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# ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm

Tuesday 24 April 2012 Town Hall, Main Road, Romford

Members 7: Quorum 3

**COUNCILLORS:** 

Jeffrey Brace (Chairman) Dennis Bull Peter Gardner Garry Pain John Mylod (Vice-Chair) Barbara Matthews David Durant

For information about the meeting please contact: Wendy Gough 01708 432441 wendy.gough@havering.gov.uk

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

# 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(if any) - received.

#### 2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members are invited to declare any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

## 3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman will announce details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

# **4 MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 31 January 2012 and authorise the Chairman to sign them.

## **5 AGEING WELL REPORT** (Pages 5 - 14)

Following the recent Ageing Well event considering priorities for older people in the borough, the attached report details some themes arising from the event that could be used as components of the overview and scrutiny committee's work programme for the next municipal year.

## 6 REVIEW OF WASTE MANAGEMENT - BIFFA, ELWA, SHANKS (Pages 15 - 28)

The Committee will receive a presentation from the Head of Streetcare on the Waste Management Partnerships.

## 7 MONITORING OF HIGHWAY REPAIRS

The Committee will receive an update on the monitoring of highway repairs in the Borough.

## **8 COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 29 - 34)

#### **Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee, 24 April 2012**

The Committee will receive a report on work carried out in the last municipal year.

The Committee are asked to agree the content and authorise the Chairman to sign off the final version.

## **9 PERFORMANCE INFORMATION** (Pages 35 - 52)

The Committee will be updated on the latest Service Performance Information.

## 10 URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any other items in respect of which the Chairman is of the opinion, by reason of special circumstances which shall be specified in the minutes, that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

#### 11 FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee Members are invited to indicate to the Chairman, items within this Committee's terms of reference they would like to see discussed at a future meeting. Note: it is not considered appropriate for issues relating to individuals to be discussed under this provision.

Ian Buckmaster
Committee Administration and
Member Support Manager



# Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE Town Hall, Main Road, Romford 31 January 2012 (7.30 - 9.45 pm)

#### **Present:**

Councillors Jeffrey Brace (Chairman), John Mylod (Vice-Chair), Dennis Bull, Garry Pain, Gillian Ford (In place of Barbara Matthews) and Frederick Thompson (In place of Peter Gardner)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Durant, Councillor Peter Gardner and Councillor Barbara Matthews

#### 19 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 8 November 2011 and 5 December 2011 (special meeting) were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

## 20 BRIEFING NOTE ON THE TRANSPORT VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEM

The Committee received a briefing note on the Transport Vehicle Tracking System from the Fleet Engineer from Central Depot. The Committee was informed that the Transport Section had been operating a black box tracking system which was a retrospective system with the information and data being downloaded overnight when the vehicle was parked.

Due to advances in vehicle tracking the current system used, KL2, was now obsolete and needed replacing. The Transport Board had look at four different systems, and following testing had agreed on a replacement system called BATRAK.

BATRAK was an upgrade of the previous KL2 system and was a GPS "live" web based training system. The system was easy to use across all the fleet it gave details of drive analysis, including excessive braking, steering, throttle use and idle time. The latter would be monitored and reduced as this would be a fuel saving, and make the vehicles more cost effective.

A member asked if this system could be fitted onto existing vehicles. The officer explained that it could be, however they were on a rolling programme of renewing the fleet, and therefore both the new and old systems would be run side by side. It was explained that 80% of buses, 50% of highways vehicles and 100% of the Streetcare vehicles had been renewed and were using the new system.

The Committee had a detailed discussion about the maintenance of vehicles and the number of vehicles owned by the Council.

The Committee agreed that they would like a report on progress of the system in the new municipal year.

#### 21 ALTERNATIVE VEHICLES BRIEFING NOTE

The Committee received a briefing note on Alternative Vehicles from the Fleet Engineer. The Officer explained the difference between an electric vehicle and a diesel vehicle.

The electric vehicle tested was the Transit AZD Connect this was compared against the standard Diesel Connect, as they were of comparable size and the controls were familiar. The manufacturer had quoted the operational range of 80 miles; however upon testing the vehicle on a 40 mile route, it could only complete less than 50% of the distance.

The Committee was informed that there were a number of other electric and diesel hybrid vehicles coming onto the market and officers would look to test other vehicles in the future.

The Committee discussed in detail other alternative vehicles and alternative fuels which could be used, together with the advantages and disadvantages of each.

Once the briefing had finished, the officer stated that there was a "Gator" electric vehicle available for the Committee to view, however the Committee decided it was not necessary to see this.

#### 22 NOISE SERVICE REVIEW TRIAL

The Committee received an update on the Noise Service Review from the Public Protection Manager. The officer informed the committee of the previous service that had been provided. This included:

- Saturday nights, 22:00 03:00 (Sunday) for 50 weeks per year
- Friday nights, 22:00 02:00 (Saturday) for Summer months
- Sunday nights, 22:00 02:00 (Monday) for Summer months
- All other times by prior arrangements and infrequent, informal reactive service for serious cases.

However there were no longer resources available to be able to provide this reactive service

The new provision was a witnessing service provided by arrangement, for cases where noise diary sheets had been returned, a questionnaire had

# Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee, 31 January 2012

been completed showing the action taken by the complainant to deal with the problem, and the indication that a noise nuisance was likely. Officers would contact complainants on the alleged nights of the noise to arrange to witness it. This would be pursued over a 4-5 week period.

Given the current budget, whilst this was a 24/7 service, there was a cap of 15 hours per week on out of hours work. The Committee was informed that there are 1.6 FTE's allocated to a number of duties, including noise nuisance, planning applications, contaminated land and air quality.

The Committee noted the statistics set out in the presentation and that a 31% return of diary sheets was an increase from the previous 20%, therefore this was considered to be a positive reaction to the service. 66 out of hours visits were carried out for incidents of a domestic origin (music, barking dogs and DIY).

The Committee was informed that there had been no court action thus far for breach of notice.

A member asked if other boroughs provided a reactive service. The officer stated that some do, however the service provided by Havering served a greater number of long suffering complainants, rather than one off parties.

The Committee was informed that Homes in Havering had their own service which was dealt with by an Anti-social Behaviour officer.

#### 23 PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The Committee were presented with Performance Information for the services within its remit. A member asked for clarification on the volume of recycling which made up both the percentage achieved and the target figure of 35%.

#### 24 FUTURE AGENDAS

The Committee agreed that it would look at the monitoring of highway repairs at its next meeting.

Chairman

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# REPORT TO ALL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES, MARCH-MAY 2012

Subject neading.	Arising From Ageing Well Event
CMT Lead:	lan Burns, Acting Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services
Report Author and contact details:	Anthony Clements, Principal Committee Officer Tel: 01708 433065 anthony.clements@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	The Council's overview and scrutiny powers and the need to ensure an effective overview and scrutiny process.
Financial summary:	No implications arising directly from this report.

# The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Ensuring a clean, safe and green borough	[]
Championing education and learning for all	[]
Providing economic, social and cultural activity	
in thriving towns and villages	[X]
Valuing and enhancing the lives of our residents	įχį
Delivering high customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	ΠĪ

**SUMMARY** 

Following the recent Ageing Well event considering priorities for older people in the borough, this report details some themes arising from the event that could be used as components of the overview and scrutiny committees' work programmes.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Members consider the themes raised by the Ageing Well event and decide which, if any, should be added to the work programme of their Committees.

#### REPORT DETAIL

- 1. Members will be aware that, in January 2012, an event was held considering the implications for Havering of the growing elderly population and the Ageing Well agenda generally. The event was well attended with a number of Members and other stakeholders present. Groups and organisations dealing with the elderly who were represented included Age Concern, Havering Police and local NHS organisations.
- 2. The event produced a great deal of discussion and ideas from the delegates about what were considered the priority areas for older people (a number of members of the Havering Over-50s forum also attended and gave valuable input to the discussions). The results of these sessions are summarised in the appendix to this report.
- 3. Shortly after the event, several of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen, assisted by officers, met informally to consider the outcomes from the event. A number of general themes emerged and these, along with some further suggestions, are listed below. It should be noted that this is not an exhaustive list and Members are welcome to use any of the information below or in the appendix to consider what items could be added to the Committees' work programmes.
  - Security and fear of crime including data protection issues
  - Lifestyle and social inclusion
  - The impact of housing and planning on older people
  - Accessibility and transport
  - Bereavement support
  - The impact on young carers
  - Safeguarding issues
- 4. Issues affecting older people are often wide ranging and it is likely that many of the issues listed above (or any others chosen by Members) may cover the remit of more than one Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This should not be seen an obstacle to undertaking the work but Members may wish to give consideration to co-opting members from appropriate

other committees onto any topic group set up in response to the Ageing Well work. For example, a review of security and fear of crime led by the Crime & Disorder committee may find it useful to co-opt a member from the Towns & Communities overview and scrutiny committee in order to more fully consider the security aspects of housing design and related areas.

# **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

# Financial implications and risks:

None arising directly from this report. Any financial implications arising from individual reviews would need to be considered as part of the report of the specific topic group.

# Legal implications and risks:

None.

# **Human Resources implications and risks:**

None, this work would be supported within the existing committee administration team.

# **Equalities implications and risks:**

The ageing well event was specifically focussed on issues affecting older people and hence sought to improve scrutiny of an area (age) that is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. Further scrutiny work in this area will assist in meeting the Council's equalities obligations.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix: Feedback from Ageing Well Event Breakout Sessions, 19 January 2012, Havering Town Hall

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# Appendix: Feedback from Ageing Well Event Breakout Sessions, 19 January 2012, Havering Town Hall Lifetime Housing & Health

Contributor's background	What is going well	What is not going well	Priority Areas
Individual	<ul> <li>Homes in Havering – tenants in need – contains service</li> <li>LA – reablement. Occupational Health</li> <li>Age Concern – partnership</li> <li>Libraries service re info</li> <li>Information – downsizing</li> <li>Referral to chemists</li> <li>Home blood tests</li> <li>Polyclinic</li> <li>Care at Queens</li> <li>Patient choice/ Service Provision</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Dementia admission to hospital going into care homes and not home on discharge</li> <li>Lowest survival rate in first year of cancer</li> <li>Death rate 50% in falls</li> <li>Unavailability of NHS Dental</li> <li>Homes in Havering</li> <li>First point of contact (Housing and Health, customer services, training)</li> <li>Private sector – unsure where to access advice</li> <li>Declining membership at libraries amongst older people</li> </ul>	- Making sure voices are heard in the CCG - Discharge from hospital
Community and voluntary sector	<ul> <li>Homes in Havering – good partners</li> <li>Training</li> <li>Handyman service</li> <li>Always someone on end of a phone</li> <li>Gardening service</li> <li>Bowel cancer screening</li> <li>Day hospitals – full clinics</li> <li>Personal budget</li> <li>Age concern being totally independent</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cross-related working</li> <li>Removal of wardens from sheltered housing</li> <li>Poor communication between partners</li> <li>Apathy</li> <li>Outcome of consultation and foregone conclusion</li> <li>Major issue with discharge from hospital</li> </ul>	Homes in Havering work with older people
Organisation and agency	<ul> <li>Good liaison/communication with tenants</li> <li>Lunch clubs run by Age Concern</li> <li>Concessionary decoration</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Homes in Havering in implementation</li> <li>GP commissioning – have a particular way of looking at things which may preclude other things</li> </ul>	Homes in Havering issues     Oversight of CCG's monitoring

Handyman services (HiH) – gar	<b>'dening</b> • Housing provision is not fit for purpose –	<ul> <li>Dementia services,</li> </ul>
etc	sheltered	esp. in health service.
Health – emphasis on mental h	ealth - OAP's become isolated	
more awareness	<ul> <li>Reduction in in-patient beds</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Good new initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Failure to diagnose serious illness early</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Dementia liaison services</li> </ul>	enough	
<ul> <li>Hospital training</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>GPs not aware of symptoms of dementia</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Housing transfer arrangements</li> </ul>	Wish Council would leave things alone if it	
	is doing well	

# Remaining active & healthy

	What is going well	What is not going well	
Individual	<ul> <li>Parks/open spaces</li> <li>Adult gyms</li> <li>Walking section social</li> <li>Community/pensions clubs, dance clubs, active</li> <li>Culture</li> <li>Transport</li> <li>Facilities for DIP second to none - everything you need</li> <li>Use of allotment sites</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> largest borough in London</li> <li>cost of Dial-a-Ride prohibitive</li> <li>compared to B &amp; D poorer service</li> <li>need to pay for audio books</li> <li>Transport</li> <li>Safety in public</li> <li>Not enough social activities in Romford</li> </ul>	Culture and Leisure Services     Dial-a-Ride
Community and voluntary sector	<ul> <li>Libraries/churches</li> <li>Caring</li> <li>Parks</li> <li>Lots of open spaces</li> <li>Concessionary swimming classes</li> <li>Well being classes at centres</li> <li>Walking clubs</li> <li>Informed voluntary group (friends of Parks)</li> <li>Volunteers are 50+</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cost to health of stopping free swimming</li> <li>Poor communication of activities</li> <li>Integration of Services</li> <li>People falling through the gaps</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cost of Dial-a-Ride and poor service</li> <li>Leisure activities for over 50s</li> </ul>

Organisation	referrals from GPs to Hornchurch	Lack of coordination between agencies	Transport issues
and agency	Sports Centre	regarding preventative work	<ul> <li>Fear of crime amongst</li> </ul>
	rehabilitation service	<ul> <li>Transport access to Queens/St Francis</li> </ul>	over 50s
	<ul> <li>Freedom Pass – keeps people active</li> </ul>	Hospice	
	Good leisure facilities	Gaps in bus provision (accessing care	
	<ul> <li>Good integration between services</li> </ul>	provision)	
	<ul> <li>Good CQC interventions and</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Subway access in Romford market</li> </ul>	
	transformations	Fear of crime	
		Nil increase in community support	
		Sports co-ordinators lost	

# Financial security & social inclusion

	What is going well	What is not going well	
Individual	<ul> <li>Age Concern</li> <li>NELFT integrating social care/health</li> <li>Community nurses</li> <li>Willingness to engage with commissioners</li> <li>IT training – access to Financial Services</li> <li>Greater Choice</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Insurance provision and awareness (home/travel etc)</li> <li>Increase in suicide rate and dementia</li> <li>Mental health and separation of services</li> <li>Parcels of high relative deprivation (unseen poverty)</li> <li>Poor pension planning</li> <li>Lack of access/understanding of what benefits and support are available</li> <li>Power of attorney – lack of awareness</li> <li>Misunderstanding of LPA</li> <li>Dementia – putting people back in own homes</li> <li>Right to choice where to live</li> <li>Data Protection</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Financial awareness and social accessibility</li> <li>Role played by putting a charge on housing for people who access services</li> <li>Mental health services for older people</li> </ul>
Community and voluntary sector	<ul> <li>Borough looking at financial inclusion</li> <li>Work of Age Concern</li> <li>Banking protocol</li> <li>Advisory/signposting Services of Age Concern.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>People not necessarily aware of rights</li> <li>Cannot access cash</li> </ul>	

Organisation and agency	<ul> <li>Super neighbourhood team</li> <li>Safeguarding</li> <li>Restructure of Dementia services</li> <li>Community engagement and awareness from London Fire Brigade</li> <li>Community provisions at Queens</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Safeguarding – care homes in the borough</li> <li>Relatives abusing parents to retain control</li> </ul>	Safeguarding

# Independent Living

	What is going well	What is not going well	
Individual	<ul> <li>Specialist Dementia Teams in hospitals</li> <li>Staying longer in own home and not forced to leave</li> <li>Home shopping delivery</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lack of personal responsibility</li> <li>Lack of ICT literacy (impact of demographic changes)</li> <li>Change of family set up</li> <li>No dementia phone</li> <li>Susbsidy to people and children – need to look after yourselves</li> </ul>	Domiciliary care
Community and voluntary sector	<ul> <li>Lots of volunteers in Age Concern</li> <li>Aware of people with Dementia</li> <li>Good local shops and facilities</li> <li>Provision of ICT support from various sectors</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Risk to local shops/community facilities</li> <li>Lack of recognition and broader awareness</li> <li>Lack of practical support for over 65's</li> <li>Support for carers – not individuals with dementia</li> <li>Gaps not aware of</li> <li>No one for single persons</li> </ul>	Role of carers
Organisation and agency	<ul> <li>Provision of ICT classes at Libraries</li> <li>Re-ablement Services</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>automation of services (telephones)</li> <li>old equipment used by reablement services, not possible to recycle</li> <li>cutting funding for Advocacy Project at Age Concern</li> </ul>	Reablement service

# Care & community issues

	What is going well	What is not going well	
Individual	<ul> <li>Emphasis of keeping people in their own homes</li> <li>LINk</li> <li>HUBB and LA very good</li> <li>Churches in the Community</li> <li>CQC value the person</li> <li>Good to have standards thresholds</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Demise of extended family</li> <li>Isolation of many individuals</li> <li>Feelings of vulnerability (media driven)</li> <li>Services of St Francis Hospice not reaching everybody – focus on education and lifelong learning</li> <li>Need intergenerational demographic cohesion</li> </ul>	
Community and voluntary sector	<ul> <li>Work of the Hospice</li> <li>Low level of crime</li> <li>Reablement service is very good</li> <li>Providing improvement in the home</li> <li>Involvement of Older People (over 50s forum)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Quality of Home Care variable</li> <li>Home care – plenty of it</li> <li>Crimes get missed because of lack of resources</li> <li>Lack of neighbourliness (public awareness)</li> <li>Emphasis of Safeguarding</li> <li>Lots of work goes unseen in the voluntary sector</li> <li>Churches/ religious groups not being included in some events</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Domiciliary care – quality issues</li> <li>Safeguarding work</li> <li>Hard to reach groups</li> </ul>
Organisation and agency	Voluntary sector provides excellent service     People's Housing Choices are respected	<ul> <li>Unrecorded crime</li> <li>Lack of referrals to Hospice from GP's (no consistency)</li> <li>Are there enough people to help the elderly stay at home.</li> <li>Churches to be involved in all aspects of work</li> <li>Need to consult with voluntary/ community sector when designing new services (LA/NHS)</li> <li>Unaware of CQC legal powers</li> </ul>	Role of GPs     Role of churches & community groups

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# Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

# Review of Waste Management Partnership - Biffa, ELWA, Shanks



# **Our Partners**

Biffa – Our Waste collection contractor

The East London Waste Authority (ELWA)

Shanks East London - ELWA's waste disposal contractor



# **Biffa Waste Services Ltd**

- Household waste (black sacks)
- Kerbside recycling (orange sacks)
- Garden waste (green bins & sacks)
- Trade
- Clinical
- Bulky





# East London Waste Authority



- •Established as a Statutory Waste Disposal Authority in 1986
- •Manages approx 500,000 tonnes of waste per year from LBH, LBBD, LBR, LBN
- •In 2002 ELWA awarded a 25 year PFI contract to Shanks. This Integrated Waste Management Strategy (IWMS) sets out measures to improve recycling and composting rates and to divert waste from landfill
- •Cllr Kelly is ELWA Chairman and Cllr Tebbutt is an LBH Member of ELWA



# Shanks East London



- Awarded ELWA contract in 2002 for 25 years
- •£100m invested in sustainable waste management facilities and technology for the ELWA region
- BioMRF's at Frog Island and Jenkins Lane, improvements to all Reuse and Recycling Centres (RRCs)
- •Education and community campaigns and a visitors centre to promote waste minimisation recycling and recovery



# Havering's Municipal Solid Waste Management Strategy

- •In April 2006 Cabinet agreed Havering's waste strategy. This links with ELWA's headline strategy and operates until 2020.
- •Key Havering and ELWA Strategy targets:
- Give a priority to achieving statutory recycling and composting standards; 27% by 2007/08.
- •Recycle or compost jointly 25% of waste in the period 2005/6 2009/10, 30% in the period 2010/11 2014/15 and 33% from 2015/16 (ELWA regional target)
- •Work with ELWA to divert from landfill 40% of waste in the period 2007/8 2009/10, 45% in the period 2010/11 to 2014/15 and 67% thereafter.



# **Achievements**

- Recycling and Composting more than 35% of our waste
- •Reduced household waste by 11,000 tonnes since 2006/07
- •ELWA diverted 52.3% of municipal waste from landfill in 2010/11



# How have we increased recycling?

- •Introduced wheeled bin garden waste collection and composting service (18,000 + customers)
- Separated orange and black sack collections
- Improvements at RRC
- Introduced more bring banks
- •Several communications campaigns, funded through WRAP, including encouraging orange sack recycling, bring bank usage and recycling in flats
- •LW&RB infrastructure funding for flats recycling
- BioMRF recycling





# How have we reduced waste?

Waste minimisation campaigns:

- Love Food Hate Waste
- Roadshows
- Leaflets
- Publications
- Home composting



Proactive enforcement – preventing trade waste being disposed of in household waste stream

Controls at RRC restricting:

- Controlled Waste ("builders waste")
- Non-ELWA residents

Packaging regulations and other Central Govmt policies to reduce waste at source

More recently, the recession



# How has ELWA diverted 52.3% of municipal waste from landfill in 2010/11?

- Increased recycling
- Diversion of Solid Recovered Fuel from the bioMRFs
- Diversion of "fines" from the bioMRFs
- Less waste to manage as waste reduction campaigns begin to take effect



# Future Challenges - New Legislation, Strategies, Targets and Pressures

# **Revised Waste Framework Directive (rWFD)**

- Increased focus on reuse and recycling.
- Increased focus on quality of recycled materials (compost)

# **Mayors Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2011**

- Achieve zero municipal waste direct to landfill by 2025
- •Reduce the amount of household waste produced from 970kg to 790kg per household in 2031
- •Increase London's capacity to reuse or repair from 6,000 tonnes/year to 30,000 by 2031
- •Recycle or compost at least 60% by 2031
- •Cut greenhouse emissions by one million tonnes by 2031
- •Generate as much energy as possible from organic and non-recyclable waste



# Future Challenges - New Legislation, Strategies, Targets and Pressures (cont)

# **Waste Strategy for England 2007**

- Focus on waste prevention and reuse
- Diversion from landfill
- Increased recycling and recovery of energy
- •To recycle or compost at least 40% of household waste by 2010, 45% by 2015, and 50% by 2020

# Cost

Disposing of household waste will cost Havering just under £11 million in 2012/13



# The Future

•Increased focus on waste prevention, increased recycling and diversion from landfill to achieve targets but also reduce costs

•Review our Waste Strategy & how we work with our partners to take account of proposed legislation and new targets and Strategies

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# **ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Subject Heading: ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL

REPORT, 2011/12

CMT Lead: Ian Burns

Interim Assistant Chief Executive

Legal and Democratic

**Report Author and contact details:** Wendy Gough

Committee Officer 01708 432441

wendy.gough@havering.gov.uk

Policy context: Under the Council's Constitution, each

Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required to submit an annual report of its

activities to full Council

#### **SUMMARY**

This report is the annual report of the Committee, summarising the Committee's activities during the past Council year.

It is planned for this report to stand as a public record of achievement for the year and enable members and others to compare performance year to year.

There are no direct equalities or environmental implications attached to this covering report. Any financial implications from reviews and work undertaken will be advised as part of the specific reviews.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. That the Committee note the 2011/2012 Annual Report and authorise the Chairman to agree the final version for Council.
- 2. That the Committee agree the report be referred to full Council.

#### REPORT DETAIL

During the year under review, the Committee met on seven occasions and dealt with the following issues:

## 1. BUSINESS CASE FOR LED LIGHTING

1.1 At its first meeting of the year in June 2011, the Committee received a report which detailed business cases for various sites where LED Lighting had been piloted. The Committee was informed that LED Lighting was used more than general lighting and the payback was only one tenth of ordinary lamps.

#### 2. BUY WITH CONFIDENCE

- 2.1 At its June meeting, the Committee also received a presentation from the Trading Standards Fair Trading Divisional Manager on the Buy with Confidence Approved Trader Scheme. The Committee was given examples of rogue trading and it was explained that in response to concern highlighted in the media, a partnership of Local Authority Trading Standards Services had taken a ground-breaking step by putting together the Buy with Confidence Scheme.
- 2.2 The Scheme provided consumers with a list of local business which had given their commitment to trading fairly. Every business listed had undergone a series of detailed checks before being approved as a member of the scheme. The Committee was informed that the following checks were carried out:
  - Experian check
  - Companies House check
  - CRB check (if the work included entering people's home)
  - Insurance check
  - Full audit of contracts and advice given to improve standards if necessary.

# 3. THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STRATEGY

3.1 In July 2011, the Committee met jointly with the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees in order to scrutinise aspects of the Council's Financial Strategy for the coming year. The meetings, chaired by the Chairman of Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee, scrutinised several issues of relevance to this Committee. Services valued most by residents would be protected, and in particular there would be no change to refuse collection.

# 4. MONITOR OF SCHOOLS UNDER THE CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT

- 4.1 At its meeting in September 2011, the Committee received an update on the position of the monitoring of schools as part of the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC). The Committee was informed that all state-funded schools (including academies) within Great Britain participated within the CRC Scheme under the umbrella of their local authority. In doing so, it was the carbon footprint of the local authority that was legally and financially responsible for participation in the CRC Scheme that was considered, rather than that of the individual schools.
- 4.2 The Committee was informed that the Department of Energy and Climate Change had published a discussion paper on Academies' participation in the CRC. The paper addressed how academies could be dealt with under the CRC scheme and laid out four possible options:
  - Option 1: Retain the status quo. This option noted that the
    Department for Education (DfE) was consulting on school funding
    reforms that may allow the cost of CRC allowances to be retained
    centrally before calculating budgets for both maintained schools and
    Academies.
  - Option 2 and 3: Proposed the individual qualification and participation of schools (option 2 for all schools, option 3 for Academies only)
  - **Option 4:** Proposed the optional disaggregation of Academies, who would qualify with their LA but participate individually.
- 4.3 The Committee's view was that the CRC allowance costs should be passed directly to the schools, so that they are accountable for the energy they use. This would be an incentive for schools to reduce their energy consumption.

# 5. SCORES ON THE DOORS

- 5.1 At its September meeting, the Committee received a presentation on the "Scores on the Doors" scheme. Scores on the Doors is a Food Hygiene rating scheme. It provided details of inspections carried out of all food premises, including restaurants and manufacturers of food. It was emphasised that Scores on the Doors was not an award scheme; it offered consumers guidance and transparency about the hygiene of food premises.
- 5.2 The Committee was informed that a scoring system had been used for over 20 years, and that all high risk premises are inspected, unannounced within a 6 month period. Premises such as hospitals that provided food to vulnerable people or nurseries that catered for very young children, were inspected more frequently based upon the risk to the public.

5.3 Members noted that all scores were included on the national website, and once business had been inspected and the scores established, the business is informed and a sticker showing how many stars they have are sent to them to display. An average score was two stars out of five.

#### 6. OLYMPIC ENFORCEMENT 2012

- 6.1 In November 2011, the Committee received a presentation on the Olympic Branding Enforcement. The Committee was informed how the Games would be protected through education of traders and businesses and through intelligence gathering. Enforcement would include the sale of fake tickets, counterfeit merchandise and any other scams associated with the Olympics.
- 6.2 Members noted that Trading Standards nationally were working in partnership with the London 2012 Intellectual Property Crime Unit, the Metropolitan Police, Customs and Excise, Sponsors, Stakeholders and Industry Groups. New laws were in place specifically for the Olympics and these included:
  - The Olympic Symbol Protection Act 1995.
  - The London Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Act 2006.
  - Advertising and Street Trading Regulations Framework in the vicinity of Olympic events.
  - An exclusion zone around the venues in the UK.
  - Measures to prevent ambush marketing.
- 6.3 The Committee was informed that the protection was important as the Government predicted that £2 billion of Olympic merchandise would be sold; of this, the Government would receive 20% of the revenue. The revenue would be used as a legacy for the Games, and without it taxpayers would pay for any loss. Members raised concerns about this and agreed that the protection was important.

# 7. TRANSPORT VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEM

7.1 At its meeting in January 2012 the Committee received a briefing on the Transport Vehicle Tracking System. The Committee was informed that the Transport Board had looked at four different systems, and following testing had agreed on a replacement system called BATRAK. This was an update of the previous KL2 system and was a GPS "live" web based training system. The system was easy to use across all the fleet and gave details of drive analysis, including excessive braking, steering, throttle use and idle time.

## 8. ALTERNATIVE VEHICLES

8.1 At its January 2012 meeting, the Committee received a briefing on the different Alternative Vehicles that were available and how electric and diesel vehicles differed. The Transport Service had tested a comparable electric vehicle against a standard diesel vehicle. The Committee was informed that

during testing, the electric vehicle, which the manufacturer had quoted had an operational range of 80 miles, was only able to complete less than 50% of the distance of a standard route of 40 miles.

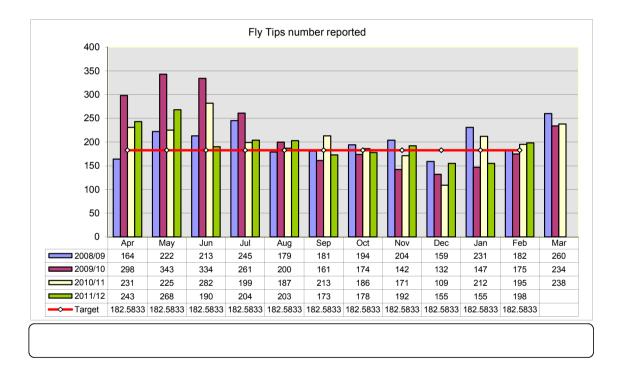
## 9. OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED

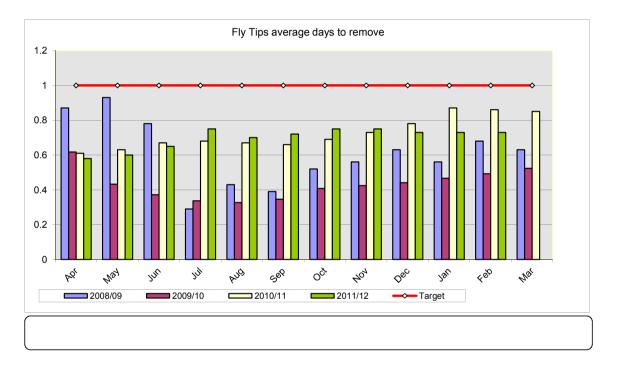
- 9.1 <u>Solar Panels</u> At its meeting in November 2011 the Committee received a presentation on the solar panels which were installed in the roof of the Town Hall. These ran on a Feed-In Tariff; however the generation tariffs changed as of December 2011 and multi installations would be counted as one roof, therefore reducing the Feed-In Tariff by approximately 10%.
- 9.2 <u>Noise Service Review Trial</u> At its January 2012 meeting, the Committee received an update on the Noise Service Review. The Committee was informed that the new provision was a witnessing service provided by arrangement, for cases where noise diary sheets had been returned; a questionnaire had been completed showing the action taken by the complainant to deal with the problem, and the indication that a noise nuisance was likely.
- 9.3 <u>Performance Information</u> At all of its meetings, the Committee received updates on Performance Information about the service. This included details on Flytipping, Abandoned Cars, Tonnage of Household Waste, Missed Collections of Waste, together with information from Public Protections on service requests responded to with five working days, noise complaints responded to within five working days, and Non-Compliant Food Inspections.
- 9.4 Requisition of Cabinet Report, Hornchurch Country Park Proposed Ingrebourne Hill Extension At its special meeting in December 2011, the Committee considered a call-in of the Cabinet Decision on the extension of Ingrebourne Hill, in Hornchurch Country Park. Following in depth discussions the Committee resolved to not uphold the requisition
- 9.5 <u>Visits to Waste Sites</u> During the year, the Committee carried out three visits to different types of waste sites. These included Frog Island MRF, where the general waste was taken. MDJ Light Brothers Ltd, who dealt with Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment and The Ideal Waste Paper Co. Ltd, who dealt with the recycling from the borough.

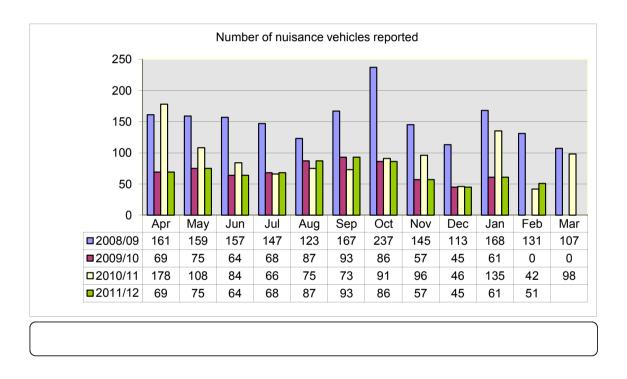
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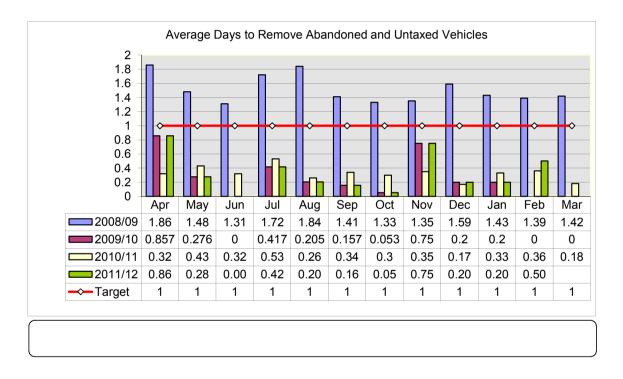
## **Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee Performance Report**

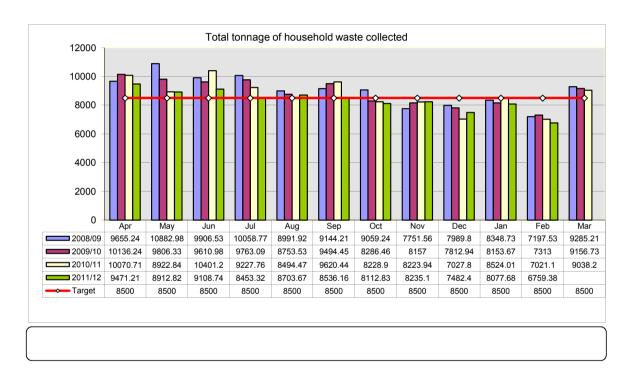
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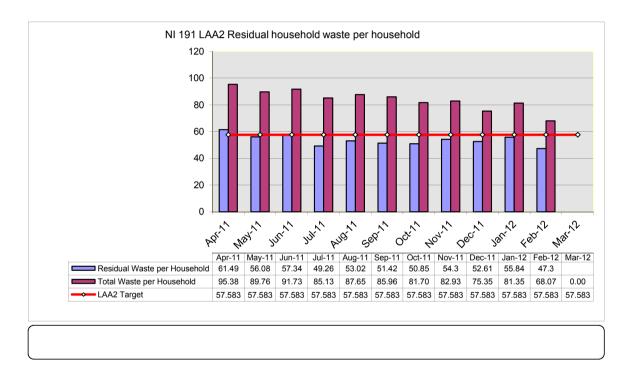


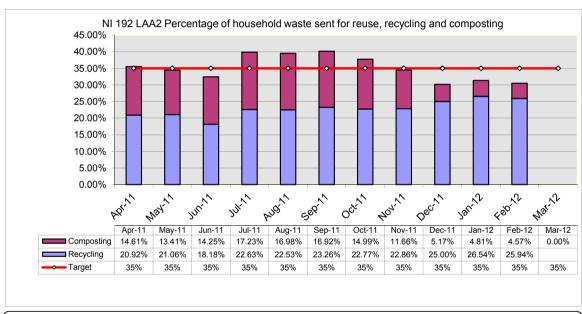




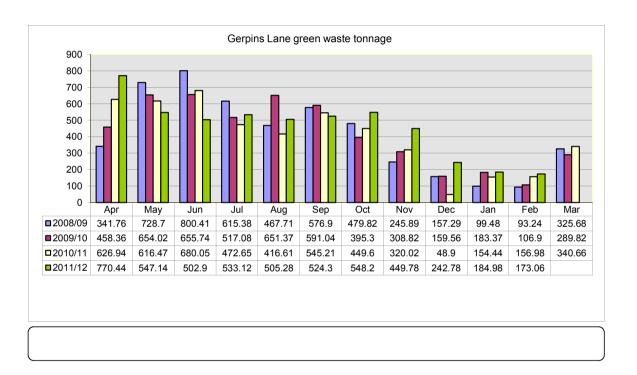


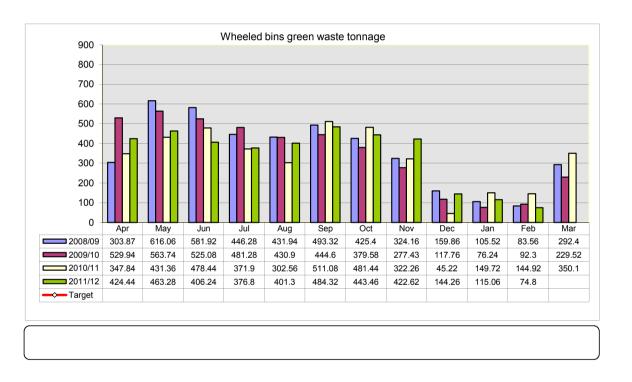


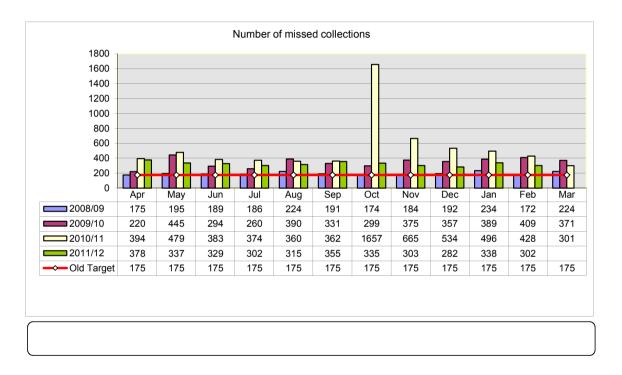


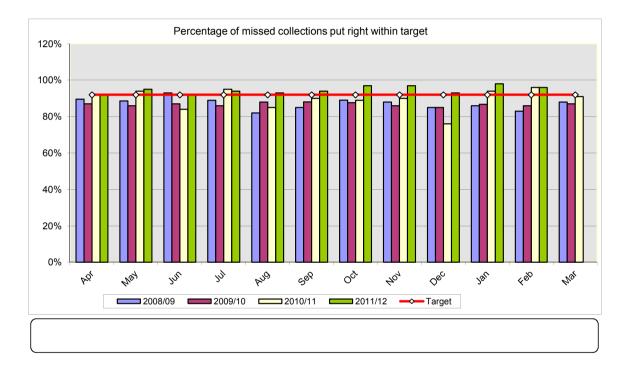


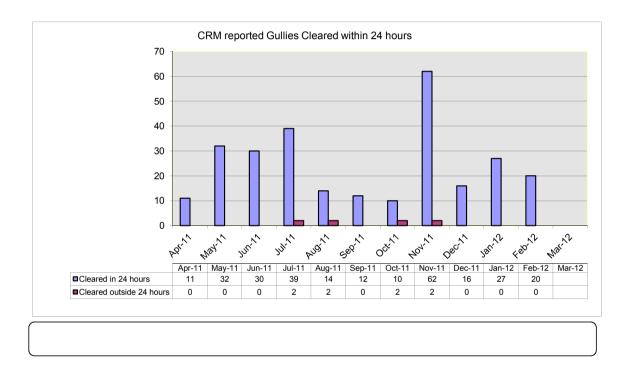
Current Projected Performance for Year 11/12 = 35%

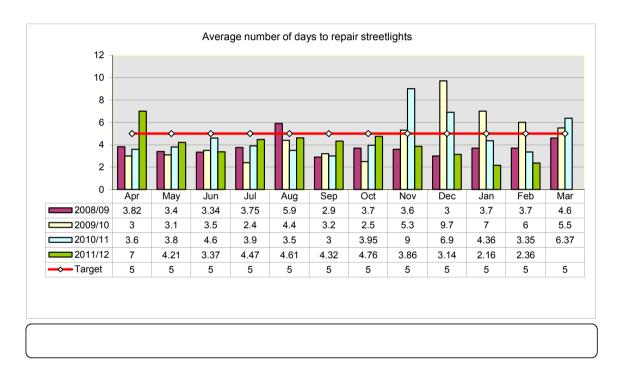


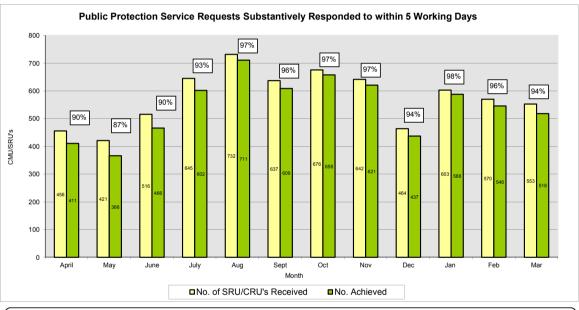


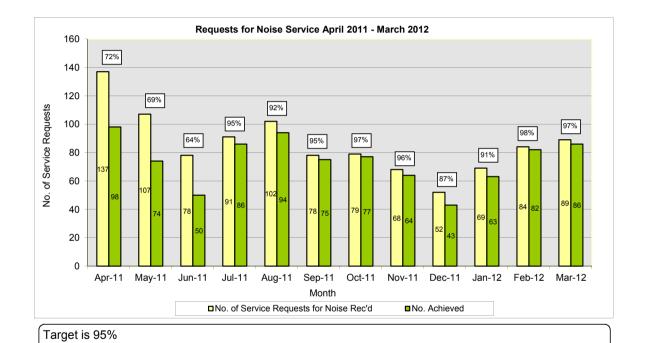


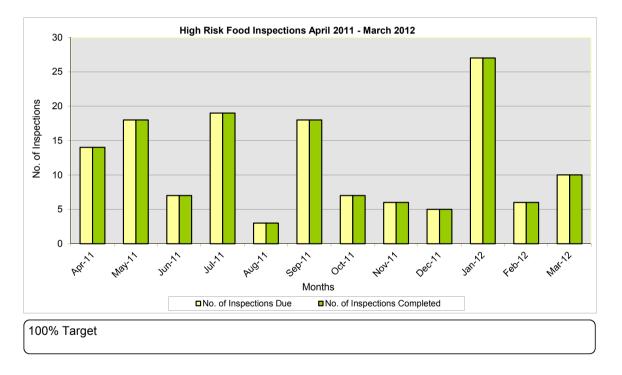












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