# COUNCIL

# 7.30pm WEDNESDAY, 23 JULY 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

Clay Cap Ill

**Chief Executive** 

For information about the meeting please contact: lan 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 <u>wait until the</u> <u>division bell has finished ringing</u> 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.

# AGENDA

- 1 **PRAYERS –** will be led by Sister Phædra Pamphilon-Green, Pioneer Parish Evangelist
- 2 To receive apologies for absence (if any)

#### 3 MINUTES

To sign as a true record the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 21 May 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 COUNCIL

To consider whether to confer on Councillor Barbara Matthews the Honorary Freedom of the Borough

#### 7 **PETITIONS**

Councillors Andrew Mann, Michael Deon Burton and Ray Morgon have each given notice of an intention to present a petition.

#### REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

*Note:* the deadline for the submission of amendments to any of the following reports is midnight, Monday 21 July 2008

#### 8 APPOINTMENT OF THE ADDITIONAL INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

To consider recommendations of the Governance Committee (meeting held 9 July 2008)

#### 9 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

To consider recommendations of the Governance Committee (meeting held 9 July 2008)

#### 10 PAN LONDON JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

To consider a report of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (meeting held 25 June 2008)

#### 11 BUILDING NEW PRIMARY SCHOOLS – capital provision

To consider a recommendation of the Cabinet (meeting held 16 April 2008)

#### 12 ANNUAL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND MEMBER CHAMPIONS

To receive the Annual Reports of the following:

- A Audit Committee
- B Pensions Committee
- C Adult Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- D Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- E Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- F Crime & Disorder Committee
- G Culture & Regeneration Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- H Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- I Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- J Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- K Member Champion for Diversity
- L Member Champion for Elderly Persons
- M Member Champion for Historic Environment
- N Member Champion for Younger Persons (to follow when available)

# 13 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RULES – EXCEPTIONS TO THE CALL-IN (REQUISITION) PROCEDURE:

- (a) Housing Revenue Account budget 2008-2009
- (b) Proposed Restructure of Senior Management

To consider the report of the Chief Executive

#### 14 POLITICAL BALANCE OF COMMITTEES

To consider the report of the Chief Executive

**Note:** The table appended to the report represents the default position of political balance based on the decisions made by Council at the Annual Meeting. Alteration of the number of seats on any Committee may be decided by a simple majority vote; but alteration in the political balance of seats within a Committee must be agreed with no vote against.

#### 15 HAVERING LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: ADOPTION OF CORE STRATEGY AND SITE SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF DOCUMENTS AND SECRETARY STATE INTERVENTION ON THE INSPECTOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICY DC6

To consider recommendation of the Cabinet (meeting held 28 May 2008) and of the Chief Executive.

**Note:** The recommendation of the Cabinet reflected the position at the date of its meeting on 28 May. The Chief Executive's report refers to subsequent developments and, to that extent, supersedes the Cabinet report.

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

#### 16 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

See paper 16 attached

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

#### 17 COUNCIL VEHICLE FLEET: USE OF ALTERNATIVE FUELS

#### Motion on behalf of the Independent Local Residents' Group

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

#### 18 BOWER PARK SCHOOL

#### 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.

#### **18A** 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.

#### 19 LAND AT JUNCTION OF ABBS CROSS LANE AND HORNCHURCH ROAD

#### 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.

#### **19A** 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.

#### 20 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.

#### 20A Amendment on behalf of the Administration

Amend to read:

This Council continues to get value for money for residents in relation to building control services in order to protect the council tax payer.

**Note:** In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.2, the following motion once proposed and seconded will stand adjourned without discussion to the Governance Committee.

# 21 ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS TO FULL COUNCIL BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

#### 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.

**Note:** In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2, the Mayor has accepted the following motions as urgent.

#### 22 ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

#### 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.

#### 23 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

#### Motion on behalf of the Administration

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



#### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING Havering Town Hall, Romford 21 May 2008 (7.30 p.m. – 10 p.m.)

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Georgina Galpin) in the Chair at the start of the meeting

Councillors Gary Adams, June Alexander, Michael Armstrong, Clarence Barrett, Robert Benham, Tom Binding, Sandra Binion, Jeff Brace, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Dennis Bull, John Clark, Jonathan Coles, Andrew Curtin, Keith Darvill, Ted Eden, Roger Evans, Gillian Ford, Chris Fox, Mark Gadd, 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, Frederick Thompson, Lynden Thorpe, Jeffrey Tucker, Linda Van den Hende, Melvyn Wallace, Keith Wells, Michael White, Steve Whittaker and Mike Winter

Sunny Jasraj, Maisie Whitelock, Hon. Aldermen Ivor Cameron, Graham Price and Louise Sinclair, James Brokenshire MP, Mrs Brokenshire, Mrs Cameron and approximately 60 guests, members of public and press also attended.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors David Charles, Mark Stewart and Barry Tebbutt.

The Reverend Bob Love of the Church of St John & St Matthew, South Hornchurch, opened the meeting with prayers.

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

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

#### 1 COUNCILLOR LEN LONG AND FORMER COUNCILLOR ROY KNELL

The Mayor referred to the recent deaths of Councillor Len Long and former Councillor Roy Knell. All present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

Councillors Clarence Barrett, Michael White, Jeffrey Tucker and Keith Darvill paid tribute to Councillor Long, who had been Mayor in 1992/93 and was an Honorary

Freeman, for his service to the community and the Council, and Councillors Barbara Matthews and Eric Munday paid tribute to former Councillor Knell, who had been Mayor in 1986/87.

#### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 3)

The Members named in agenda items 4, 7, 8, 9 and 13 (the Mayoralty and various Cabinet and Committee appointments) each declared a personal interest under paragraph 8 of the Members' Code of Conduct as they would benefit from the Members' Allowance Scheme 2008.

#### 3 MAYORALTY (Agenda Item 4(1))

#### Motion on behalf of the Administration

That Councillor John Clark be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2007/08.

The Administration proposal was **AGREED** without a vote. It was, therefore, duly **RESOLVED**:

# That Councillor John Clark be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2007/2008.

**Councillor John Clark**, having made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Mayor as required by the Local Government Act 1972, then took the Chair and thanked the Council for the honour conferred upon him. The Mayor indicated that the Mayoress for the year would be **Mrs Pat Clark**.

The Mayor expressed the thanks of the Council to Councillor Galpin for her services in 2007/08. Councillor Galpin suitably replied.

#### 4 DEPUTY MAYOR - Appointment (Agenda Item 4(2))

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 the Mayor signified in writing his appointment of **Councillor Pam Light** as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year and to carry out the duties of the Mayor in case of the Mayor's illness or absence.

Councillor Light made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office accordingly. The Mayor indicated that the Deputy Mayor's Consort for the year would be **Mr Terry Light**.

#### 5 MINUTES (Agenda Item 5)

It was **RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19** March 2008 be signed as a true record.

#### 6 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Agenda Item 6)

The Mayor made an announcement about his chosen charity for the year and other matters:

Recently a number of research papers have been published on the benefits of music for various groups within the wider community. Many benefits have been shown to accrue to older people's wellbeing from listening to live music. Also a project in a neighbouring borough highlighted the benefits of music to our younger citizens in that it targeted a group about to be excluded from school and achieved outstanding success by turning the youngsters into valuable members of society.

To help achieve such benefits for the citizens of Havering I have decided to choose The Friends of Havering Music School as the beneficiaries of my appeal. They share my enthusiasm and are keen to organise a Music Summer School for all children and to implement a programme of live music in care homes, residential homes and hospices.

There were no announcements by the Chief Executive on this occasion.

#### 7 ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 7)

#### Motion submitted by the Administration

That Councillor Michael White be elected to the office of Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2008/09.

The proposal was **AGREED** without a vote and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Councillor Michael White be elected to the office of Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2008/09.

#### 8 ELECTION OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 8)

#### Motion submitted by the Administration

That Councillor Steven Kelly be elected to the office of Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2008/09.

The proposal was **AGREED** without a vote and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Councillor Steven Kelly be elected to the office of Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2008/09.

#### 9 MEMBERS OF THE CABINET (Agenda item 9)

#### Motion submitted by the Conservative Group

**That Councillors** 

Steven Kelly

Roger Ramsey

Eric Munday

Andrew Curtin

**Geoffrey Starns** 

Barry Tebbutt

Paul Rochford

Michael Armstrong

Peter Gardner

be elected to the Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2008/09.

The proposal was **AGREED** without a vote and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Councillors Steven Kelly Roger Ramsey Eric Munday Andrew Curtin Geoffrey Starns Barry Tebbutt Paul Rochford

# Michael Armstrong Peter Gardner be elected to the Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2008/09.

#### 10 AWARDS FOR EMINENT SERVICE TO THE BOROUGH (Agenda item 10)

Council had before it proposals to confer on the following, being persons who had rendered eminent service to the borough, the Honorary Freedom of the Borough:

#### Councillor Peter Gardner Maisie Whitelock Sunny Jasraj

The Leader of the Council proposed that the award be conferred:

- (a) on Councillor Peter Gardner, in recognition of 25 years service as a Councillor of the borough. In that time, Councillor Gardner had held a variety of offices, being Mayor in 2002/03; and
- (b) on Maisie Whitelock (a former Councillor, and Mayor in 1999/2000) in recognition of her contribution to the life of the Borough as an active proponent of the Borough's twinning arrangements with Ludwigshaven and Hesdin.

The Leader of the Opposition proposed that the award be conferred on Sunny Jasraj, in recognition of his contribution to the life of the Borough as postmaster of the Gobions Sub-Post Office in Collier Row for more than 25 years.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously (see voting division 1):

To confer on Councillor Peter Gardner, Maisie Whitelock and Sunny Jasraj, being persons who had rendered eminent service to the borough, the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

#### 11 STANDARDS COMMITTEE: EFFECTS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 (Agenda item 11)

Council considered a report of the Governance Committee from its meeting held on 7 May 2008.

Regulations had come into force on 8 May that changed the approach to handling allegations that there had been a failure to comply with the Members' Code of

Conduct. Most such complaints would now go before the Standards Committee to be dealt with at local level.

The Regulations required the Standards Committee to establish separate Sub-Committees, each chaired by an Independent Member, to undertake

- the initial assessment of the allegation; and
- a review of a decision to take no further action when requested by any party to the complaint

The outcome of an investigation would be considered either by the Standards Committees or a Sub-Committee; in either case the hearing would also need to be chaired by an Independent Member.

The Regulations required that at least three members (including at least one elected member of the Council and one Independent Member, in the chair) must be present at any meeting of the Committee or of a Sub-Committee.

The Committee considered a report (which had also been considered by the Standards Committee, whose recommendations were taken into account by the Committee), in which it was suggested that, having regard to guidance from the Standards Board, consideration ought to be given to increasing the Independent Members of the Standards Committee by one and the Councillor Members by three in order to maintain the requisite 25% membership of Independent Members, to give a "pool" of nine Councillors and three Independents from which to draw two members and one Independent to deal with the initial assessment and two different members and one different Independent Member to deal with any review of an initial decision.

There was an inescapable obligation to ensure that any initial sift was undertaken within 20 days of receipt of a complaint, failure to meet which deadline would be reported to the Standards Board, which now had intervention powers which it would exercise if it considered that the Council or Standards Committee were failing in their duties on time taken on decision making etc and which would have an adverse impact of the Council's CPA and other external assessments.

The Standards Committee had proposed that the new arrangements be reviewed after six months' operation, with which the Committee had concurred. The Committee had considered a number of recommendations of the Standards Committee, **adopted** them and now put forward recommends for Council's consideration.

The recommendations were considered without debate and **AGREED** without going to the vote, and it was **RESOLVED**:

That, having regard to the likelihood that the workload of the Standards Committee will be greatly increased in consequence of the recent changes in legislation:

- 1 The number of Independent Members of the Standards Committee be increased to three
- 2 The number of Councillor Members of the Standards Committee be increased to nine (5:2:1:1)
- 3 Separate Sub-Committees of the Standards Committee be established to assess, review and hear complaints, each comprising an Independent Member as Chairman (as required by law) and two Councillors selected without regard to political balance considerations, such Sub-Committees to be appointed as need arises and in accordance with current working practices

#### 4 The Assistant Chief Executive, Legal & Democratic Services, be authorised to amend the Constitution as necessary to give effect to these recommendations

Council noted that the recommended increase in the number of Councillor Members was dependent upon the appointment of an additional Independent Member, and could not be effected until then.

#### 12 TO APPOINT THE COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL, ETC (Agenda item 12)

Council had before them the report of the Chief Executive. The recommendations in the report were **AGREED** without going to the vote and it was **RESOLVED**:

- (1) The Committees listed in Table 1 of Appendix 1 to these minutes be appointed for the 2008/09 Municipal Year.
- (2) Those Committees be appointed with:

(a) the membership sizes and

(b) the political balance

indicated in Table 2 of that Appendix.

- (3) Two voting co-optees representing the Church of England and the Roman Catholic interests and three parent governor co-optees selected in accordance with the appropriate Regulations, be appointed to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- (4) The other non-elected member "appointments" and invitations to attend shown in the Appendix be confirmed.

# 13 TO APPOINT THE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES (Agenda Item 13)

#### Motion submitted by the Administration (Agenda item 13A)

That the following Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen be appointed -

Committee	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
Committee	Councillor	Councillor
		Courtemen
Adjudication & Review	Kevin Gregory	1 Lynden Thorpe
(2 Vice-Chairmen)		2 Mark Gadd
Appointments	Dennis Bull	Eric Munday
Audit	David Grantham	Frederick Thompson
Governance	Frederick Thompson	Steven Kelly
Pensions	Melvin Wallace	Roger Ramsey
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)	Georgina Galpin	<ol> <li>Lynden Thorpe</li> <li>Peter Gardner</li> <li>Melvin Wallace</li> </ol>
Regulatory Services	Roger Evans	Barry Tebbutt
Adult Services	Jeff Brace	
Overview and Scrutiny		
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny	Robby Misir	
Children's Overview and	Wendy Brice-Thompson	
Scrutiny Culture and	Robert Benham	
Regeneration	Robert Definant	
Overview and Scrutiny		
Environment	Sandra Binion	Gary Adams
Overview and Scrutiny		
Housing	Barry Oddy	
Overview and Scrutiny		
Crime and Disorder	Lesley Kelly	
Health Overview and Scrutiny	Ted Eden	

#### Amendment on behalf of the Residents' Group (Agenda item 13B)

#### That the following Vice-Chairmen be appointed:

Committee	Councillor
Adjudication & Review (1 (of 2) Vice-Chairmen)	June Alexander
Licensing (1 (of 3) Vice-Chairmen)	Linda Van den Hende
Adult Services Overview and Scrutiny	Pat Mylod
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny	Ray Morgon
Children's Overview and Scrutiny	Gillian Ford
Culture and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny	Linda Hawthorn
Environment Overview and Scrutiny	Andy Mann
Housing Overview and Scrutiny	June Alexander
Crime and Disorder	Linda Van den Hende
Health Overview and Scrutiny	Barbara Matthews

The motion and amendment were considered without debate.

On the proposal of the Mayor, the appointment of those Vice-Chairmen for which there was only one nomination (as set out in agenda item 13B) was **AGREED** without a vote.

The appointments of those Vice-Chairmen for which there was more than one nomination were dealt with by individual votes as follows –

Committee	Administration Nominees <i>Councillor</i>	Votes	Residents' Group Nominees <i>Councillor</i>	Votes	Voting Division
Adjudication & Review	Lynden Thorpe	33	June Alexander	17	2
Licensing	Lynden Thorpe	32	Linda Van den Hende	16	3
Environment Overview and Scrutiny	Gary Adams	32	Andy Mann	18	4

It was **RESOLVED**:

### That the following appointments be made –

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Adjudication & Review (2 Vice-Chairmen)	Kevin Gregory	1 Lynden Thorpe 2 Mark Gadd
Appointments	Dennis Bull	Eric Munday
Audit	David Grantham	Frederick Thompson
Governance	Frederick Thompson	Steven Kelly
Pensions	Melvin Wallace	Roger Ramsey
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)	Georgina Galpin	<ol> <li>Lynden Thorpe</li> <li>Peter Gardner</li> <li>Melvin Wallace</li> </ol>
Regulatory Services	Roger Evans	Barry Tebbutt
Adult Services Overview and Scrutiny	Jeff Brace	Pat Mylod
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny	Robby Misir	Ray Morgon
Children's Overview and Scrutiny	Wendy Brice- Thompson	Gillian Ford
Culture and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny	Robert Benham	Linda Hawthorn
Environment Overview and Scrutiny	Sandra Binion	Gary Adams
Housing Overview and Scrutiny	Barry Oddy	June Alexander
Crime and Disorder	Lesley Kelly	Linda Van den Hende
Health Overview and Scrutiny	Ted Eden	Barbara Matthews

#### 14 APPOINTMENT OF CHAMPIONS (Agenda Item 16)

#### Motion by the Administration

That the following be appointed Champions as indicated:

For Diversity	Councillor Robby Misir
For Elderly Persons	Councillor Pam Light
For the Historic Environment	Councillor Andrew Curtin
For Younger Persons	Councillor Gary Adams

#### Amendment by the Residents' Group

That the following be appointed Champions as indicated:

For Diversity	Councillor Linda Van den Hende
For Elderly Persons	Councillor Patricia Mylod
For the Historic Environment	Councillor Linda Hawthorn
For Younger Persons	Councillor Andy Mann

The motion and amendment were considered without debate. The Residents' Group amendment was **LOST** by 18 votes to 32 (see voting division 5). The motion was then **CARRIED** without a vote and it was

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the following be appointed Champions as indicated:

For Diversity	Councillor Robby Misir
For Elderly Persons	Councillor Pam Light
For the Historic Environment	Councillor Andrew Curtin
For Younger Persons	Councillor Gary Adams

# 15 APPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY LEAD MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Governance Committee reported that Section 19 of the Children Act 2004, which required local authorities to designate one of their members as "Lead Member for Children's Services", had been brought into effect on 21 March 2008, obliging the Council to make such an appointment. This was the first opportunity for considering the making of that appointment. The scope of the duties of the Lead Member as set out in the Act effectively mirrored the portfolio of responsibilities attached to the Cabinet post of Member for Children's Services and the Committee recommended that the Cabinet Member be appointed accordingly.

Council concurred with the **RECOMMENDATION** of the Committee and it was **RESOLVED** without going to a vote:

- 1 That the Cabinet Member for Children's Services be designated as statutory Lead Member for Children's Services.
- 2 That the Assistant Chief Executive, Legal & Democratic Services, be authorised to make all necessary consequential adjustments to the Constitution.

#### 16 STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 16)

The Leader's Statement is attached as <u>Appendix 2</u> to these minutes.

Note: the record of voting divisions is attached as Appendix 3 to these minutes.

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

#### Table 1

#### COMMITTEES

Adjudication and Review Committee Appointments Committee Audit Committee Governance Committee Licensing Committee Pensions Committee	See annex 1 See annex 2
Regulatory Services Committee Standards Committee Adult Services Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	See annex 3
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee Crime & Disorder Committee Culture and Regeneration Overview & Scrutiny Committee Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee Elm Park and Hylands Area Committee Elm Park and Hylands Area Committee Gidea Park Area Committee Harold Hill Area Committee Hornchurch Area Committee North Romford Area Committee Romford Area Committee South Hornchurch and Rainham Area Committee Upminster Area Committee	(Ward members only) (Ward members only)

Annex 1

#### Adjudication and Review Committee

The composition of Hearings Panels varies according to the nature of the issue adjudicated – as indicated in the following table:

Type of hearing	Membership of Panel
Corporate complaints procedure (including housing tenants' complaints)	Three Members and a non-voting independent person
Children Act complaints	Three independent persons (one as chairman) with voting rights (to accord with legal requirements, elected Members may no longer serve on this type of Panel)

Adult Care complaints

Two independent persons (one as chairman) with voting rights and one Member (to accord with legal requirements, no more than one elected Member may serve on this type of Panel)

Housing tenancy appeals

Three Members

The independent persons used for such hearings are taken from a pool of such people appointed on behalf the Adjudication & Review Committee, managed by Democratic Services, who have received training appropriate to that role.

Annex 2

#### Pensions Committee

Although not strictly Members of the Committee, in accordance with the Constitution, two representatives of the staff are appointed by the unions to attend and contribute to meetings of the Committee. These appointees have no voting rights but are present during the discussion of any exempt business.

Annex 3

#### Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- 1 The law requires that the Council co-opt to this Overview & Scrutiny Committee one representative of each of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches, with voting rights, to attend when issues relating to Education are being discussed. In practice, they are also able to contribute to other discussions.
- 2 In addition, the Council's Constitution provides for the co-option of three non-voting members representing governors of schools in the three sectors of education, primary, secondary and special. Again, they may attend when issues relating to Education are being discussed.
- 3 Finally, there are three non-voting members representing local teacher unions and professional associations, nominated by those organisations.

#### Table 2

#### ALLOCATION OF SEATS

COMMITTEE and size		CONSE	RVATIVE	RESIDENTS		RAINHAM & WENNINGTON IND. RESIDENTS		LABOUR	
					Entitler				
		%age	Rounded	%age	Rounded	-	Rounded	0	Rounded
Governance	10	6.11	6	2.41	2	0.56	1	0.37	1
Licensing	10	6.11	6	2.41	2	0.56	1	0.37	1
Regulatory Services	10	6.11	6	2.41	2	0.56	1	0.37	1
Adjudication & Review	9	5.50	6	2.17	2	0.50	1	0.33	0
Standards Ø	9	5.50	5	2.17	2	0.50	1	0.33	1
Audit	8	4.89	5	1.93	2	0.44	1	0.22	0
Appointments	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Pensions	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Adult Services OSC	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Children's OSC	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Corporate OSC	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Culture &c OSC	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Environment OSC	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Health OSC	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Housing OSC	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Crime & Disorder	6	3.67	4	1.44	2	0.33	0	0.22	0
Actual seats allocated	116		74		32		6		4
Overall proportional entitlement		61.11%	71	24.07%	28	5.56%	6	3.70%	4
Number of seats differing from entitlement			3		4		0		0

#### Ø Note: Standards Committee -

- 1 This Committee is not politically balanced.
- 2 The allocation shown above for Standards Committee reflects the adoption of the recommendations of the Governance Committee referred to in minute 11. Until new Members are appointed, the membership will continue to be 6 and the seat allocation, 3:1:1:1.

#### STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Mr. Mayor, I would like to offer my warmest congratulations to you on becoming Havering's first citizen and of becoming Mayor of this great community.

I am confident that it is a job you will do well, and I wish you every success for your forthcoming mayoral year and the activities that you undertake on behalf of this great borough.

I am now going to break with tradition and recognise the outstanding contribution that one of us has made to the life of Havering. I believe it is right and proper that we should recognise the role that Cllr. Barbara Matthews has undertaken not just as a Councillor but also in her role as Leader of the Opposition.

I first met Barbara when I came on to the Council and I suppose the two of us have grown into our roles together over the years. She and I will remember the trip to Bristol in a Council van which took nearly 9 hours but the outcome of this trip was the chamber in which we sit today.

Therefore I would like to offer her a small token of my thanks and of the gratitude of Havering's residents whom she has served over many years.

Becoming the leader of London Borough of Havering is a great honour and it is a position which most councillors aspire to and therefore I consider myself extremely fortunate to once again have the opportunity to serve as Leader of this great place.

This evening I would like to address the Council and our community about the Administration's vision for the future and to celebrate the achievements of the past year.

Tonight, I want to outline our ambition for Havering – how we would like to see the borough develop and evolve. I would like to set out our goals and how we will achieve them and I want to paint a picture for you, of how this great borough will look twenty years into the future.

This year we have seen some dramatic improvements in all our services and as an Administration we have concentrated on delivery and outcomes and driving up efficiencies.

Rarely a month has gone by without us opening new facilities, delivering improvements in services, or winning both regional and national awards, which this year has included not just the BURA awards for regeneration, but also the Business Event award beating the Brits and International Motor Show. Havering has also been leading the way in cohesion, being included in Diversity Britain's Parliamentary Year Book and also featured on Fusion TV.

Once again, performance in Havering, as rated by the Audit Commission, has been recognised as providing good value for local people. To this end we were rated as a three star Council and in terms of our improvement, the Audit Commission ranked Havering as 12<sup>th</sup> best in the country. And that is an achievement.

One of the outstanding successes this year has seen the Council deliver it's first 4 star service. The success of the Housing Service in achieving 4 stars clearly sets the standard for each and every service to aspire to.

So the Audit Commission thinks we are good but more importantly so do our residents.

Public satisfaction with our work continues to rise. **68%** of local people are satisfied with Havering as a place to live, which is up on last year's figure.

From the same survey of residents, we have seen an increase over the last three years in overall satisfaction with the Council and truly impressive satisfaction rates with some of our flagship services - Parks up to **69%** from 60% in 2003/04. Libraries up from 63% to an astonishing **73%**. Street cleanliness up from 42% to **55%**.

Our Council's continued outstanding performance is based on the commitment and the leadership of the Executive, working together with Cheryl and the rest of the senior Management Team, which together has moved this Council forward in a direction recognised by both the Government and our residents.

The continued success of partnership working between the Council and external partners has enabled us to build on the success already achieved. The creation of Place, as described by the Government, can be seen by the way we have worked in partnership to develop the 35 targets in our local area agreement.

So much has happened this year that it would take me all night to describe to you the significant improvements that this Conservative Administration has made, but in a short address this evening I would like to point out one or two of those achievements in each of the Cabinet portfolios.

This year the award-winning Finance and Commerce Directorate has gone from strength to strength. Roger, Rita and the team have again delivered our pledge on Council Tax. This year's low Council Tax increase of **just 3.5%** is based on prudent and robust financial management that will deliver savings of **£15m** over the next three years. Although a tough year, Roger has been able to deliver efficiencies which have enabled us to invest millions of pounds in Havering's roads, pavements, adult social services and in our support for young people.

The Government's Comprehensive Spending Review last year delivered local government less money generally and for Havering we can only expect 1.8% this year and 1.5% the following year. Set this against inflation and the outcome is that the settlement is a real term cut which will mean once again Havering will join many other London Boroughs in getting a poor deal from the Government

This year's settlement from the Government was an increase in our grant of only £1.2m. This had to be spent across £132m worth of services. Inflation alone was £2.7m, again one of the worst settlements that Havering has ever had. In comparison with our neighbours, Havering's grant of £213 per head of population contrasts poorly with our neighbours, LB Barking & Dagenham, who receive £504 per head or even Redbridge who receive £330 per head.

Due to the unfair way in which the Government proportions money to Havering, the Administration has only been able to deliver service improvement thanks to our innovative finance team, led by Roger and Rita, who continually find and plan ways in which to meet efficiency/savings targets, which can be demonstrated by their consistent achievements against standards set by Government.

Getting our finances right is so important to our strategy of building on success, because without financial stability, the investments we need to make to those services cannot happen.

The reason why we have the £4m extra to spend on pavements this year is because of the last London Mayor's attempt to hold Council Tax down by reducing the burden on the taxpayer in his last budget. However we now have a new Mayor and Mayor Boris has committed to value for money and to holding down the Council Tax. I am confident that this Mayor will be good news for Havering. Not only in the way he will deal with finances but also in the way in which Havering will receive a fairer share of the London cake and whilst I mention that, can I congratulate Cllr. Roger Evans on a wonderful result.

Mr. Mayor, so far I have talked about our commitment to investment and the way in which that commitment can deliver better services. However, the regeneration of the borough, and in particular the challenges that are faced by some communities, is a priority for this Council.

Councillor Mike Armstrong not only has the role of Regeneration but that of Housing. In Regeneration, we have seen the opening of new community centres, such as Forest Lodge, where true partnership working with the local community has paid dividends.

We are delivering regeneration in the north and south of the borough, with both Rainham and Harold Hill set to benefit from millions of pounds of new investment that will usher in a brighter future for those previously neglected communities. The Council has also committed itself to £800,000 investment through the Regeneration Capital Programme.

In Housing, as already mentioned, the Housing Service became the first Council Service to be rated an excellent 4 star service by the Audit Commission. Just as important this year the Housing Service oversaw the transfer of the Mardyke Estate to Old Ford Housing Association which will deliver £80m of investment in that community. One of the disappointments this financial year was that Homes in Havering only just missed getting their 2 stars and therefore £120m investment in our housing stock. We all know that external influences played their part, however I am confident that later on this year Homes in Havering will achieve 2 stars and will begin to roll out the Decent Homes programme.

Mr. Mayor, as Leader of this Council I can only do the job that I do by having the support of an excellent Deputy Leader. Steven is not only an excellent Deputy but he also manages one of the most challenging portfolios in local government.

In Adult Social Services it has been a challenging year with the Council investing an extra £5m to protect some of the most vulnerable in our society. The service is also currently being modernised to cope with the ever increasing pressures of an elderly population and has achieved the opening of the Grange and a new mental health office in Church Road.

We have also taken the tough decisions where we needed to. We addressed the widening gap between demand for social care within our ageing population and the dwindling resources we receive from central government – not by reducing services, like many boroughs have chosen to do, but by cutting our cloth to find new money to support the frail and vulnerable of our borough – a key priority of local people.

Mr. Mayor, this Administration is committed to supporting all sections of society in Havering whether they be young or old. Our Children's Services is one of the best in the country and is led by Councillor Geoff Starns and Andrew Ireland, who continue to deliver an excellent service.

This year has seen great strides in delivering new and improved Children's Services. I had the pleasure of opening the Ingrebourne Children's Centre earlier on in the year. I also had the pleasure in September to **announce** a £7m three year investment in Redden Court School and of course as I will mention later in this speech, the £20m commitment by this Administration to deliver two new schools. Our Education Service also won the School Travel Plan award last year which is a great achievement for Geoff, Andrew and the team.

School Travel Plans are, of course, important but so is looking after our built environment. Councillor Barry Tebbutt has the responsibility for Streetcare and Parking and I am led to believe that he has had one or two letters on a part of his portfolio; I will leave you to guess which part.

Streetcare has achieved some fantastic successes with investment in a new street cleansing vehicle fleet totalling £2.5 million, a new highways fleet costing £1m and significant capital investment of £6m over 3 years into the street scene, an additional £6m is planned for the forthcoming 18 months. As you can see we are an Administration that gets on with the job.

In common with other London boroughs, we introduced a new parking strategy, which saw new tariffs in our car parks. This was necessary to tackle the problem of commuter parking in outlying areas, as well as to ensure investment in our car parks across the borough. We said we would monitor the implementation of the new parking arrangements and make amends if necessary and we have been good to our word.

So, today <u>I can announce</u> that tariffs in outlying car parks are being amended. We will be keeping the nominal 20 pence charge for the first two hours and introducing a new 50 pence rate for the first three hours. We will also be reducing the cost of longer stays and of season tickets.

In Romford, we have had representations to reduce the cost of Sunday parking, so <u>I can announce</u> today that it is my intention to bring forth recommendations that will make Sunday parking free right across the borough.

Furthermore, it has been suggested that our low tariffs for short stay parking will quickly rise in the future. That is not true – we are looking to control parking, not raise revenue and so I am very happy <u>to</u> <u>announce</u> that these new tariffs, if agreed by colleagues, will be frozen for the next four years thereby protecting motorists and shoppers across Havering.

Mr. Mayor, we want to build on all of these achievements and we also want to build a new relationship with the people who live and work in Havering. Over the coming weeks and months, we will be developing new ways of engaging with local people, to work in partnership with them and tackle the key issues and challenges that affect the community.

Above all, we want to encourage all of our residents to take great pride in Havering and to create a unified community that is energised for the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Sometimes we have to take difficult decisions that are right for Havering, but not always popular. We have not and we never will neglect our responsibilities as community leaders. It is easy to just simply follow public opinion, but leadership is about setting the vision, ambition and challenges and finding solutions to those challenges whilst helping to inform public opinion.

As a responsive Council, we have shown that we can listen, as well as lead. When local people in Hornchurch told us that they did not want a corner of their green space developed, we listened to their concerns. Now we are in a position to bring a proposal to Cabinet that the land at Abbs Cross be absorbed into Harrow Lodge Park and protected from development for future generations to enjoy.

Mr. Mayor, Parks and Open Spaces have always been a priority for this Administration and that is why the work that Councillor Paul Rochford has undertaken has been so important. We have identified 25 key parks and 13 key open spaces that will be the first to benefit from millions of pounds of investment.

Earlier on this year, I had the great privilege of receiving two Green flag awards for Upminster Park and Bedfords Park. The Green Flag status says everything about the quality and the high standards reached in those parks not only by the Council but also by its partners. I am confident that this year we will achieve even more Green Flags in our parks thanks to our £2m investment.

Other achievements this year for our Parks Team include the rebuild and re-provision of the Harold Wood Pavilion plus the introduction of children's gym facilities in both Harrow Lodge Park and Hylands Park. Of course, Paul is ably assisted by Cynthia and her Team and works closely with Councillor Curtin, who has responsibility for Culture.

Mr. Mayor, our Culture Service, led by Councillor Curtin, has this year gone from strength to strength. Thousands of Havering's residents every week use some of the best facilities in London delivered by this Administration. This year, Central Park and Hornchurch Sports centre gyms have been refurbished and have helped our sports centres achieve the industry charter mark award. The Council is also working in partnership with the BBC to deliver a live screen for Romford.

One of the best announcements this year was the award of £1.5m Heritage Lottery funding to Havering Museum and Ingrebourne Marshes Project. This investment will ensure that Romford and Havering will have its heritage and traditions protected for future generations. As well as this investment, the Council received £1m lottery funding to deliver projects around the Ingrebourne Valley.

A lot more has been achieved in Culture which I will spell out in my report of the projects which will included an update on the situation of libraries in Rainham as well as the new £30m leisure centre development in Romford.

Mr. Mayor, crime or the fear of crime is one of the biggest challenges that Havering faces. This is a challenge that Cllr. Gardner has risen to, working closely with the Police through the Havering Community

Safety Partnership, which has led to crime being reduced by **20%** this year alone that has meant Havering being one of the safest boroughs in London.

The introduction of CCTV in Upminster, Elm Park and Collier Row will further help us deal with and take action on crime to make our neighbourhoods safer. I know that this activity is one that both Cllr. Gardner and Chief Superintendent Wisbey are working closely together on.

Last but by no means least, Mr. Mayor, is the responsibility that Cllr. Munday holds for Performance and Communications. As part of our commitment to better communication with local people we have made substantial changes to the Council's newspaper, *Living*. We already knew that *Living* was a well-regarded source of information for local people and it has now been relaunched as a fortnightly, 24 page community newspaper.

This new approach means we can better explain to people what their Council is doing for the community and provide plenty of information about how to access our services. A more regular newspaper means we can also promote a better understanding of the many other community, voluntary and public sector organisations that help make Havering a better place to live.

Cllr. Munday also works closely with MORI and other opinion formers, and has done much to improve the image of Havering and enabled the Council to respond to residents' opinions more rapidly. For instance, **67%** of our performance indicators improved over the last year, which is above the average range for all single authorities of about 16%, moreover 32% of our performance indicators are now in the top quartile with the average for other similar Councils being 29%.

During my annual address to you in 2007, I announced this Administration's key priority projects which were designed to continue to improve the lives of Havering people. I am pleased to announce that we are on track with all of these and again would like to share with you a few highlights.

<u>Project 1</u> is headed up by Cllr. Barry Tebbutt. This project is about creating a modern depot for the transport and operations fleet and plans are currently with our planning service to move us from our current depot in Thurrock to a new depot in Havering.

<u>Project 2</u> is led by Cllr. Peter Gardner and its aim is to deliver a network of community halls which are fully utilised by the communities. The Community hall review has been completed and plans such as the Windmill Hall in Upminster are now being developed.

<u>Project 3</u> is led by Cllr. Starns and is about primary school modernisation. This project is on track to deliver two new schools at Ayloffs and at Edwin Lambert with an investment of nearly £20m. Other investment programmes for primary schools are being developed across the borough. These include more investment for schools such as Gidea Park Primary.

<u>Project 4</u> is led by Cllr. Armstrong. This project is about meeting the aspirations of young people and the Council has put aside investment to help nurture the citizens of tomorrow.

<u>Project 5</u> is led by Cllr. Ramsey and is all about libraries. This project has been very successful. This year we have delivered a new £1.1m library in Hornchurch. We have also refurbished Harold Hill and Upminster libraries as a part of our commitment to those facilities and in 2008 work will start on a major refurbishment of both Central Library (£3.6m), Elm Park Library (£730,000) with talks underway with the UDC to refurbish Rainham Library as well.

<u>Project 6</u> is led by Cllr. Munday. Again this project has taken a major step forward this year with the <u>announcement</u> of a £30m new leisure complex for Romford that will be delivered in partnership between the Council and Orion. In the complex it is envisaged that will be not just a swimming pool and ice rink but a state of the art gym as well. This development promises to be a real jewel in the crown for Romford and Havering when it opens in 2010 and honours one of our key manifesto pledges to residents.

<u>Project 7</u> is led by myself and this project is about ensuring that the Council becomes excellent in everything it does and therefore delivers the necessary improvements to ensure that that is achieved. This project is very much a work in progress as the inspection regime changes from the Comprehensive Performance Assessment to the Comprehensive Area Assessment.

<u>Project 8</u> is the most ambitious of our projects and is led by Cllr Kelly. The Harold Hill Ambitions project has a 20 year life span and has started well. In Harold Hill, we have undertaken wide community consultation on what local people would like to see in their neighbourhood. We have fed these views into our Harold Hill Ambitions strategy and into the masterplan for the Hill. We have considered how we can regenerate the local economy, deliver high quality housing and tackle the quality of life issues on Harold Hill. Within weeks we will present the community on Harold Hill with the most exciting and far-reaching set of proposals for the area, since the community was founded sixty years ago.

<u>Project 9</u> is the Hornchurch Urban Strategy led by Cllr. Curtin. In Hornchurch, our Urban Strategy has been finalised and is now being implemented. We have delivered a superb renovation of Hornchurch Library and brought additional CCTV cameras to improve security for local people, with more improvements in the wings.

<u>Project 10</u> is led by Cllr. Paul Rochford and delivers green open spaces and ensures Havering remains one of London's greenest boroughs. We have identified our Principal Parks and Open Spaces on which we will focus improvement. As one of London's greenest boroughs, we are determined to boast some of its finest parks and to that end I will be announcing further on in my speech additional parks for Havering.

<u>Project 11</u> is about creating cleaner, safer streets and investing in our built infrastructure. This project is led by Cllr. Barry Tebbutt and will have £11m to spend on our pavements and roads over the next two years. Barry is currently busy working with officers to channel investment where it is most needed.

Mr. Mayor, as Leader of the Council, I understand that change is needed if an Administration is to continually advance. I have always believed that it is up to the Chief Executive of this organisation to design the top team that they believe they need to deliver on our priorities. Cheryl is currently out to consultation on her top tier structure. However, I have already designed how the new Cabinet should look with new roles and responsibilities for this year to match what the Chief Executive is planning.

The new Cabinet arrangements for 2008 are currently being displayed on the overhead and as you can see those who argue that the Cabinet should be reduced, please could they tell me where on this screen they feel a Cabinet member can be reduced.

The first thing to say about the new arrangement is that each Cabinet Member still has the same projects that they had the year before, thus ensuring continuity of delivery of those projects. As Leader of the Council I will Chair a Board that will be responsible for both strategy and policy including partnerships and ensuring that Havering is a place where everyone is valued in a cohesive society. However Cllr. Rochford will now deal with the new 14-19 Skills agenda as well as Adult Skills. Whilst Cllr. Ramsey's role is very much expanded to deal with not only finance and asset management but also business transformation.

I am confident that these new arrangements will continue on our proud record of delivery over the past 6 years. These changes in themselves could not deliver on our agenda without the help of Cheryl and all the employees that work so hard for this organisation and without whose effort Havering would not be the improved Council that it is today.

This brings me on to the second theme of my speech tonight – Our Vision. The Cabinet and I have given much thought to a vision for Havering - a clear line of sight from where we are now to where we need to be and where we would like to be in twenty years time. I would like to share these thoughts with you all.

There are some facts and figures that help to define how Havering might develop over the next twenty years. It's projected by the Greater London Authority that Havering's population will grow by around 10,000 over the next twenty years; however the balance between young and old will remain roughly the same.

Havering has the greatest proportion of older people in London and that will continue to be the case. While the current population will age, it is expected that the Thames Gateway-led regeneration will see an increase in young families living in Havering, giving rise to a broader and more diverse community.

Over the last eight months I have witnessed some real energy, drive and enthusiasm brought about the work we have done as a Council on issues of community engagement and cohesion and therefore it is imperative that we continue this work to create equal opportunity, so everyone has the chance to get on in life, to fulfil their dreams, and to feel that their contribution is part of a shared local and national effort.

We have a clear ambition for Havering. We have called it our 'Living Ambition' – *living* because it evolves, as the borough evolves, taking on new ideas and embracing new opportunities. And *ambition*, because it sums up all that we want for Havering, as a place and as a home to many thousands of people, each with ambitions of their own.

Our Living Ambition, simply, is to provide our residents with the highest quality of life in London.

This ambition will see Havering evolve into a place that thrives ever more on its links to the heart of the Capital and yet retains the strong and historic identity that we currently enjoy.

Havering in 20 years time will be a new model suburb – a more successful and energised gateway to London, that is still characterised and shaped by its attractive natural environment, unique history and vibrant culture.

Our community will have become more prosperous, through first class education and employment opportunities for all. Havering will be a borough where new talent and innovation is welcomed and nurtured.

Our re-invigorated town centres will be places of enterprise where people enjoy their lives. Attractive and popular housing will be interlaced with high quality cultural, retail and leisure opportunities. Thriving towns, villages and neighbourhoods will be set in, and studded with, beautiful green and open spaces that confirms Havering's reputation as one of London's greenest boroughs.

Safer and cleaner streets will help foster greater public pride and public services that work in partnership with local people - empowering them to continue the improvement of Havering for future generations. Above all, people who live in Havering will enjoy life in any of the communities that make up one of London's finest boroughs.

This is our vision of the future and we are set on a path to make a real difference to peoples' lives and deliver on this vision.

We have looked at the issues that matter to people and the areas where we can make a real difference and we have focussed these into five clear goals.

When we deliver these goals, we will have achieved our ambition and Havering <u>will</u> boast the highest quality of life in London.

Each year, the five goals will focus our efforts and will be underpinned with achievable and accountable targets against which we can measure our progress.

#### The first goal is the goal for **Environment**

To ensure a clean, safe and green borough

In practice - to be an attractive place where local people take pride in its well-kept streets and pavements. High recycling rates will reduce the burden we place on landfill. The Council and police will deliver seamless partnership working to drive out low-level crime and anti-social behaviour. This focussed drive will deliver not only London's lowest levels of crime, but also a borough where local people feel as safe in its town centres as they do in their homes. Beautiful and safe parks and open spaces will help provide cleaner air for all, recreation for adults and secure places for children to play.

#### The second goal is the goal for **Learning**

#### To achieve excellence in education and learning

A borough where schools record the highest exam results in the country and first class learning opportunities are available to all. The borough's schools will provide a modern and inspirational learning environment, with a clear focus on the health and wellbeing of pupils, as well as their educational development. Further and higher education will be an option pursued by the many, not the few, with a broad range of vocational and academic study available within the borough. Learning will be valued for its own sake, as a lifelong activity and everyone will be encouraged to achieve their potential, whatever their vocation.

#### The third goal, is the goal for **Towns and communities**

To provide economic, social and cultural opportunities for all

Attractive and successful towns and communities will provide an equality of opportunity to all residents of Havering, no matter where they live and no matter what their background. Affordable, appropriate and sympathetic housing will mean more local people are able to own their own homes through outright sale or shared ownership and innovative low cost home ownership schemes, while high quality rented accommodation will be available to those who cannot afford local house prices. Increased commerce and enterprise will open the door to prosperity for thousands more Havering residents.

The provision of superb leisure and cultural facilities will help ensure that Havering is one of London's most energised and cultured boroughs. The retail offer throughout Havering will remain a draw to visitors, supported by excellent transport links within the borough and beyond its borders. Havering's towns and communities will be green places of culture, commerce, community and beauty of which residents will be proud.

#### Fourth is the goal for **Individuals**

To value and enhance the lives of every individual

Local people will receive the customer experience they deserve from their council and its partners. The quality and range of services provided to Havering's most vulnerable residents will be second to none across London. These services will be appropriate to the needs of individuals and their delivery will be personalised. Every resident will be able to contact the Council easily and in a range of different ways and always be confident of a prompt and effective response. Residents will know that their views count and that services are tailored to their needs. Young people will feel included in the decisions that affect them and older residents will feel valued by their community and their council.

#### Finally, we have the goal for Value

To deliver high customer satisfaction and a stable council tax

Havering will deliver the highest quality of local services to be found anywhere in the Capital and this will be reflected in high satisfaction rates amongst local residents and customers. Better and more ambitious partnership working across and beyond the borough will ensure that these excellent services are also more affordable than ever before. This drive towards a leaner and more efficient authority will stabilise council tax and provide local people with real and lasting value for money.

Under each goal, we are already delivering services, policies and developments that move us closer to achieving our overall objectives. Each year, new proposals will move us further towards the realisation of our vision.

As an example, in respect of our Goal for Environment we are already working with the police and other partners to promote community safety. We are one of London's safest boroughs and crime fell by 20% last year. I was particularly pleased with the roll out of CCTV and additional PCSOs, paid for by the Council.

As well as these achievements, the introduction of the garden waste collection and composting service which now has over 11 000 customers has increased recycling thanks to the commitment of our residents and the ELWA/Shanks flagship waste management facility at Frog Island in Rainham.

To further increase recycling <u>I can announce</u> that we will be introducing a new style of street litter bins which will enable residents and visitors to the Borough to separate their waste from recyclables and carry on recycling when they are away from home.

I can also <u>announce</u> that we will also be introducing an additional 15 mini recycling centres which will make it easier for residents to recycle glass bottles and other materials.

Havering's beautiful green spaces are justly loved by residents and visitors alike and are places for recreation where people from all backgrounds can mix. We have already seen the award of Green Flag status to Upminster and Bedfords Park and I can **announce** today our that the Council will be working towards an additional 2 flags every year for our parks and open spaces.

I can also <u>announce</u> the establishment of three new green spaces across the borough bringing opportunities closer to all:

- A 100 acre nature park in Rainham
- A new Broxhill Park
- A pocket park in the heart of Romford outside the newly refurbished central library.

I am also pleased to **<u>announce</u>** this Administration's commitment to supporting the establishment of Havering's first beach at Rainham.

As part of our Goal for Learning we are already delivering a £20 million redevelopment programme for the borough's primary schools that will see every pupil of primary age taught in a modern, inspirational learning environment.

- 2 new primary schools, expansion of Gidea Park.
- Extended schools programme
- 10 children's centres
- £7m in Redden Court

Today **I can <u>announce</u>** a major new project for this borough that will put it at the forefront of educational innovation. We are working with partners to deliver an education village in Harold Hill as part of our ambitions project. On one location we will provide lifelong opportunities for all to learn – from nursery provision to a university campus, from state-of-the-art primary education, to a renewed secondary school. This initiative is already taking shape in discussions with schools and Havering College. This will be a massive boost to the community in Harold Hill providing fantastic learning opportunities for the borough and greatly enhancing the reputation of Havering both regionally and nationally.

**Our Goal for Towns and Communities** is already underpinned by wide-ranging and exciting regeneration proposals in Harold Hill and Rainham, by the ongoing cultural development of the borough through library refurbishment, the development of Hornchurch as a centre for the arts and innovative ideas for Romford, such as the Live Screen in the market place. Our new Local Development Framework provides the high level strategy to enable us to plan future developments to meet the needs of all our communities.

I can **<u>announce</u>** today several major initiatives that will improve Communities across Havering.

Firstly we will be drawing up proposals in partnership with Swan to revitalise the whole section of Romford Town Centre between High Street and North Street.

Secondly that we will be bringing forward comprehensive environmental improvements for a large part of Hornchurch extending from the High Street down Station Lane to the station itself.

Thirdly and most excitingly, the Development Corporation has agreed to promote a new railway station at Beam Park on the C2C line, as a focus for high quality housing and employment developments in South Hornchurch.

Fourthly, in Rainham CEME over the next 5 years is working to create a business and technology park that will create over 100 new jobs, see the growth of 10 new companies in the park and put thousands of people through world class training.

Central to **our goal for individuals** is the additional investment of £5m this year to support the needs of our older residents. We are also developing new ways of delivering services to vulnerable residents with the aim of ensuring they live independent lives for as long as possible.

This goal is also about the quality of services we provide to all residents. We have further work to do on this but I am pleased to say that we have been awarded a charter mark award for customer services and libraries.

As work on our vision progresses, new ways of providing services will no doubt arise and I can commit this Administration to capitalising on those opportunities. Who'd have thought for example that the number of visitors to our web site would have increased from 350 000 to 1.5 million in the last three years? My blog alone has had some 6000 visitors since I launched it in October 2007.

I can therefore <u>announce our plan</u> later this year, to launch a series of new ways for people to do business with the Council online via a new and improved Council web site.

Finally, we will maintain our commitment to a low increase in Council Tax, **as part of our Goal for Value**. We have made major savings and efficiencies in recent years and will be making a further £15m of savings over the next three years. It's testament to our commitment to value for money that I can **announce** our firm pledge to hold any Council Tax increase to less than 3.5% for the lifetime of this Administration.

Our Living Ambition will be the driving force behind our work for the coming years. Everything we do will be tightly focussed on delivering ever-better quality of life for the residents of Havering.

I believe that our vision for Havering, and a renewed drive to provide greater opportunities for all of its residents, can only make an already bright future, brighter still.

The vision for Havering will help us shape the future not only for this generation but for generations to come. As Community Leaders it is up to each and every one of us to be responsible to help deliver the services that the public both expect and deserve.

Tonight, I have set out not only the achievements of the past but also a Vision for the future. A 20 year Vision that if realised will deliver a community in Havering that is both confident, secure and ambitious about its future. It is a Vision that each and everyone of us as well as those in our community will need to be a part of if we are to continue to be successful. Therefore I invite you all to join me on this journey and deliver on this vision.

### **VOTING RECORD**

DIVISION NUMBER:	1	2	3	4	5
The Mayor [Clir. John Clark]	~	~	~	~	×
The Deputy Mayor [Cllr. Pam Light]	~	~	~	~	×
CONSERVATIVE GROUP					
Cllr. Michael White	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Gary Adams	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Mike Armstrong Cllr. Robert Benham	-	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Sandra Binion	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Jeff Brace	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Wendy Brice-Thompson	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Dennis Bull	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Andrew Curtin	~	~	*	*	×
Cllr. Ted Eden	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Roger Evans	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Christine Fox	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Mark Gadd	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr.Georgina Galpin Cllr. Peter Gardner	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. David Grantham	~	~	~	~	x
Cllr. Kevin Gregory	~	~	~	~	x
Clir. Lesley Kelly	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Steven Kelly	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Robby Misir	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Eric Munday	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Barry Oddy	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Frederick Osborne	~	~	~	~	×
Clir. Roger Ramsey	~	~	~	~	×
Cllr. Paul Rochford	~	~	~	~	×
Clir. Geoffrey Starns	✓ A	✓ A	✓ A	~	×
Cllr. Barry Tebbutt	A	A •	A •	A	A
Cllr. Frederick Thompson Cllr. Lynden Thorpe		~	~	~	x
Cllr. Melvin Wallace	~	~	~	~	x
Cllr. Keith Wells	~	~	~	~	×
RESIDENTS' GROUP Cllr. Clarence Barrett	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. June Alexander	~	x	x	x	-
Cllr. Gillian Ford	~	x	×	×	~
Cllr. Linda Hawthorn	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. Andrew Mann	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. Barbara Matthews	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. Raymond Morgon	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. John Mylod	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. Patricia Mylod	~	×	0	×	~
Cllr. Steve Whittaker	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. Mike Winter	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. Linda van den Hende	~	×	×	×	~
RAINHAM & WENNINGTON INDEPENDENT RE					
Cllr. Jeffery Tucker	~	×	×	×	~
Cllr. Coral Jeffrey Cllr. Mark Stewart	✓ A	×	×	×	✓ △
	A	А	A	A	A
ABOUR GROUP					
Cllr. Keith Darvill	~	×	×	×	<
Cllr. Tom Binding	~	×	×	×	~
Liberal Democrat Member					
Cllr. Jonathan Coles	~	×	×	×	~
British National Party Member					
Clir Mark Logan	*	~	0	×	~
Cllr. Mark Logan	_				
•				А	A
ndependent Member Clir. David Charles	A	А	A	~	
ndependent Member Cllr. David Charles	A	A	A	~	
ndependent Member Cilr. David Charles TOTALS	A 50	A 33	A 32	32	18
ndependent Member Cllr. David Charles TOTALS YES NO	50 0	33 17	32 16	32 18	32
ndependent Member Clir. David Charles TOTALS YES NO ABSTAIN/NO VOTE	50 0 0	33 17 0	32 16 2	32 18 0	32 0
ndependent Member	50 0	33 17	32 16	32 18	18 32 0 0 3

IN FAVOUR ✓ AGAINST X NOT VOTING O ABSENT A INTEREST DECLARED ID


# **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, 9 JULY 2008**

# STANDARDS COMMITTEE: APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL INDEPENDENT MEMBER

At its last meeting, Council accepted the Committee's recommendations that, in consequence of new statutory requirements, a third Independent Member be appointed to the Standards Committee and that the size of the Committee be increased to 12, with nine Councillor Members. Subsequently, an *ad hoc* Sub-Committee (Councillors Gillian Ford, Steven Kelly and Eric Munday) interviewed four (of eighteen) applicants and now recommended that one of them be appointed as the additional Independent Member.

The Committee has adopted the Sub-Committee's recommendation. It has also reviewed the terms of office of the Independent Members and agreed that they should remain at the current three years, with the new Independent Member being appointed for a similar period.

It is now appropriate for the Council to implement the increase in the number of Councillor Members.

Accordingly, the Committee **RECOMMENDS to the Council 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.



# **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, 9 JULY 2008**

# AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Committee considered a number of suggested amendment to the Constitution.

# Senior Management realignment – management of process

At a meeting in May, the Appointments Committee had dealt with a number of appointments to Chief Officer posts as a consequence of the Senior Management realignment. Arising from that, the Appointments Committee recommended to the Governance Committee that approval be sought of an amendment to the Constitution to provide for the Head of Human Resources to have the delegated powers necessary to implement the agreed procedure for any future senior management realignment or restructuring, as follows:

- 1. To achieve any necessary reduction through voluntary redundancy
- 2. To consider applications from unaffected chief officers which would create a suitable alternative employment opportunity for an affected Chief Officer
- 3. To decide upon the ring fence arrangements and invite applications for assimilation
- 4. To arrange advertisements, assessment centres and appoint external recruitment consultants, subject to Contract Procedure Rules

Decisions as to the appointment, dismissal, assimilation and redundancy of Chief Officers would remain with the Appointments Committee.

The proposal would enable the realignment process to proceed more easily, avoiding the current need for reports to be taken to Appointment Committee on each Senior Management restructuring. It would also enable staff to be fully cognisant of the process at the earliest possible stage.

The Committee concurred with the proposal.

# Contract Procedure Rules

The Committee was advised that the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPR) had last been substantially revised in 2006. A small scale revision was now proposed as a result of comments from users of the current CPR and recommendations from internal audit reports, and also incorporated additional provisions for developing forms of procurement. In addition, the revised CPR proposed alterations in the

various financial limits to balance the cost of procurement with the value of the goods or services being procured and to accord with recently revised European procurement financial limits. There were also some changes in responsibilities. The Committee accepted the proposals.

For the sake of economy, the revised CPR text is not included with this report but can be made available upon request.

The Committee also considered the means of making adjustments to the CPR in the light of future changes in European Union financial limits and/or in the Euro/Sterling exchange rate and agreed that authority to make such technical adjustments should be delegated to the Head of Finance & Performance Management.

The Committee accordingly **agreed** to **RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL** 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.



# HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

# 10

# PAN LONDON JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 1 At its meeting in November 2007, the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that it should be represented on the planned Joint Pan-London Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This Joint Committee had been set up in order to scrutinise the proposals in the Healthcare for London report that had been complied by Lord Darzi. It was agreed that the Committee's representative on the joint body would be Councillor Eden with Councillor Osborne as a substitute. The Joint Committee met on six occasions between November 2007 and March 2008 and received evidence from a large number of witnesses ranging from the Royal College of Nursing and Transport for London to the Royal College of Surgeons and GP representatives.
- 2 The Pan-London Joint Committee completed its report in May 2007. The main body of the report has been circulated to Members previously but the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee are shown in the Appendix for ease of reference. Members will note the large variety of issues that have been covered.
- 3 The report of the Joint Committee was presented to the Joint Committee of London Primary Care Trusts (JCPCT) on 6 May and all London PCTs are currently considering their response to the report. The JCPCT responded to this on 12 June and specific proposals for Havering and surrounding areas are currently awaited from the PCTs.
- It is planned for the Pan-London Joint Committee to meet again in autumn 2008 in order to consider the latest situation. It is expected that, with effect from autumn this year and potentially continuing for a number of subsequent years, specific proposals for healthcare changes will be brought forward by the NHS in London. These could be specific to Havering (for example the introduction of one or more polyclinics by Havering PCT), affect the North East London region as a whole (for example changes affecting Queens Hospital) or cover the whole of London (for example changes in the operation of the London Ambulance Service). It should be emphasised that no specific proposals have been released so far and that the Healthcare for London report which the Pan-London Committee scrutinised looked purely at overall strategies and direction. As specific plans are submitted for scrutiny, the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will need to consider the best

method of scrutinising these, whether alone, via the existing Joint Committee for North East London or on a pan-London basis. A consideration of these options will be the subject of a further report or officer briefing once the specific proposals are known.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 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.
- 2. That Council notes the likelihood of further scrutiny work being required as specific proposals for services affecting Havering are finalised

# Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) to review 'Healthcare for London'



A joint authority health scrutiny committee comprising all of the London Boroughs and the City of London, Essex and Surrey County Councils

# Final report of the Committee April 2008

**Conclusions and recommendations** 

# **Conclusions and recommendations**

The JOSC welcome the opportunity to comment at this early stage on the models of care outlined in 'Healthcare for London' (HfL). We share Lord Darzi's diagnosis that there is a clear need for London's health services to change in order to meet the demands of the next ten years and beyond.

However, HfL is a vision, not a detailed strategy or plan, and we are deeply concerned about significant gaps in the review. It is not acceptable that mental health and children's services were added as an afterthought. The JOSC expect the same opportunity to analyse proposals for these services as with the services originally included in HfL.

Similarly, we heard that further work is underway on key areas to develop the vision outlined in HfL, including the impact on social care and the implications for NHS estates and finances. As this important information is not yet available, we – the scrutiny Members of London's local authorities and surrounding areas participating in the JOSC – reserve our position to comment on specific proposals when this detail becomes available.

The varying response to the HfL consultation across London demonstrates the NHS must work harder to develop the public's understanding that turning the HfL vision into reality will fundamentally change the way their health services are provided. The NHS must rise to this challenge and deliver meaningful engagement in future discussions on specific changes.

We now present our recommendations in response to the HfL consultation which highlight issues that cause us concern, areas in which further work is required and aspects of the review that we believe are positive. A recurring theme is the need to ensure reforms improve the accessibility of healthcare services and the physical access to facilities where these are provided. We are pleased that NHS London has already accepted the key role that local authorities play in this process, and we look forward to authorities being invited to take part in further detailed considerations on this and all other aspects of Healthcare for London.

The JOSC has unanimously agreed these recommendations, demonstrating the strength of shared feeling across all London's local authorities. In line with health scrutiny legislation we look forward to receiving an appropriate response from the NHS and will reconvene in the autumn to discuss this response and examine NHS London's next steps.

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# 1. Financing the reforms

We have not heard any evidence that the appropriate resources exist (or have even been identified) to establish and then support the major changes proposed in HfL. Selling under-used estates may help pay for new facilities, but such sales can only take place once the new services are operational. We have not heard whether additional 'pump-priming' resources will be available to solve this dilemma and run the existing services at the same time as pilot pathways are developed and tested.

(a) We recommend that NHS London states how and when the money will come from to develop new services in order to address concerns about whether the NHS has the resources available to deliver major reform.

Resources for providing health care are finite. The proposals are likely to lead to primary and social care providing treatment currently undertaken in hospitals.

(b) We recommend that the NHS ensures that 'the money follows the patient' and resources are reallocated from acute trusts to primary and social care to reflect changes in the way that patients are treated.

# 2. Health and social care for London not 'Healthcare for London'

It is unacceptable that local authorities were not part of the original review. The NHS and local authorities must work together in partnership, and steps must be taken to prevent partners working to different (and potentially conflicting) priorities. Disagreements about who pays for which aspects of care can undermine patient well-being.

(a) We recommend that London Councils is involved in developing further detailed proposals for London's health services, including fully quantifying the impact on community care services. Partners must have a shared understanding of their required contribution to avoid disputes over 'cost-shunting'.

Providing world-class health services for London will require ever-closer working between health and social care providers, including increased joint commissioning between these organisations. The NHS budget for London has more than doubled in the last eight years; however funding for social care services has seen nothing like this rise. The 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review will continue this trend with the percentage growth in allocations for the NHS being four times that of the increase for adult social care. This will exacerbate the focus of local authorities on individuals with acute social care need.

(b) We demand that NHS London outlines how seamless care will be provided in the context of the hugely differing budget increases for health and social care that have sharpened the distinction between universal health services and means-tested social care services. Future funding allocations must give equal weight to health and social care budgets.

# 3. Health inequalities

Lord Darzi correctly highlights that there are significant inequalities in the health of London's residents. Much of this is due to the way that the location of services has evolved over the years in an unplanned manner.

(a) We recommend that the NHS focuses resources on communities with greatest health and social care need, and ensures reforms overcome inequalities by improving access to health services. Funding allocations to PCTs must reflect the challenges of providing services to that population.

Health inequality assessments are key to ensuring this happens, and we therefore welcome the impact assessment undertaken on the broad proposals in HfL. This must not be a one-off piece of work.

(b) We recommend that NHS in London carries out further health inequalities impact assessments (i) once detailed proposals have been developed, (ii) a year after implementation of each new care pathway to demonstrate that reforms have reduced not increased inequalities, and (iii) and on a regular basis to monitor the long term impact of the reforms on health inequalities.

# 4. A staged approach to reform

'Big bang' reform can be risky, and 'teething problems' with new health services could have fatal consequences.

(a) We recommend that a staged approach is undertaken to implementing new care pathways with, for example, 'polyclinics' piloted in a selected number of sites. Results from these pilots and existing examples of the proposed care pathways must be evaluated with learning fed into any subsequent roll-out across London. NHS London must also ensure lessons are learnt from work to implement Lord Darzi's vision in the rest of the country.

The NHS must be clear and open so that it cannot be accused of implementing the HfL vision in a piecemeal fashion.

(b) We recommend that the NHS publish a transparent timetable for implementing the HfL vision which will enable Overview & Scrutiny Committees to hold the NHS to account.

# 5. Helping people stay healthy and out of hospital

Admission to hospital is not always in the best interest of patients or their families. Staff working in the community (e.g. community matrons) along with pharmacists can help people manage their long-term conditions and prevent the need for emergency hospital admission.

Sufficient resources will be required to fund key professionals such as physiotherapists and occupational therapists who will provide rehabilitation and treatment in the community following the proposed earlier discharge from hospital.

Much of HfL focuses on ensuring patients receive high quality care once they become sick. However intervention 'upstream', e.g. helping people quit smoking, can prevent the need for hospital treatment later.

We recommend that NHS London sets a minimum level of expenditure that PCTs must commit to (a) helping people lead healthy lives and (b) helping patients manage their long term conditions. This approach will involve close working with partners such as local authorities.

# Carers

In addition to impacting on social care, greater care in the community will place additional demands on unpaid carers. According to calculations by Carers UK unpaid carers save the NHS £87 billion a year, more than the annual total spend on the NHS, which stood at £82 billion in 2006/7.

We recommend that NHS London analyses the impact of the HfL proposals on carers in London, and states the action that the NHS will take to ensure any proposals arising from this consultation will not increase the burden on this often 'hidden army' of dedicated individuals.

# 7. Maternity services

We are concerned that HfL is likely to require further midwives at a time when the profession is already under severe strain.

(a) We recommend that NHS London re-examines the allocation of funding for midwifery and commits expenditure to expand the number of midwives in London (i.e. through improved recruitment and retention).

We support the principle of maternal choice where this is practical, but we have encountered mixed views about stand-alone midwife-led units.

(b) We recommend that NHS London ensures that there is a range of birthing options available to meet varying local need, and reconsiders the proposals for stand-alone midwife-led units given the mixed experience so far.

# 8. Children's health

We are unable to give a substantive view on how children's health services should develop given the omission of this important area from the original HfL review. We again express our dissatisfaction that children's services were an afterthought in the review: children are not simply 'mini-adults' and have distinct health needs.

(a) We recommend that if specialist care is further centralised then the NHS examines how it will manage the impact on children's families during the treatment at more distant specialist hospitals.

As with adults, hospital treatment should be a last resort for children, and non-NHS community facilities should be used to promote good physical and mental health.

(b) We recommend that the NHS works with local authorities to ensure that Children's Centres and Extended Schools are equipped and resourced to provide community health services for our young residents.

# 9. Centralising specialist care

We broadly support the principle to centralise specialist care where this will lead to improved clinical outcomes. However, we will not give blanket approval to all proposals for centralising specialist care at this stage, and expect future consultations to set out prominently the clinical benefits of each particular proposal.

(a) We recommend that clinicians have a major role in developing proposals, and expect them to be involved in explaining to the public that proposals strive to improve patient care rather than save money.

London is a congested city for much of the day. At peak times it may take a long time to travel short distances.

(b) We recommend that the London Ambulance Service (LAS) and Transport for London (TfL) are involved from the outset in developing proposals for specialist care in order to advise on travel times. NHS London must work with these organisations to agree a travel plan to underpin any expansion of a hospital's services.

(c) We recommend that the NHS adopts a 'hub and spoke' model that involves local hospitals treating less complicated cases of specialist care in the daytime with specialist centres providing treatment out of hours when travel times are shorter.

Centralisation of specialist care may involve critically ill or injured patients spending longer in ambulances.

(d) We recommend that any centralisation of specialist care can only take place once the LAS receives the necessary resources for additional vehicles and training that these new care pathways will require.

# 10. The future of the local hospital

The proposals could lead to local hospitals (often referred to as District General Hospitals or 'DGHs') losing services either to specialist centres or to polyclinics providing more general care. However, sufficient beds will be required in local hospitals to enable discharge from specialist centres once the initial treatment has been provided, as well as continuing to deliver the majority of hospital treatment that does not need to be undertaken at a specialist centre.

(a) We recommend that NHS London provides a firm commitment that reforms arising from HfL will not threaten the concept of local hospitals which must provide a sufficient range of services to make them economically viable. Reforms must be planned as to prevent a 'salamislicing' of services that create diseconomies of scale.

Specialisation must not undermine care for patients who have several health problems (e.g. the elderly).

(b) We recommend that NHS London outlines how increased specialisation of hospital care will improve the care for people with multiple health needs (often referred to as 'co-morbidities').

# 11. GP services and 'polyclinics'

We agree that Londoners could benefit from the provision of a broader range of services in the community. It is unacceptable to expect people to travel to a hospital to have a routine blood test, for example. However, it is expensive to provide certain diagnostic services and resources must not be duplicated with polyclinics becoming 'mini-hospitals'.

(a) We recommend that the NHS demonstrates that providing complex diagnostic services in new community facilities offers better value than using this funding to expand access to existing services (e.g. greater or improved access to hospital x-ray equipment for primary care patients).

There has been much debate in our meetings about the proposal for polyclinics. We do not believe 'one size fits all'. Partners such as local authorities must be fully involved in providing services in pilot polyclinics in order to realise the potential of these as holistic 'well-being' centres.

(b) We recommend that PCTs, local authorities and other partners are able to decide the appropriate models for providing access to GP and primary care services taking into account specific local circumstances.

It will be vital to balance benefits of a greater range of services with the importance of ensuring GP services are accessible.

(c) We recommend that the NHS provides a commitment that reforms will improve access to and the accessibility of GPs, and reforms will not undermine the patient/GP relationship that for many is at the heart of the NHS.

The NHS must ensure reforms take account of the fact that many GP patients do not have access to a car.

(d) *We recommend* that new primary care facilities (i.e. the model referred to as 'polyclinics') can only proceed if the NHS has agreed a travel plan with TfL and the relevant local authority.

### 12. Mental health

Mental health services must not be the forgotten or neglected aspect of the NHS in London. Again, we express our deep dissatisfaction that mental health (one of the largest services in the NHS) was excluded from the original HfL review, and we wish to hear how the NHS will develop services for the majority of mental health service users that do not require in-patient treatment.

We recommend that NHS London outlines how it will ensure sufficient resources will be allocated to meet the challenges facing London's mental health services, including the establishment of talking therapies and other non-drug based treatments.

# 13. End of life care

Again, 'one size does not fit all' and end of life services must be tailored to individual need, circumstances and preferences. This will require NHS professionals to undertake sensitive conversations with patients diagnosed with a terminal illness. Improvements to end of life care will require joint working across health, housing and social care organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

(a) We recommend that NHS London provides a commitment that any reforms to end of life care will not lead to people dying in poor quality housing and/or alone, and that where hospitals provide end of life care this is in an adequate and dignified setting.

(b) We recommend that health professionals work with patients at an early stage to help them plan for how and where they would like their end of life care to be delivered.

Nursing/care homes are people's homes and proposals for improved end of life care must reflect this.

(c) We recommend that NHS London clarifies how it will ensure residents of nursing/care homes are not transferred to a hospital to die when this is driven by the needs and wishes of the care home rather than the individual.

# 14. Understanding the cross-border implications

London is not a self-contained entity, and patients travel in either direction across the London boundary to receive NHS care.

We recommend that NHS London works closely with colleagues from the surrounding Strategic Health Authorities to explore the implications of any reforms on patients crossing the Greater London Authority (GLA) boundary.

# 15. Workforce

The major changes proposed in HfL will require professionals to acquire new skills and work differently; notably up to a third of current hospital nurses could be required to transfer to the community setting. This is perhaps the greatest challenge facing implementation of HfL: reforms cannot proceed if

the workforce is not in place. Different teams of professionals must work together to achieve seamless care.

We recommend that NHS London publish a workforce strategy that will enable the delivery of any changes to London's health services: resources for workforce development must not be diverted in times of financial difficulty.

# 16. ICT: providing the electronic connections

Providing seamless health and social care services will also require the ability for different parts of the health and social care economy to be able to communicate electronically.

We recommend that further work is undertaken to ensure that the appropriate ICT infrastructure is in place to deliver the care pathways arising from this and subsequent consultations. The NHS must state what it has learnt from the recent attempts to implement major ICT projects.

# 17. Compatibility with recent reforms to the NHS

The NHS has undergone significant reform in recent years including the introduction of Payment by Results and the creation of Foundation Trusts. We are concerned that Payment by Results may encourage competition between acute trusts rather than the cooperation required to establish specialist centres, while the freedoms for Foundation Trusts may complicate the proposed shift to greater care in the community.

We recommend that the NHS London provides further reassurance on how the ability of Foundation Trusts to retain resources from the disposal of their estates affects NHS London's proposal to use the sale of underused assets to pay for polyclinics and new community facilities.

# 18. Moving forward

This Committee demonstrates the value of the unelected NHS talking to local Councillors who are elected to represent and speak up on behalf of local communities. This does not happen enough and engagement of local Councillors must not be limited to formal participation in Overview & Scrutiny Committees to respond to consultations.

(a) We recommend that NHS London and PCTs are proactive in approaching local Councillors before and during work to develop local health services: the NHS must have an ongoing dialogue with Overview & Scrutiny Committees (OSCs) to discuss the appropriate level of consultation required.

We do not believe that Londoners, including those working in the NHS, appreciate the impact that the reforms proposed in HfL could have on existing services.

(b) We recommend that the NHS in London overcomes this limited awareness and outlines what action it will take to ensure widespread engagement in future consultations.

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We will meet again in the autumn to examine NHS London's response to these recommendations and the consultation more generally. At that meeting we will look forward to hearing more on the strategy for implementing the reforms that HfL states are essential to ensure the NHS meets London's needs.

# <u>Appendix</u>



# CABINET, 16 APRIL 2008

# 11

# **BUILDING NEW PRIMARY SCHOOLS – CAPITAL PROVISION**

Cabinet had decided, having considered the outcome of the Stage 2 consultation process on 'Building New Primary Schools' reported in November 2007:

- In principle, to rebuild two schools one in South Hornchurch and one in Central Romford, the latter linked to a proposed expansion at Gidea Park Primary School
- In principle, to locate the rebuilt schools on the current Ayloff School and Edwin Lambert School sites
- That in each area, one of the two schools previously identified as linked for 'mergers' should be formally closed (Dunningford School and The Manor School) and integrated with the schools to be rebuilt (Ayloff School and Edwin Lambert School)
- Within that context, it had been agreed to consult further on the closure of the Ayloff School and Edwin Lambert Schools to achieve the desired outcome of two new school buildings integrating in each case two current school communities

A further report was now submitted, giving feed back of the views expressed during, and other outcomes of, that Stage 3 consultation and recommending the way forward.

Cabinet decided to approve the specific proposals for changes to schools as follows:

- (a) Ayloff and Dunningford Schools
  - (i) to close Dunningford Primary School from August 2009 and integrate the school population with the Ayloff School community;
  - (ii) to develop a new school building capable of providing for a 2FE 4 -11 school on the current Ayloff school site for 2010/11;
  - (iii) to relocate the current Ayloff school population to the Dunningford site from 2009 for a temporary period until the new school building is ready for occupation.

# (b) Edwin Lambert and The Manor Primary Schools

- (i) to close The Manor Primary School from August 2009 and integrate the school population with the Edwin Lambert School community;
- (ii) to develop a new school building capable of providing for a 2FE 3 -11 school on the current Edwin Lambert Playing Field site for 2011/12.

(c) to expand Gidea Park Primary School from 1.5 FE to 2 FE from September 2009 linked to the closure of The Manor School in 1(b) above

Authority was also given for the publication of the formal Statutory Notice to enable objections and comments to be submitted in line with the prescribed regulations; and it was noted that a further report would be brought forward on the full extent of the proposed investment and scope of works for Benhurst School once that had been assessed.

Cabinet was invited to consider the Council's Capital Programme for the £20m investment plan now appended, subject to the Council's approval.

Cabinet accordingly agreed to RECOMMEND to the Council that the investment plan set out it in the appendix, be approved.

Building New Primary Schools - Planned Timeline, Costs and Funding						
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Total
Expenditure: -					onwards	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Edwin Lambert/Manor						
New Build (phasing 1%,4% 5%, 60%, 30%)	89	356	445	5,340	2,670	8,900
Edwin Lambert/Manor Total	89	356	445	5,340	2,670	8,900
Ayloff/Dunningford						
Expand Dunningford to accommodate Ayloff pupils		500				500
Demolition of Ayloff		257				257
New Build (phasing 5%, 5%, 60%, 30%) - On Ayloff Site	445	445	5,340	2,670		8,900
Ayloff/Dunningford Total	445	1,202	5,340	2,670	0	9,657
Gidea Park						
Expansion		700	400			1,100
Gidea Park Total	0	700	400	0	0	1,100
Benhurst Capital Improvements					313	313
Total Expenditure	534	2,258	6,185	8,010	2,983	19,970

Fundin	g Plan:	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Total
		£000	£000	£000	£000	onwards £000	£000
Funding:							
	Developer Contributions (Section 106)		(250)	(250)	(250)	(250)	(1,000)
	Devolved Formula Capital for above schools		(180)	(180)	(120)	(40)	(520)
	Gobions Receipts	(1,500)				1,500	0
	Primary Capital Programme - Grant funded			(1,000)	(1,000)	2,000	0
	Primary Capital Programme - LBH funded		(212)	(788)	(1,000)	2,000	0
	Schools Modernisation	(534)	(116)				(650)
		(2,034)	(758)	(2,218)	(2,370)	5,210	(2,170)
Income:							
	Sale of School Sites (net of disposal costs)					(17,800)	(17,800)
		0	0	0	0	(17,800)	(17,800)
	Total Funding and Income:	(2,034)	(758)	(2,218)	(2,370)	(12,590)	(19,970)

Net Funding Gap	(1,500)	1,500	3,967	5,640	(9,607)	0
Cumulative Funding Gap	(1,500)	0	3,967	9,607	0	
Funded by:						
Borrowing			(4,000)	(5,600)	9,600	0
Revenue Cost of Capital Borrowing			400	960		1,360

Assumptions/Notes to Capital Model:

### General

Cost of new build includes fees, contingency and ICT in schools - based on what other authorities have spent recently. Detailed work now needed by Quantitity Surveyors.

The assumption is that once capital receipts are received in 2011/12 onwards they will be used to both repay the principal borrowed (£9.6m) and reinstate the primary capital programme (£5.5m) for the advanced funding provided.

The proposals for meeting the revenue cost of capital borrowing are set out in section 7.2.1 of the main report.

### Edwin Lambert/Manor :

The new merged school will be in operation from September 2009.

The figures for the new build include 15% specifically for furniture & equipment and ICT infrastructure.

It is expected that the new building will be completed for use from 2011/12. The work is set to run one year behind the Ayloff/Dunningford project

to allow for the receipts from the sale of the Dunningford site to aid in the capital funding. Vacant possession of both the Manor and Edwin Lambert sites is therefore expected to be available from 2011/12.

Ayloff/Dunningford : The expansion of Dunningford will be completed so it can accomodate Ayloff pupil's from Sept 2009.

The Ayloff site is therefore expected to be ready for demolition from Summer 2009.

It is expected that the new building will be completed for use from 2010/11.

The figures for the new build include 15% specifically for furniture & equipment and ICT infrastructure.

Vacant possession of the Dunningford site is therefore expected from 2010/11.

Gidea Park

Expanded buildings to be available from 2009/10

בxpanued buildings to be available from 2009/10



# AUDIT COMMITTEE

# **12A**

# ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

# 1. Introduction

This report covers the period April 2007 to April 2008 and outlines:-

- The work of the Audit Committee
- The performance of the authority in key audit matters.

# 2. Background to an Audit Committee

The Audit Committee has been in place for a number of years and has as its terms of reference:

- To consider and monitor the Authority's risk management and internal control environment.
- To focus audit resources.
- To receive and approve the Annual Statement of Accounts.
- To monitor performance of internal and external audit.
- To monitor proactive fraud and corruption arrangements.
- **3.** The Management Structure

Audit Committee	Cllr David Grantham
	Cllr Frederick Thompson
	Cllr Michael Armstrong
	Cllr Gary Adams
	Cllr Roger Ramsey
	Cllr Clarence Barrett
	Cllr Barbara Matthews
	Cllr Mark Stewart

Internal Auditors Internal Service

External Auditors Audit Commission

# 4. Audit Committee Coverage

4.1 The Audit Committee has received the reports as set out in Annex A. The coverage can broadly be categorised as regular and specific. More information on both is set out below.

# 4.2 <u>Regular Work</u>

The Committee has regularly reviewed:

- progress against the audit plan;
- key findings/issues arising from each audit undertaken;
- progress against implementation of the recommendations;
- anti fraud and corruption activity, including frauds identified;
- progress against Audit Commission Audit and Inspection Plan;
- regular reviews of progress against the variance action plans, including the Annual Letter and Statement of Internal Control.

# 4.3 <u>Specific Review/Reports</u>

There were several during the year including:

- undertook a full review of the Risk Management Strategy;
- undertook a full review of the Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy;
- reviewed and approved the annual accounts as well as the findings of the external audit;
- approved the Statement of Internal Control having regard to the work of the Committee;
- agreed the strategy to use for developing the Audit Plan; considered and agreed the Audit Plan;
- reviewed the main information systems;
- received the annual report from Internal Audit;
- reviewed schools audit activity and findings;
- considered options for the Internal Audit Service provision and agreed to maintain an in-house service.

# 5. Key Issues arising

Generally there is good satisfaction with the Internal Audit Service. Previous recommendations made by the Audit Commission to strengthen internal audit have been taken on board and no issues have been raised.

The implementation of recommendations continues to improve and the Committee Members active involvement in requiring explanations of delays has contributed to this.

# 6. Specific training undertaken

The Committee has received dedicated training and awareness as set out in Annex B.

# 7. **Priorities and Plan for the forthcoming year**

A detailed Work Plan has been agreed and will be progressed: see Annex C

# AUDIT COMMITTEE COVERAGE FROM APRIL 2007 TO DATE

# 24<sup>th</sup> April 2007

- Annual Audit and Inspection Letter 2005/06 Audit Commission
- Annual Report on the work of the Audit Committee and Work Plan for 2007/08
- 2005/06 Audit Report of Grant Claims and Returns
- Anti-Money Laundering Policy Statement and Strategy
- Urgent Business

# 27<sup>th</sup> June 2007

- Annual Statement of Accounts 2006/07
- Statement of Internal Control
- Annual Head of Internal Audit Report
- Internal Audit Report
- External Audit 2007/08 Annual Audit and Inspection Plan
- Annual Letter Progress 2004/05
- Annual Letter progress 2005/06
- Urgent Business

# 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007

- Exclusion of the Public
- Chief Executive's Report containing Exempt Information

# 27<sup>th</sup> September 2007

- Audit Commission Annual Governance Report
- Results of the External Audit of Accounts 2006/07
- Internal Audit Report
- Annual Review of Schools Internal Audit 2006/07
- Data Quality Review 2006/07
- Audit & Inspection Annual Letter 2004/05 and 2005/06 Progress
- Urgent Business

# 11<sup>th</sup> December 2007

- Audit Commission Progress Report Audit Commission
- Internal Audit Report
- Annual Review of Anti Fraud and Corruption Arrangements including Whistleblowing Policy
- Annual Review of Risk Management Arrangements
- Adult Social Services Report
- Urgent Business

# 4th March 2008

- Audit Commission Progress Report
- Internal Audit Report
- Internal Audit Charter and Terms of Reference
- Internal Audit Strategy and Plan 2008/09 Audit & Inspection Annual Letter Progress

# AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS TRAINING/AWARENESS

Timescale	Session	Coverage
May/June 2007	Session 1	Statement of Accounts
		What they are
		Purpose
		Key Matters that arise
		Member's role and responsibility
September 2007	Session 2	Housing Benefit Fraud
		What, why, who
		Types of areas
		Preventing/detecting
		Investigating
		Havering position
Dec 2007	Session 3	Risk Management
		An introduction
		Risk Management in Havering
		Identification of Corporate risk
		Audit Committee's role
March 2008	Session 4	Ensuring an Effective Audit Committee

# ANNEX C

# AUDIT COMMITTEE – FORWARD PLAN / TRAINING

FORWARD PLAN	TOPIC	TRAINING
4 <sup>th</sup> March 2008	Agree Audit Plan and Strategy 2008/09	Session on Ensuring an
	Annual Letter Progress	Effective Audit Committee
FEB CMT	<ul> <li>Internal Audit Report, including SIC</li> </ul>	Before Committee
BUSINESS	Audit Commission Progress/work	Audit Commission to deliver
	<ul> <li>Internal Audit Charter and Terms of Reference</li> </ul>	
22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2008	Receive Annual Letter 06/07	Session on new
Check annual	2007/08 Use of Resources Report	Governance
review of ongoing	Annual Letter Progress	Arrangements
recommendations	Annual Grants review	
in place	<ul> <li>Audit Recommendations (detail on oldest)</li> </ul>	
	Annual Report on activity and training	
	Money laundering	
	Whistleblowing	
25 <sup>th</sup> June 2008	Annual Accounts	Session on
	Audit Commission Progress/Work	Annual Accounts
	Audit Commission Annual Plan	
	Annual Report of Internal Audit, including review of Internal Audit effectiveness	
	and direction of travel	
	<ul> <li>Review of Committee against best practice and Toolkit</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Internal Audit Report – including ongoing recommendations/remember</li> </ul>	
	comparative info	
	Statement of Governance to note	
25 <sup>th</sup> September 2008	Audit Commission Progress/Work	Session on Impact of
e	Internal Audit Progress Report	Control Weaknesses
Could be 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Annual Letter Progress 2006/07	Before Committee
	Annual School Report	
	Audit Commission Audit of Accounts etc.	
11-	Annual Review of Anti Fraud/Corruption Arrangements	
9 <sup>th</sup> December 2008	<ul> <li>Annual Review of Risk Management Arrangements</li> </ul>	Session on Fraud
	Audit Commission Progress	and Corruption
CMT	Internal Audit Report covering:	
27 <sup>th</sup> November	* current work, inc fraud	
	* recommendations	

	* provision of Audit Service (due again March)     * compliance with CIPFA Code     * 2008/09 planning     * Pl's
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2009	<ul> <li>Agree Audit Plan and Strategy</li> <li>Annual Letter Progress</li> <li>Annual Grants Performance</li> <li>Audit Commission Progress/work</li> <li>Internal Audit report</li> <li>Internal Audit Charter and Terms of Reference</li> </ul>
21 <sup>st</sup> April 2009 Check annual review of ongoing recommendations in place	<ul> <li>Review of Committee against Best practice and Toolkit.</li> <li>Agree Committee/Annual Report and Work Plan</li> <li>Receive Annual Letter 07/08</li> <li>Audit Commission Progress/Plan?</li> <li>Money laundering Review</li> <li>Whistleblowing</li> <li>Audit Strategy if necessary</li> </ul>

**NB** : Annual Report to Council after May each year unless election September Committee needs to be mid September given publication



# **PENSIONS COMMITTEE**



# ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

# INTRODUCTION

The Havering Pension Fund provides benefits to Council employees (except teachers). The performance of the Fund impacts on the cost of Council services through the cost of employer contributions. It is therefore beneficial to issue an Annual Report to all Council Members on the Havering Pension Fund and the work of the Pensions Committee.

This report covers the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 and outlines:

- The work of the Pensions Committee
- Key issues arising during the course of the year

The financial position of the Havering Pension Fund and the performance of the Pension fund investments feature as part of the formal report of the Fund itself, which is prepared later in the year.

# BACKGROUND TO THE PENSION FUND

The Council is an administering Authority under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations and as such invests employee and employer contributions into a Fund in order to pay pension benefits to scheme members. The Fund is called the Havering Pension Fund.

The value of the Fund as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 was £366m. This was invested in equities in listed companies both in the UK and overseas, fixed interest securities, property funds and cash.

The Council sets the overall investment strategy of the Fund and monitors performance of five different managers (who have specific mandates) against an agreed performance in relation to an agreed benchmark. The Council had delegated this responsibility to the Pensions Committee.

# THE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Pensions Committee during 2007/08

Cllr Melvin Wallace (Chairman) Cllr Roger Ramsey (Vice Chairman)

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Cllr David Charles – replaced by Cllr Benham Cllr Robby Misir Cllr Clarence Barrett Cllr Linda van den Hende

Non voting Union Members: Brian Long (Unison) Michael Parker (TGWU)

The terms of reference are:

- To consider and agree the investment strategy and statement of investment principles for the pension fund
- To authorise the invitation of tenders and the award of contracts for actuaries, advisers and fund managers or other related investment matters (where not covered by existing delegation arrangements)
- To appoint and review the performance of advisers and investment managers for Council and pension fund investments
- To take decisions on those matters not to be the responsibility of the Cabinet under the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities)(England) Regulations 2000 relating to those matters concerning pensions made under Regulations set out in Sections 7, 12 or 24 of the Superannuation Act 1972

Fund Actuary	Hewitt Bacon & Woodrow
Auditors	Audit Commission
Custodians	State Street Global Assets
Investment Managers	Standard Life Investments (UK Equities) Royal London Asset Management (Investment Bonds) Western/Citigroup (Global High Yield Bonds) Alliance Bernstein Institutional Investors (Global Equities) UBS (Property)
Investment Advisers	Hymans Robertson
Legal Advisers	London Borough of Havering Legal Services provide legal advice as necessary (specialist advice is procured as necessary)
Performance Measurement	WM Company

# PENSION COMMITTEE DATES

The Committee met a number of times and Annex A sets out the coverage. In addition, the Committee had the first meeting of a cycle of meetings to review the investment strategy.

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# TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Training and development took place over the year to ensure that Members of the Committee were fully briefed in the decisions they were taking. (Annex B) This covered:

- Interpretation of Monitoring Reports
- Overview of Strategy decisions
- Understanding Actuarial results
- Preparing for an Investment Strategy Review

A training and Development Plan is in place for 2008/09.

# **KEY ISSUES ARISING IN THE PERIOD**

• Communication Strategy and Governance Policy

In line with the 1997 Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) regulations the London Borough of Havering as an administering authority has undertaken an annual review of the Pension Fund's Communication Strategy and Governance Policy.

# • Whistleblowing Requirements of the Pensions Act

An annual review was undertaken.

 Review of Statement of Investment Principles and Funding Strategy Statement

The process of a fundamental review has commenced in the light of the Actuarial results.

• Annual Report for Members of the Fund

This was reviewed and approved for distribution.

- Reviewed performance of Advisers, Custodians and Actuary
- Commenced a new contract for Investment Advice
- Considered performance of Pensions Administration Service
- Received the results of the Actuarial Review

# PLAN FOR 2008/09

A plan has been prepared along with associated training. See Annex C

JUNE 2007	<ul> <li>Pension Fund Performance Monitoring for the quarter Ending 31 March 2007</li> </ul>
	Circulation of Report on the Work of the Investment Committee
	Performance of the Pensions Administration Service 2006/07
SEPTEMBER 2007	Pension Fund Performance Monitoring for the Quarter Ending 30 June 2007
	Statement of Accounts – Year Ended 31 March 2007
NOVEMBER 2007	Annual Review of Custodian
	• Report to Pensioners and Contributors of the Pension fund 2006-2007
	Review of the Investment Adviser
	Review of the Actuary
	Review of the Pension Fund's Communication Strategy and
	Governance Policy
	Whistleblowing Report
DECEMBER 2007	Results of Actuarial Review
	Investment Managers Report
	Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to End of September 2007
FEBRUARY 2008	Investment Strategy Review
MARCH 2008	Annual Report of the Committee 2007/08 and Annual Plan and
	Training Programme 2008/09
	Pension Fund Performance Monitoring for the Quarter Ended 31 <sup>st</sup>
	December 2008
1	

# PENSIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER INFORMAL TRAINING 2007/08

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	ATTENDED BY
26 June 2007	<ul> <li>Informal training by Investment Advisor (Hymans) doing:</li> <li>Interpretation of monitoring report</li> </ul>	Before Committee meeting at the Town Hall	Cllr Wallace Cllr Misir Cllr Barrett Cllr Ramsey (last half hour)
20 September 2007	<ul> <li>Informal training by Investment Advisor (Hymans) doing:</li> <li>Overview of Strategy Decisions</li> </ul>	Before Committee meeting at the Town Hall	Cllr Wallace Cllr Barrett
19 November 2007	All members sent a copy of 'Trustee Guide 2008' published by Engaged Investor magazine.	Via email	All
18 December 2007	<ul> <li>Training by Actuaries (Hewitts):</li> <li>Understanding Actuarial Results</li> </ul>	Before Committee meeting at the Town Hall	Cllr Wallace Cllr Benham Cllr Misir Cllr Ramsey
12 February 2008	<ul> <li>Training by Hymans:</li> <li>Preparation for Investment Strategy Review – Asset Liability Modelling and Structure modelling process explained.</li> </ul>	Pensions Committee (Special Meeting)	Cllr Wallace Cllr Van den Hende Cllr Benham Cllr Misir Cllr Ramsey (attended for some of the session)

### PENSION FUND INVESTMENT MANAGERS MEETINGS AND COVERAGE

	18 MARCH 2008	1 JULY 2008	25 SEPTEMBER 2008	13 NOVEMBER 2008	16 DECEMBER 2008	17 MARCH 2009 (check 19 May is needed)
Formal Committees with Members	<ul> <li>Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to end of December:         <ul> <li>a) UK Equities Manager</li> <li>b) UK Bonds Manager</li> <li>c) Property</li> </ul> </li> <li>Annual Training Plan and Work Plan Review inc work of Committee</li> <li>Report taking on board reg changes for:         <ul> <li>* Flexible retirements</li> <li>* Banding options</li> </ul> </li> <li>Response to consultation on Admitted Body Provisions</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to March inc.         <ul> <li>a) Global Equities Manager</li> <li>b) Global Higher Yielding Bonds Manager</li> </ul> </li> <li>Annual Report on activity of Pensions Admin</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to end of June:         <ul> <li>a) UK Equities Manager</li> <li>b) UK Bonds Manager</li> </ul> </li> <li>Pension Fund Accounts inc annual report requirements (i) then on to Council (?)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Annual review of Custodian</li> <li>Pension Fund leaflet</li> <li>Annual review of Adviser</li> <li>Annual review of Actuary</li> <li>Review of Communications/ Governance Policies</li> <li>General report on Panel Activity; IDRP policy; discretions – 100 weeks only – 100 weeks done verbally</li> <li>Whistleblowing Annual Assessment</li> <li>Administration Strategy (regs change) if necessary</li> <li>Stakeholder/ Regs review on pensions as required</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to end of September inc.         <ul> <li>a) Global Equities Manager</li> <li>b)Global Higher Yielding Bonds Manager</li> <li>c) Property</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to end of December:         <ul> <li>a) UK Equities Manager</li> <li>b) UK Bonds Manager</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Officer Meeting	<ul> <li>Global Equities</li> <li>Global High Yield Bond Manager</li> <li>Meeting : 7 Feb 08 (pm)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Advisor Review</li> <li>UK equities</li> <li>UK Bonds</li> <li>Property</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Global Equities Manager</li> <li>Global High Yield Bond Manager</li> <li>WM presentation</li> </ul>	No meeting	<ul> <li>UK Equities</li> <li>UK Bonds Manager</li> <li>Meeting: 6<sup>th</sup> Nov 08 (am)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Global Equities</li> <li>Global High Yield Bond Manager</li> <li>Meeting: 10 Feb 09 (pm)</li> </ul>
		Meeting: 7 May 08 (pm)	Meeting: 6 Aug 08 (am)			

Note:

Investment Strategy, FSS and SIP are subject to a review outside of the routine coverage


# ADULT SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 8 occasions (including 3 special meetings) and dealt with the following issues:

#### 1. BUDGETARY ISSUES

1.1 The Committee met in January and considered the aspects of the Council's budget that fall within its remit. Pressures on the level of Council Tax were considered – both locally and on a national basis such as the low grant settlement awarded from central Government.

1.2 Specific budget areas considered by the Committee included proposed savings from budget control and performance management. It was noted that savings would be achieved in connection with direct payments without compromising customer care.

#### 2. SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUPS

#### 2.1. PERSONALISED CARE

2.1.1 This Group comprises Councillor Jeff Brace (chairman), Councillor Pat Mylod, Councillor June Alexander, Councillor Pam Light and Councillor Chris Fox.

2.1.2 The group have so far met on one occasion and have agreed the scope of their review, which is to examine the process of personalised care and the services provided by the Council for its customers.

2.1.3 The group will continue its review in the new municipal year.

#### 3. OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED

3.1. Requisition: Report on the provision of Meals on Wheels Service – In July 2007, the Committee considered a requisition of the Cabinet's decision to raise the price of Meals on Wheels. The Committee raised concerns regarding the reliability of comparative data received and the lack of consultation with the service users. The Committee discussed the issues and decided not to uphold the requisition in this instance.

**12C** 

3.2 Requisition: Provision of Residential and Day Care Services. In April 2008, the Committee considered a requisition of the Cabinet report concerning the future provision of residential and day care services in Havering and the outcome of the tendering process. The Committee noted that the tender process for the two remaining older persons' homes, Elmhurst Lodge and Winifred Whittingham House had been unsuccessful and that Cabinet now wished to consult on the future of the homes. The Committee considered the information provided and raised concerns regarding the possible closure of the two units. The Committee also considered however that the levels of expenditure required to invest in both properties would need to be reviewed. By a majority vote, the requisition was not upheld and the consultation process would therefore proceed.

3.3. Adult Protection – At its meeting in July 2007, the Committee received a presentation from the Head of the Safeguarding Adults Team on the roles and responsibilities of the team. It was reported that there has been an improvement in the reporting of incidents. It was noted that training of staff and further awareness of safeguarding issues have enabled improved recording and reporting protocols.

3.4 Implications of the Mental Capacity Act – Members received in November 2007 a presentation on the Mental Capacity Act. The presentation gave overview of the 2005 Act and explained the definitions of how mental capacity was defined and assessed. The Committee also noted the functions of advocates in this regard and their role in dealing with Local Authorities and the NHS.

3.5 Concessionary Travel Schemes – Members received in November 2007, a presentation on the various concessionary travel schemes in operation in the borough. It was noted that a number of different schemes covered the mobility components of the Disability Living Allowance and of the Freedom Pass system.

3.6 Adult Social Services Complaints Annual Report 2006/07 – At its meeting in November 2007, the Committee considered the number and nature of complaints made to Adult Services and how these were responded to. It was noted that complaints were being dealt with effectively. The Committee also noted the proposal for changing the way level 2 complaints were dealt with by the Council.

3.7 Home Care Modernisation – At its meeting in February 2008, the Committee received a presentation regarding the latest developments in the move towards the use of swipe-cards for home care visits. Members were advised that individuals would be assessed on their own needs and that the development of a new electronic system replacing the paper based system would provide a better service. Various proposals were explained to improve the service.

3.8 Supporting People and the Royal Jubilee Court Stepdown Project – At its meeting in March 2008, the Committee received a briefing on developments and programmes currently undertaken by the Supporting People team. A number of services were introduced by the Supporting People team such as Older People's Mobile Support Services and Older People Actively Living. These services aim to promote healthy living and access to lifelong learning as well as provide activities to promote wellbeing.



# CHILDREN'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 12D

### **ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08**

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 6 occasions (including 1 special meeting) and dealt with the following issues:

#### 1. BUDGETARY ISSUES

In January 2008, the Committee received an oral presentation from the Cabinet Member for Resources, outlining ways the Council promoted Financial Efficiency and Value for Money on services.

Specific budgetary issues included: a short fall in revenue from school meals, the need for new school buildings and improved general support for young people.

#### 2. SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUPS

#### 2.1 Enabling All Children Access To Education

2.1.1 This group comprised Councillor Gillian Ford, Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson, Councillor Mark Gadd, Councillor Jonathon Coles, Paul Sainsbury and Martin Staines (co-opted members of the Committee). The group reviewed the educational problems faced by children with learning disabilities, looked after children and disengaged youth. The parameters of the group covered education, social welfare and health.

2.1.2 The topic group examined different areas of educational provision for children in the Havering area. Primarily the work centred on children with special educational needs due to a variety of factors including children with behavioural difficulties and those for whom the Council is their 'corporate parent'. The group considered how children in these circumstances could better access education in Havering. The topic group looked at procedures, structures and provision, communication issues and examples of good practice.

2.1.3 The group's report was noted by the Committee at its meeting in September 2007 and was adopted by Cabinet at its meeting in November 2007.

#### 2.2 Review of the Impact and Implementation of the New Diploma Scheme.

2.2.1 The Members of this group were Councillor Lesley Kelly, Councillor Keith Darvill, Sue Kortlandt and Rhonda Ware (co-opted members of the Committee). The group was supported by Sue Allen (Pupil and Student Services), Ruth Jenkins (Children's Social Services), and Richard Foot (Educational Psychologist). The Specialised Diploma Scheme is about learning a range of skills and knowledge set within a specialised context for specific employment sectors and by doing so providing learning relevant to industry. The Diploma is designed principally for 14 -19 year olds and will be available for each of 14 specified employment sectors.

2.2.2 The topic group's work centred on assessing how the diploma had been introduced in pilot areas and considered what could be learnt from this for Havering in view of difficulties with the Council's previous bid to run lines of the Diploma. The group made a fact finding visit to Stevenage which was a pilot area for the diploma and had discussions with the teachers and officers involved in diploma introduction there.

2.2.3 The group's report was adopted by the Committee at its meeting in September 2007. The report was adopted by Cabinet at its meeting in November 2007. Council confirmed the nomination of a Member Champion for the diploma (a recommendation of this topic group) at its meeting in May 2008.

#### 2.3 Review of Looked After Children White Paper

2.3.1 This topic group is chaired by Councillor Jonathan Coles and includes co-opted members Paul Sainsbury and Rhonda Ware. The topic group is supported by Maurice Emberson, Head of Children's Social Services and Jonathon Pearce, Quality Assurance Unit Manager, Children's Services. The scope of the review is to look at the implications of the Looked After Children White Paper and establish the readiness of Havering for the White Paper.

2.3.2 The topic group have met on four occasions and discussed various issues relating to the White Paper. The topic group have prepared a set of proposals for spending an allocated budget to meet the requirements of the White Paper. The topic group have also assessed the potential cost and level of preparedness for the implications of the White Paper. The group will continue its review in the new municipal year.

#### 2.4 Review of Rollout of Surestart and Havering Children's Centres

2.4.1 This topic group is chaired by Councillor Keith Darvill and comprises Councillors Gillian Ford and Wendy Brice-Thompson. The topic group is supported by Sue Allen, Head of Pupil & Student Services and Sarah Metcalf, Children's Services Manager.

2.4.2 The scope of the review is to examine the current and planned provision of Children's Centres within Havering and how the Centres are operating in relation to best practice elsewhere. The topic group have met on two occasions and have also visited the Northern Children's Centre in Basildon and Early Start Little Ilford's Susan

Lawrence Centre in Ilford. The group has also visited the Ingreboure Children's Centre in Harold Hill and held detailed discussions with the staff there.

2.2.3 The group will continue its review in the new municipal year.

#### 3. OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED

3.1 Primary Review Consultation - At its meeting in June 2007, the Committee noted a report on the primary review consultation. Members had the opportunity to examine the proposed changes to primary provision and to express views regarding those changes for consideration by Cabinet.

3.2 Children's Workforce Strategy – At its meeting in June 2007, the Committee considered a report regarding progress in relation to the Local Children's Workforce Strategy. The report provided an update on the progress made in relation to the implementation of the Children's Workforce Strategy within Havering over the past twelve months.

3.3 School Support Levels – The Committee in June 2007, received a report regarding school support levels. The report guided Members on how the Authority worked with schools to enhance pupils' learning and to improve the overall quality of provision. The Committee also discussed the role of School Improvement Partners, the identification of School Support Levels and the level and nature of support given to schools.

3.4 Safeguarding Children Annual Report – At the June 2007 meeting, the Committee considered the Safeguarding Children Annual Report . The report highlighted the lack of priority status given to Safeguarding Children. Members noted the report.

3.5 Children with Disabilities - The Committee considered in June 2007, a report on Children with Disabilities, which detailed the legislation and guidance underpinning services for children with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities. The report outlined key areas of service and support being provided across Children's Services, with particular focus on early years, education, social work support and transition into adulthood.

3.6 Requisition : Havering Schools adoption of Trust Status – At its meeting in September 2007, the Committee considered a requisition regarding Cabinet's decision to adopt the policy statement on School Trusts and instructed officers to actively engage with schools in encouraging and shaping diversity. The Committee considered the risks associated with the Policy Statement after questioning the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Director of Children's Services. After a discussion and vote, the Committee decided that the requisition not be upheld.

3.7 Requisition: School Uniform Grants – At its meeting in March 2007, the Committee considered a requisition regarding Cabinet's decision on uniform grant policy change to provide a grant only in exceptional circumstances. The Committee considered the impact of this decision on school children and the risks associate with the policy. By a majority vote, the requisition was upheld.

3.8 School Uniform Awards – The Committee in November 2007, noted a report on Cabinet's decision that from 1 April 2007, the Council's policy on entitlement of a parent or guardian to obtain a uniform award for their child should be changed from one based on eligibility for income support or working families tax credit to one determined by exceptional circumstances.

3.9 Funding for Deprivation – The Committee in November 2007, received a report on the impact of deprivation on pupils' attainment in Havering. It was noted that funding was to be allocated to fill the gap between the attainment of pupils from deprived backgrounds and of their peers as well as raising the achievement level for children from deprived backgrounds.

3.10 Requisition: Building New Primary Schools – The Committee considered on separate occasions two requisitions regarding the proposal to replace two current primary schools and build a single new school. Following Members' discussion and debate both requisitions were not upheld.



# CORPORATE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**12E** 

# ANNUAL REPORT 2007/08

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 9 occasions (including 2 special meeting) and dealt with the following issues:

#### 1. BUDGETARY ISSUES

- 1.1 The Committee met in January and considered the aspects of the Council's budget that fall within its remit. Pressures on the level of Council tax were considered, both locally and on a national basis, for example, pressures arising from the 2012 Olympics.
- 1.2 Specific budget areas considered by the Committee included the reduced income generated from the commercial properties owed by the Council. Budgets set for improved safety and development plans in the Borough. Due to tight budget constraints, Members noted the plans set for making savings within the Council.

#### 2. SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUPS

The work of the topic groups that have been established is summarised below.

#### 2.1. REVIEW OF COUNCIL COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- 2.1.1 This Group was chaired by Councillor Clarence Barrett and comprises Councillors Robert Benham, Robby Misir, Ray Morgon and Melvin Wallace.
- 2.1.2 The scope of the Group was to review the complaints monitoring information available to Members and to determine methods of making the Council's complaints procedure more visible to customers.
- 2.1.3 The Group met on four occasions including visits to London Borough of Barking & Dagenham and to Thurrock District Council. These visits afforded the group an invaluable opportunity to view the complaints systems in other Councils and to meet with Members and officers directly involved in the complaints process.

2.1.4 The Group's report was accepted by the committee at its meeting in May 2007. The report was presented to Cabinet in December 2007 and was referred back to the Adjudication & Review Committee at its meeting in March 2008. The committee accepted the report with minor changes.

#### 2.2. REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S EMERGENCY PLAN – Phase Two

- 2.2.1 This Topic Group comprised Councillor's Robby Misir as the Chairman, Melvin Wallace, Robert Benham and Fred Osborne.
- 2.2.2 The scope of the review was to consider the Borough Emergency Control Centre (BECC) provision in Havering and consider the Communications Strategy for Emergencies.
- 2.2.3 The Topic Group considered various options to base the BECC during its review and concluded that it was unable to establish a location for a BECC. Members were generally pleased with their findings, and therefore decided to formally end the review without recommendations to Cabinet in this instance.
- 2.3.4 A report was presented to the Committee at its meeting in March 2008 stating that the Topic Group had achieved its aims and wished to conclude the review. The Committee noted the report.

#### 2.3 REVIEW OF SCIMITAR HOUSE

- 2.3.1 Members of this Topic Group were Councillors Robby Misir (Chairman), Robert Benham, Melvin Wallace and Linda Hawthorn.
- 2.3.2 The Group aimed to examine the relocation of Council staff into Central Romford. The Topic Group met on three occasions and reviewed the current capacity within Scimitar House and considered issues around the policy of centralising the majority of Council staff in Romford Town centre.
- 2.3.3 The Topic Group established that the Office Property Strategy and developments of staff accommodation generally were moving in the right direction and that relevant issues were being addressed. The Group decided therefore to end the review and at its meeting in November 2007, the Committee noted the Topic Group's report concurring that it had achieved its aim and that no further action was required.

#### 2.4 REVIEW OF THE VOTE COUNT PROCESS IN HAVERING

- 2.4.1 This Topic Group, Chaired by Councillor Ray Morgon and comprises Councillors Fred Osborne, Linda Hawthorn, Robert Benham and Melvin Wallace (Co-optee).
- 2.4.2 The aim of the Topic Group is to examine the count process currently adopted by Havering Council. The Group has so far met on two occasions and have considered the advantages and disadvantages of same day counting and whether the count should be held on a Friday.

2.4.3 The Topic Group aims to conduct a survey amongst the 54 Councillors in Havering to seek their opinions regarding the count being held on a Friday, instead of on the same day as the election. The Topic Group will continue its review into the new Municipal Year.

#### 2.5 FAIRTRADE VENDING

- 2.5.1 In June 2007, the Committee received a presentation on the possibility of Havering becoming a Fairtrade Borough. It was noted that the current supplier of the vending drink machines does not supply Fairtrade products and therefore a change of supplier would be required.
- 2.5.2 The Committee received a demonstration on the alternative vending machines, products and its cost factors. Following trialling the Fairtrade products it was found that the vending machines proved more complex to maintain, the product range was thought inferior and an additional cost of approximately 14p per serving was incurred.
- 2.5.3 This extra serving cost was estimated as the equivalent £3,575 per annum that would need to be borne by the Departmental budget holder or customer. For this reason and in the absence of an additional budget it was agreed that Fairtrade products <u>not</u> be introduced into Council facilities.

#### 3. OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED

- 3.1 The Committee noted a report on Localism and Strengthening Local Government at its meeting in September 2007. The report contained details on the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill and the Sustainable Communities Bill and their anticipated impact on Havering.
- 3.2 In October 2007, the Committee considered a requisition of Cabinet's decision relating to the Adult Social Services budget. The requisition was based on the additional investment budget proposed for Adult Social Services. Members of the Committee challenged the requisition on the grounds of its lack of clarity on the reasons for the additional investment. The requisition was not therefore upheld.
- 3.3 The Committee considered a requisition of Cabinet's decision to dispose of seven sites within the Borough in November 2007. Members of the committee raised issues regarding lack of Member and public consultation. Following discussion and debate, the requisition was not upheld.
- 3.4 Also in November 2007, the Committee considered a requisition of Cabinet's decision regarding pursuit of additional income through the licensing of advertising on Council assets. Members of the Committee challenged the requisition on the grounds of its unclear financial implications. Following a discussion of the issues, the requisition was not upheld.

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Annual Report 2008



# CRIME & DISORDER COMMITTEE



# **ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08**

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 5 occasions and dealt with the following issues:

#### **1. SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUPS**

#### **1.1 Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**

1.1.1 The topic group is chaired by Councillor Lesley Kelly and comprises Councillors Jeff Brace, John Mylod, Frederick Thompson, Linda Ven Den Hende and David Grantham.

1.1.2 The group have met on five occasions and have also undertaken a visit to a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme at London Borough of Redbridge. The scope of the review is to scrutinise Havering Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and recommend improvements.

1.1.3 The group have concluded its review and have prepared a draft report which will be finalised at its next meeting early in the new municipal year.

#### **1.2 Alcohol Control Zone**

1.2.1 At its meeting on 5 December 2007, Council requested that the Committee investigate the practicalities of extending the Romford Town Centre Alcohol Control Zone to other centres within the Borough. This measure is under the auspices of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006. Hence a joint topic group was established by the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Crime & Disorder Committee.

1.2.2 The topic group was set up by the Committees in February 2008, is chaired by Councillor Lesley Kelly and comprises Councillors Frederick Thompson, John Mylod, Sandra Binion, Andy Mann and Pam Light.

1.2.3 The topic group have met on two occasions and have also toured the Hornchurch and Central Romford areas with the Police Borough Commander in order to view the Alcohol Control Zone in operation and to consider its possible extensions. The Group is due to meet to finalise its recommendations in the new municipal year.

#### 2. OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED

2.1. Safer Neighbourhood Teams –The Committee received in June 2007, a presentation from Inspector John Fish of Havering Police regarding the work and role of safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs). It was explained how the introduction of SNTs have enabled a reduction in crime levels in the borough. Members also learnt about the role of the SNT Police Community Support Officers.

2.2. Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) – At its meeting in September 2007, the Committee received a presentation from the local MPA member on the work and responsibilities of the Authority. It was noted that the MPA successfully works with the Community Safety Partnership to provide a safer borough to the community. Issues around high levels of fear of crime in Havering were also discussed.

2.3 Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) – At its meeting in November 2007, the Committee received a presentation from Chris Farrimond of SOCA on the agency's role. It was noted that the SOCA Act 2005 brought together specialist staff from the National Crime Squad, National Criminal Intelligence Service, HM Revenue & Customs and various unique policing elements. The presentation outlined the strategies of SOCA and its targets on reducing levels of serious crimes.

2.4 Community Safety Team – At its meeting in November 2007, the Committee received a presentation from the Community Safety Manager on the role and responsibilities of the Community Safety Team. It was explained that the team develop, implement, monitor and evaluate local community safety initiatives and projects. The team also operate victim support for elderly and vulnerable residents and give advice on home security. The Committee also received a summary of the budgetary position for the Community Safety Team.

2.5 Police Borough Commander - At its meeting in February 2008, the Police Borough Commander gave a presentation on borough performance in the last 12 months. The Committee noted significant crime reduction levels and increased detection rates. Local and service wide Police policies were outlined and the Police's involvement with 'Every Child Matters' was explained to Members.



### CULTURE & REGENERATION OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

# **12G**

# ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 7 occasions (including 1 special meeting) and dealt with the following issues:

#### 1. BUDGETARY ISSUES

- 1.1 In January 2008, the Committee received an oral presentation from the Cabinet Member for Resources outlining ways the Council promoted financial efficiency and value for money on services.
- 1.2 Members were advised that an additional £50,000 has been provided for Parks & Open Spaces and that a £40,000 increase in income had been due to an upgrade in the Council's Sports Pitches.

#### 2. SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUPS

# 2.1 Review of Council's Influence on Public Transport Operators Topic Group

- 2.1.1 The Members of this Topic Group were Councillor Mark Gadd (Chairman), Councillor Linda Hawthorn, Councillor Ray Morgon, Councillor John Clark and Councillor Lesley Kelly. Councillor Sandra Binion was a Co-opted Member on this topic group.
- 2.1.2 The topic group met on six occasions and reviewed the opportunities and parameters for improving public transport in Havering. The group examined the current transport facilities available in Havering and discussed issues around public transport and ways to improve the system in the borough.
- 2.1.3 At its meeting in September 2007, the Committee noted the topic group's report. The report was adopted by Cabinet at its meeting in October 2007.

#### 2.2 Review of Music Facilities Topic Group

2.2.1 The Members of this Topic Group were Councillor John Clark – Chairman, Councillor Lynden Thorpe and Councillor Robert Benham. The Topic Group was actively supported by Mark Etherington, Arts Co-ordinator and Isobel Liebman, the Head of the Havering Music School.

- 2.2.2 The Topic Group met five times this last municipal year to examine music facilities in Havering and strategies for maximising community awareness and wellbeing through participation in music.
- 2.2.3 Within the review the Topic Group identified the current music facilities provided in the borough. The Topic Group sought to provide music to families and adults as well as to children. Members were impressed with the topic group's achievements with building partnerships with voluntary organisations to organise music events in the borough. Throughout the review, the topic group was assisted by the Head of the Music School and Members learnt about developments regarding the school.
- 2.2.4 At its meeting on 30 April 2008, the Culture & Regeneration Overview & Scrutiny Committee noted the Topic Group's report. The Committee agreed that the report would not be referred to Cabinet as its overall recommendations were to be noted only.

#### 2.3 Heritage in Havering Topic Group

- 2.3.1 The Members of this Topic Group are Councillors Clarence Barrett Chairman, Lesley Kelly, Ray Morgon and Linda Hawthorn.
- 2.3.2 The scope of the review is to promote local history and heritage and increase community focus. Within this, the Topic Group aims to develop a Heritage in Havering directory and initiate a Heritage in Havering Day. The Topic Group have so far met on two occasions and Members also undertook a tour of the heritage buildings owned by the Council in April 2008.
- 2.3.3 The group is due to meet in the new municipal year to agree recommendations for its final report.

#### 3. OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED

- 3.1 Regeneration Service and the Local Development Framework The Committee noted a report on the regeneration strategy, which embraced transport, environmental sustainability, mineral extraction and waste management. Key opportunities across the borough were identified as were areas where communities were expected to grow during the next few years. Members were informed about plans to create new employment opportunities and how future developments would seek to integrate work and residential homes in the same location.
- 3.2 Culture Strategy The Committee received an oral report on the strategies that would gain maximum advantage for Havering from:
  - Town Centre Developments
  - Olympic and Paralympics Games in 2012
  - Local Development Framework policies
  - Havering Culture Forum

Delivering the strategies will involve looking at refurbishing and redevelopment of libraries, improving arts provision, sports developments, providing parks

and open spaces and promoting and celebrating heritage and history through building a Havering museum.

3.3 Hornchurch Sports Centre – Members raised concerns regarding customer dissatisfaction following a survey conducted at the sports centre. Issues regarding service at the sports centre and use of its facilities were discussed.



# ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 7 occasions with one special meeting and dealt with the following issues:

#### 1. BUDGETARY ISSUES

1.1 The Committee met in January and considered the aspects of the Council's budget that fall within its remit. Pressures on the level of Council Tax were considered due to the low grant settlement received from central Government.

1.2 Specific budget areas considered by the Committee included the extension of Upminster Cemetery, improvements being made in tree maintenance to enhance the pruning programme and the Green Waste scheme. Other budget pressures discussed included recycling rates, graffiti removal issues and waste efficient grant income.

#### 2. SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUPS

#### 2.1. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

2.1.1 This group is chaired by Councillor Gary Adams and comprises Councillors Sandra Binion, Dennis Bull and Andrew Mann.

2.1.2 The scope of the Group is to scrutinise the adoption of a sustainable energy policy in Havering. The Group has met on four occasions and looked at what the borough does well in delivering sustainable energy and improvements that could be delivered by the Council investing in sustainable energy.

2.1.3 The group is currently in the process of drafting its final report that will be submitted to the Committee in the new municipal year.

#### 2.2 INGREBOURNE VALLEY

2.2.1 This group was chaired by Councillor Sandra Binion and comprises Councillors Dennis Bull, Steve Whittaker, Roger Evans and Andy Mann.

2.2.2 The scope of the group was to review the progress made in the area covered by the Ingrebourne Valley Land Nature Reserve and to raise the profile of the Ingrebourne Valley in Havering. The Topic Group met on three occasions and Members visited the Ingrebourne Valley site during the course of the review.

2.2.3 The topic group's report was accepted by the Committee at its meeting on 6 May 2008. The report will be submitted to Cabinet in the new municipal year.

#### 2.3 CCTV SMART CAR

2.3.1 At Council on 6 February 2008, it was agreed that as a result of the volume of complaints from residents concerning the issuing of penalty tickets by the CCTV Smart Car, the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee would carry out a review of the car's operation.

2.3.2 The topic group is chaired by Councillor Sandra Binion and comprises Councillors Andy Mann, Gary Adams, Steve Whittaker, Roger Evans and Dennis Bull.

2.3.3 The group have so far met on two occasions to review the success and impact of the Smart Car in the Borough. Members of the topic group have gone out in the smart car individually to experience the CCTV car in operation. The group will continue its review during the new municipal year.

#### 2.4 ALCOHOL CONTROL ZONE

2.4.1 At its meeting on 5 December 2007, Council requested that the Committee investigate the practicalities of extending the Romford Town Centre Alcohol Control Zone to other centres within the Borough. This measure is under the auspices of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006. Hence a joint topic group was established by the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Crime & Disorder Committee.

2.4.2 The topic group is chaired by Councillor Lesley Kelly and comprises Councillors Sandra Binion, Andy Mann, Frederick Thompson, Pam Light and John Mylod.

2.4.3 The topic group have met on two occasions. They have also toured the Hornchurch and Central Romford areas with the Police Borough Commander in order to view the Alcohol Control Zone in operation and to consider its possible extension. The Group is due to meet to finalise its recommendations in the new municipal year.

#### 3. OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED

3.1 Requisition: Parking Management Strategy - The Committee considered in June 2007 a requisition of a decision by Cabinet concerning the parking management strategy. Cabinet considered a proposed strategy to improve parking services, covering off-street parking (car parks), on-street parking and parking enforcement. Aspects of the decision were considered by the Committee including the perceived lack of consultation, the impact of the car park charges on the local shopping areas as well as the effect on small businesses and on local residents. By a majority vote the requisition was not upheld.

3.2 Highway Obstructions - The Committee considered in September 2007 a report following on from the Council's motion asking the Committee to consider the impact on small businesses of clearing roads and streets of obstructions such as advertising boards, sales goods and building materials etc. The Committee noted that any action taken to clear the obstructions was in accordance with the Streetcare Enforcement Policy.

3.3 River Management & Maintenance – At its meeting in September 2007, the Committee was presented with a report on the management and maintenance of rivers and watercourses that run through the Borough. The report outlined the responsibilities of the Drainage Authroity and Environment Agency to maintain and ensure efficient passage of flood flow and manage water levels.

3.4 Environmental Health Performance Indicators - The Committee noted the progress towards achieving the previously agreed 2007/08 targets for the Environmental Health Service's performance indicators.

3.5 Recipe for Safe Food in Havering – At its meeting in November 2007, the Committee received and noted a presentation that highlighted the activities of the Food Safety team in Havering.

3.6 Trading Standards: The Way Forward – In March 2008, the Committee received and noted a presentation from the Trading Standards Manager on the vision and structure of the Trading Standards team and its activities.



# HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

# **12**

### ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 6 occasions (including 1 special meeting) and dealt with the following issues:

#### 1. CORRESPONDENCE WITH HEALTH TRUSTS

- 1.1 A principal method of working for the Committee has continued to be the exchange of correspondence of health scrutiny matters with local health Trusts. In excess of 60 letters have been undertaken this year, principally with the three Health Trusts covering this Borough Havering Primary Care Trust (PCT) Barking, Havering and Redbridge Hospitals' NHS Trust (BHRT) and North East London Mental Health Trust (NELMHT).
- 1.2 A wide range of issues have been covered ranging from fire procedures at Queen's Hospital to readiness for an influenza pandemic and a number of issues relating to diabetes services. All letters sent are copied to each member of the Committee as are any responses received and this has proved an effective method of gaining information and of the Committee learning about the quality of local health services.
- 1.3 Responses from the Health Trusts have remained variable throughout the year and, in general terms, somewhat slower than the Committee requires. It should be noted that responses from BHRT have improved in both their speed and quality since the arrival of a new Chief Executive and Chairman in late 2007.

#### 2. QUEEN'S HOSPITAL ISSUES

2.1 The Committee placed great emphasis this year on investigating reported problems and issues relating to Queen's Hospital in Romford. A large number of issues have been raised with BHRT including cancelled operations, a lack of intensive care beds and details of security arrangements at the hospital. Responses from the Trust in the first half of the year were not of a standard considered acceptable to the Committee and formal action was close to being taken by the Chairman. As stated above

however, the Committee is pleased to note an improvement in this situation since the new Trust Chief Executive and Chairman took over responsibility.

- 2.2 In January, members of the Committee met informally with the BHRT Chief Executive John Goulston and the Trust's then Chairman the late Dr. Eric Nath. The Members present were impressed by the openness displayed by both Trust officers and their willingness to discuss, in some detail, the problems they and the Trust were facing. The Committee were pleased to welcome to this meeting Councillor Allan Burgess, the Chairman of the Redbridge Health Scrutiny Committee as well as the Redbridge Health Scrutiny Committee in April in order to update on the issues that had been raised.
- 2.3 The Committee visited Queen's Hospital in March and toured parts of the site including a detailed viewing of the Accident & Emergency facilities. Further discussions were held on this occasion with Mr. Goulston as well as with the Trust's Director of Nursing and other senior BHRT officers.
- 2.4 The Committee wishes to take this opportunity to express its condolences at the sudden death during the year of the BHRT Chairman Dr. Eric Nath. Equally, the Committee also wishes to express its sadness at the unexpected death of Len Smith, Chairman of Havering PCT. Both these officers were well known to Members and had worked extensively with the Committee in the past.

#### 3. FIT FOR THE FUTURE

3.1 The Outer North East London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has continued to operate extensively during the year. The first part of the year was spent dealing with the Fit for the Future proposals to alter local health services. Members received detailed briefings on this issue from NHS officers. The Committee also met with Professor Sir George Alberti, the independent medical expert brought in to conduct an external review of the quality of the plans. Members of the Joint Committee are shown overleaf during discussions with Professor Alberti.

(Clockwise from left: Ann Smart (Fit for the Future team) Professor Alberti, Councillor Allan Burgess (Redbridge) Councillor Ralph Scott (Redbridge) Councillor Filly Maravala (Redbridge) Jilly Mushington (Redbridge) Tony Fuller (co-opted member) Councillor Fred Osborne (Havering) Councillor Ted Eden (Havering) Pam Kaur (Havering).



3.2 Professor Alberti concluded his review and found that there was insufficient leadership and detailed planning undertaken to make the proposed reforms effective. These were concerns that had been expressed by the Joint Committee and the Committee was pleased to note the subsequent decision by NHS London to place the reform programme on hold until these areas had been addressed.

# 4. NELMHT FOUNDATION TRUST APPLICATION AND SERVICE REPROVISION

- 4.1 The other major item of work for the Joint Committee this year was the scrutiny of the above NELMHT proposals between July and October. The Joint Committee met formally on six occasions as well as informally on three other occasions during this period. Detailed discussions were held with senior NELMHT officers on several occasions and evidence was also taken from a number of other parties including local PCTs and Social Services Departments, the Mental Health Foundation and the HUBB and Together service user groups.
- 4.2 The Committee's report contained a total of 38 recommendations covering the Foundation Trust application as well as acute services, primary care and other aspects of the proposed service reprovision. This report was presented to NELMHT in October.

- 4.3 There has since been a detailed exchange of correspondence between the Joint Committee and NELMHT concerning issues raised by the report, some of which has been quite negative in nature. The Committee is pleased to note however that the most recent discussions held direct with the NELMHT Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer in April were more productive in nature.
- 4.4 NELMHT will update the Joint Committee on progress during the new municipal year and the Joint Committee will also continue to scrutinise mental health issues as part of its work programme.

#### 5. PAN-LONDON SCRUTINY OF HEALTHCARE FOR LONDON PROPOSALS

- 5.1 In November, the first Pan-London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee was established to scrutinise the proposals of the Healthcare for London report submitted by Lord Darzi. This Committee met on six occasions between November and March and Havering was represented by Councillor Eden with Councillor Osborne as a substitute.
- 5.2 The Pan-London Committee received evidence from a wide range of stakeholders on the proposed changes to health services in London including GPs, surgeons, midwives and Transport for London. Written submissions were also made to the pan-London Committee by both the Havering and Outer North East London Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 5.3 The Pan-London Committee's report was finalised in May and this is currently being considered by the NHS. An initial response from the NHS is expected in mid-June and the Joint Committee will meet again in the autumn in order to consider the latest situation.

#### 6. NELMHT DRUG REHABILITATION UNIT

- 6.1 In July, the Committee was contacted by a group of parents protesting that NELMHT had opened a unit for the treatment of people with drug addiction and related problems opposite Harold Court Primary School in Harold Wood. Parents at the school were concerned that there had been little consultation on the opening of the unit and that drug users may be visiting the premises at times when children would be entering or leaving the school.
- 6.2 In response, the Committee facilitated a meeting between a group of the concerned parents and the Chief Executive and other senior officers of NELMHT. Local ward Councillors were also present as was a representative of the local MP. The meeting enabled a positive and constructive discussion of the issues and the NELMHT officers undertook to cease seeing service users at this site within six months. Thus the scrutiny process had produced a workable solution for all parties.

#### 7. HEALTHCARE COMMISSION ANNUAL HEALTHCHECK

- 7.1 The Committee held a special meeting in March to consider the selfassessment declarations of the Health Trusts for the Healthcare Commission Annual Healthcheck. Representatives from Havering PCT, BHRT and NELMHT attended and gave a summary of their Trust's self-assessment. The Committee was also pleased to welcome for the first time a representative of London Ambulance Service to discuss that Trust's selfassessment.
- 7.2 Positive discussions were held about the various Trusts' self-assessments and these formed the basis of the Committee's written comments to each Trust. These written comments have been incorporated into the final Healthcheck Assessment return for each Trust. The Committee was pleased to receive a response to their comments from the Chief Executive of NELMHT thanking the Committee for its support and looking forward to continuing this productive working relationship into the next year.

#### 8. OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED

- 8.1 Havering PCT Financial Issues In June, senior PCT officers including the Chief Executive and Director of Finance explained in detail the past and current financial issues facing the Trust. This gave Members a useful overview of PCT finances and also served to illustrate for Members the workings of the NHS internal market.
- 8.2 Other PCT Issues Throughout the year, the PCT has briefed the Committee on numerous issues including its commissioning role, its recently awarded status as an Autonomous Provider Organisation and its plans for dealing with the rising population in parts of the borough.
- 8.3 Delayed Transfers of Care The Committee received a presentation from the Head of Adult Services giving his views on the causes of delayed transfers of care from hospital into care facilities.
- 8.4 Queen's Hospital Parking The Committee was approached during the year by a relative of a patient who had died at Queen's Hospital. During discussions with the relative and senior BHRT staff, it emerged that although Trust policy was to waive parking charges for relatives of gravely ill patients, this was not in fact happening in practice, principally due to the policy not being communicated adequately to Trust staff. Following this situation being brought to the Trust's attention by Members, BHRT has agreed to communicate the policy on parking charges in these instances to all relevant staff. The Trust has also indicated that the relative concerned has been reimbursed for the charges they incurred.



## HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**12J** 

# ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on six occasions and dealt with the following issues:

#### 1. BUDGETARY ISSUES

- 1.1 The Committee met in January and considered the aspects of the Council's budget that fall within its remit.
- 1.2 The Committee received an oral presentation from the Cabinet Member for Resources, outlining ways in which the Council promoted Financial Efficiency and Value For Money on services.
- 1.3 The Cabinet Member for Finance discussed matters specific to the Housing budget. Members were advised that there was provision for transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account in recognition that an increasing number of Council properties were being privately purchased. In addition, Private Sector Leasing costs were rising in consequence of the government setting strict targets in connection with temporary accommodation. Members were advised that £48k was needed to support Private Sector Housing in order to continue the Council's efforts to bring more "abandoned" and empty properties back into use.

#### 2. SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUPS

#### 2.1. Review of Homes in Havering

- 2.1.1 The Members of this Group are Councillor June Alexander (Chairman), Councillor Barry Oddy, Councillor Melvin Wallace, Councillor Sandra Binion, Councillor Keith Wells. The late Councillor Len Long was also a member of the Topic Group until May 2008.
- 2.1.2 The Topic Group has met on five occasions in the Municipal Year to scrutinise the Homes in Havering Delivery Plan and investigate best practice in other London Boroughs. The Group particularly focussed on relationships with the interface between the Council and Homes in Havering, the viewings and lettings procedures and the system for reporting repairs.

2.1.3 The Topic Group have also received a presentation from Morrisons, the Council's repairs contractor and arrangements are in hand to receive a similar presentation from Interserve, the heating contractors. These events will afford the Group an opportunity to meet with officers and outside contractors closely involved with the system for reporting and monitoring repairs.

#### 2.2 Housing Support for Older People Topic Group

- 2.2.1 The Members of this group comprised Councillor Barry Oddy as Chairman, Councillor June Alexander, Councillor Melvin Wallace, Councillor Sandra Binion and Councillor Keith Wells. The group met on five occasions and officers provided updates and performance figures which informed the final recommendations.
- 2.2.2. The scope of the review was to look at the modernisation and improvement of housing support services provided for the Borough's older residents.
- 2.2.3 Members received presentations on the Service User Consultation on mobile support and the Community Alarm Pilot Service, which gave an overview of existing sheltered housing provision and the reasons why a remodelled service was required.
- 2.2.4 Officers from Social Services gave a presentation outlining key themes for the new vision for Adult Social Services and examples of joint working with local partnership organisations. Members were also advised about the "Step Down " scheme that was being implemented at Royal Jubilee Court.
- 2.2.5 The Chief Executive from Age Concern met with the group to outline services that were currently provided in partnership with Housing and Adult Social Services.
- 2.2.6 The Housing Overview & Scrutiny Topic Group made several recommendations in its final report which were noted by the Committee at its meeting in April 2008.

#### 3. OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED

- 3.1 In June 2007, the Committee received a report which provided details of the outturn performance of the retained housing service and Homes in Havering. The report included targets that had been set for the next three years. It was noted that satisfaction rates amongst Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups in the Borough was not as high as the overall average. The Committee was pleased to note that Havering was one of the best performing Authorities in London in relation to the average time taken to re-let Council properties and also performed well in responding to emergency repairs. The Committee received regular updates throughout the year on the performance monitoring statistics.
- 3.2 Members received a report and brief presentation on the outcome of the Audit Commission Inspection that took place in September 2007. The Audit

Commission had concluded that Homes in Havering was providing a "fair", one star service with promising prospects for improvement. The Inspectors had highlighted the new neighbourhood warden schemes and tenant involvement in repairs and maintenance planning as strengths of the service, but felt there was a need for improvement in the provision of aids and adaptations to properties, complaints handling and managing diversity.

- 3.3 At its meeting in November 2007, the Committee considered a report entitled "Homes for the Future" and noted the Council's response. The Government proposed to increase the number of affordable homes incrementally with an overall objectives of providing 180,000 affordable homes by 2008 and a further 70,000 by 2010/11. Similar schemes involving shared ownership had been incorrectly financed in the past and the Committee expressed some concern that Government requirements concentrated too heavily on quantity rather than the quality and size of accommodation required.
- 3.4 Throughout the year, the Committee also received regular reports and presentations from Officers regarding initiatives that were taking place in the Borough. These included the history and benefits of the Supporting People Programme and a review of the choice based lettings scheme.



# MEMBER CHAMPION FOR DIVERSITY

# **12K**

ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

#### BRINGING ABOUT TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE -

#### THE DIVERSITY STANDARDS UNIT

As Diversity Champion, I have been fortunate to have attended many events during the year each supporting and promoting Diversity in their own way. Events including those held at CEME, Town Hall, Queens Theatre & Havering College have capture attention across the spectrum and I am sure those who attended were left with messages that will always be there to give thought about Diversity & Equalities and the successes that Havering are making to tap into the vast resources that sometimes lay hidden and unexplored.

Under the leadership of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Michael White; the Chief Executive, Cheryl Coppell and the Chief Diversity Advisor, Mina Jesa; the Diversity Standards Unit acts as a catalyst for change to improve and deliver services, developing cost efficient methods of enhancing customer relationships, supporting and challenging Havering Council to improve its performance as a community leader, a service provider and as an employer.

In one year Mina Jesa and her staff have helped to step up the pace of change and bring about transformation through:

- Identifying gaps and offering solutions for issues related to E&D.
- Changing the way E&D is managed in the organisation with the establishment of the Diversity Steering Group (DSG) and the Diversity Management Group (DMG).
- Launching the first 6-Point Diversity Plan for London Borough of Havering, a strategy which is underpinned by the Equality Standard and is flexible enough to incorporate the Chief Executive and Leaders vision.
- A new Performance Framework for driving & achieving diversity for all.

- The creation of 'Diverse Havering' (a sub-group of Havering Strategic Partnership addressing diversity issues across the Borough).
- The creation of ICAN (Independent Consultation & Advisory Network), to help ensure that communities and residents in Havering have a real say in the policies, practices and procedures of the Council.
- A full assessment and review of the Equality Standard for Local Government to help the London Borough of Havering meet Level 3.
- A new streamlined framework for carrying out Equality Impact Assessments, which is now being integrated into day-to-day business.
- Securing a free placement from the MOD for a specialist E&D trainer to carry out an audit of current services and gaps in relation to E&D training in the Council. This work has informed the proposal put to CMT on a way forward.
- Working with the Business Development Unit to secure a contract for interpreting & translation (on the back of London Councils contract), with `The Big Word` for interpreting & translation.
- Financially supporting the Havering Association for Disabled People (HAD) AGM and mobility conference.
- Supporting the Community Regeneration team to host the multi-cultural event at Queens Theatre, in 2007 through funding, providing national contacts and a well known BME celebrity.
- Transformation & modernisation of SPACE (the Council's black and minority ethnic staff network).
- Development of a Young Person's network.
- Influencing the national agenda through being a key player on the National Extremism Board.
- Presentation to London Councils, with the Leader, on Diversity & Leadership. The evaluation rated this as one of the top and most informative presentations delivered.
- Launching `Trading Perspectives`, an innovative mentoring programme for senior managers, focussed on developing skills around the E&D agenda.
- Providing guidance for all schools on 'Pupils and Ramadan'.
- Introduction of a new model for progressing issues of `Hate crime` in the borough, through a keynote presentation at the Hate crime Partnership Away Day.
- Partnership work with IT department to develop a site on the intranet detailing information on religions and events.
- Supporting the internal Springboard training programme, as a inspirational speaker.
- Benchmarking work against Stonewall Workplace Equality Index.

- Development and implementation of an Online Staff Survey on awareness and understanding of diversity issues.
- Key note presentation to Governors conference on `Inclusion for all`. This outlined the benefits of social/community cohesion and impact upon governors.
- Organisation of the International Women's Day, with partner organisations and local communities and residents.
- Two day conference for senior managers on Diversity, Inclusion and Engagement.
- A conference series for Members on Diversity, Inclusion and Engagement.
- Enhancing the profile of the Council by securing speakers such as Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, Henry Bonsu, Darra Singh, Angela Mason, Asad Ahmed, to name but a few, for council led initiatives.
- Organising a radio debate, with link FM, on community/social cohesion and impact locally and involved four members of ICAN. The impact of this has led to Link FM wanting to host similar debates on a monthly basis.
- Effectively engaging local religious groups in the borough to support the creation of a community faith forum. This is following concerns, regarding current issues, raised by some groups with the Chief Executive.
- Facilitating positive partnership with Homes in Havering through input on their Diversity Steering Group.

Consequently, the innovative & transformational work going on at Havering Borough Council has been selected from several hundred organisations and is to be featured as a model of good practice in:

- Diverse Britain 2008
- The Parliamentary Yearbook 2008
- A Fusion Broadcasting Production

I am very proud to be the Diversity Champion and will continue to give100% support to the work that is being delivered in this area. I passionately believe that under the Leadership of Councillor Michael White and Chief Executive Cheryl Coppell and with support of Mina Jesa that Havering Council will achieve great things for ALL who live, visit or work in Havering.

Councillor Robby Misir Member Champion for Diversity



## MEMBER CHAMPION FOR THE ELDERLY

# 12L

#### ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

It does not seem like a year since I stood in front of you and gave my first report as Champion for the over Fifties.

A great deal has happened during this time not least of all most of the local organisations for our older residents have gone from strength to strength. The over 60s painting and writing competitions attracted many entries and were a great success as was the over 60s Musician of the Year Competition.

Many of our local organisations have won nationally recognised awards.

Georgina Galpin chose Age Concern Havering as her Charity last year when she was Mayor which has resulted in greater public awareness of the work they do and their constant need for more volunteers

I have had the privilege of being invited to many of the local organisations (whose main concern is the older population) to participate in their awards ceremonies, where they recognise the work of their volunteers, as well as their Open Days. I think I should mention that the majority of the Carers and Volunteers are well over 50.

I hope that the new Adult Gyms installed in Hylands Park, Upminster Park and Lodge Lane Park will be well used by our more mature residents as exercising in the fresh air is especially beneficial to older folks

My main thrust this year has been to encourage and improve the Over 50s Forum as this should reflect and represent the very diverse older population.

We now have a new Executive Committee and a new format for our meetings with regular interesting speakers as well as reports from other appropriate Conferences etc. We have produced a Newsletter which we hope to be able to provide for our members 4 times a year. We have increased our membership to over 100 and although this is still not even 1% of our older population it's a good start.

With the funding obtained to establish our own Museum here in Romford I am hoping that our more senior residents will take an active pert in collecting projects and engaging in heritage activities because after all the young peoples history is the older one's childhood.

Finally all over 50s groups cultural or activity based will be encouraged and assisted to participate in the Cultural Olympiad which is to be launched in September in the Market Place. This is to run for 4 years and take us up to the 2012 Olympic Games

by which time several more of my honoured colleagues will come under my umbrella as Champion for the over Fifties.

#### Councillor Pam Light Member Champion for the Elderly


# MEMBER CHAMPION FOR HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

# **12M**

#### ANNUAL REPORT, 2007/08

#### Hornchurch

The Council's Historic Buildings and Landscapes Projects Officer has worked with Friends of Langtons Gardens to undertake the restoration of the Gazebo and Bath House (ca. 1780?) at Langtons using traditional skills and high-quality conservation techniques. An excellent background paper has been produced outlining the social context of bathing and such bathing houses in eighteenth-century England. The Orangery at Langtons has also been restored and the restoration of Langtons House is being progressed in a historically sensitive way. This will result in the temporary closure of the house later this year for major works, ensuring that all details (such a wallpaper etc.) are sourced from specialist suppliers who recreate late-eighteenth century wall paper and are carried out in a manner with a firm basis in understanding the historic character of the building and its relationship to the landscape around it.

The gradual restoration of Fairkytes is also being progressed, paying particular attention to the traditional skills and historical detail required for the task.

Over 2007-08 much greater clarity has emerged around the layers of historic environment in Hornchurch in general, but in particular Saxon, Medieval and Georgian Hornchurch. Interest has developed in the origin of the name of Abbs Cross Lane. This may have been after St. Abb (a now obscure Northumbrian Saint) or a corruption of the name of a significant family in the area during the Medieval period. If it were the former, then the relationship of this to the role of Upminster as a centre for early-Saxon missionary work in the spreading of Christianity from northern to southern England, and the political role of Havering-atte-Bower as an East Saxon administrative centre in the seventh-century may form a significant context for it.

The eighteenth-century landscape of Hornchurch and, in particular, the park surrounding the remaining gardens at Langtons House, has become much better understood as a result of the research of the Historic Buildings and Landscapes Projects Officer, including a much clearer understanding of entry points to the estate and how these then influenced the landscape on the approach to the house.

Investigation continues in to the status of the very regrettable recent demolitions at the former "White Hart" public house at the end of Station Lane.

An exhibition on the history of Langtons House and Grey Towers House has been held in Hornchurch Library, and also during the very popular opening of the Gazebo and Bath House at Langtons during the annual Summer Concert in early June. Hornchurch and District Historical Society celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2008.

Hornchurch Festival has been relaunched as Hornchurch Arts and Heritage Festival, with a renewed focus on the history of the village. Events have included historic walks, which both ran at maximum capacity. One by local historian Brain Evans involving some 60 people walked round Hornchurch village, another by the Historic Buildings and Landscapes Officer and a representative of the Parks Service looked specifically at the trees and landscape of Langtons Gardens and involved 30 people. Both walks were full to maximum capacity.

#### Rainham

Work is proceeding with monitoring the Churchyard wall at St. Helen and Giles Church to establish whether it is still moving. Once this is completed (in approximately 18 months time) a repair schedule will be drawn up.

The Local Studies Librarian reports that the local collection is being heavily used by researchers to investigate various projects and developments to regenerate Rainham.

Havering Library Service has been part of a successful cross borough bid to Heritage Lottery Fund for money to fund research into the memories of people who live in the Thames Gateway about their working lives. This project, called "Working Lives of the Thames Gateway" will provide fantastic opportunities for Havering residents in Rainham, Wennington and South Hornchurch to share their memories of their working lives in a number of ways.

The Rainham Village Shopfront Award Scheme (grant funded by Havering Council and English Heritage) has successfully secured funding for two more shop fronts. These will be delivered by March 2009.

Havering Council and the National Trust are working in partnership to develop future uses for Rainham Hall. A feasibility study has been completed and officers are now looking ar funding streams to restore the landscape of the gardens of Rainham Hall and make the Hall and Coach House accessible to the public.

Huge concern has been expressed at proposals for a major development at Dovers Corner, and its complete disregard for the character of the historic village and Rainham conservation area.

#### Romford

Friends of Havering Museum Ltd and Havering Council Officers have secured the award of just under £1,000,000 of funding from Heritage Lottery Fund to open a museum for Havering in Romford High Street. It is anticipated that the museum will open in Autumn 2009.

The Council has agreed a major regeneration scheme for Romford High Street, in the heart of the Romford Conservation Area. This places conservation of the setting of the conservation area as its top priority, and it is hoped will lead to the sympathetic restoration of the Edwardian former "Woolpack" public house - perhaps better known as "Secrets" as part of it.

The Council is to undertake the refurbishment of Central Library, a significant work of 1960's architecture. The Council has been advised of the relationship between the 1935 Modern Movement designs for the listed Town Hall and the library building and the possible advantages of designing the "pocket Park" which will go next to the refurbished library in this idiom in order to maximise the impact of these buildings and their relationship.

Sadly, Councillors on Regulatory Services Committee recently rejected plans for a "Live Screen" and associated restoration of the historic character of the Market Place by a conservation architect as part of the creation of a public viewing area for the screen.

The Parks Department has begun a programme of including interpretation of the historic environment on notice boards at the entrances to parks with an excellent new board at the entrance to Lodge Farm park outlining the history of the landscape at the Main Road entrance to the park. It is intended that this programme will be continued in to all other parks in the borough over time.

A major Heritage Lottery Fund bid has been submitted for the restoration of the landscape at Raphael Park, a very rich historic landscape, with Tudor, Georgian and Arts and Crafts layers among others. The scale and significance of this bid mean that it will be considered by the national Heritage Lottery Fund and not the London one.

Gidea Park and District Civic Society - one of the most successful in London and dedicated to preserving the integrity of Romford Garden Suburb - celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2008.

Western Road Life Skills Centre for adults with learning disabilities has done excellent work on local history over the last year, working closely with the Local Studies Librarian to examine the histories of the families who lived in the Victorian properties that this centre now occupies. This work involved some "archaeological" work and work with artefacts, and the reported positive impact on the quality of life of those who took part in this very popular piece of work has been huge. The group now intend to get involved in the refurbishment of Central Library, the restoration of Raphael Park and historic and nature conservation work at Hornchurch Country Park to develop this interest.

The Conservation Area Appraisals and Management policies for Romford Conservation Area and Gidea Park Conservation Area were adopted in May 2008.

#### Upminster

The Council's Historic Buildings and Landscapes Projects Officer has led on producing the drawings for the restoration of the late-eighteenth century Parklands Bridge in Upminster. He has also led the excellent project to ensure that the proper traditional skills are used to restore the sails of Upminster windmill follwing storm damage. This project is nearing its completion. In addition to this he has led on significant work being undertaken at the mid-fifteenth century barn in Upminster.

A family history centre has been opened in Upminster Library.

Sacred Heart of Mary School has embarked upon an excellent and ambitious bid to restore the Old Chapel in Upminster and greatly increase knowledge and awareness of the history of Upminster as part of this. Among other things research has revealed how timbers used in the construction of the Chapel were sourced from ships probably being broken in Purfleet. This opens up a rich vein of historical research around the impact of the windmill on Upminster, as the chapel was built by the same man who built the mill, and he seems to have been exporting grain to the Baltic even during the Napoleonic blockades (when both mill and chapel were built) thus providing the link between the two buildings. The project also offers rich potential in the study of non-conformist Christianity in the area just outside of the Liberty of Havering, and contrasts between this and the role of Upminster in particular as a centre for missionary work of the Catholic Church during the much earlier Saxon period.

Volunteers and the Council recently worked together to promote a very popular open day of local historic sites in Upminster. Visitor figures at this event were;

The Old Chapel - 200. Upminster Windmill - 85. Upminster "Tithe" Barn - 102.

#### **Corbets Tey**

The Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Corbets Tey was adopted in May 2008.

#### North Ockenden

The Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for North Ockenden was adopted in May 2008.

#### Cranham

Public interest ha been expressed in including Boyd Hall within the Cranham Conservation Area at the Historic Environment Forum.

#### Havering-atte-Bower

Havering-atte-Bower Conservation Society has been formed by local residents. Discovery and preservation of the history of the village are among its key objectives. The pond in the middle of the village has recently been cleared by Havering Parks Service. Friends of Bedfords Park continue to focus attention on the rich historic environment of the park and the potential that it offers.

Some scholars argue that 2010 will mark the 950th anniversary of the founding of the royal palace at Havering-atte-Bower in 1060. In any event, this date should be worked towards to gain greater understanding of the mid to late Saxon history of Havering, including examining dating for the palace and examining its impact on the area. For example, it is now becoming clear that the development of charcoal burning as an industry in Collier Row was closely related to the needs of the palace, as was the supply of rushes to roof the palace from reed beds in Harold Wood. In addition to this there is much work to be done on the relationship of Havering to

politics in late Saxon England. Just two years after some conclude that Havering Palace was built, Harold Godwinson (who went on briefly to become King Harold in 1066) was giving his holding of Upminster Manor to the newly-formed college at Waltham Abbey in 1062.

The Historic Buildings and Landscapes Projects Officer worked with local historian Brian Evans to organise a heritage walk around Havering-atte-Bower in July 2007.

#### **Collier Row**

A local historian in Collier Row has provided much very valuable information about the history of the area, Mawneys and Havering-atte-Bower as part of the work of the Historic Environment Forum. This will provide very useful information for the development of a much more subtle understanding of the history of the area and Havering in general as part of the work of that forum, but also as part of ongoing work on developing a register of local anniversaries.

As noted in the section above, the forthcoming proposed date for the 950th anniversary of the palace at Havering-atte-Bower should give good cause to examine the impact of the palace on Collier Row over the long course of the existence of the palace over many centuries.

#### Harold Hill

Plans are afoot to promote the 60th anniversary of the current housing estate on Harold Hill. These will include an examination of the genesis and ethos of the current estate in the idealism that followed the end of the Second World War. The area now covered by Harold Hill does, however, have a very rich history beyond that, going back at least to the fourteenth century and the building of Gooshays house in the area. In the seventeenth century Samuel Pepys was a visitor here, and many of the parks and landscapes of Harold Hill are founded in the landscape that surrounded the various houses which have existed in the area. This is particularly true of Central Park and Dagnam Park.

The exciting Harold Hill Ambitions project is committed to studying and revealing the rich history of the area now occupied by Harold Hill as a way both of effecting profound and far-reaching transformation of people's ambitions, horizons and quality of life in the area, but also to provide the "grain" within which much-needed physical improvements to the environment there can happen.

#### Harold Wood

Work is on-going with the developers at the former Harold Wood Hospital site to seek to ensure that plans there recognise and are sympathetic to the particularly rich heritage of Harold Wood as a late-Victorian/ Edwardian suburb. The landscape that was taken over by the hospital forms a particularly significant part of this, which also extends to include other parts of the suburb.

#### Elm Park

A book drawing on residents' memories of the history of Elm Park is to be produced by Havering Library Service to mark the rebuilding of Elm Park library as a new "green" library.

#### Hornchurch Country Park

Essex Wildlife Trust, working in partnership with Havering Council and local residents and volunteers, have been successful in attracting Heritage Lottery Fund monies of just under £500,000 to enhance and promote understanding of the historic and natural environment at this most important site. Interviews for the new Ingrebourne Project Manager and Community Officer were scheduled to take place at the start of July. Once these posts are appointed a number of projects will be progressed to enhance public access to history and biodiversity at the site.

The Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Policy for the RAF Hornchurch Conservation Area were adopted in May 2008.

#### Ninetieth anniversary of the Royal Air Force

Havering Council provided free travel by coach to North Weald airfield for Havering members of the National Service (Royal Air Force) Association to an event to mark this anniversary in 2008.

#### Archaeology

Havering has a representative on the Executive Committee of the Standing Committee on London Archaeology (SCOLA).

Havering, particularly southern Havering, is one of the richest areas for archaeology in many time periods in the whole of London. One of SCOLA's main areas of concern is how to alert Councils to the new archaeological responsibilities which it is anticipated will fall to them in 2010/2011 through the forthcoming Heritage Act, and also to encourage reasonable archaeological staffing at English Heritage to support London Boroughs.

#### M25 widening

Havering Council submitted a comprehensive response to Highways Agency consultation on the above, including pressing for heritage and conservation issues to be addressed as part of the scheme.

#### Heritage White Paper

This is due to become law in 2010. It will reinstate some controls in conservation areas because of undue weaknesses in recent years. It will introduce new possibilities for controls on local heritage as well as extending and strengthening existing controls in this area. All aspects of the historic environment will be reclassified as "heritage assets". Owners of "heritage assets" will be able to take responsibility for their assets in order to facilitate greater devolution of responsibility. This will require greater staff and member expertise in local authorities.

#### **Historic Environment Forum**

This has been established in 2007/08. It brings together representatives from local voluntary conservation and history groups, officers of the local authority and other partner organisations. Among other things, the forum has focussed on developing a forward plan for local anniversaries, reviewing on-going conservation and restoration projects in the borough, discussing the planning process and the forthcoming Supplementary Planning Document on Heritage in Havering. They have also discussed the shape that this report itself should take.

#### **Publications**

The book "From Ice Age to Essex" examining the archaeology of Havering has been submitted for the local archaeology book prize of the Standing Committee on London Archaeology. Ian Henry Publications have published "The Past Revealed; A Timeline of Dates in the History of Havering" by Ian Wilkes for Havering Museum Ltd.

#### Staff Training

Havering staff have attended the following courses;

- Institute of Historic Buildings Conservation conferences on "Sustainability of the Built Heritage", "Sustaining Utopia Garden Cities".
- Lecture, exhibition and site visit to Churchill College, Cambridge, seminal 1960's building.
- Association for Studies in the Conservation of Historic Buildings "Building Conservation and Climate Change"
- English Heritage seminar on Heritage Partnership Agreements.
- Joint London conference of Heritage of London Trust, English Heritage and Institute of Historic Building Conservation.
- Annual Built Environment Conservation Conference of Royal Town Planning Institute.
- English Heritage conference on Heritage White Paper.

#### New brochure and website

Havering Council's Culture team are working on a new brochure and website promoting easier access to and greater understanding of the histories of Havering.

#### Local anniversaries

Work has gone on during the year to establish a forward plan of significant local anniversaries around which the histories of the borough can be explored. Though such work would necessarily entail drawing in much more anecdotal and contextual information from the whole borough than a bald list would imply, it may be that the basis of such a programme could be:

#### 2009

 850th anniversary of Henry II granting substantial land holdings in Hornchurch to Monastery of St Nicholas and St. Bernard of Savoy in Switzerland 1159). this would allow us to examine the history of Hornchurch, its place in the Manor and Liberty of Havering, relationship to other major centres such as Rainham and Upminster as a "bridging" centre between pasture land just outside of Havering and the trading centre in Romford?

 1400th anniversary of St. Chad being sent to baptise the East Saxons (659). This would enable us to look at the role of Upminster as a missionary centre, the role of Rainham and the issue of the way in which St. Helen and St. Giles is the only church in England to bear that dedication. The place of Havering-atte-Bower in Saxon England.

#### 2010

- 950th anniversary of Havering Palace (1060). This would enable us to look at the history and use of the palace by the English royal family over many centuries. The relationship of the palace to Collier Row, Harold Wood, Romford and other centres in Havering.
- 700th anniversary of first St. Edward's Church being built in Romford Market Place (1410).
- 300th anniversary of first St. Edward's School being opened in Romford Market Place (1710).
- 70th anniversary of Battle of Britain (1940).
- 50th anniversary of first library being opened in Romford (1930).

#### 2011

- 50th anniversary of Romford Summer Theatre producing Shakespeare in Raphael Park.
- 100th anniversary of opening of Romford Garden Suburb, now Gidea Park (1911). This would enable us to look at the work of the significant architects who worked on the estate and the social impact that they hoped their work would have. This would also enable us to examine the social and environmental role of architecture in the modern world. The relationship of the estate and the green land on either side of it to the landscape of Gidea Hall and the deeper layers of the historic environment around it should also be examined.

#### 2012

- London Olympics.
- Diamond Jubilee of H.M the Queen.
- 50th anniversary of unearthing of Romano-British farmstead in Corbets Tey (1962). Other evidence of Roman settlement in the Havering area could also be examined, including the on-going debate over the location and role of the Durolitum settlement in the Gidea Park area.
- 950th anniversary of Earl Harold gifting Manor of Upminster to college at Waltham Cross (1062). This would provide an opportunity to set the evnt in the context of the Saxon heritage of villages that were always outside of the Manor of Havering - most notably Rainham and Wennington, examining land holdings in the area and their political significance on the eve of the Norman Conquest in 1066.

All thoughts, comments and contributions to this outline gratefully accepted.

#### **Recommendations for 2008/09:**

1. Fully recognise the central role of heritage in achieving the local authority's LAA2 targets. For example, increased promotion of the historic environment has coincided with a reduction in anti-social

behaviour at sites where this has happened (eg; Lodge Farm Park, Langtons Gardens etc.). This clearly relates to NI 17 (perceptions of antisocial behaviour) and NI 41 (Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem). In addition to this the strength of the understanding of local history in the borough will be central to achieving NI 1 (%of people who believe people from different people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area), NI 138 (Satisfaction of people over 65 with both home and neighbourhood), NI 110 (Young people's participation in positive activities) and NI 7 (Environment for a thriving third sector).

- 2. Develop Heritage Special Policy Document for Havering.
- 3. Respond to the challenges arising from the Government's Heritage White Paper.
- 4. Make progress on proposal for new library, including purpose-built archive in Rainham.
- 5. Develop conservation area policy for Hornchurch.
- 6. Develop plans to mark local anniversaries in tandem with development of local list of anniversaries.

Councillor Andrew Curtin Member Champion For Historic Environment



# **COUNCIL**, 23 JULY 2008

# 13

## **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RULES – EXCEPTIONS TO THE CALL-IN (REQUISITION) PROCEDURE:

- (a) Housing Revenue Account budget 2008-2009,
- (b) Proposed Restructure of Senior Management.

## 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 two such decisions 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, Cynthia Griffin, Group Director Public Realm, sought the agreement of the Chairman of the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the decision of Cabinet on the HRA budget 2008/09 was urgent and should not be open to call-in, and the Chairman has given and recorded his agreement.
- 2.2 The Council's budget process was delayed HRA bv example, the Draft HRA Government. For Subsidv Determination was three weeks late. Also unexpected changes in the level of subsidy made negotiations difficult in terms of agreeing a Management fee with Homes in Havering. There was, therefore, a need to agree a budget and Management Fee for Homes in Havering before the year end, and to impose and change some service charges. If the call-in procedure had been applied, it was possible that the Council would go into 2008/09 without a budget and the longer new services charges were delayed the more it would cost.

#### 3 **Proposed Restructure of Senior Management**

- **3.1** On behalf of the Cabinet, the Chief Executive, sought the agreement of the Chairman of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the decision of Cabinet on the proposed restructuring of senior management was urgent and should not be open to call in, and the Chairman has given and recorded his agreement.
- **3.2** A review of the Senior Management structure was overdue. A vacancy at Director level had existed for some months and interim arrangements made to cover that vacancy needed to be replaced by permanent adjustments if the proper conduct of the Council's business was not to be adversely affected. If Cabinet approved the proposals, the duties of a number of senior staff would be re-allocated and new posts created in order to ensure that management of services was enhanced. In the interests of both staff and service users, it was considered essential that the associated moves were effected expeditiously, that the new vacancies be filled at the earliest opportunity, and that this matter be progressed on the basis of firm proposals.

**3.3** The proposals, if agreed, would result in the deletion of some posts with associated assimilation/redeployment/ redundancy issues and call-in of the associated Cabinet decision would seriously delay decisions being made, with the likelihood of creating staff tensions unnecessarily and would not be conducive to continued good working relationships. If the decision had been called in, implementation would be delayed, which could have seriously affected the proper conduct of the Council's business.

#### 4. Financial Implications and Risks:

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

#### 5. Legal Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

#### 6. Human Resource Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

#### 7. Equalities and Social Inclusion Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

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

#### CHERYL COPPELL Chief Executive

#### **Background Papers List**

Decision under Rule 17 of the Overview and Scrutiny Rules signed by Cynthia Griffin, Group Director Public Realm and Councillor Barry Oddy, Chairman of the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

Decision under Rule 17 of the Overview and Scrutiny Rules signed by the Chief Executive and Councillor Robbie Misir, Chairman of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2008.



# **COUNCIL**, 23 JULY 2008

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#### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

#### SUBJECT: ADJUSTMENTS TO THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF COMMITTEES

Following the election of Councillor Michael Deon Burton in succession to the late Councillor Len Long and his joining the Independent Local Residents' (ILR) Group, adjustments are needed in the political balance of the seats on Committees. This reflects the increase in size of the ILR Group to four Members and the reduction by one in the membership of the Residents' Group.

Based on the current default allocation as agreed at the Annual Meeting in May, the consequence is that one seat on each on the Appointments Committee and on the Pensions Committee will pass to the Independent Local Residents' Group from the Residents' Group.

The attached table is updated from that agreed at the Annual Meeting on 21 May, reflecting the new circumstances.

Other permutations are possible but will need to be dealt with as amendment(s) to this report as it must be based on the current default position. The Council will wish to note that, in accordance with the relevant legislation, any change in the **number** of seats allocated to each Committee can be decided by a simple majority vote; but that changes in the **allocation of seats to Groups** can be effected only if there is no vote against. In the event that no change is, or can be, agreed, the default position represented by the table will prevail.

There are no financial, equalities or human resources implications or risks. There are no direct legal implications or risks: the change is a consequence of the alteration in the allocation of seats to Groups on the Council and the table represents the default position.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the political balance of Committees be adjusted as set out in the table appended to this report.

Staff Contact:Ian BuckmasterDesignation:Manager of Committee and Overview & Scrutiny SupportTelephone No:01708 432431E-mail address:ian.buckmaster@havering.gov.uk

Cheryl Coppell Chief Executive

**Background Papers List** 

None

#### TABLE

COMMITTEE and size		CONSERVATIVE		RESIDENTS		INDEPENDENT LOCAL RESIDENTS		LABOUR	
		Entitlements							
		%age	Rounded	%age	Rounded	%age	Rounded	%age	Rounded
Governance	10	6.11	6	2.22	2	0.74	1	0.37	1
Licensing	10	6.11	6	2.22	2	0.74	1	0.37	1
Regulatory Services	10	6.11	6	2.22	2	0.74	1	0.37	1
Adjudication & Review	9	5.50	6	2.00	2	0.67	1	0.33	0
Standards Ø	9	5.50	5	2.00	2	0.67	1	0.33	1
Audit	8	4.89	5	1.78	2	0.59	1	0.30	0
Appointments	6	3.67	4	1.33	1	0.44	1	0.22	0
Pensions	6	3.67	4	1.33	1	0.44	1	0.22	0
Adult Services OSC	6	3.67	4	1.33	2	0.44	0	0.22	0
Children's OSC	6	3.67	4	1.33	2	0.44	0	0.22	0
Corporate OSC	6	3.67	4	1.33	2	0.44	0	0.22	0
Culture &c OSC	6	3.67	4	1.33	2	0.44	0	0.22	0
Environment OSC	6	3.67	4	1.33	2	0.44	0	0.22	0
Health OSC	6	3.67	4	1.33	2	0.44	0	0.22	0
Housing OSC	6	3.67	4	1.33	2	0.44	0	0.22	0
Crime & Disorder	6	3.67	4	1.33	2	0.44	0	0.22	0
Actual seats allocated	116		74		30		8		4
Overall proportional entitlement	Ŭ	61.11%	71	22.22%	26	7.41%	9	3.70%	4
Number of seats differing from entitlement			3		4		-1		0

- 1 The allocation shown above for Standards Committee takes account of the revisions agreed at the Annual Meeting
- 2 The permutations are not perfect but follow, as nearly as practicable, considerations and principles of political balance:
  - All Groups are represented on the Governance, Licensing, Regulatory Services and Standards Committees
  - The three largest Groups are represented on the Audit, Adjudication & Review, Appointments and Pensions Committees
  - The "seats differing from entitlement" are a consequence of the proportionality calculations (discussed in more detail in the report to the Annual Meeting of the Council)
  - Committee seats are allocated, and each Committee is balanced, as "reasonably practicably" as possible
  - Because of its special nature, with representation of all Groups highly desirable, the Standards Committee is not politically balanced



# **CABINET, 28 MAY 2008**

# 15

#### 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

Havering's Local Development Framework compriseS a number of separate planning documents which, collectively, replace the Unitary Development Plan and set out a flexible framework of planning policies, guidance and site allocations necessary to help deliver the Council's vision including:

- making Havering a place where people are proud to live, and where local people can stay and prosper;
- creating a dynamic prosperous economy driven by a well educated and trained workforce;
- delivering major regeneration in Romford, Hornchurch, Harold Hill, and Rainham;
- increasing the prosperity and attractiveness of Havering's town centres;
- securing improvements across the board in Havering's cultural and community provision;
- supporting strategic transport schemes and providing a better choice of ways to travel; and
- protecting and enhancing the Green Belt and Havering's high quality environment.

The first three documents available are the Core Strategy, Site Specific Allocations and Development Control Policies, which were formally examined by a Government appointed Inspector in 2007 and subsequently approved as being 'sound', subject to a number of 'binding' recommended changes. The Inspector's recommended changes to the Core Strategy and Site Specific Allocations documents were necessary to make those documents sound and Cabinet now recommends their adoption by the Council as required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Once in place, the Core Strategy and Site Specific Allocations will enable planning applications to be determined against flexible statutory local planning policies which reflect Havering's local circumstances, rather than the general London Plan Policy and National Planning Guidance. Without this step being taken:

- Coldharbour Lane would remain a Strategic Industrial Location, thus jeopardising the London Riverside Conservation Park proposals
- there would be no special protection for Emerson Park and Hall Lane, meaning that they could be vulnerable to densification
- the Whitworth Centre would remain in the Green Belt and London Plan policy (which has a strong presumption against inappropriate development within the Green Belt) would apply.

The Inspector did, however, recommend change to the site specific affordable housing target in Development Control Policy 6 'Affordable Housing', from 35% to 50%. For that reason, officers had been prepared to recommend that the Development Control Policies document should not be adopted, because it was contrary to what had informally been agreed with the

Greater London Authority (GLA) and the Inspector at the examination hearing and did not conform in general with the London Plan. No evidence was provided at the examination to support a 50% target and in the opinion of officers that target would reduce housing supply (and therefore the supply of affordable housing) as it would reduce the viability of residential development, producing the opposite impact to what the Inspector is intending.

Cabinet was informed, however, that subsequently to the preparation of the report, the Planning Inspectorate had accepted that the Inspector's recommended change could be vulnerable to challenge, and that insufficient weight had been given to the Council's arguments on the issue. The Inspectorate was accordingly proposing to invite the Secretary of State to issue a direction that would reflect the policy wording favoured by the Council as set out in the Cabinet report, and supported by the GLA.

It was noted that, if such a direction were issued, there would be no need for the Council to decline to adopt the Development Control Policy but that there remained a risk that the Secretary of State might reject the Inspectorate's view and leave the Policy unchanged. Cabinet was invited, therefore to agree a course of action to be followed should the Secretary of State decline to intervene.

With regard to the Development Control Policies DPD, their adoption as they stood was not recommended and the anticipated intervention by the Secretary of State was awaited in order to rectify the position. An alternative course of action was, however, suggested, to be pursued if the Secretary of State declined to intervene.

#### Cabinet accordingly:

- 1 RECOMMENDS 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.
- 2 Agreed, and invites the Council 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, should the Secretary of State decline to intervene and issue a Direction to ensure that it does so conform:
  - (a) A report be presented to Council at the earliest opportunity with a recommendation not to adopt the Development Control Policies DPD; and
  - (b) The continued use for development control purposes of the Development Control Policies as approved by the Inspector (and as set out in Appendix 3) (with the exception of Policy DC6 Affordable Housing), be authorised.



# **COUNCIL**, 23 JULY 2008

15

#### **REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

#### NOTE: This report is to be read in conjunction with the report of the Cabinet

#### 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

Cabinet, at its meeting on 28 May 2008, 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. In the light of this, Cabinet agreed to recommend that Council not adopt the Development Control Policies of the Local Development Framework.

Cabinet agreed as well that the Secretary of State (SoS) should be invited to issue a Direction to remedy this. The SoS has recently issued a Direction which modifies DC6 in a way which it is considered is acceptable to the Council. This successful outcome is to be welcomed and will be reported to Cabinet at the next opportunity. At that meeting, Cabinet will be invited to consider whether the Development Control policies and Proposals Map should proceed to Council for adoption. Accordingly the course of action proposed in recommendation 2(a) will now no longer be required.

### RECOMMENDATION

That, having regard to the changed circumstances, Council:

- 1 **ADOPT recommendations 1 and 2(b)** of the Cabinet's report
- 2 **NOTE** that **recommendation 2(a)** of the report has been superseded and that a further report will be presented to the next meeting.

Staff Contact: Designation: Telephone No: E-mail address Daniel Pope Development Planning Team Leader 01708 433051 daniel.pope@havering.gov.uk

> CHERYL COPPELL Chief Executive

#### **Background Papers List**

None



Roger McFarland Head of Regeneration and Strategic Planning Sustainable Communities Directorate London Borough of Havering Mercury House Mercury Gardens Romford RM1 3SL Andrew Melville Head of Planning & Housing <sup>9th</sup> Floor Riverwalk House 157 – 161 Millbank London SW1P 4RR Tel: 020 7217 3140 Fax: 020 7217 3517

> andrew.melville@gol.gsi.gov.uk Website: www.go-london.gov.uk

> > 了 July 2008

Dear Sir

#### PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004 LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING SUBMITTED CORE STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICIES DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

I am directed by the Secretary of State to refer to the recent correspondence between Havering and the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) concerning the binding Inspector's Report on the Havering Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Development Plan Document dated 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

The Secretary of State notes the views of PINS set out in their letter of 23<sup>rd</sup> May to the Council, which indicated that they accepted the need for a modification of Development Control Policy DC6. PINS subsequently made a formal request to the Secretary of State to direct a change to this policy for the reasons set out in the 23<sup>rd</sup> May letter.

The Secretary of State has considered the request. She notes PINS view that the recommendation should be revised because the 50% site specific wasn't considered at the examination and neither was the LA's concern about delivery being jeopardised by a 50% target. For these reasons PINS believes it appropriate for a direction to be issued correcting the position. The Secretary of State agrees with that view and concludes that the policy should be modified. Accordingly, she has made a direction under Section 21(1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 21(1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Secretary of State directs Havering Council to modify Policy DC6 to read as follows:

"DC6 – AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Affordable housing is housing designed to meet the needs of households whose incomes are not sufficient to allow them access to decent and appropriate housing. Affordable housing comprises social housing and intermediate housing.

The Council will aim to achieve 50% of all new homes built in the borough as affordable from the following sources:

- 100% affordable schemes by residential social landlords
- · provision from vacant accommodation brought back into use
- provision from non-self contained accommodation
- affordable housing secured through the use of planning agreements or conditions.

In applying this target the Council will, through negotiation and agreement with the applicant, assess the suitability of on site or off site provision for affordable housing and the subsequent percentage that is sought with regard to:

- Site, size, suitability and viability
- · The need to achieve and deliver a successful housing development
- Availability of public subsidy
- Other scheme requirements

In determining planning applications for private residential schemes, including sheltered housing, the Council will seek the maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing having regard to the borough-wide target and tenure split of 70:30 between social housing and intermediate forms. This will apply on sites with a capacity to accommodate 10 or more dwellings and on residential sites of 0.5 hectares or more irrespective of the number of dwellings.

In determining the mix of affordable housing, the Council will have regard to the indicative mixes set out in the latest versions of the Havering Housing Needs Survey (HHNS) and the East London Affordable Housing Investment Framework (ELAHIF).

Where schemes are brought forward for 9 or less dwellings the developer will need to satisfy the Council that:

- The proposal does not represent an underdevelopment of the site with regard to the Council's policy on Housing Density (DC2)
- A large site is not being brought forward in phases in order to avoid the threshold at each stage.

If this proves to be the case, the Council will apply the affordable housing target to subsequent phases based on the capacity of all phases, including those already built or permitted.

All forms of affordable housing secured through this policy must be governed by a mechanism to ensure the housing is affordable in perpetuity or owned and managed by a housing association or other registered Social Landlord (RSL)".

Yours faithfully

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Andrew Melville Head of Planning and Housing Signed by authority of the Secretary of State.



# COUNCIL, 23 JULY 2008

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# QUESTIONS

#### 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?

#### 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?

#### 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?

#### Council Meeting, 19 March 2008 – Questions

- 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?

#### 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.

#### 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 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?

#### 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?

#### Council Meeting, 19 March 2008 - Questions

#### 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?

#### 8 **Pavement Inspections**

#### To the Cabinet Member for StreetCare & Customer Services (Councillor Barry Tebbutt) By Counciller Bay Mergen

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?

#### 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?

#### 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?

#### Council Meeting, 19 March 2008 – Questions

#### 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?

#### 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?

#### 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?