

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/2016 REPORT NO. **132**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

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Subject:

SCRUTINY WORKSTREAM FINAL REPORTS
AND RECOMMENDATIONS

REPORT OF:

Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Contact officer and telephone
number:

Claire Johnson Scrutiny & Member Services Manager Tel: 020 8379 4239

e-mail: Claire.johnson@enfield.gov.uk

Cabinet Members consulted: Cllr Georgiou, Cllr Stafford Other Members Cllr Levy

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the final scrutiny workstream reports from 2014/2015, and the comments of the respective Cabinet Members and Directors.
- 1.2 Copies of the full workstream reports are available in the Members' Library for information, or through the Councillors and Democracy page of the website.
- 1.3 Progress on implementation of the agreed recommendations will be monitored through Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Cabinet are asked to note the Scrutiny workstream reports and note the Cabinet Members' and Directors' responses to the recommendations.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Following the review of Scrutiny and the new arrangements for undertaking time limited workstreams, five workstreams were undertaken in 2014/2015 and the final reports were agreed by OSC in July 2015.
- 3.2 Following constructive feedback from the Director of Health Housing and Adult Social Care after the issue of the first draft finalised report, a new arrangement has been introduced which allows a discussion between the Chair of the workstream and the Cabinet Member and Director about the review and the reason behind the recommendations, with a more detailed response to the recommendations.
- 3.3 The agreed recommendations are then monitored through OSC.
- 3.4 Chairs of the workstreams were asked to provide feedback on the new process, the following comments were made:
The meetings with the Directors and Cabinet Members were useful, and it was helpful to have direct input and discussion about the review, however, they felt that there were unexplained delays from some departments in providing the detailed response that was promised.

4.0 Workstreams

- 4.1 A brief summary of the workstreams and the recommendations are listed below, full versions of the reports can be found on the Councillors & Democracy page of the website.
- 4.2 **Health Inequality** - Chaired by Cllr Daniel Anderson, Cllr Andy Milne (Vice Chair) Cllr Vicki Pite, Cllr Nick Dines, Cllr Christiana During, Cllr Suna Hurman
The report details the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Health Inequality Workstream. The review focussed on the role of the Public Health team itself, primarily The Public Health Annual Report (2014); the remit and budget allocated to the department; the existing contractual arrangements; and the child poverty strategy and draft action plan. The workstream also looked at the smoking cessation programme targeted at the Turkish community as this provided a good 'snapshot' of the work of the Public Health Department in practice. Members questioned the balance of funding and the allocation and distribution of existing funds, focused as they are mainly on sexual health and drug & alcohol treatments. Members were particularly concerned over the considerable amount of money, spent on Public Health Leadership and CCG core health & intelligence, the benefits of which are not clearly evidenced, and which seemed to be non-aligned with the stated priorities of the department.

The workstream found that, as with other councils across London, the controllable spend on existing sexual health contractual arrangements, inherited from the PCT, failed to deliver measurable results. They are unable to demonstrate the effectiveness of interventions and value for money, whilst the focus appears to be more on outputs than outcomes. However, moving forward, we are reassured that new contractual arrangements will be in place to address these concerns.

- 4.3 Though members felt that the Public Health Annual Report was well put together and illuminating, there were concerns about the lack of context, the use of statistics contained within, and the failure to highlight the importance of, or demonstrate community engagement. In addition, there appeared to be a lack of synergy between this and the Health & Wellbeing Board's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Furthermore, the five objectives contained within the latter were not completely aligned with the Public Health team's three priorities.
- 4.4 Though causality between behaviours and childhood obesity is hard to prove, it was equally hard to overlook the fact that obesity is linked to 30 diseases and estimated to cost Enfield £78.6m a year and that childhood obesity in Enfield is amongst the highest in London.
- 4.5 Turning to child poverty, instead of building on the firm basis of an already comprehensive and well written strategy, the Public Health team initiated an extensive review and second draft strategy. Time and resources - both human and financial - have been spent on producing an ongoing and extensive range of material that the panel found confusing. In addition, whilst there is no definitive evidence base yet as to the most effective interventions to sustainably tackle child poverty the idea of developing a 30 to 40-year plan to eradicate child poverty is unrealistic and unachievable. It is also our view that the child poverty strategy requires a more corporate steer as many of the central features are not within the purview of the public health mandate and questioned the likelihood of it having an impact, in the short and medium term, on children's health and wellbeing.
- 4.6 In conclusion, members believe that the Public Health Department's own priorities need to be recalibrated away from the socio-economic and wider determinants of health, such as improving the quality of housing; raising aspirations amongst children; and improving parenting skills, which are the responsibilities of other council departments, towards what have been shown to be the most effective public health interventions, such as increasing home care visits; pre and post natal nursing support; encouraging physical activity of mums; improving health and wellbeing; smoking cessation, improving nutrition and improving physical activity.

- 5.0 **Speech & Language Therapy** – Chaired by Cllr Nneka Keazor, Peter Fallart (Vice Chair), Guney Dogan, Turgut Esendagli, Bernadette Lappage, Alessandro Georgiou
- 5.1 This workstream looked at the Speech & Language service following feedback from the Edmonton Schools Partnership that access to Speech & Language Therapists (SALT) was limited.
- 5.2 The ability to communicate is an essential life skill for all children and young people and it underpins a child’s social, emotional and educational development.
- 5.3 The workstream found that demand for support far exceeds the capacity of the Speech & Language Team, and therefore this has resulted in a mixed approach with schools making their own arrangements in order to support the needs of the children.
- 5.4 The workstream members felt that there needed to be a standard approach across the Borough so that all children received the same access and opportunity to improve their Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties (SL&CD), but recognised the limitations of the Core team to deliver this alone.
- 5.5 A number of recommendations were made, and these will be monitored through the OSC process.
6. **High Streets & Town Centres review** - Chaired by Cllr Joanne Laban, Cllr Claire Stewart, Vice Chair, Cllr Derek Levy, Cllr Robert Hayward, Cllr Dinah Barry, Cllr Jansev Jemel.
- 6.1 This Scrutiny Workstream was established to undertake a review of high streets and town centres. Particular areas of focus were the numbers of empty units, management of town centres, the retail mix/variety of shops and Business Rates. In relation to these:
- 6.2 Members carried out a variety of visits to ascertain numbers of empty units, the retail mix on offer, and the current look of our high streets.
- 6.3 The management of town centres was discussed with representatives of Enfield Business and Retailers Association and the Chamber of Commerce.
- 6.4 A survey was undertaken of 3 areas to identify the variety of shops.
- 6.5 Members heard from senior managers about the Business Rate process, both locally and nationally.

- 6.6 The workstream identified a number of recommendations based on the evidence gathered to enhance the work already being undertaken.
- 7.0 Gangs & Weapon Enabled Crime** – Chaired by Cllr Krystle Fonyonga, Cllr Lee- David Sanders, Cllr Christine Hamilton, Cllr Bernadette Lappage, Cllr Eric Jukes, Cllr Ahmet Hasan.
- 7.1 Scrutiny members decided to look at this area, as gangs and weapon enabled crime is a top priority for the Safer & Stronger Communities Board (SSCB); young people are over-represented as both victims and offenders in crime statistics.
- 7.3 Enfield has seen a disproportionate escalation in the levels of serious youth violence above the London average.
- 7.4 From the evidence collected as part of the workstream, members identified a number of recommendations for consideration.
- 8.0 Temporary Accommodation** – Chaired by Cllr Edward Smith, Cllr Mary Maguire, Cllr Abdul Abdullahi (Vice Chair), Cllr Christiana During, Katherine Chibah, Erin Celebi.
- 8.1 Tackling homelessness is a key priority both locally and nationally. Statutory homelessness acceptances are rising everywhere especially across London. The use of temporary accommodation is increasing; Enfield fluctuates between fourth and seventh in terms of the highest number of households living in temporary accommodation in London (approximately 2,700 households).
- 8.3 The demand for properties in London is pushing up prices and private rents, causing more people to apply for social housing. The impact of the benefit cap is also causing Councils in London to move their homeless families to cheaper areas like Enfield.
- 8.4 The projected cost pressure of temporary accommodation if the Council takes no mitigating actions is £7.5m and this has been identified as the single largest cost pressure in 2015/16.
- 8.5 The workstream looked at the evidence and the principal supply and demand suggesting measures to help alleviate this problem and reduce costs in this area.

9. WORKSTREAM RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The recommendations from each workstream and the Cabinet Members' and Directors' responses are attached at Appendix A.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

To comply with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

11. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No other options have been considered as the OSC is required, under the Council's Constitution, to submit the scrutiny reports to Cabinet.

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

12.1 Financial Implications

Any cost implications of undertaking the Scrutiny workstreams will be found from within the existing budget.

12.2 Legal Implications

The recommendation set out within this report is within the Council's powers and duties and complies with our requirements under the Local Government Act 2000. The Council's OSC operates in accordance with the Council's constitution.

12.3 Key Risks

There are no key risks associated with this report. Any risks relating to individual scrutiny workstreams have been identified and assessed through the scrutiny process.

13. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Fairness for All, Growth & Sustainability, Strong Communities

OSC will monitor the implementation of the recommendations from the 2014/15 Scrutiny workstreams to ensure that issues affecting a wide range of Enfield residents are addressed and that services provided are fair and equitable; that due attention is given to the sustainability of interventions; and that communities are informed about and are able to actively participate, where appropriate, in their implementation.

14. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

Equalities impact assessments relating to individual scrutiny workstreams and their recommendations will be assessed through the scrutiny process.

15. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

OSC will monitor the workstream programme and ensure that review recommendations are acted on and implemented by departments.

16. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Although these reports reflect a number of important public health issues there are no direct public health issues as it will be the recommendations and actions resultant in each report that will affect the health of the borough.

Background Papers

None

Appendix A

CABINET MEMBERS' AND DIRECTORS' RESPONSES TO SCRUTINY WORKSTREAM REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

HEALTH INEQUALITY WORKSTREAM – Chair Cllr Anderson

Panel members: Cllr Milne, Cllr Pite, Cllr Hurman, Cllr During, Cllr Dines

Recommendations	Director/Cabinet Members Response
<p>Recommendations relating to the Cabinet Members for Public Health and Sport, Education, Children’s Services and Protection and Environment.</p>	<p>Meeting with Cllr Anderson and Ray James 28th October (Cllr Anderson met separately with the Cllr Keazor).</p>
<p>Tackling obesity within schools: We call upon the Government to ensure that all schools are subject to national nutritional standards. Our local MPs could help raise this with ministers. Action: Secretary of State for Education and local MPs</p>	<p>Letter sent by the Chair to the Secretary of State and response received..</p>
<p>We would like to see a more coordinated approach to healthy eating in schools. The local authority should work with schools to ensure that ALL pupils eat healthy meals and not just be provided with the option. Advisory guidance on packed lunches has not worked. Schools should look at enforcing restrictions on what food children can bring in for lunch. Action: Director of Education</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accept the report, and acknowledge the spirit of the recommendations.</p>
<p>We would like to see schools prohibiting pupils under the age of 16 from leaving school premises during lunch breaks so as to limit the opportunity of them accessing unhealthy options from takeaways and newsagents. Action: Director of Education</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accept the report, and acknowledge the spirit of the recommendations.</p>
<p>Public Health Report: our recommendations: We would expect that any future use of evidence used in the Annual Report should be reliable and that any statistics should be benchmarked with other authorities using standard methodologies. A failure to do so will make it impossible to evaluate improvements in treatments or the effectiveness or otherwise of preventative strategies. Action: Director of Public Health</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>
<p>We would like to see more clearly defined outcomes, i.e. to reduce smoking, to vaccinate more children, early diagnosis of lung cancer and HIV</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix,</p>

<p>etc., and it should then map out how this will be achieved, how it will be measured and over what timeframe. As it stands, there is no clear and identifiable plan to achieve the objectives. Action: Director of Public Health</p>	<p>with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>
<p>The wider determinants of health: our recommendations Though nobody would argue against improving social and community networks, and general socioeconomic, cultural and environmental conditions, we do question the over-reliance on the wider determinants of health arguments to demonstrate improvements in health care in the short to medium term. We remain unclear as to what practical strategies would be required to replicate 'the Roseto effect' and, in many ways, the evidence completely contradicts the standard advice that the profession are at pains to maintain. We would therefore like to see clear, consistent, coherent and practical health advice. Action: Director of Public Health</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>
<p>Public health spending allocations: our recommendations We would like to see the amount spent on Public Health Leadership and CCG core health & intelligence, significantly reduced, not least because the benefits of which are not at all clear. We would like to see the money saved diverted to projects directly in the community with spending more closely aligned with the stated priorities, namely tackling obesity, increasing physical activity and stopping smoking. We do not consider £388k dedicated to tackling the growing obesity crisis as sufficient. We would also like to see evidence of the more integrated approach cited by Dr Ahmad, where the public health budget compliments other departmental spends. Action: Cabinet Member for Public Health and Director of Public Health</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>
<p>Sexual health contracting arrangements: our recommendations We would like the Secretary of State for Health to ensure that the pan London arrangements for sexual health treatments are tightened up and that the</p>	<p>Letter sent by the Chair to the Secretary of State and response received providing details of a Pan London Sexual Health Transformation Project, that address the concerns that the Scrutiny members had.</p>

<p>rates charged are competitive. There should be measures in place to determine how many patients are seen, and the spend per patient.</p> <p>Action: Secretary of State for Health</p>	<p>Enfield is part of this Pan London review.</p>
<p>Community engagement programmes: our recommendations</p> <p>In light of the experience with the smoking cessation programme, we would expect to see a more consistent approach with regards to community engagement. The goal should be to effect sustainable, rather than short-term, behavioural change. This, we believe, can only be achieved in collaboration with communities. Relationships, therefore, need to be fostered and maintained in order to maximise finite human and financial resources. Action: Director of Public Health</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>
<p>Though we agree that changing attitudes in the community is necessary, it should be done in conjunction with, and not in place of, enforcement against smoking in shisha bars. Action: Director of Regeneration and Environment</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>
<p>We would like to see better joined-up approaches in tackling smoking, engaging other partners, such as pharmacies, that can help engage local communities, e.g. distributing literature in given areas and providing advice. We agree that bringing public health under local authority control facilitates a more strategic approach. We also agree that it is most important to engage the young and to shift focus on to prevention rather than cure, i.e. reducing the number of people smoking in the first place. Action: Director of Public Health</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>
<p>We believe that the Public Health Department's priorities need to be recalibrated away from the socio-economic and wider determinants of health, such as improving the quality of housing; reading for school readiness and beyond; building resilience in families; raising aspirations amongst children; and improving parenting skills, all of which feature in Dr Duggal's most recent evidence-based review (dated</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>

<p>March 2015). We do not doubt that they need to be addressed as part of a wider child poverty strategy, but evidence suggests that as well as being resource intensive there is very little proof of positive outcomes in terms of health improvements. This simply reiterates our view that the child poverty strategy requires a corporate steer as many of the central features are not within the direct purview of the public health mandate.</p> <p>Action: Director of Public Health</p>	
<p>The 'Review of Interventions' document had itself demonstrated what the most effective interventions were and we believe that the Public Health Department priorities should be on practical interventions that improve the health of the borough, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ increasing home care visits; ▪ pre and post natal nursing support; ▪ encouraging physical activity of mums; ▪ improving health and wellbeing; ▪ improving physical activity; ▪ tackling mental health; ▪ improving nutritional intake; ▪ improving dental health; ▪ improving access to immunisations; and ▪ home interventions ▪ stopping smoking <p>Action: Director for Public Health</p>	<p>The Cabinet member and Director accepted the recommendation. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page on the Council website.</p>
<p>Child Poverty: our recommendations We believe that the child poverty strategy is a corporate strategy and, as such, the responsibility should reside with the Corporate Management Team and the Cabinet with public health feeding into its development in the same way that health & social care, housing & regeneration, education, and environment would do. Indeed, though the draft child poverty strategy talks about supporting families into work and increasing their earnings, improving living standards, and preventing poor children becoming poor adults etc., it says less about the focus on ill health as a driver of poverty.</p>	<p>The recommendation was accepted. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page.</p>

Action: Chief Executive	
We believe that the original child poverty strategy provides a vision, priorities and next steps. It also outlines the local, national and regional context, the local strategic framework, the drivers of child and family poverty, risk factors, consequences and how the impact can be mitigated. We therefore believe it is a firm basis for pursuing a viable way forward. In addition, Government policy now appears to be moving in this direction. Action: Chief Executive	The recommendation was accepted. The full response can be found as an appendix, with the Health Inequality Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page.

SPEECH & LANGUAGE PROVISION – Chair Cllr Keazor

Panel members: Cllr Dogan, Cllr Esendagli, Cllr Lappage, Cllr Fallart, Cllr Alessandro Georgiou

Recommendations	Director/Cabinet Members Response
Recommendations relating to the Cabinet Member for Education, Children’s Services and Protection	Meeting with Cllr Orhan, Cllr Levy, Tony Theodoulou and Jenny Tosh 12th October
To incorporate Speech, Language & Communication Difficulties into the SEND Strategy.	Agreed.
To provide match funding of £25,000 to the Edmonton Schools Partnership so that a further year’s pilot can be undertaken, with a view to replicating and implementing the delivery model sustainably in all schools across the Borough.	The ESP have agreed to fund the £25,000 match funding for the pilot project to continue for a further year.
To review the level of SL&CD support provided to the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) as a priority.	Agreed
That the Health team undertake a regular needs assessment of their service to ensure that the needs of all children identified with a SL&CN are catered for. Currently the number of children with SL&CD in their Educational & Health Plan is recorded, however, no data is recorded by Health on the overall number of children with an identified Speech, language & Communication need.	It is excellent news that match funding is secured for the Edmonton Partnership model of high quality practice. Incorporating SLCN into the SEND Strategy is welcomed. The important issue of quantifying and mapping local prevalence across the broad range of different levels of needs will require collaborative effort to ensure we have a thorough needs analysis to address priorities.

<p>To continue to increase awareness with secondary schools of the link between communication difficulties and challenging behaviour, and encourage referrals to the Speech & Language Service.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>
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HIGH STREETS & TOWN CENTRES – Chair Cllr Laban

Panel members: Cllr Levy, Cllr Hayward, Cllr Barry, Cllr Jemal, Cllr Stewart

<p>Recommendations relating to Cabinet member for Finance & Efficiency & Director of Finance Resources & Customer Service.</p>	<p>Meeting with Cllr Stafford, Cllr Laban and James Rolfe 2nd October</p>
<p>Review how data on empty units is collated to ensure the Council has the most up-to-date information available.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>
<p>Proactively advise small, independent retailers of the discounts available for Business Rates.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>
<p>Recommendations relating to Cabinet member of Economic Regeneration and Business Development & Director of Environment and Regeneration</p>	<p>Meeting with Cllr Sitkin, Cllr Laban, Ian Davis 9th October</p>
<p>Involve retailers with the development of Town Teams and encourage retailers to work proactively with the Council.</p>	<p>It is very gratifying to see that the conclusions of the Town Centre/Retailer scrutiny panel support the initiatives that this Administration had already started undertaking prior to the communication of these recommendations. This pertains not only to the work long commenced on establishing self-directed Town Teams but also the new Council business portal, a smart cities agenda that is well advanced. With regards to the idea that a forum be established to facilitate communications between lessors and potential lessees, this too is already being attended to through the Administration's proactive relationships with local property agents and constant enjoinder that the latter take part in the new Town Team framework</p>
<p>Ward Councillors to attend retailers' meetings. (see 4.10).</p>	<p>“ “</p>

Liaise with the relevant Town Centre Management Group to devise a mail shot relating to marketing the borough and signposting help and advice. (see 4.23).	“ “
Establish a Landlord/Letting Agents Forum (see 4.13).	“ “
Recommendations relating to Cabinet member & Director of Environment	Meeting with Cllr Anderson, Cllr Laban, Ian Davis 19th October
2.7 Within the confines of planning legislation, consider how the Council can influence shop front design to enhance the aesthetic appearance of the high street. (see 4.11).	Amended wording accepted by the Chair, and recommendation agreed by The Director of Environment and Cabinet member.
2.8 Consider ways in which the Council can influence the variety of shops within a high street or town centre (see 4.17)	Amended wording accepted by the Chair, and recommendation agreed by The Director of Environment and Cabinet member.

GANGS AND WEAPON ENABLED CRIME – Chair Cllr Fonyonga

Panel members: Cllr Hasan, Cllr Hamilton replaced by Cllr Abdullah, Cllr Lappage, Cllr David-Sanders, Cllr Jukes

Recommendations relating to the Cabinet member for Community organisations & Culture and the Director of Environment & Regeneration	Meeting with Cllr Brett, Cllr Fonyonga, Andrea Clemons 18th September
The Gangs Call-in is well regarded by the workstream and seen as a valuable process. Members recognise the difficulty of evaluating the process, given that outcomes take time. However, as the Call-in has now been in operation for 3 years, members felt that some evaluation should be developed in order to provide some quantitative and qualitative data to inform the process.	Agreed
The workstream recommend that the gangs strategy and action plan to come back to a future meeting of the standing crime scrutiny workstream to monitor and that they are kept informed of its implementation.	Agreed
To note that Gang Awareness training will be offered to all Councillors, this will form part of the Member Development Programme.	Agreed, and training delivered on the 29 th October by A.Clemons.
To note that Gang awareness and knife crime training will now form part of the training offered to all PEP members.	Agreed and implemented.

Recommendations relating to the Cabinet member for Education, Children’s Services and Protection, the Interim Director of Children’s Services, and Interim Chief Education Officer.	Meeting with Cllr Orhan, Cllr Fonyonga, Tony Theodoulou, and Jenny Tosh 5th October
The Council considers holding further “Say it like it is” events for primary school pupils to come together and have a voice with a suggested focus on making the right choices.	Amended wording accepted by the Chair, and recommendation agreed.
All Workstream members have agreed, and it is suggested that all Ward Councillors make contact with, and attend some sessions at their local youth activity events, and secondary schools within their ward to promote their role as a ward councillor and community leader.	Agreed

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION – Chair Cllr Smith

Panel members: Cllr Maguire, Cllr Chibah, Cllr Celebi, Cllr Erbil, Cllr Abdullahi replaced by Cllr During

Recommendations relating to the Cabinet member for Housing and the Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care.	Meeting with Cllr Oykener, Cllr Smith, Ray James and Malcom Dabbs 28th October
More publicity is needed to ensure that households seeking or in private rented accommodation are aware that they can approach the Council for advice or assistance if they are in financial difficulty.	The recommendations were noted and a full response is attached with the Temporary Accommodation Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page of the website.
More work is needed to ensure that all tenants in temporary accommodation are fully aware that they are required to bid for permanent properties and have been provided with advice and guidance on how to do this	The recommendations were noted and a full response is attached with the Temporary Accommodation Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page of the website.
In view of the rising number of successful applicants for homelessness status and concerns over interpreting the Government’s guidelines, LBE’s Housing Department should consider recording in the case of future applicants for social housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • their place of birth and country of origin; 	The recommendations were noted and a full response is attached with the Temporary Accommodation Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page of the website.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the nature of their local connection to Enfield; • those with un-resolved immigration status placed in temporary accommodation under non- housing legislation 	
<p>Review the Councils strategy for payments to private landlords providing temporary accommodation in order to reduce overall costs by establishing a flexible approach with the ability to renegotiate rental levels when necessary to dissuade landlords from evicting benefit dependant tenants. The Council should also renew its efforts to reach agreements with other London Boroughs to reduce temporary housing costs</p>	<p>The recommendations were noted and a full response is attached with the Temporary Accommodation Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page of the website.</p>
<p>The Council should consider the option of moving more homeless households in expensive NPA accommodation into areas which provide value for money including beyond the M25 to districts where this is likely to achieve significant financial savings. To avoid legal challenge, it needs to introduce a clear policy framework taking into account of the needs of the children and any other welfare requirements of the households in question</p>	<p>The recommendations were noted and a full response is attached with the Temporary Accommodation Workstream report on the Councillors & Democracy page of the website.</p>