



Havering

LONDON BOROUGH

TOWNS & COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm	Thursday 5 July 2012	Havering Museum, High Street, Romford (Please note location)
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Members 9: Quorum 3

COUNCILLORS:

**Conservative Group
(5)**

**Residents' Group
(2)**

**Labour Group
(1)**

**Independent
Residents' Group
(1)**

Damian White
(Chairman)
Wendy Brice-
Thompson
Osman Dervish
Garry Pain
Linda Trew

Linda Hawthorn
(Vice-Chair)
Ray Morgon

Paul McGeary

Michael Deon Burton

**For information about the meeting please contact:
Richard Cursons (01708 432430)
E-mail: richard.cursons@havering.gov.uk**

What is Overview & Scrutiny?

Each local authority is required by law to establish an overview and scrutiny function to support and scrutinise the Council's executive arrangements. Each overview and scrutiny committee has its own remit as set out in the terms of reference but they each meet to consider issues of local importance.

They have a number of key roles:

1. Providing a critical friend challenge to policy and decision makers.
2. Driving improvement in public services.
3. Holding key local partners to account.
4. Enabling the voice and concerns of the public.

The committees consider issues by receiving information from, and questioning, Cabinet Members, officers and external partners to develop an understanding of proposals, policy and practices. They can then develop recommendations that they believe will improve performance, or as a response to public consultations.

Committees will often establish Topic Groups to examine specific areas in much greater detail. These groups consist of a number of Members and the review period can last for anything from a few weeks to a year or more to allow the Members to comprehensively examine an issue through interviewing expert witnesses, conducting research and site visits. Once the topic group has finished its work it will send a report to the Committee that created it and it will often suggest recommendations to the executive.

Terms of Reference

The areas scrutinised by the Committee are:

- Regulatory Services
- Planning and Building Control
- Town Centre Strategy
- Licensing
- Leisure, arts, culture
- Housing Retained Services
- Community Safety
- Social and economic regeneration
- Parks
- Social inclusion

AGENDA ITEMS

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(if any) - receive.

2 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Members are invited to disclose any pecuniary interest in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting.

Members may still disclose any pecuniary 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 1 May 2012 (attached) and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

5 HOMES IN HAVERING

Presentation by the Head of Housing and Public Protection on future plans for Homes in Havering.

6 JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AND PREPARATIONS FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES

To receive updates from the Head of Culture and Leisure Services on the recent Jubilee celebrations in Havering and preparations for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

7 COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13 (Pages 5 - 8)

Report attached.

8 HAVERING MUSEUM

A member of museum staff will give a brief talk on the main features of Havering Museum.

9 URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any other item 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.

**Ian Buckmaster
Committee Administration and
Member Support Manager**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TOWNS & COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Town Hall, Main Road, Romford
1 May 2012 (7.30 - 9.05 pm)**

Present:

Councillors Frederick Osborne (Chairman), Linda Hawthorn (Vice-Chair), Wendy Brice-Thompson, Michael Deon Burton, Osman Dervish, Paul McGeary, Ray Morgon, Garry Pain and Keith Wells

Apologies for absence were received from

22 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

23 AGEING WELL REPORT

Committee Administration officers presented a report detailing the outcomes of the Ageing Well event held earlier in the year. This had been an event organised, with support from the Centre for Public Scrutiny, for stakeholders to consider issues impacting on the older population in Havering. Members were invited to review the issues and themes raised during the event and to consider which of these could be included within the Committee's work programme for the coming year.

During discussions members considered possible improvements to bus services during the evening, declining memberships at libraries and inclusion of the voluntary sector in housing issues.

24 HAVERING MUSEUM

Committee members received a presentation from Simon Parkinson, Head of Culture and Leisure Services.

Members were advised that a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) had been submitted in September 2007. An HLF award had been made in February 2008 and works to the museum had been completed in early 2010 allowing for a soft opening in (February 2010 and a full opening in May 2010.

It was noted that the total project costs equalled £1.74m which was made up of capital £1.044m; activity costs of £572,000 and other costs equalling £125,000. Funding from the HLF (£990k); former developers (£150k); Section 106 monies (£126k) and a contribution from Veolia (£30k) had met these costs. Other funding "in kind" (eg volunteering costs) were also included.

The Council sub-leased the property along with Countryside Properties and then sub-sub-leased it with Havering Museum Ltd for a period of 35 years from June 2007.

Members noted that Havering Museum Limited taken over responsibility since 01/04/2011. HLF were continuing to fund up until March 2013 but this period may be extended and the Council were covering Curator costs up to December 2012.

At present the Museum averaged around 33 paying customers per day.

Members also noted that visitors to the museum had been happy with the quality of the displays.

It was also noted that the museum relied heavily on the income paying visitors but the visitor numbers were not high enough at present. There were also meeting rooms that could be hired within the museum but lettings had not been as high as expected.

Members were advised that a small gift shop existed within the museum.

It was also suggested that a café would enhance the social experience of visiting the museum.

During discussions members questioned whether consideration had been given to the possibility of the museum being funded by donations and whether the Gift Aid model was in place for entrance fees.

Officers undertook to investigate and report back to members.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee should take place at the museum to give members an idea of the experience.

Members thanked the officer for his presentation.

25 **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE 2011/12**

The Committee received a report on the work that had been carried out over the last municipal year. The Committee was informed that the items discussed at this meeting would be included before it was signed off by the Chairman.

The Committee agreed the contents and authorised the Chairman to sign off the final version.

Chairman

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TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Subject Heading:	Committee's Work Programme
CMT Lead:	Ian Burns, Interim Assistant Chief Executive- Legal and Democratic Services
Report Author and contact details:	Anthony Clements Committee Administration 01708 433065 Anthony.clements@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	To agree the Committee's work programme for the 2012/13 municipal year.
Financial summary:	No implications – overview and scrutiny work will be covered by existing resources

SUMMARY

At this stage of the municipal year the Committee is required, so far as is practicable, to agree its work programme for the forthcoming year. This applies to both the work plan for the Committee as a whole and to the subject of any topic group run under the Committee's auspices.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee agrees its work programme for 2012/13 municipal year.

REPORT DETAIL

Shown in the schedule at the end of the report is a draft work programme for the Committee's six meetings during the municipal year (this does not include the Joint Overview and Scrutiny meeting to consider the Council's budget). This has been drawn up by officers following initial discussions with the Chairman.

Members will note that a significant proportion of the workplan has been left blank at this stage. This is to reflect the fact that Members may well wish to select further issues for scrutiny. In addition, previous experience has shown that it is beneficial to leave some excess capacity for scrutiny in order to allow the Committee to respond fully to any consultations or other urgent issues that may arise during the year.

Additionally, the Committee has the power to select an issue for more in depth scrutiny as part of a topic group review. Council has recommended that, in view of limited resources, only one such topic group is run at any one time. The Committee is therefore requested to consider what should be the subject of its next topic group review, if any.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks: None – it is anticipated that the work of the Committee can be supported from existing resources.

Legal implications and risks: None

Human Resources implications and risks: None

Equalities implications and risks: None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

Schedule: Draft Work Programme for the Towns and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Towns and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee					
Meeting 1 (5 July 12)	Meeting 2 (10 October 12)	Meeting 3 (8 November 12)	Meeting 4 (6 February 13)	Meeting 5 (9 April 13)	Meeting 6 (2 May 13)
Committee's Work Programme Report	Engagement with leaseholders	Hornchurch Town Centre Regeneration	Romford Leisure Centre	Regeneration policy	Committee's Annual Report
Transition of Homes in Havering back into the Council	Collier Row town centre regeneration	Planning turnaround times and service issues	Havering community identity and branding issues		
Olympics Update	Licensing Changes				
Havering Museum – Update/run through					

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