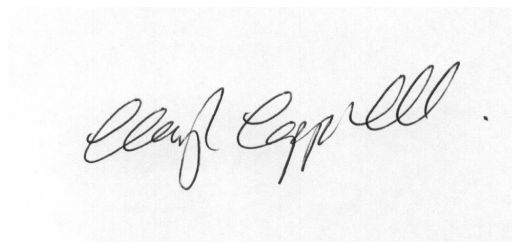


COUNCIL

**7.30pm WEDNESDAY, 22 OCTOBER 2008
AT HAVERING TOWN HALL
MAIN ROAD, ROMFORD**

Members of the Council of the London Borough of Havering are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council at the time and place indicated for the transaction of the following business, including the consideration of the conferment on an individual of the office of Honorary Freeman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clauf Cappell', is centered on a light grey rectangular background.

Chief Executive

**For information about the meeting please contact:
Ian Buckmaster (01708) 432431
*ian.buckmaster@havering.gov.uk***

NOTES ABOUT THE MEETING

1. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Council is committed to protecting the health and safety of everyone who attends its meetings.

At the beginning of the meeting, there will be an announcement about what you should do if there is an emergency during its course. For your own safety and that of others at the meeting, please comply with any instructions given to you about evacuation of the building, or any other safety related matters.

2. MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES

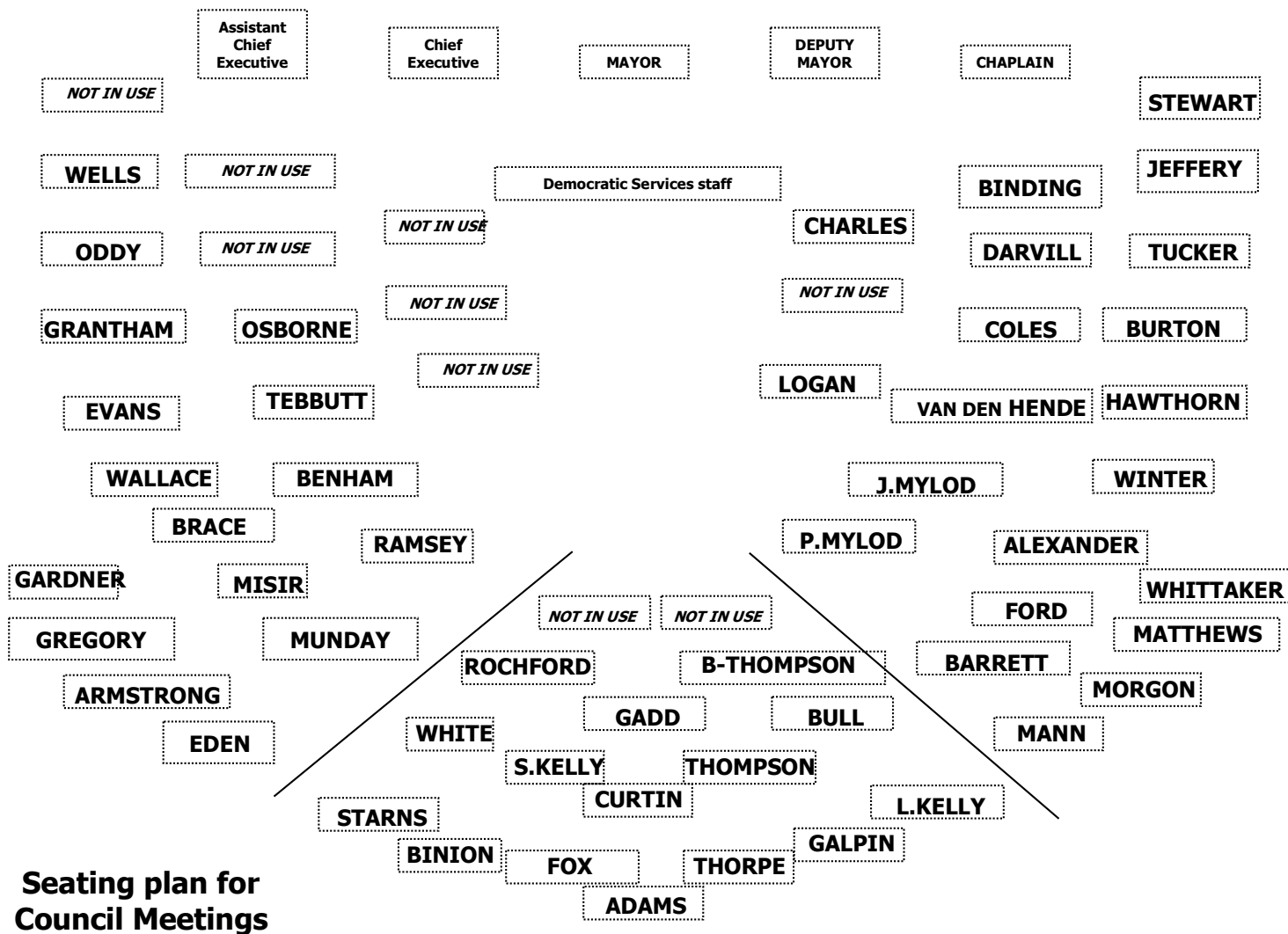
Although mobile phones, pagers and other such devices are an essential part of many people's lives, their use during a meeting of the Council can be disruptive and a nuisance. Everyone attending is asked therefore to ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off completely.

3. CONDUCT AT THE MEETING

Although members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council, they have no right to speak at them. Seating for the public is, however, limited and the Council cannot guarantee that everyone who wants to be present in the public areas of the Council Chamber can be accommodated. When it is known in advance that there is likely to be particular public interest in an item the Council will endeavour to provide an overspill room in which, by use of television links, members of the public will be able to see and hear most of the proceedings.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE MAYOR MAY REQUIRE ANYONE WHO ACTS IN A DISRUPTIVE MANNER TO LEAVE THE MEETING AND THAT THE MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED IF NECESSARY WHILE THAT IS ARRANGED.

If you need to leave the meeting before its end, please remember that others present have the right to listen to the proceedings without disruption. Please leave quietly and do not engage others in conversation until you have left the Council Chamber.



INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

Commencement of Meeting

As an aid to Members, a single ring of the division bell will sound 5 minutes before the meeting is due to begin, followed by a double ring at 2 minutes before, at which time Members are asked please to take their seats for the commencement of the meeting.

Control of microphones

Members are reminded that, at Council meetings, the microphones are controlled centrally under the direction of the Mayor. Consequently, Members do not need to press the **MIC ON** button in order to speak, nor to turn off the microphone when they have finished.

The Mayor would find it helpful, however if Members would press the **MIC ON** button to indicate that they wish:

- to speak in the course of debate on any motion (including movers and seconders)
- to rise to a point of order, of information or in personal explanation

Voting

When the Mayor calls a division, the division bell will sound briefly. In order to ensure that votes are recorded correctly, Members are asked to wait until the division bell has finished ringing before pressing the appropriate voting button.

Members are, of course, free to change their vote as they choose at any time until the Mayor directs that the votes be counted. Once a count has been called, however, no further change is possible. In the event that a Member's vote appears not to have been recorded, the clerks should be informed immediately, before the result is declared, so that account can be taken of the vote.

Council, 22 October 2008

AGENDA

1 PRAYERS

2 To receive apologies for absence (if any)

3 MINUTES

To sign as a true record the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 23 July 2008

4 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.

5 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (if any)

6 AWARD FOR EMINENT SERVICE TO THE BOROUGH

To consider whether to confer on Mark Hunter, Olympic Lightweight Men's Double Sculls Champion, the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

7 PETITIONS

Councillor Roger Evans has given notice that he intends to present a petition.

Council, 22 October 2008

REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Notes:

The deadline for amendments to reports (items 8 to 10) published with this Agenda is midnight, Monday 20 October

The reports indicated below as being “to follow” will be submitted with the agreement of the Mayor as urgent matters, pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS TO FULL COUNCIL BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

To consider a report of the Governance Committee, which recommends to the Council that the proposition set out in the Labour Group motion to Council at its meeting on 23 July 2008 should not be pursued.

9 MEMBER CHAMPION FOR THE ELDERLY – CHANGE OF TITLE

To consider a report of the Governance Committee, which recommends to Council that the title be changed to “Member Champion for the Over Fifties”

10 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RULES – EXCEPTIONS TO THE CALL-IN (REQUISITION) PROCEDURE: PROPOSED REFURBISHMENT OF THE BETTY STRATHERN CENTRE

To note the report of the Chief Executive

11 ABANDONED SHOPPING TROLLEYS – ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION

To consider a report of the Cabinet (to follow as a late item, with the Mayor’s agreement)

12 IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR HAVERING – DEVELOPING THE COUNCIL’S CORPORATE BUSINESS PLANNING PROCESS 2009-12 – SUPPORTING STRATEGIES

To consider a report of the Cabinet (to follow as a late item, with the Mayor’s agreement)

Council, 22 October 2008**13 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – FURTHER REPORT**

To consider a report of the Cabinet (to follow as a late item, with the Mayor's agreement)

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

14 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

See paper 14 attached.

Questions are listed in the agenda by order of receipt

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

15 COUNCIL CONTRACTS: BUILDING INSPECTION**Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group**

This Council agrees to use solely London Borough of Havering Building Control Service and not private Approved Inspectors on all future Council Contracts.

15A Amendment on behalf of the Administration

Add at end: "whenever it is in the Council's control"

so that the motion will read:

This Council agrees to use solely London Borough of Havering Building Control Service and not private Approved Inspectors on all future Council Contracts whenever it is in the Council's control.

Council, 22 October 2008**16 DARTFORD CROSSING: TOLL****Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group**

This Council opposes the increase in the standard Dartford Crossing Toll from £1 to £1.50 (from November 15th) and will lobby for the residents of Havering to be eligible for the same discount scheme as that proposed for the residents of Thurrock and Dartford.

16A Amendment on behalf of the Administration**Amend to read:**

This Council opposes any charges for the use of the Dartford Crossing. It calls upon the government to recognise that the cost has been recovered, and that any future charging is unjust.

Note: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2, the Mayor has accepted the following motion as urgent. Accordingly, amendments to it may be proposed at any time before the debate on it is concluded.

17 CONTROLLING DOGS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON HOUSING ESTATES**Motion on behalf of the Independent Local Residents' Group**

This Council will fully investigate the wholly avoidable attack by a Rottweiler, on a young defenceless five year old child on Sunday 14 September.

The Council accordingly requests the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee to investigate upon what can be done to tackle severe anti-social behaviour such as this including making changes to the Council's conditions of tenancy.

The Council also requests the Chief Executive to arrange for an investigation into whether anything that could or should have been done by staff of the Council or of Homes in Havering, would have prevented the attack.

Note: *A Supplementary Agenda will be published on Thursday, 16 October with the reports referred to in items 11 to 13; a further Supplementary Agenda may follow that.*



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

COUNCIL
22 October 2008

SUPPLEMENTARY
AGENDA

REPORTS FOR
CONSIDERATION

**The following reports are submitted
with the agreement of the Mayor as urgent matters, pursuant to
Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972**

**11 ABANDONED SHOPPING TROLLEYS – ADOPTION OF
LEGISLATION**

To consider a report of the Cabinet, which recommends that the Council formally adopt legislation to permit control of abandoned shopping trolleys.

**12 IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR HAVERING –
DEVELOPING THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE BUSINESS PLANNING
PROCESS 2009-12 – SUPPORTING STRATEGIES**

To consider a report of the Cabinet, which recommends adoption of strategies supporting the Corporate Business Plan.

13 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – FURTHER REPORT

To consider a report of the Cabinet, which recommends adoption of the Development Control Policies Development Plan Document, the Romford Area Action Plan and a revised Proposals Map.

CORRECTIONS

14 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Please note that Question 26 (New permitted development planning regulations) will be answered by Councillor Steven Kelly, Cabinet Member for Social Care & Learning, and not as printed in the agenda.

16 DARTFORD CROSSING: TOLL

16A Amendment on behalf of the Administration

The final line of the amendment should read: "has been recovered, and that any further charging is unjust." and not as printed.

The motion would then read:

This Council opposes any charges for the use of the Dartford Crossing. It calls upon the government to recognise that the cost has been recovered, and that any further charging is unjust.



COUNCIL, 22 OCTOBER 2008

11

This report is submitted with the agreement of the Mayor as an urgent matter, pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

ABANDONED SHOPPING TROLLEYS – ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION

Section 99 and schedule 4 of The Environmental Protection Act 1990 as amended by the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 provide powers enabling a local authority to seize, store, dispose of and charge for abandoned shopping trolleys. These powers are exercisable following a period of formal consultation about their adoption, consideration of the outcome of that consultation and on the passing of a resolution of the full Council to adopt them. They come into force three months after that resolution has been passed and notification of it given in a local newspaper.

Cabinet considered a report on the outcome of consultation on the adoption by the Council of the section 99 powers. It was noted that a pilot scheme in Gooshays Ward had suggested that, borough-wide, an annual total of up to 1730 abandoned shopping and luggage trolleys could be removed as abandoned by Street Cleansing staff, at a cost to the Council of some £2,350. The section 99 powers would enable the Council to charge trolley owners for the recovery of their trolleys.

The purpose of introducing the section 99 powers was not, however, to generate income but to encourage stores to improve the environment by collecting their own abandoned trolleys (and thereby avoid having to pay a penalty to the Council).

Consultation with local stores likely to be using shopping trolleys had resulted in three responses (out of a possible twenty eight). The responses indicated that those responding were not opposed to the adoption of the section 99 powers.

Cabinet now recommends that the Council should pass the resolution required to adopt the section 99 powers in Havering. If introduced, the charges per trolley recovered would be initially and thereafter reviewed annually by Cabinet as part of the budget process:

	£
Collection Fee	25
Storage Fee per week/part week	12.50
Administration Fee	20
Disposal of unwanted trolleys	20

Council is therefore RECOMMENDED to resolve as follows:

That, having taken account of the results of the consultation now reported, the Council **ADOPT** the provisions of Schedule 4 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, as amended, with a commencement date of 1 February 2009.



COUNCIL, 22 OCTOBER 2008

12

This report is submitted with the agreement of the Mayor as an urgent matter, pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

REPORT OF THE CABINET, 30 JULY AND 15 OCTOBER 2008

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR HAVERING – DEVELOPING THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE BUSINESS PLANNING PROCESS 2009-12 – SUPPORTING STRATEGIES

Cabinet was advised that strategies supporting the Council's Corporate Business Planning, which were aimed at ensuring that all of its resources and assets were being used to support the priorities, had been reviewed and were available for perusal on the Internet.

These strategies comprised:

Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS): which summarised the Council's budget and identified resource requirements for the next three years. It set out the issues facing the Council and aimed to ensure financial stability, that resources were directed to priorities, that the Council adapted to the prevailing financial climate and that stakeholders and the wider community could see the Council's plans for resources.

Capital Strategy: this set out the Council's approach to capital investment in the medium term and ensured that its capital resources were carefully planned and helped the achievement of its priorities. The strategy was supported by the Capital Asset Management Plan which set out the overall approach to the maintenance of the Council's assets.

ICT Strategy: this ensured that the Council was making best use of strategic technology to deliver its business needs. It built on the good progress the Council had made towards electronic service delivery and assessed the base requirements to maintain the Council's existing infrastructure as well as identifying opportunities to improve systems for better services.

Workforce Plan: this plan identified the key challenges facing the Council over the next three years in recruiting and retaining the workforce it required to meet its priorities.

Risk Management Strategy: the Council's well respected Risk Management Strategy was regularly reviewed by the Audit Committee. It included outward, as well as inward, looking key risks. The risks were not an exhaustive listing, but those seen as being the highest priority to consider/address within corporate planning.

Procurement Strategy: this sets out the broad approach adopted by the Council in the procurement of goods and services.

Other Supporting Plans and Strategies: the Council had to complete a number of other plans and strategies to meet local circumstances and government requirements. These reflected the ambitions, priorities and objectives set out in the corporate planning process. They might need to be revisited as this process moved forward.

Cabinet agreed those supporting strategies and now RECOMMEND to Council that they be adopted.

Note: in the interests of economy, the full texts of the various strategies are not reproduced with this report but can be viewed on the Council's website at the following addresses:

Risk Management Strategy:

http://www.havering.gov.uk/intranet/utilities/action/act_download.cfm?mediaid=5072

Procurement Strategy:

http://www.havering.gov.uk/intranet/media/pdf/0/d/ProcurementStrategy0609Version3_1.pdf

Capital Strategy:

http://www.havering.gov.uk/intranet/utilities/action/act_download.cfm?mediaid=10379

Medium Term Financial Strategy:

http://www.havering.gov.uk/intranet/utilities/action/act_download.cfm?mediaid=10378

ICT Strategy:

http://www.havering.gov.uk/intranet/utilities/action/act_download.cfm?mediaid=10692

HR Strategy:

http://www.havering.gov.uk/intranet/utilities/action/act_download.cfm?mediaid=15608



COUNCIL, 22 OCTOBER 2008

13

This report is submitted with the agreement of the Mayor as an urgent matter, pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

REPORT OF THE CABINET, 15 OCTOBER 2008

**HAVERING LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK:
ADOPTION OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICIES DPD,
ROMFORD AREA ACTION PLAN DPD AND PROPOSALS MAP**

Havering's Local Development Framework (LDF) is the Council's planning strategy that replaces the Havering Unitary Development Plan. It sets out a framework of planning policies, guidance and site allocations necessary to help deliver the Council's vision and will assist with the delivery of the 'Living Ambitions' agenda. The Council adopted the Core Strategy and Site Specific Allocations Development Plan Documents (DPDs) of the LDF at the last meeting, in July.

Following an independent Examination, the Government-appointed Inspector had also found the Development Control Policies DPD 'sound', subject to her recommended changes. However, the Inspector had recommended a change to Policy DC6 dealing with 'affordable' housing that was unacceptable to the Council. Accordingly, Cabinet agreed in May that the Development Control Policies (with the exception of Policy DC6) be used for Development Control purposes but did recommend to the Council that they should not be formally adopted. In the meantime, the Secretary of State would be asked to review the conclusion that the Inspector had reached for Policy DC6.

Cabinet was advised that the issue with Policy DC6 had now been resolved and Cabinet has accordingly recommended that Council formally adopt Policy DC6, along with the remainder of the Development Control Policies.

The Romford Area Action Plan is another key Development Plan Document within Havering's LDF, which provides the planning framework for the future development and regeneration of Romford town centre up to 2020.

Progress on the Area Action Plan had culminated in an examination by a Government appointed Inspector in June 2008. The Inspector approved the Romford Area Action Plan as being 'sound' subject to a number of 'binding', recommended changes. Cabinet now recommends that it also should be adopted by the Council.

Concurrent with adoption of the Development Control Policies and the Romford Area Action Plan DPD, it is necessary to adopt a revised Proposals Map to reflect the changes recommended by the Inspector in her Final Reports on the Core Strategy,

Development Control Policies, Romford Area Action Plan and Submission Proposals Map. Because the Proposals Map has the status of a Development Plan Document, and because it is an important tool in understanding and applying the LDF, Cabinet now also recommends that it be adopted.

The Council is therefore **RECOMMENDED** to adopt:

1. The Development Control Policies Development Plan Document (DPD), incorporating the Inspector's and Secretary of State's changes, in accordance with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. The Romford Area Action Plan, incorporating the Inspector's changes, in accordance with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
3. A revised Proposals Map incorporating the changes set out in Appendix 5 to the report to Cabinet and as illustrated on the draft map at the meeting as the Proposals Map for the Havering LDF in accordance with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and to authorise officers to arrange for the preparation of a final Proposals Map consistent with this, which will be available with the adopted LDF documents.

Note: in the interests of economy, the full texts of the various documents referred to are not reproduced with this report. They were circulated as appendices to the Cabinet report considered on 15 October 2008 and can be viewed on the Council's website.



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING
Havering Town Hall, Romford
23 July 2008 (7.30pm – 10:50pm)**

Present: The Mayor (Councillor John Clark) in the Chair

Councillors Gary Adams, June Alexander, Michael Armstrong, Clarence Barrett, Tom Binding, Sandra Binion, Jeff Brace, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Dennis Bull, Michael Deon Burton, David Charles, Jonathan Coles, Andrew Curtin, Keith Darvill, Ted Eden, Roger Evans, Gillian Ford, Chris Fox, Mark Gadd, Georgina Galpin, Peter Gardner, David Grantham, Kevin Gregory, Linda Hawthorn, Coral Jeffery, Lesley Kelly, Steven Kelly, Pam Light, Mark Logan, Andrew Mann, Barbara Matthews, Robby Misir, Ray Morgon, Eric Munday, John Mylod, Pat Mylod, Barry Oddy, Fred Osborne, Roger Ramsey, Paul Rochford, Geoff Starns, Barry Tebbutt, Frederick Thompson, Lynden Thorpe, Jeffrey Tucker, Linda Van den Hende*, Melvin Wallace, Keith Wells, Steve Whittaker and Mike Winter

* For part of the meeting

Approximately 10 guests, members of public and press also attended.

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Robert Benham, Michael White and Mark Stewart

The Mayor advised Members and the public of action to be taken in the event of emergency evacuation of the Town Hall becoming necessary.

Sister Phædra Pamphilon-Green, Pioneer Parish Evangelist of the Church Army, opened the meeting with prayers.

The Mayor welcomed newly-elected Councillor Michael Deon Burton to his first full Council meeting

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

17 **MINUTES (Agenda Item 3)**

It was **RESOLVED:**

That subject to the inclusion of reference to the Mayor's welcome to newly-elected Councillor Mark Logan to his first full Council meeting; the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 21 May 2008 be signed as a true record.

18 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 4)**

Councillor Barbara Matthews declared a personal interest in respect of the conferment upon her of the Honorary Freedom of the Borough (agenda item 6; minute 20 following) and Councillor Andrew Mann declared a personal interest in respect of the motion concerning Bower Park School (item 18; minute 33 following).

19 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR (Agenda Item 5)**

The Mayor referred with sadness to the recent passing of Mrs Margaret Gardner who was consort to her son Peter when he was Deputy Mayor in 1997/98. Councillor Peter Gardner suitably responded.

The Mayor's Announcements are attached as **Appendix 1 to these minutes.**

20 **AWARD FOR EMINENT SERVICE TO THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 6)**

[for declaration of interest see minute 18 above]

Council had before it a proposal to confer on Councillor Barbara Matthews, being a person who had rendered eminent service to the borough, the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

Councillor Roger Ramsey formally proposed that the award be conferred. A video recording by the Leader of the Council was played to Council, in which he referred to Councillor Matthews' service to the Borough, including her long service as Councillor and as Opposition Leader and among other things, her vital contribution during the period leading up to the Council attaining Three Star Status. The Leader of the Opposition seconded the proposal.

It was **RESOLVED** by 41 votes to 0 (see voting division 1):

To confer on Councillor Barbara Matthews, being a person who had rendered eminent service to the borough, the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

21 PETITIONS (Agenda Item 7)

Under paragraph 24 of the Council Procedure Rules, three petitions were presented to the Mayor:

By Councillor Andrew Mann on behalf of residents of Hockley Crescent, Romford, concerning service charges;

By Councillor Michael Deon Burton, supporting village green status for land at the junction of Abbs Cross Lane/Hornchurch Road; and

By Councillor Ray Morgon on behalf of residents of Ascot Gardens, Hornchurch, calling for highway improvements.

It was noted that each petition would be passed to the appropriate Head of Service for attention or report to members.

22 APPOINTMENT OF THE ADDITIONAL INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (Agenda Item 8)

Council had before it a report of the Governance Committee concerning the appointment of an additional Independent Member and the consequent increase in the number of Councillor Members appointed to the Standards Committee.

The report was considered without debate or division and it was –

RESOLVED that:

1 Mr Kevin Madden be appointed as the third Independent Member of the Standards Committee, for a period of three years ending at the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2011.

2 Consequent upon that appointment, Council authorise implementation of its decision to increase the size of the Standards Committee to 12 Members.

23 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION (Agenda Item 9)

A report of the Governance Committee concerning proposed amendments to the Constitution, comprising the delegation of authority to the Head of Human Resources to implement the agreed procedure for senior managements restructuring and adoption of revised Contract Procedure Rules, was submitted.

The report was considered without debate or division and it was –

RESOLVED that:

- 1 Subject to appointments, dismissals, assimilation and redundancies for Chief Officers being authorised by Appointments Committee, the Head of Human Resources be delegated authority to implement the agreed procedure for any senior management re-alignment or restructuring including:**
 - 1. Achieving any necessary reduction through voluntary redundancy;**
 - 2. Considering applications from unaffected chief officers which would create a suitable alternative employment opportunity for an affected Chief Officer;**
 - 3. Deciding upon the ring fence arrangements and inviting applications for assimilation; and**
 - 4. Arranging advertisements and assessment centres, and, subject to compliance with the Contract Procedure Rules, appointing external recruitment consultants.**

- 2 (a) The revised Contract Procedure Rules be adopted.**
 - (b) Part 3, section 2.1, paragraph 25 of the Constitution be amended by deleting “£500,000” in line 4 and substituting it with “£1,000,000”**
 - (c) Part 3, section 2.2, paragraph 10 of the Constitution be amended by deleting “£144,000” in line 2 and substituting it with “£139,000”**
 - (d) Part 3, Section 2.2, paragraph 12 of the Constitution be amended by deleting “£144,000” in line 2 and substituting it with “£139,000” and by deleting “£500,000” in line 3 and substituting it with “£1,000,000”**
 - (e) Part 3, Section 3.3.4, paragraph 1 of the Constitution be amended by deleting “£144,000” in line 2 and substituting it with “£139,000”**

- (f) **Part 3, Section 3.3.4, paragraph 2 of the Constitution be amended by deleting “£144,000” in line 1 and substituting it with “£139,000”**
- (g) **Part 3, Section 3.4.4, paragraph 1 of the Constitution be amended by deleting “£144,000” in line 2 and substituting it with “£139,000”**
- (h) **Part 3, Section 3.4.4, paragraph 2 of the Constitution be amended by deleting “£144,000” in line 1 and substituting it with “£139,000”**
- (i) **The Head of Finance & Performance Management be delegated authority to make technical adjustments to the Constitution to reflect changes in the European Union financial limits and/or in the Euro/Sterling exchange rate.**

24 PAN LONDON JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Agenda Item 10)

The Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee submitted a report concerning the outcome of the scrutiny by the Pan London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee of proposals by the Joint Committee of Primary Care Trusts in London for the future of Healthcare provision in the city. The findings and recommendations of the scrutiny exercise, the response of the NHS bodies and the intended follow-up actions were noted.

The report was considered without debate or division and it was –

RESOLVED:

- 1. That Council notes the work undertaken to date by the Pan-London Committee as exemplified by the Committee’s conclusions and recommendations shown in the Appendix (to the report submitted).**
- 2. That Council notes the likelihood of further scrutiny work being required as specific proposals for services affecting Havering are finalised.**

25 PROCEDURAL MOTION

A procedural motion that the report referred to in the next minute, and the amendment to it proposed by the Residents’ Group, be dealt with by vote only was **carried** by 41 votes to 6 (see voting division 2).

26 **BUILDING NEW PRIMARY SCHOOLS – capital provision (Agenda Item 11)**

Council had before it a report of the Cabinet concerning capital provision for the Building New Primary Schools initiative.

Amendment by the Residents' Group (agenda item 11A)

That Council:

- 1 approves the investment plan set out in the Appendix so far it relates to the proposals for The Manor and Edwin Lambert Schools and Gidea Park Schools; but
- 2 declines to approve it in relation to Ayloff and Dunningford Schools and refers the matter back to Cabinet for further consideration.

In accordance with the agreed procedural motion (minute 25), the report and amendment were dealt with by vote only.

The Residents Group amendment lost by 32 votes to 16 (see voting division 3) and the recommendations of the Cabinet were agreed by 32 to 9 (see voting division 4), and it was **RESOLVED**:

That the investment plan set out in the appendix to the report submitted, be approved.

27 **ANNUAL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND MEMBER CHAMPIONS (Agenda Items 12A to 12N)**

Council received the annual reports for 2007/08 of the Audit and Pensions Committees, the eight Overview and Scrutiny Committees (presented by the Committees' respective Chairmen) and the four Member Champions. The receipt of each of the reports was **AGREED** without going to the vote and it was **RESOLVED –**

- 1 **That the annual report of the Audit Committee be agreed.**
- 2 **That the annual report of the Pensions Committee be agreed.**
- 3 **That the annual report of the Adult Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee be agreed.**
- 4 **That the annual report of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee be agreed.**
- 5 **That the annual report of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee be agreed.**

- 6 That the annual report of the Crime and Disorder Committee be agreed.
 - 7 That the annual report of the Culture and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee be agreed.
 - 8 That the annual report of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee be agreed.
 - 9 That the annual report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee be agreed.
 - 10 That the annual report of the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee be agreed.
 - 11 That the annual report of the Member Champion for Elderly Persons be agreed.
 - 12 That the annual report of the Member Champion for Diversity be agreed.
 - 13 That the annual report of the Member Champion for Younger Persons be agreed.
 - 14 That the annual report of the Member Champion for the Historic Environment be agreed.
- 28 **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RULES – EXCEPTIONS TO THE CALL-IN (REQUISITION) PROCEDURE: Housing Revenue Account budget 2008-2009 and Proposed Restructure of Senior Management (Agenda Item 13)**

The Chief Executive reported on behalf of the Leader of the Council upon the circumstances in which two Cabinet decisions had been exempted from the call-in (requisition) procedure.

The report was considered without debate or division and it was –

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

- 29 **POLITICAL BALANCE OF COMMITTEES (Agenda Items 14/14A)**

Council had before it a report and supplementary report of the Chief Executive about changes to the political balance of Committees in

consequence of the election of a new Member for the South Hornchurch Ward and the formation of a new Group of Members.

The recommendation of the supplementary report was that, in order to achieve the requisite balance, an additional seat be allocated to the Independent Local Residents' Group on either the Appointments Committee (Option A) or the Pensions Committee (Option B).

Following debate, Option B in the supplementary report was agreed by 47 votes to 4 (see voting division 5) and it was -

RESOLVED:

1 That Council note:

(a) the new position on political balance in consequence of the formation of the new Rainham Residents' Group and the re-naming of the former Rainham & Wennington Independent Residents' Group as the Independent Local Residents' Group; and

(b) that each of those two Groups is entitled to four Committee seats.

2 That Council adopts the new default position as set out in the Appendix (Appendix 2 to these minutes), subject to recommendation 3 below.

3 That Option B be adopted for the sizes of the Appointments and Pensions Committees:

Committee:	Total seats	Conservative Group	Residents' Group	Independent Local Residents' Group	Labour Group	Rainham Residents' Group
Pensions	7	4	2	1	0	0
Appointments	6	4	2	0	0	0

30 HAVERING LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: ADOPTION OF CORE STRATEGY AND SITE SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS AND SECRETARY OF STATE INTERVENTION ON THE INSPECTOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICY DC6 (Agenda Items 15/15A)

A report of the Cabinet and a collateral report of the Chief Executive were submitted about adoption of the Havering Local Development Framework, following statutory examination by an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. The Cabinet had agreed that the Inspector's recommended change to the site specific affordable housing target in Development Control Policy 6

'Affordable Housing' (DC6) was not acceptable but the Council noted that the Secretary of State had recently issued a Direction which modified DC6 in a way which was considered acceptable to the Council.

Cabinet had:

- 1 Recommended that the Council adopt the Core Strategy and Site Specific Allocations Development Plan Documents (as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to the submitted report) in accordance with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004; and
- 2 Agreed action to be taken in order to safeguard the Council's position in respect of the matters covered by DC6.

The Chief Executive now reported that, in view of the Secretary of State's modification of DC6, the safeguarding actions authorised by the Cabinet were no longer required and that the Cabinet would be invited to consider a further report at a coming meeting.

The reports were considered without debate or division and it was –

RESOLVED:

- 1 **That the Core Strategy and Site Specific Allocations Development Plan Documents (as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report submitted to the Cabinet) in accordance with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, be adopted.**
- 2 **To note that, in order to safeguard the Council's position and because Development Control Policy 6 'Affordable Housing' as recommended by the Inspector is not in general conformity with the London Plan, Cabinet had authorised the continued use for development control purposes of the Development Control Policies as approved by the Inspector (and as set out in Appendix 3 of the report) (with the exception of Policy DC6 Affordable Housing).**

31 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (Agenda Item 16)**

Thirteen questions were listed to be asked under the Council Procedure Rules. The questions and answers are set out in **Appendix 3 to these minutes**.

32 **COUNCIL VEHICLE FLEET: USE OF ALTERNATIVE FUELS (Agenda Item 17)**

Motion on behalf of the Independent Local Residents' Group

The motion was considered without debate or division and it was –

RESOLVED that:

This Council will investigate the benefits of using bio-fuels and/or LPG in its vehicle fleet as an alternative to petrol and diesel.

33 **BOWER PARK SCHOOL (Agenda Items 18/18A)**

[for declaration of interest see Minute 18 above]

Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group

This Council regrets the damage done to the reputation of Bower Park School by the suggestion in a recent Conservative Party newsletter that the school will be closing.

Amendment on behalf of the Administration

Amend to read:

This Council congratulates the Conservative Administration for investing millions of pounds over the past few years in Havering's schools and the excellent results this continuing investment has delivered.

After debate, the amendment proposed by the Administration was **CARRIED** by 33 votes to 16 (see voting division 6); the substantive motion was then **CARRIED** by 33 votes to 15 (see voting division 7) and it was -

RESOLVED that:

This Council congratulates the Conservative Administration for investing millions of pounds over the past few years in Havering's schools and the excellent results this continuing investment has delivered.

34 **LAND AT JUNCTION OF ABBS CROSS LANE AND HORNCHURCH ROAD (Agenda Item 19/19A)**

Motion on behalf of the Independent Local Residents' Group

This Council welcomes the recent application for the registration of the land at the junction of Abbs Cross Lane and Hornchurch Road as a "village green" and looks forward to that status being granted.

Amendment on behalf of the Administration

Amend to read:

This Council welcomes the decision of the Cabinet as to the proposed appropriation as open space and incorporation within the adjacent park of the land at the junction of Abbs Cross Lane and Hornchurch Road.

After debate, the amendment proposed by the Administration was **CARRIED** by 36 votes to 3 (see voting division 9); the substantive motion was then **AGREED without division** and it was -

RESOLVED that:

This Council welcomes the decision of the Cabinet as to the proposed appropriation as open space and incorporation within the adjacent park of the land at the junction of Abbs Cross Lane and Hornchurch Road.

35 **MOTION WITHDRAWN**

With the consent of the Council, the motion on behalf of the Residents' Group on Council Contracts: Building Inspection (agenda item 20) was **WITHDRAWN**.

36 **ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS TO FULL COUNCIL BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 21)**

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

That this Council approves an amendment to the Council Procedure Rules providing that following announcements and/or statements to Full Council made by the Leader of the Council leaders of Opposition Groups (or their nominated substitutes) be permitted to make short statements not exceeding 5 minutes in duration in reply to such announcements and/or statements.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.2, the motion (having been formally proposed and seconded) stood adjourned without discussion to the Governance Committee.

37 **ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN (Agenda Item 22)**

Motion on behalf of the Administration

That Councillor Kevin Gregory be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee in succession to Councillor Gary Adams.

The motion was considered without debate or division and it was –

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Kevin Gregory be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee in succession to Councillor Gary Adams.

38 **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN (Agenda Item 23)**

Motion on behalf of the Administration

That Councillor Gary Adams be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Governance Committee in succession to Councillor Steven Kelly.

The motion was considered without debate or division and it was –

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Gary Adams be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Governance Committee in succession to Councillor Steven Kelly.

Note: the record of voting divisions is attached as **Appendix 4 to these minutes.**

**Appendix 1
(Minute 19)**

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

I would like to share with you some of our successes since we last met. It is my pleasure to extend congratulations to our staff who have literally been flying the flag for Havering, attracting an abundance of awards.

First, may I share with you my great pride that **Hylands Park and Lodge Farm Park** have been awarded Green Flag awards. Havering has now doubled its flag total in the national standard of excellence for parks and green spaces awards; **Bedfords Park and Uppminster Park** retained their Green Flag status having received the awards last year.

This double achievement follows the tremendous hard work from the Parks Officers, the Grounds Maintenance teams and the support of the local community parks Friends and Action groups.

I would also like to congratulate our **Facilities Management Team** who were awarded the prestigious Municipal Journal award. The team scooped the top prize in the Facilities and Asset Management category for the exceptional learning and development centre based in CEME.

It's good news too from the **Business Development Unit**. The Unit has received the Outstanding Achievement to London Procurement award.

Also under the award spotlight are the professional, friendly and committed staff of **Customer Services**, who have successfully achieved Charter Mark status. Customer Services includes the Public Advice and Service Centres, as well as the Library Service. In addition to this, the Library Service has received the Libraries for Learning Award for its performance in a three-year London-wide project.

Havering has also become one of only four London councils to be awarded the **Member Development Charter**. The HR and Democratic Services combined project, received the award for best practice in learning and development for councillors.

I would now like to highlight a very special award – **The Queen's Award for Voluntary Services**. I recently attended a seminar promoting this national award, which is equivalent to the Medal of the Order of the British Empire. It is aimed at groups of volunteers who make a difference in the community. Havering has a great many contenders for this award, as I am finding out on a daily basis.

I am also learning a great deal about our young people and what a talented lot they are. Forget Britain's Got Talent – Havering certainly has. I was extremely impressed with the exceptional performance of students at the **Havering College** Dance event and the high quality of exhibits at the **Frances Bardsley** Art exhibition.

Our young people also excel as entrepreneurs. Students from the **Sacred Heart of Mary School** won the London regional round of the Young Enterprise Innovation Awards. And went on to come third in the national final for their company ZXYT and the product of an internet security guide for parents.

**APPENDIX 2
(Minute 29)**

POLITICAL BALANCE: NEW DEFAULT POSITION

		CONSERVATIVE	RESIDENTS	IND LOCAL RESIDENTS	RAINHAM RESIDENTS	LABOUR
Governance	10	6	2	1	0	1
Licensing	10	6	2	0	1	1
Regulatory Services	10	6	2	0	1	1
Adjudication & Review	9	6	2	1	0	0
Audit	8	5	2	0	1	0
Pensions	7	4	2	1	0	0
Appointments	6	4	2	0	0	0
Adult Services OSC	6	4	2	0	0	0
Children's OSC	6	4	2	0	0	0
Corporate OSC	6	4	2	0	0	0
Culture & Regeneration OSC	6	4	2	0	0	0
Environment OSC	6	4	2	0	0	0
Health OSC	6	4	2	0	0	0
Housing OSC	6	4	2	0	0	0
Crime & Disorder OSC	6	4	2	0	0	0
	108	69	30	3	3	3
Standards ø	9	5	1	1	1	1
Total seats allocated	117	74	31	4	4	4

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**1 Advertising vacancies in "Living"****To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)**

By Councillor Coral Jeffery

Will this Council ensure that all job vacancies within the Council are advertised in the fortnightly Living magazine, as opposed to advertising in the local and national media in order to produce savings?

ANSWER

It is not practical for ALL vacant posts to be advertised in Living. High powered and professional posts must be broadcast across a far wider sphere than just Havering if we are to recruit the skills needed to transform the Council into an 'Excellent' authority.

For some years now lower level posts have been advertised on our own job website which is linked to the Job Centre Plus national website and to "Your London", which is the acknowledged website for public sector jobs in London.

This form of advertising does not incur incremental costs.

Specialist posts and S01 posts and above have been advertised in the printed media, but the use of this medium for non specialist posts is subject to review.

Until recently schools, which as you will know, have delegated budgets, have recruited non teaching staff in the printed media, but as you have doubtless seen in recent editions of 'Living', schools advertisements have been appearing and I hope will do so increasingly.

Mr Mayor, I assure Councillor Jeffrey I always look for savings and have been informed that over the past year estimated savings of £100K have been made in recruitment advertising. I look forward to further significant savings accruing to this and other activities.

2 Reported pavement defects**To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)**

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm the number of pavement defects reported by the public in each of the last two years?

ANSWER

In 2006/07 there were 2,425 footway defects reported through the Council's CRM system. In 2007/08 this dropped by approximately 10% to 2,185.

3 “Living” magazine - production**To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services (Councillor Eric Munday)**

By Councillor Clarence Barrett

In respect of the ‘Living’ newspaper, would the Cabinet Member confirm:

- a) What is gross annual cost for producing the Living newspaper on a fortnightly basis broken down over category of expenditure?
- b) What is the estimated level of annual income through advertising and how much has been achieved to date?
- c) What is the overall cost per issue per household in Havering?

ANSWER

We have not increased the base budget for *Living*, from the previous monthly model – it remains £104,000. The aim of the trial period is to develop advertising income to a point where it balances the additional cost of production on an issue-by-issue basis and so creates no additional demand on council taxpayers.

Throughout the 12-month trial period of the new look *Living* newspaper, the communications team will work to reduce the costs of production and expand the income from advertising, to make this possible. They are also engaged in regular meetings with a panel of other London councils that produce fortnightly or weekly newspapers, to discuss potential joint working.

We are making savings through carrying our own public notices in *Living*, as well as carrying external advertising.

By the end of the trial period, we will be able to assess how successful *Living* is, both financially and as a method of communicating directly with the borough’s residents and businesses. With a budget of £104,000, the cost per issue for each household in Havering is less than 5 pence.

4 Electing Cabinet Members**To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)**

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

Would this Administration agree that in future, appointments to Cabinet positions should be voted individually instead of the block form with only a single vote available?

That way every Cabinet member will have a personal mandate.

ANSWER

No. The method of electing the Cabinet has served the Council well since its introduction in 2002, and the Administration does not feel the practice needs changing.

5 **Council Transport - coaches**

To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

Why is this Council in talks with Redbridge Council to sub-contract our coach work out to them at a cost of £120 per trip? Is it a fact we have four of our own coaches and make a profit out of the £78 return trip we charge our Havering schools? Is it also a fact our coaches have London Emission Zone certificates and the highest standard of seat belt equipment fitted? Would this Council cease talks with Redbridge Council and extend the use of our own coaches, which would benefit not only this Council, but also the schools in the borough?

ANSWER

It has never been denied that the large coach fleet made a contribution to the overheads in the past. However, decisions about continuing with this service for the future have to be set against the Council core business, the costs of maintaining an ageing fleet of large vehicles, uncertainty of the income that can be generated and the very high cost of replacement - all these factors have led to the decision not to continue with this part of the fleet.

We have conducted a business appraisal for retaining two coaches for use by schools for swimming lessons and ad-hoc hire - the projections suggest that the retention of two coaches is not viable, generating an operating loss of £23k over a full year.

Schools were consulted at the time and did not express any specific concerns. However, we are tendering a contract for schools to commission large coaches for swimming, field trips and other trips - discussions with Redbridge are part of this exercise.

As well as the above, the potential change to the depots, if agreed, would mean that the proposed new workshop would not be large enough to contain the fleet - this would mean out-sourcing which is likely to further increase costs as would arranging storage. The combination of these factors would not represent good value for money.

6 **School Rolls**

To the Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services (Councillor Geoff Starns)

By Councillor Gillian Ford

Bearing in mind that rolls in secondary schools are due to fall by 2,000 in the next five years, what plans have the Council to introduce a review of secondary education in Havering?

ANSWER

Reduced cohort numbers are transferring from primary to secondary schools. In the past two years this has not had the impact that it might have because fewer Havering pupils have chosen to attend schools in other areas, notably Brentwood. In addition there has been an increase in the inward migration of pupils from areas outside of Havering.

Secondary school population projections need re-assessing in the light of this and to take account of the prospect of increases in population from new developments. The figure given in the question is based on old data and is no longer a secure prediction. This summer officers are again reviewing population trends and will examine the numbers actually arriving in secondary schools in September. A report would be made on that at the appropriate time.

7 **Marshalls Park School**

To the Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services (Councillor Geoff Starns)

By Councillor Andy Mann

In respect of Marshalls Park School, what is the current admission number for year 7 in September 2008?

ANSWER

157

8 **Pavement Inspections**

To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm how many miles/kilometres of pavements that the Council is responsible for in Havering and how many members of staff are responsible for inspections?

ANSWER

There are 1,100 kilometres of footpaths on the public highway network. These footpaths are inspected on a routine basis of between one to six monthly intervals depending on their usage.

There are six Area Liaison Officers who carry out these routine inspections along with other duties.

9 **Council Signs**

To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm how many signs across the borough will need to be changed following the change in corporate identity and how much this will cost the council taxpayers of Havering?

ANSWER

The new corporate identity is an evolution of the old identity rather than a radical redesign that would require all signage to be replaced immediately. It is being rolled out, over time, on a cost-neutral basis. Council signage will be replaced as required through wear and tear, or when new details need to be added to existing signs. All new signage will be paid for from existing budgets for signage, so there is no additional cost to council tax payers.

10 **Empty Properties**

To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm:

- a) how many privately owned properties remain empty in Havering and what is the council's strategy to bring these back into use?
- b) following action by this Council, how many empty properties have been occupied again over each of the last two years?

ANSWER

On a) According to our register there were 2,146 properties classed as empty on 30th June 2008.

The key targets this Council work to are set by the Mayor of London's Housing Plan which was to reduce long-term empty properties to 2.5% of all stock by 31st March 2016. As you know the new Mayor of London is committed to being more ambitious than his predecessor and he has proposed in his manifesto to reduce long-term empty properties to 1% of all stock by 31st March 2016 and he has switched an additional £60 million into private sector homes for the 2008-2011 programme. This Administration welcomes that.

A long-term empty private sector property is one that has been on a Council's Council Tax register for 26 weeks (6 months) or more. According to our register we have 797 long-term empty private sector properties in Havering.

On b) The Council's Empty Homes Strategy was agreed by Cabinet in 2004 and committed the 2002-2006 Administration to meeting the then Mayor of London's target referred to above. Through our Private Sector Leasing initiative and our partnership with the other East London Authorities we have already achieved less than 1% of our private sector housing as being long-term empty.

The Empty Homes Strategy is currently out for review and for consultation and will be going to Cabinet as part of a 2008 -2011 Housing Strategy where we will commit the Council to continue to reduce the number of empty homes in the

private sector and we will continue to draw in external resources from the Mayor of London's Housing Board as part of the East London Partnership.

As part of the 2006-2008 East London Programme we brought back into use 542 empty homes and were one of the most successful East London Councils in bringing properties back into use.

11 **Housing Stock**

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Cllr June Alexander

In respect of council housing stock:

- a) How many properties constitute an estate?
- b) How many council properties do we manage?
- c) How many leaseholder properties do we manage?

ANSWER

- a) The Council does not apply a numerical definition to the use of the term "estate", rather, it is typically used as a collective noun for Council properties. This is consistent with the Oxford English Dictionary definition which is "An area of land and modern buildings developed for residential, industrial, or commercial purposes."
- b) None. As at 1st April 2008 Homes in Havering and three TMO's manage 10,147 properties.
- c) None. As at 1st April 2008 Homes in Havering and the three TMO's manage 2,222 leasehold properties.

12 **Parklands Bridge**

**To the Cabinet Member for Culture & Communities
(Councillor Andrew Curtin)**

By Councillor Cllr Linda Hawthorn

As the Cabinet Member knows, the repairs to Parklands Bridge, which is a listed building, have been on-going for some time. I understand that although the funding has now been secured, works to the hand-rail section have been delayed owing to a difficulty in identifying the correct legislation to use as none seem to cover the unique position of the bridge in the park. Could I ask the Cabinet Member to confirm if that is the position and if he could use his influence to get this matter resolved as soon as possible?

ANSWER

The current difficulty is about the most appropriate code of practice that ought to apply to the reinstatement of the balustrade/ handrail rather than anything legal as

such. A repair scheme is being prepared but this issue needs to be resolved first. A specialist conservation engineer is being appointed to offer advice on a solution to the difficulties. This is being dealt with as a matter of urgency and I am doing what I can to expedite matters.

13 **CCTV Smart Car**

To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Andy Mann

Since the CCTV smart car was introduced in 2007, how many tickets have been issued to –

- a) The 12 month anniversary?
- b) Total to date?

ANSWER

- a) In the first year of operation of the CCTV vehicle (8 June 2007 to 7 June 2008) 26,837 Penalty Charge Notices were issued.
- b) The total number of Penalty Charges Notices issued to 11 July 2008 is 28,011.



COUNCIL, 22 OCTOBER 2008

8

REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, 8 OCTOBER 2008

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS TO
FULL COUNCIL BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.2, a motion proposed and seconded by the Members of the Labour Group at the Council meeting on 23 July 2008 was adjourned without discussion to be considered by the Governance Committee. The motion was:

“That this Council approves an amendment to the Council Procedure Rules providing that following announcements and/or statements to Full Council made by the Leader of the Council leaders of Opposition Groups (or their nominated substitutes) be permitted to make short statements not exceeding 5 minutes in duration in reply to such announcements and/or statements.”

The Committee discussed the proposition. A majority of Members considered that it would be unnecessary to amend the Council Procedure Rules (CPRs) as proposed. Opposition Groups were free to put forward motions or ask questions at meetings subsequent to that at which an announcement or statement had been made in order to reply or to challenge any aspect of that announcement/statement. The time available at Council meetings for questions and motions was largely at the disposal of the Opposition Groups and it was for them to judge how best to use it. There was a risk that immediate responses to the announcement/statement would unnecessarily prolong meetings – especially the Annual Meeting – and that such responses would be less effective than if they were made at a subsequent meeting and debated following due consideration of their content.

A suggestion that there should be a standing item on the agenda for the Council meeting next following the Annual Meeting for consideration of replies to the Leader of the Council’s Statement at the Annual Meeting was not supported, as it was felt that the Opposition Groups should not be tied to a particular approach to responding to the Statement.

The Committee accordingly RECOMMENDS to the Council that the proposition set out in the Labour Group motion to Council at its meeting on 23 July 2008 should not be pursued.



COUNCIL, 22 OCTOBER 2008

9

REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, 8 OCTOBER 2008

MEMBER CHAMPION FOR THE ELDERLY – change of title

Councillor Pam Light was re-appointed Member Champion for the Elderly by the Council at its Annual Meeting in May.

She has subsequently asked that consideration be given to the alteration of her title to “Champion for the Over Fifties” as she believes that such a title will more accurately reflect the role she is carrying out.

As Council established the role of Member Champion and makes the appointments, only Council can change the title. The Governance Committee has considered Councillor Light’s request and supports it.

The Committee accordingly RECOMMENDS to Council that the title be changed to “Member Champion for the Over Fifties”



COUNCIL, 22 OCTOBER 2008

10

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RULES – EXCEPTIONS TO THE CALL-IN (REQUISITION) PROCEDURE: Proposed refurbishment of the Betty Strathern Centre

SUMMARY

Under paragraph 17d of these Rules, the Leader of the Council is required to submit quarterly reports to Council on decisions taken by, among others, Cabinet members in the circumstances set out in Rule 17 (exemption to the call-in (requisition) procedure) in the preceding three months. The report should include the number of decisions taken and a summary of the matters in respect of which those decisions were taken.

This report deals with one such decision taken since the last report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

REPORT DETAIL

- 1 Under Rule 17 of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Rules –
 - (a) The call-in procedure shall not apply where a decision being taken by Cabinet or an individual Cabinet member, or a key decision made by a member of staff or an area committee is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public interests. The record of the decision and notice by which it is made shall state whether in the opinion of the decision making person or body, the decision is an urgent one, and therefore not subject to call-in.

- (b) The decision making person or body can only take an urgent decision and avoid call-in procedures after obtaining agreement from the Chairman or in the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee that the decision be treated as urgent.

2. Housing Revenue Account budget 2008-2009

- 2.1 On behalf of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Commerce, Rita Greenwood, Group Director Finance and Commerce, sought the agreement of the Chairman of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the decision of the lead member on the leasing commitment for the Betty Strathern Centre was urgent and should not be open to call-in, and the Chairman gave and recorded his agreement.
- 2.2 The Betty Strathern Centre is owned and managed by the Council and used by the Briar Community Association (BCA) under hiring arrangements from Homes in Havering. The BCA have a local membership base and the premises are regularly used by a number of local community groups. However, the building is in poor repair and in need of modernisation. The building's worsening condition will impact on it's future use by the community.
- 2.3 The Council and the BCA wished to support the continuance of this valuable community asset. Both parties had, therefore, put together proposals for BCA to take control of the management of the building under a lease subject to the receipt of grant funding that would allow the refurbishment and extension of the premises.
- 2.4 In order to facilitate these aims the Council had applied and been successful in attracting £766,000 of grant funding from the Big Lottery Fund and £196,000 of funding from the Veolia Cleanaway Trust.
- 2.5 The Cabinet Member for Finance and Commerce was shortly to approve formally the leasing commitment that was required in order to receive the grants and in accordance with the requirements of the Big Lottery Fund. In brief, the Council would enter into a 25 year lease to BCA when refurbishment and other building works had been satisfactorily completed. The conditions of the Big Lottery Fund required the Council and the BCA to enter into two other agreements, a Tripartite Deed of Dedication that bound the Council, BCA and the Big Lottery Fund to receive and dedicate the grant money to the project, and a Partnership Agreement between the Council and the BCA that formally recorded the future management arrangements.

2.6 The matter was urgent as the Council had to commit legally to these processes by Friday 26 September 2008 and any call-in would have taken the decision beyond this date: If the decision were to be called in, implementation would have been delayed, which could have seriously affected the proper conduct of the Council's business. It had not been possible to submit a Form A (Executive Decision by individual Cabinet Member) previously as agreement on the terms of the transaction had been ongoing and the full extent of commitment required by the BLF had only just been communicated.

3. Financial Implications and Risks:

While there were financial implications around the decisions described in this report, there are none directly associated with this report.

4. Legal Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

5. Human Resource Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

6. Equalities and Social Inclusion Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

Staff Contact: Philip Heady
Designation: Democratic Services Manager
Telephone: 01708 432433
E-mail address: philip.HEADY@haverling.gov.uk

CHERYL COPPELL
Chief Executive

Background Papers List

Decision under Rule 17 of the Overview and Scrutiny Rules signed by Rita Greenwood, Group Director Finance and Commerce and Councillor Robbie Misir, Chairman of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24 September 2008.



COUNCIL, 22 OCTOBER 2008

14

QUESTIONS

1. Lessington Avenue – development control

To the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee (Councillor Roger Evans)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

In light of the on-going saga about the mosque in Lessington Avenue, Romford: in an attempt to save Council taxpayers money with regard to officers carrying out surveillance of the bungalow regarding the number of visitor and parking problems, why not just send in the Smart car?

2. Housing Revenue Account

To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

How much and what percentage does the Government take each year from the housing revenue account?

3. Application for village green status for land in Abbs Cross Gardens

To the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee (Councillor Roger Evans)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

Can you provide a summary of the evidence and details submitted so far in support of the village green application for the land at Hornchurch Road and Abbs Cross Gardens?

4. **Hot food take away shops – sale of alcohol**

To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Standards & Electoral Services (Councillor Peter Gardner)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

How many hot food take away shops also have a licence for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises? And which are they?

5. **Coaches for schools**

To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

At the last full Council meeting, the Administration stated that the price increase and the re-schedule of our coach service would not affect our schools and children's swimming lessons.

A recent letter from the Headteacher of a primary school sent to parents stated:

“The children will be walking to and from The Chafford Pool, this is because the Borough no longer run a big enough fleet of coaches to accommodate swimming sessions. The cost of hiring alternative coaches has proven to be too expensive and we can not ask parents to contribute.”

What steps is this Council now going to take to rectify the problems they were so clearly told about?

6. **Coaches for vulnerable people**

To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Linda Van Den Hende

In planning the rationalisation of the transport fleet, particularly that affecting disabled clients attending Day Centres, can the Cabinet member please give details of the consultation process that was undertaken with clients and their carers?

7. **Keeping the highway clear of obstructions**

To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm how many removal/prosecution notices have been issued in the past 12 months under the Highways Act 1980 or other relevant legislation to ensure that the highway, including pavements and roads, are kept clear of unauthorised signs, goods, building materials and other such items in order to maintain a safe, clear and uncluttered passage for pedestrians and vehicles?

8. **Interest earned on Council funds**

To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Michael Deon Burton

According to the Mail on Sunday of 28 September 2008:

“Town Halls have emerged as surprise winners from the credit crunch, thanks to sky-high interest rates on the cash starved money markets”.

The article goes on to suggest that Local Authorities are earning millions of pounds in extra interest by lending funds to banks and building societies.

Has, and is, Havering Council engaged in such activity with council tax monies or any funds in their charge?

9. **Press cuttings**

To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services (Councillor Eric Munday)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

Can this Council give reason as to why the member for South Hornchurch, Councillor Michael Deon Burton, has been denied inclusion in the press cutting Council papers specifically during and since his election?

10. CCTV services on housing estates

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Mark Logan

Why have council tenants and leaseholders been charged for CCTV at £1.20 per week?

11. Chippenham Gardens – vacation of bungalows

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Mark Logan

Why have tenants at Chippenham Gardens Harold Hill been informed that they must vacate their council owned bungalows over the next twelve months, and be shoehorned into alternative properties?

12. Choice Based Lettings – cross-borough bidding

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Mark Logan

How many tenants have been housed into the London Borough of Havering from other London boroughs, since the inception of cross borough bidding, through the Choice Based Lettings?

13. Sale of Council houses

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Mark Logan

How many public sector council homes have been sold-off to private sector housing over the past four and a half years?

14. Sale of public sector land

To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Mark Logan

How many parcels of public sector land in Havering have been sold, since the 2006 local elections?

15. Cost of legal action against the Council

To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)

By Councillor Mark Logan

What has been the full legal costs to the London Borough of Havering, due to legal challenges over housing issues, from tenants on housing waiting lists, and those which are already living in council properties, and hostels, over the past four and a half years

16. Decent Homes Standard: numbers

To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)

By Councillor Mark Logan

How many homes have been brought up to the Decent Homes Standard?

17. Decent Homes Standard: financial contribution

To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration (Councillor Michael Armstrong)

By Councillor Mark Logan

What is the financial contribution from the London Borough of Havering to help bring the homes up to the Decent Homes Standard?

18. Housing of refugees

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Mark Logan

How many refugees have been housed in Havering?

19. Cost of housing refugees

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Mark Logan

What has been the financial costs been to the London Borough of Havering under the tenancy agreement for refugees.

20. Choice based lettings: offers withdrawn

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Mark Logan

How many people have been successful on the Choice Based Lettings bidding system, whom were then told after their successful bid? "They cannot have the home for housing had decided to give it to someone else".

21. Hilldene shopping area – pavement trading

To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Mark Logan

Why has a shopkeeper been allowed to trade illegally from the pavement area of his shop at the Hilldene shopping precinct?

22. Bringing dilapidated homes up to the Decent Homes Standard

**To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Protection & Regeneration
(Councillor Michael Armstrong)**

By Councillor Mark Logan

Why have so many dilapidated homes in Havering been refused to be allowed onto the schedule lists for the necessary works, to bring them up to the Decent Homes Standard?

23. Mayoral engagements, 2007/08

To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services (Councillor Eric Munday)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

During the municipal year 2007/08, how many engagements did the Mayor and Deputy Mayor attend and:

How many were in Havering?

How many were in other London Boroughs?

How many were outside London?

24. Unused capital

To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm the details of all specific, reserve, earmarked or any other capital sums not used as at 30th September 2008.

25. Civic pride budget

To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services (Councillor Eric Munday)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Can the Cabinet member please give details of how the £150,000 civic pride budget for 2008/09 has been spent so far and how it is planned to be spent for the remainder of the year?

26. **New permitted development planning regulations**

To the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee (Councillor Roger Evans)

By Councillor John Mylod

What impact will the new permitted development planning regulations, which came into force on 1st October 2008, have on resources?

27. **CCTV car tickets issued**

To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Andy Mann

How many tickets were issued during the year 2007/2008 and to date in so far in 2008/2009?

28. **Council I.D passes**

To the Cabinet Member for Legal & Democratic Services (Councillor Eric Munday)

By Councillor Andy Mann

How many new Council passes have we issued with the new Council logo on them ?

- a) to Council staff
- b) to Members

29. **Blackberries**

To the Cabinet Member for Finance & Commerce (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Andy Mann

How many Council staff and members have been issued with a Blackberry for Council use ? What is the average yearly cost for operating one and what was the total spend in 2007/2008?