cicek
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Paul McCannah
Councillor Daniel Pearce

The panel scrutinises environmental policy as well as ancillary areas of concern including parks/open spaces, leisure and recreation. The two internal council departments coming under the panel's remit are Environment and Regeneration, Leisure and Culture.

Following the successful format of previous years, the panel agenda split between input from Council services or from external speakers presenting in relevant topic areas. As for the work programme itself, this was divided into four thematic sections: roads; waste management; health; and other items.

The roads agenda included scrutiny of electric vehicles, car clubs, cycling routes and utility companies' responsibility for local congestion.

- Re: electric cars, the panel considered the current and future installation of charging points (the 'Source London' project carried out under the aegis of LB Enfield's 2020 Sustainability Programme) as well as the possibility of using planning processes to embed car club parking bays within new property developments. This latter item benefited from a presentation by ZIPCAR, the world's largest professional and private car club, which is looking to expand its presence in the borough.
- Re: cycling, the panel discussed modal shift efforts (including the progression of Enfield's greenways network) as well as the Council's general cycling safety efforts, starting with the 'Safe Urban Driver' training being disseminated and the Dr Bike cycle maintenance sessions
- Re: streetworks, the Panel heard that approximately 40,000 such initiatives are carried out on Enfield's highways each year, with discussion focusing on the responsibility of LBE's in-house team to co-ordinate such work for safety but also congestion reasons.

The waste management agenda included air quality, litter management and recycling performance in Enfield compared to other London Authorities.

- Air quality –first scrutinised in 2010 - was updated to monitor latest pollution data and review legislation and potential actions in this area
- Re: litter management, the Panel were informed that clearance activities has started to adopt a "Tidy Team" approach, one where operatives are grouped together for efficiency purposes. This has resulted in a marked improvement standards and satisfaction ratings.

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- Re: recycling, the rollout of wheeled bins was completed in 2012, with Enfield's anticipated performance rate of 45% positioning it as one of London's top five boroughs. Discussions included the ongoing improvement in housing estate recycling rates, with members agreed that a recommendation be made to the Environment Department to promote reduced packaging use by the food sector and other manufacturers.

The health agenda, based on a joint panel meeting with Members of the Health and Well Being Scrutiny Panel, included scrutiny of a number of issues of relevance to both panels, including sports in parks, planning in relation to fast food establishments and school meals.

- Re: sports in parks, the installation of 'green gyms', the range of sports facilities available and usage data.
- Re: fast food establishments, planning applications near to schools, proliferation in certain areas, associated litter problems
- Re: school meals, nutritional value, menu offer, regulation of suppliers

In addition to these thematic topics, the Panel scrutinised several other items.

- Building enforcement, with a particular focus on unlawful development and the 'beds in sheds' enforcement project.
- The refurbishment of Enfield's leisure centres and the Council's contracts with Fusion
- The rebuilt Queen Elizabeth 2 Stadium
- Biodiversity, encapsulated in a London Wildlife Trust presentation and the establishment of a permanent working subgroup that will both enhance LBE's accumulation of data on fauna and flora in the borough and ensure closer links between the Sustainability scrutiny panel and the Green Belt Forum. Along similar lines, the Panel also received an update on issues relating to Friends of Parks groups, culminating in improved communications and scrutiny of the Council's new Friends Agreement.

The Panel also made one successful recommendation to Cabinet this year, pertaining to a more than £10m retrofitting contract signed with British Gas, negotiated and prepared by the "New Directions" project team that has been working under the auspices of LBE's Regeneration Department. New Directions is looking at a large number of innovative regeneration projects that – as they come to fruition and insofar as they relate directly to the Panel's remit – will receive regular scrutiny in the near future.

Lastly, as part of the Panel's annual business, it scrutinised the implications for related service areas of this year's Council budget, and passed comments on to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

Panel Contact Details 2013/14

2013/14 Sustainability and the Living Environment Panel Contact Details

Chairman: **Cllr Alan Sitkin**

Vice Chairman: **Cllr Joanne Laban**

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Officer: Andy Ellis &

Corporate scrutiny and Community Outreach Secretary: Koulla Panaretou.

Tel: 020 8379 4835

Health & Well-Being Scrutiny Panel

Panel Members (Councillors): Alev Cazimoglu (Chairman)
Anne Marie Pearce (Vice-Chairman)
Alan Barker
Andreas Constantinides
Ingrid Cranfield
Christiana During
Patricia Eketchi
Tom Waterhouse
Lionel Zetter

Co-opted Members: Tim Fellows
Karen Green (Enfield Parent Engagement Panel)
Maggie Paddon-Smith (Enfield LINK)

The Health and Wellbeing Panel hold the NHS to account in provision of health services for the local population.

The Panel has been kept informed of local progress in the transition to new organisations set up under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. This has been a substantial standing item on the agenda. The Chairman of the shadow Enfield Clinical Commissioning Group has regularly attended meetings over the year to update on their authorisation process.

The Barnet, Enfield and Haringey (BEH) Clinical Strategy continues to be a major focus given the proposed removal of A&E, maternity and inpatient children's services at Chase Farm Hospital in November 2013. This is also monitored at the five-Borough North Central London (NCL) Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Two Panel members continue to represent Enfield Council at the Joint Committee.

BEH Clinical Strategy development plans at Chase Farm, Barnet and North Middlesex Hospitals were outlined to the Panel. Members have contributed to improving the inadequate parking proposals at Barnet Hospital, potentially affecting Enfield patients and their visitors travelling to Barnet Hospital. Following collaboration with Barnet Scrutiny Councillors, who attended our meeting, the Barnet Hospital planning application was increased by 202 additional parking spaces.

Progress on the implementation of the Enfield Primary Care Strategy has been presented to the Panel. Improving access to GP services, raising the quality of GPs and ensuring the same standards of care to all patients would be welcomed. The Panel requires evidence of the implementation of these initiatives and improved patient outcomes.

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The Panel was asked in 2009 to monitor the progress of a 2009 Councillor Call for Action involving Ordnance Road GP surgery where local residents found it very difficult to get appointments. Progress has been slow but plans for a joint Council/NHS service centre incorporating a GP surgery, dental practice, library and community space were formally agreed at the end of March 2013.

Progress on the implementation of several joint Council /NHS Strategies have been presented to the Panel. These include Stroke, Intermediate Care and Enablement, End-of-life care, and Dementia. Two members of the Panel with a long standing involvement in improving stroke services have continued to attend monthly meetings overseeing the Stroke Action Plan implementation. The reduction in mortality following the introduction of the improved stroke pathway is welcomed.

The Chief Executive and Chair of Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals Trust (BCFHT) attended the Panel regarding the proposed acquisition of the Trust by the Royal Free Hospital Trust. The final meeting of the year also included an update from both Trusts on further milestones required in the acquisition process. Future plans, initially covering the first five years, are currently being drawn up prior to submission to regulators prior to the final decision to proceed. The case for using the receipts from Chase Farm land sales locally was stressed by Panel Members.

Following the NHS decision to reduce the opening hours of the Evergreen walk-in centre the Panel sought assurance that the local population, particularly mothers and children, were not adversely affected by the variation in service. An NHS report, which concluded that the reduced service was working, was presented to the Panel. An further update will be included in the Panel's work programme for 2013/2014 in order to satisfy the Panel that there remains adequate provision for the local population.

Both NMHT and BCFHT were asked to present a briefing on patient experience and complaints at their hospitals and what was being done to ensure patient dignity, high quality care and compassion. Both Trusts outlined the strategies in place to address these issues. BCFHT also outlined their draft 21012-13 Quality Account including priorities for 2013-14.

Members visited Chase Farm A&E and spoke to clinicians and other staff to hear their views on the proposals to replace the A&E department with an urgent care centre. A report on the initial soft launch of the NHS 111 urgent care number in North Central London, which replaces NHS Direct, was given to the Panel.

The 2013-14 Budget Consultation was presented to the Panel for comment.

The Chair attended a number of events in her capacity as Chair of the Panel.

2013/14 Health & Wellbeing Panel Contact Details:

Chairman: **Cllr Alev Cazimoglu**

Vice-Chairman: **Cllr Anne Marie Pearce**

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Officer: Linda Leith &

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Secretary: Kasey Knight Tel
0208 379 4073

Housing, Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel

Cllr Edward Smith (Chairman)

Other Members of the Committee

Cllr Ozzie Uzoanya (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Caitriona Bearryman

Cllr Christopher Cole

Cllr Ertan Hurer

Cllr Tahsin Ibrahim

Cllr Henry Lamprecht

Cllr Michael Lavender

Cllr Toby Simon

Co-optees

Mark Bellas (FECA)

Mark Hayes (Christian Action Housing)

The Panel scrutinises housing operations, technical services and property services provided in-house and via Enfield Homes. In addition, the Panel covers regeneration, enterprise and employment issues. The two internal council departments coming under the panel's remit are Housing, Health and Adult Social Care and Regeneration, Leisure and Culture.

Major changes have been introduced by the Coalition Government to housing and welfare policy over the past municipal year. The Panel and officers spent considerable time and effort trying to assess the implications of these changes for Enfield.

The housing element of the Work Programme in 2012/13 focused on the housing allocations policy, the new plans for the A406, Right to Buy, supply of affordable housing and the new Tenancy Strategy.

The panel were told that the revised allocations policy had received favourable feedback following the consultation process. Members were keen to ensure that the scheme would stand up to challenge and heard that it had been submitted to external lawyers who confirmed it was a robust scheme. Following discussion it was agreed social housing supply and demand would be a recurring item on the work programme.

Representatives from Notting Hill Housing Association attended to inform the Panel of the development of 400 properties included within the North Circular Area Action Plan (NCAAP). The proposal includes a mixed-market of sale and rental properties. The Panel were impressed by progress so far, but

highlighted the potential problems associated with high density of some of the schemes proposed.

The Panel noted that the new Right to Buy Scheme was attracting additional numbers of applications and completed sales following the increase by the Government of the discount cap. The Panel agreed that the significant rise in 'Buy to Rent' in the Borough was of concern because it was reducing the number of new homes available to first time buyers..

The Panel was informed that the Tenancy Strategy for 2013-18 reflects the Council's position that longer term tenancies are the best approach for addressing housing need, building strong neighbourhoods and sustainable communities. However, further scrutiny may be required at a later date to ensure that mobility is not constricted by the terms of permanent tenancy agreements.

As Enfield is a pilot Authority for the introduction of the welfare cap, the Panel was anxious to appraise itself of the consequences of Welfare Reform, including benefit caps and reductions in Housing benefit in cases of under-occupancy. Members were told about the work being undertaken by the Council to assist tenants to move into work where possible. Panel expressed their gratitude to officers for the work undertaken to date.

Several large scale regeneration projects were subject to scrutiny during the year and the Panel received detailed presentations on Ponders End, the Ladderswood Estate and Meridian Water, including the provision of a decentralised energy network. Members were invited on a tour of the regeneration sites and it was agreed that the Work Programme for the New Year should continue to monitor these developments.

An update relating to progress by the Worklessness Commission on identifying the obstacles to employment was provided to the Panel. The final report will be presented in the New Municipal Year.

As part of the Panel's annual business, the Panel scrutinised the Budget implications for the housing and regeneration service areas. Comments relating to the rising cost of temporary housing were passed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

2013/14 Housing, Growth and Regeneration Panel Contact Details

Chairman: **Cllr Edward Smith**

Vice Chairman: **Cllr Ozzie Uzoanya**

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Officer: Andy Ellis &

Corporate Scrutiny & Community Outreach Secretary: Ann Redondo Tel 020 8379 4095

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 Corporate Scrutiny & Community & 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 contacts are also listed on the individual Scrutiny Panel pages.

Appendix A: Scrutiny- Some Key Statistics

In 2012/13 Scrutiny has:

- Held over 70 meetings, including Public and working group meetings
- Over 40 different Councillors serve on the 7 Scrutiny Panels
- Dealt with 8 Call-In's
- Received 3 requests for new Councillor Calls for Action.
- Dealt with 30 petitions
- Examined the budget proposals for each Council Group and submitted comments to Cabinet
- Visited various community facilities and front line services including the Hanlon Centre, Enfield Disability Association.

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
- Alzheimers Society
- Arc Theature
- Avenue Residents Association
- Barnet & Chase Farm Hospital Trust
- Barnet Enfield Haringey Maternity Committee
- Barnet, Enfield & Haringey Mental Health Trust
- Bishops Stopford
- Chesterfield and Bowes Federation Schools
- Carers and Parents of Enfield
- Carlene Firmin, MBE
- Centre for Public Scrutiny
- Christian Action Housing
- CIDA
- Circle Anglia HA
- Civic Society Forum
- Comedy School
- Craig Park Youth Club
- Deaf Project
- 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 Group
- Enfield PCT
- Enfield Racial Equalities council
- Enfield Rotary Club
- Enfield Saheli
- Enfield Schools Sustainable Environment Network
- Enfield Voluntary Action
- Enfield Youth Parliament
- Eversley Primary School
- Faber Maunsell Consultants
- Facefront
- Faith Forum
- Fairtrade Steering Group
- Federation of Enfield Community Associations
- Federation of Enfield Residents' Allied Associations
- Flavasum Trust
- Friends of the Parks Groups
- Hanlon Centre
- Houndsfield and Churchfield Federation Schools
- JMP Consulting
- Kongolese Childrens Association
- Landlords Association
- London Ambulance Services Patient & Public Involvement Forum
- London Borough of Haringey
- London & Quadrant HA
- London Wildlife Trust
- Metal & Waste Recycling Limited
- Metropolitan Housing Association
- Metropolitan Police Authority
- Millenium Performing Arts
- Mind in Enfield
- NHS Enfield
- Network Rail
- North Middlesex University Hospital Patient & Public Involvement Forum
- North Middlesex University Hospital Trust
- Notting Hill Housing Association
- Oak Tree Care Services
- One-to-One
- Over 50's Forum
- Parent Engagement Panel
- Park Avenue Pre-School
- Parkinson's Disease Society
- Primary headteachers Forum
- Reservoir Residents Association
- Royal College of Nursing
- St Thomas Nursery
- Secondary headteachers Forum
- Starksfield Primary School
- Stroke Action
- Thames 21
- Total Healthcare Groups
- Transport for London
- Unison
- Victim Support
- Volunteers Centre
- Youth Engagement Panel
- West Lea School
- Zipcar